



**Student Government  
Association**

Appropriations Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: April 13, 2022

I. Call to Order

A. Meeting called to order at 4:04 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Name	Position	Present	Required Attendance
Alexander Sutton	Senator for School of International and Public Affairs	P	Yes
Nicolas Ramirez	Senator for College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts	P	Yes
Manuel Soltero	Senator for School of International and Public Affairs	P	Yes
Dylan Salem	Senator for College of Business	P	Yes

III. Old Business

A. No old business

IV. New Business

A. Sen. Sutton: this is the final Appropriations Meeting of the year, we have 3 orders of business today, let's make it a good one

B. Rafael Moya-Palacios, CARTA Senator-elect, was present to explain his legislation proposal

1. Wants to upgrade PantherNOW facilities to create a podcast center for PantherNOW as well as get them a new office in GC or GL
2. Elise Gregg, PantherNow Asst. News Director (soon to be Editor-in-Chief), explained that the podcast center is not needed by PantherNOW at the moment,
3. Gregg said PantherNOW would be amenable to changing office space, she mentioned to Rafael that if there is space available in high-traffic areas, PantherNOW would love to have that

4. SGA Larissa James was present: she explained that the Budget Committee would have to give the money to help move into new office space. Suggests reviewing the MOU between CARTA, PantherNOW, and SGA
  5. Reviewed Rafael's draft legislation, gave advice on how to improve it and make the initiative happen
- C. Alan George and Brittany Pelletiere, members of ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers), were present
1. Alan shared a presentation about ASME and what it does
  2. ASME placed 21st (out of about 150) in 2021 at Spaceport America Cup, their main competition, in which they build a rocket
  3. Their trip is June 21-26, and they need to transport all of their supplies, as well as 10 students and 1 faculty advisor
  4. Majority of ASME's funding comes from FIU Engineering, as well as RSOC's \$500 plus an extra \$1000 in special allocation
  5. Larissa Adames explained that RSOC having funded them would prevent them from being able to receive SGA money due to the rule against double dipping
  6. Encouraged ASME to find more money through RSOC or other sources, but would have to do it quickly, due to cutoffs with the fiscal year
  7. Mr. George asked if it would make more sense to go directly to SGA for funding this in the future; asked for contacts for other people or groups that could assist to find this funding
  8. Sutton and Larissa discussed logistics of budget requests and RSOC funding to avoid double dipping
  9. Mr. George asked to raise awareness of his club, asked about how to get a stand to showcase a rocket and solicit donations in GC; Larissa explained that the process is layered and takes many steps to approve new on-campus structures
- D. Bills to be heard before committee
1. SB 02 007: A Bill to Amend the Student Government Association
- E. SB 02 007
1. Debate on the bill
  2. Sen. Sutton: this legislation doesn't make sense to address at the end of the term, we should do this with more time available to us, also don't agree with some of the changes to how much people are paid

3. Sen. Soltero: why address this at the end of the year? Moves to go into a vote so that the matter can be settled
4. Sen. Salem: strange to do this at the end of the year, this is a conversation we can and should have once the new Senate takes office

V. Vote

Position	Vote
Senator Sutton (SIPA)	Nay
Senator Ramirez (CARTA)	Nay
Senator Soltero (SIPA)	Nay
Senator Salem (Business)	Nay

1. Vote total
  - a) 0-4-0
2. This legislation unanimously fails

VI. Advisor Reports

- A. Larissa Adames: make sure to upload your committee meeting minutes!

VII. Final Words

- A. Sen. Soltero: Great to work with you this whole year, look forward to continuing our great work next year
- B. Sen. Sutton: thank you all for being so productive this year! It has been an honor to chair this committee this year
- C. Sen. Salem: grateful for the opportunity to have been on this committee, incredible experience, great to see how professional students can be.
- D. Sen. Ramirez: couldn't agree more, wishes next year's SGA the best of luck!

VIII. Meeting Adjournment

- A. Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.