



# Florida International University

*Student Government Council – Biscayne Bay Campus & Pines Center*

**MINUTES**  
**SGC-BBC General Meeting**  
**September 24, 2014**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Jazmin Felix – President  
Camille Williams – Vice President  
Ashley Reid – Comptroller  
Karla Marte – Chief of Staff  
Marianne Jimenez – Executive Assistant  
Geraldine Gascon – Special Events Coordinator  
Carlos Burgos – International Student Services Coordinator  
Zico Fremont – Director of Governmental Relations  
Michema Lafontant – Director of Internal Relations  
Allhan Mejia – Business Administration Senator / Speaker of the Senate  
Maria Pulido-Velosa – Arts and Sciences Senator / Speaker Pro-Tempore  
Faedrah Mahotiere – Arts and Sciences Senator  
Akheim Paisley – Arts and Sciences Senator  
Rebecca Merck – Hospitality Management Senator  
Yumeng Zhang – Hospitality Management Senator  
Paige Butler – Arts and Science Senator  
Eli Jean-Mary – Lower Division Senator  
Lauren Peterson – Lower Division Senator  
Xuan Di – Senator At Large  
Christopher Morisset – Senator At Large  
Bendjy Calixte – Senator At Large  
Jingyi Weng – Graduate Senator – **3:46**  
Whitney Saint Fleur – Chief Justice  
Stefy Moreau – Justice  
Abigail Morales – Justice  
Larissa Adames – Advisor  
Magda Compere – Graduate Assistant

**EXCUSED**

Ana Correa – Journalism and Mass Communication Senator

**ABSENT**

Kareem Stanbury – Marketing Coordinator  
Alexandra Bendayan - Justice

## **GUEST**

Richard Azimov - Past Vice-President

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Wednesday, September 26, 2014 at **WUC 221**. The meeting was called to order at approximately **3:34pm** by President Jazmin Felix who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- President Felix thanked the council for attending SGA events and other events on campus, their dedication to SGA, and for helping to recruit members.
- President Felix stated that she is very excited about the upcoming year. She knows that all of the members will bring great qualities to the council and hopes everyone stays for the rest of the year; once you are in SGA, you are indebted forever.
- President Felix thanked the council for participating in SGA Day, where 241 people attended.
- President Felix also thanked those who volunteered to table at the Voters Registration drives, where SGA has helped about 40 people so far to register to vote.
- President Felix stated that SGA and the Center for Leadership worked together on Turbo Vote to create an easy and efficient way for student to register to vote. Also, there will be more opportunities to table next week Monday and Wednesday and asked the council to please volunteer.
- President Felix met with Dr. Arneson and they discussed the new changes coming to Biscayne Bay Campus, such as more programming this year and next year in Panther Square.
- President Felix also met with Dr. Jaffus Hardrick, the Vice President of Human Resources and Vice Provost for Student Access and Success, and they spoke about plans to get more activities and Greek Life at BBC.
- President Felix conducted a very successful first Inter-Council Coalition Meeting, where the major councils (SPC, SOC, Panther Power, SGA, and BSU) to collaborate and improve FIU BBC.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Vice-President Williams attended the recent housing meeting for the future dorms at Biscayne Bay Campus. The previous building will be renovated by Royal Caribbean Cruise line to house their performers and the new housing facility for students will begin construction in November, which will be available for the Fall 2016 semester.
- Vice-President Williams thanked the council members who volunteered to table at the Voters Registration Drive, especially Senator Jean-Mary, International Student Services Coordinator Burgos, and Justice Morales.
- Vice-President Williams stated that there will also be more opportunities to table next week and asked council members to please volunteer and represent Student Government.

President Felix motioned to add the Comptroller's report to the agenda.

Speaker Mejia seconded the motion.

The motion passed by a unanimous decision.

### **COMPTROLLER'S REPORT**

- Comptroller Reid stated that she and Director of Governmental Relations Fremont are currently planning the Know Your Vote event, which will take place on October 27, 2014 from 11am – 2pm. They have been contacting local commissioners to speak about their future endeavors as being a constituent for their jurisdiction, and how they are making a difference in the community.
- Comptroller Reid thanked council members for volunteering to table for the Voters Registration Drives and reminded them that October 6<sup>th</sup> is the end of voter's registration.

### **SENATE SPEAKER REPORT**

- Speaker Mejia announced that all committee chairs have been filled.
- Speaker Mejia stated that he is working on the Finance Codes changes.
- Speaker Mejia also stated that Speaker Pro-Tempore is currently working on the Student Advocacy Surveys.

### **CHIEF JUSTICE REPORT**

- Chief Justice Saint Fleur announced that 2 new justices have been appointed, Stefy Moreau and Abigail Morales.
- Chief Justice Saint Fleur will be working with Graduate Assistant Compere to schedule a Roberts Rules Workshop in October for council members.

### **ADVISOR'S REPORT**

- Advisor Adames stated that she is happy to see the room filled with council members.
- Advisor Adames asked the council to please sign up for SGA SLS Class Presentations with Graduate Assistant Compere.
- Advisor Adames reminded council members to attend the upcoming BBC Major Fair in the Hospitality Management Building's Carnival Student Center, where they can network with other students, advisors, and deans and also to recruit more prospective SGA members.
- Advisor Adames asked the council members to please stop by and say hello to the new interns (41 in total) during the upcoming Intern Retreat, if they have a chance, in WUC 155.

President Felix motioned to suspend Roberts Rules for the remainder of the meeting and to go back on the agenda and allow Chief of Staff Marte to give her report because she was skipped on the agenda.

Speaker Mejia seconded the motion.

The motion passed by a unanimous decision.

## **CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT**

- Chief of Staff Marte asked council members to please turn in time cards and reports by the end of the week.
- Chief of Staff Marte stated that there will be more candidates for the Executive Cabinet coming soon.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

### **President Felix:**

- President Felix thanked Chief of Staff Marte for her report
- President Felix stated that she is concerned about the recent rift between council members during Tabling for Voters Registration Drive. She asked that council members please stick to their commitments, ask for help if they need it, and to not abandon the tables. Also, she asked that council members to please be respectful of one another; give respect to in order to receive respect.
- President Felix informed council members that she along with Vice President Williams, Comptroller Reid, Senator Mahotiere, Senator Correa, and Coordinator Adames will be going to Washington DC for the American Student Government Association (ASGA) National Student Governemnt Summit where they will meet with other SGAs from various universities and learn from one another.
- President Felix reminded the council to complete their homework of bringing at least 3 students into the SGA office to show them around and educate them more about SGA each semester.
- President Felix informed the council of the upcoming United Way Kickoff Charity Event on October 6<sup>th</sup> that will be accepting donations for poverty, education, etc. and is being planned by Special Events Coordinator Gascon.

### **Coordinator Adames:**

- Coordinator Adames stated that The United Way Foundation are donors to the University and SGA would like to show appreciation and increase student involvement for the fundraiser. She stated that the SGA council should donate and lead by example to encourage the student body to donate as well, whether they can give money, ideas, or their time.

### **Special Event Coordinator Gascon:**

- Special Event Coordinator Gascon stated that she plans to raise money during the event with tickets, games, prizes, and an office swear jar. Also, she stated that there will be a game where students and volunteers donate to pie council members in their faces. If a council member does not want to be pied in the face, they are required to donate money.
- Special Event Coordinator Gascon requested the help of the council to make the games.

- Special Event Coordinator Gascon stated that she will continue planning the event this Thursday and requested Director of Internal Relations Lafontant ask the other councils to participate as well.

President Felix:

## **ANOUNCEMENTS**

**(Any upcoming events)**

The meeting was dismissed by President Jazmine Felix at **(Time)**.