



Florida International University

Student Government Council – Biscayne Bay Campus & FIU at I-75

MINUTES

SGC-BBC General Meeting

March 29th, 2017

IN ATTENDANCE

Leonardo Cosio, Vice President
Meredith Marseille, Comptroller
Natalia Bertok, Chief of Staff
Sudyen Navarrete, Chief Justice
Rachael Rampersad, Director of Public Relations
Dianne Morales, Director of Events
Rosemary Hannah, Director of Campus Services
Jamie Adelson, Director of Lectures
Gabriella Mutti, Director of Marketing & Social Media
Juan Martinez, Director of Governmental & Community Relations
Maria Fauve – Speaker Pro Tempore / At-Large
Micaela Suarez –
Jonathan Espino – Arts, Sciences & Education/ Internal Affairs Chair
Hala Baaj – Arts, Sciences & Education/Rules, Legislation, Judicial Chair
Ronan Kelly – Lower Division/ Operational Review Chair
Tamera Thompson – Hospitality & Tourism Management/ Student Advocacy Chair
Zhe Huang – At-Large
Harry Castillo – Communication & Journalism
Mitesh Addhate – Graduate
Daniel Velasquez – Deputy Commissioner
Yihui Zhang – Secretary

EXCUSED

Allhan W. Mejia – President
Tonie Jean – Speaker of the Senate/ Upper Division

ABSENT

Shenglei Wang – Events Coordinator

GUESTS

Larissa Adames – Assistant Director of Campus Life/SGA Advisor
Gerald Johnson – Graduate Assistant
Kerrie Montgomery – Campus Life Director
Tevin Spencer

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Date – Locale (**Room 221**) The meeting was called to order at **3:32 pm**, approximately, by Vice- President **Leonardo Cosio** who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Vice-President Cosio explained that President Mejia is excused.

Vice-President Cosio stated that he is currently working on forming a Sustainability Committee here at the Biscayne Bay Campus. Due to the fact that this campus does not have something of that nature. This is also important because if the sea water levels rise it will affect this campus first, for this reason he will figure out what department to reach out to.

Vice-President Cosio stated that, along with President Mejia, will be working on providing discounts for students who take the FIU bus shuttle from MMC to BBc or vice versa.

Vice-President Cosio stated that he will meet with the Department of Parking and Transportation on April 5, 2017 and also April 7, 2017.

Vice-President Cosio stated on behalf of the Senate that Advising week was successful and many students have benefited from the event.

COMPTROLLER’S REPORT

Comptroller, Marseille, stated that the second reading of the Budget Allocation was done on the last Senate Meeting, Monday 27, 2017, with changes that needed to be done. Senator Addhate also pointed out a few mistakes that were made on the allocation, which would have affected the Budget Allocations greatly.

Comptroller, Marseille, stated that she will be meeting with the Director of the Learning Center regarding the Math Lab and will work on the communication lines between the professors and the Math Lab here at the Biscayne Bay Campus. Students mentioned that although they are taking math courses on this campus their professors required them to do their math lab hours at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

Comptroller, Marseille, notified the Council that she will be meeting the principal of MAST–Marine Academy of Science and Technology– Matthew J. Welker, in regards to possibly having a mentoring partnership with them.

Comptroller, Marseille, stated that she and Leonardo Cosio scheduled to meet with the Dean of the Department of Hospitality & Tourism Management, regarding certain projects

Vice-President Cosio entertained a motion to have a recess in order to take SGA pictures.

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, moved to have a one minute recess.
Senator Thompson proposed to amend the previous motion.

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, moved to have a three minute recess.
By an unanimous vote, the motion was passed.

Vice - President Cosio resumed the meeting at 3:41pm

CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT

Chief of Staff, Bertok, notified the Council that the next speaker for the Lecture Series will be Lebern Cox, who was an actress in "Orange is the New Black". The event will occur on April 11 at 6:30pm

Chief of Staff, Bertok, reminded the Council that Day on the Bay will be on April 15, 2017, and will start at 9:00 am.

Chief of Staff, Bertok, stated that along with Comptroller, Marseille, and President, Mejia, she has been working on updating the Statutes; which will be finalized in the next week or so.

Chief of Staff, Bertok, reminded the Council that SGA is currently in Election Season and that all Council members should be active.

Chief of Staff, Bertok, encouraged the Council to take a look at the Panther Press Columns. Information on what SGA has been working on are highlighted.

SPEAKER PRO-TEMPORE REPORT

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, thanked everyone who volunteering for Advising Week and confirmed that the event was a success.

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, explained to the Council the information Internal Affairs Chair, Senator Espino, shared concerning clocking- in and out of the office. If council members do their office hours more than once throughout the day and forget to clock out, there hours will be shown as blank.

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, stated that the Student Advocacy Chair, Senator Thompson, is currently working on making sure doors are accessible to those with disabilities or anyone else who might need the doors to be opened to them.

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, stated that she is working on the Reflexology path. The person from NOVA who will help build the path will consult and educate the council members on April 28, 2017. In addition to that, an email was sent out with that information as well. If any council members was interested in helping her with this project they are free to contact her.

CHIEF JUSTICE REPORT

- Chief Justice, Sudyen, reminded the Senate that SGA is currently in Elections and encouraged all council members to be active and help as well.

ADVISOR REPORT

- Ms.Adames stated that they will need assistance with tabling for Elections. New locations were added and more council members and staff will need to help table.

- Ms.Adames confirmed that council members who are not running should help table for the elections
- Ms.Adames stated that the Applications for the High Achievers Awards are available and encouraged council members to apply and notify any of their friends and/or family members who qualify for the scholarship
- Ms.Adames stated that the Composite pictures will be taken in two weeks– April 12, 2017– from 1:00pm to 3:00pm.
- Ms.Adames stated that the council will vote on “Council Choice” an SGA council member who has done the most for SGA and has been active will be nominated.
- Ms.Adames reminded the Council to RSVP for the Leadership Banquet which will be held on April 15. They prefer to have it done by April 11. A different link will be provided to do so.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Justice nominee Tevin Spencer

Tevin Spencer presented himself to the Council.

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, asked for a point of clarification.
The point of Clarification was granted by Vice-President Cosio.

Ms.Adames clarified that Tevin Spencer, if accepted he will be serving as Associate Justice for the Fall, Spring and Summer; due to the fact that the Judicial Branch is ongoing.

Vice-President, Cosio, stated a point of Clarification: The term of the Chief Justice lasts two years, while the term of any Justices lasts a year.

Speaker Pro-Tempore, Fauve, moved to open a discussion for five minutes.
Senator Baaj seconded the motion.

Senator Suarez moved to appoint Tevin Spencer as Associate Justice.
Senator Huang seconded the motion

Roll Call:

Senator Fauve – Yay
 Senator Suarez – Yay
 Senator Espino – Yay
 Senator Baaj – Yay
 Senator Kelly – Yay
 Senator Thompson – Yay
 Senator Castillo – Nay
 Senator Huang – Yay
 Senator Addhate – Nay

By a vote of 7/2/0, Tevin Spencer was appointed as Associate Justice.

b. Appropriation 2017.0002

Appropriation 2017.0002 was presented to the Council by Finance Chair, Senator Suarez.

Senator Espino moved to approve Appropriation 2017.0002 in support of allocating \$500 towards float rental expenses to the department of Multicultural Programs and Services in support of the FIU/Miami Pride Parade, organized by the LGBTQA Initiatives Program which will be held in Miami Beach, Florida for the purpose of increasing student engagement in local cultural events that impact the FIU community in a positive way.

Senator Kelly seconded the motion

Roll Call:

Senator Fauve – Yay
Senator Suarez – Yay
Senator Espino – Yay
Senator Baaj – Yay
Senator Kelly – Yay
Senator Thompson – Yay
Senator Castillo – Yay
Senator Huang – Yay
Senator Addhate – Yay

By an unanimous vote, Appropriation 2017.0002 was approved

c. Council Choice Award

Ms.Adames explained the Award and who would be eligible for nomination.

SGA Advisor, Ms.Adames, and Graduate Assistant, Gerald Johnson II, passed out paper to the Council for them to vote on the Council Choice Award.

After the council was given time, the votes were collected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Picture Day: April 12th 1:30pm-3:30pm
- B. Elections April 4th-5th : The council was reminded that they must sign up to table.
- C. BBC Student Leadership Banquet: April 18th 5:30pm-9pm
- D. Open:

Speaker Pro-Tempore encouraged the council to attend the event her cooking class will be having at the Hospitality and Management building. A three course meal will be given to any student and faculty of FIU, and it

will count as a project for her class.

Senator Thompson invited all council members to help her by donation or their time tomorrow for an organization she is a member of. The event will be on distributing 100 care kits to those in needs

Director of Elections, Sizova, stated that this Friday will be Movie Night with the Candidates at Bayview, from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. She also encouraged the council members to notify anyone who lives at Bayview as well.

Director of Elections, Sizova, stated that next week will be the Election Announcements and all candidates must attend, professional attire is required for they will also take a photo.

Director of Events, Dianne, stated that Day on the Bay will be on April 15, 2017 and they are required to RSVP. This event is mandatory for Senate and Cabinet members

Senator Suarez moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:12pm
Senator Thompson seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned by Vice- President Cosio at 4:12pm.