



Florida International University

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

MINUTES

SGC-BBC General Meeting January 30, 2019

IN ATTENDANCE

Jefferson Noel, President
Ronan Kelly, Comptroller
Sabrina Javellana, Chief of Staff
Karla Hernandez, Public Relations Manager (4:10 PM)
Stephanie Morisset, Director of Cultural Affairs
Coral Murray, Director of Campus Sustainability
Chelsea Oscar, Elections Board Commissioner
Aaliyah Gordon, Director of Events
Gabriella Malak, Director of Accessibility
SaVonne Reddick, Director of Student Wellness
Merveline Nelson, Director of Community Relations
John Habib, Speaker of the Senate
Mahalia Balfour, CASE Senator/Student Advocacy Chair
Yuze “Crystal” Ji, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator
Mark Monaco, Health Services Administration Senator
Mickalia Paisley, Upper Division Senator
Pamela Ho Fung, Lower Division Senator/Speaker Pro Tempore (4:02 PM)
Catalina Nemmi, Lower Division Senator
Xin Wang, Senator At-Large/Operational Review Chair
Keanu Orfano, Senator At-Large
Brian Levine, Housing Senator/RLJ Chair
Jiaqi Chen, Graduate Senator/Finance Chair

EXCUSED

Jonathan Espino, Vice President
Xu Chang, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator
Priscila Sevil, Senator At-Large/Internal Affairs Chair

GUEST

Larissa Adames, SGA Advisor
Dr. Kerrie Montgomery, Campus Life Director
Jennifer Nguyen, Appointee for Director of Campus Services
Yimin Feng, Appointee for Director of International Student Affairs
Anthony Jones, Student Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on January 30, 2019 – Locale (WUC #221). The meeting was called to order at **3:38 PM**, approximately, by President Noel who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

- President Noel welcomed everyone with a quote “If you want to go fast go alone; if you want to go far...go together.”
- This quote was chosen because we as SGA need to work together to make sure that we accomplish and go as far as possible rather than work alone and not accomplish as much as we possibly could if we worked as a team.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The council reviewed the minutes of November 28th, 2018.

Senator Wang moved to approve the minutes of November 28th, 2018.

Senator Chen seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Noel...

- Shared with the council his experience on NBC and the things he talked about while on the news station such as FIU's New Horizons project.
- Reflected on the Accessibility Walk inspired by Director Malak.
- Informed the council that the Senate passed Resolution 2019.0001 on the past Monday and there will be new resolutions presented today.

FIU AT I-75 REPORT

President Noel...

- Informed the council that a high percentage of the students are business students.
- Reflected on the coffee and conversations that he had with Deen Lee and most of the other associate deans.
 - Lots of great questions asked
- Spoke about the different collaborations with I-75 that are being planned for the future
- Thanked the council for allowing \$10,000 to be allocated to I-75 to help establish pop up events that provided food to the students.
 - 1st one was two weeks ago and it was a success, there are many more to come.
- Encouraged everyone to assist in coming up with ideas of different things “We can do” at the I-75 campus.

SENATE SPEAKER REPORT

Speaker Malak:

- Informed the council that the Senate has welcomed two new senators- Senator Paisley & Senator Orfano and that he can't wait to see the great things that they do.
- Informed the council that there are going to be a lot of legislative documents coming out.
 - Fall is where we take the time educating all of the senators while Spring is where we see that education blossoming and being put to great use.
- The MVPs for this month are Senator Balfour and Senator Nemmi who have done an amazing job with events such as the SGA Meet & Greet and the amazing SGA Trifold respectively.

Senator Levine, “Can we have a Senate or General meeting at I-75?”

Ms. Adames, “Something like that would have to be planned out and it would have to be something that you all agree on. We could rent a van or shuttle to move students.”

SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE REPORT

Speaker Hernandez:

- Informed the council on the works of the committees and how they have been doing a good job so far but need to work a little bit more on making sure that they are overcoming availability complications and meeting the required two times a month.

Speaker Habib moved to move the “Comptroller Report” before the “Chief of Staff Report.”

Senator Orfano seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

COMPTROLLER REPORT

Dora Febles:

- Reflected on the current budget and where it stands.
- Informed the council of last years budget cut and how they face another budget cut this upcoming year.
- Urged the council to focus on priorities when it comes to allocations and the budget.
- Informed the council that there are still meetings being held to work out this budget cut and also to see how both campuses use the funds that are allocated to them.

Point of Personal Privilege -

CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT

Chief of Staff Javellana

- Expressed to the council how excited she was about everyone's involvement this semester so far.
- Informed the council that there are two appointments today.
- Highlighted a few of the Cabinet's most recent accomplishments:

- Accessibility Walk - Director Malak.
- Best Buddies Chapter in the process of getting started - Director Malak.
- Scuba Club - Director Murray.
- SGA Week - Director Gordon.
- Philanthropy events in the works/ SGA Gives Back - Director Hernandez.
- Specialty Classes in the works - Director Reddick.
- Informed the council that the Cabinet is also working on I-75 outreach.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Ms. Adames

- Gave the council a few reminders:
 - Leadership summit is this Saturday.
 - Submit office hours and class schedule if you have not yet done so already.
 - Town Hall is on February 11th, make sure you attend as this is a mandatory event.

President Noel, "Please complete office hours and also we want as much student engagement as possible for the Town Hall so please come with great questions to ask."

OLD BUSINESS

A. Second Reading of Senate Bill 2019.0002

- Senator Nemmi presented before the council the second reading of Senate Bill 2019.0002.

Speaker Habib moved to add periods and other punctuation where necessary.

Senator Orfano seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

- The council discussed whether or not it was fair for council members to be prorated for their time active in SGA.

Senator Levine moved to remove underlying on the existing statute within the document.

Senator Monoko seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Levine moved to change the language in 303.04 to accommodate for proration.

Motion not recognized by the President.

Ms. Adames, "I have to speak to everyone before we change something like that for proration."

Senator Levine, "Can we table this then?"

Point of Personal Privilege - Director Malak - 4:09 PM

Senator Nemmi, “Can we vote on it as it is?”

Senator Levine moved to amend 303.04 of the document to read “Stipend should be prorated...”

Senator Orfano seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION:

Senator Levine, “I believe that if someone has to leave for a dire reason then they shouldn't not get paid. They should still get paid for the time served in their position.”

Ms. Adames, “ Positions in SGA are not “jobs” and they are not “work.” You mentioned wages and work but this is not a “job” it is a student leadership position. if you all want to start looking at prorating members for their time in SGA, you need to be very specific and be able to justify it in your documents while at the same time not violating human resources work laws.”

Senator Balfour, “What if we leave it to the President’s discretion?”

Ms. Adames, “The discussion could be continued in the RLJ committee.”

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Senator Balfour - Nay
Senator Ji - Nay
Senator Monaco - Nay
Senator Paisley - Nay
Senator Nemmi - Nay
Senator Wang - Nay
Senator Orfano - Nay
Senator Levine - Yea
Senator Chen - Nay
Senator Ho Fung - Nay
Speaker Habib - Abstain

By a vote of 1-9-1, the motion failed.

Senator Nemmi moved to approve Bill 2019.0002.

Senator Orfano seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION:

Senator Levine, “I am concerned as to how this would limit people.”

Senator Orfano, “I am okay with how it is. If there are too many exceptions, it could be bad.”

Point of Personal Privilege Return - Director Malak - 4:15 PM

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Senator Balfour - Yea
Senator Ji - Yea
Senator Monaco - Yea
Senator Paisley - Yea
Senator Nemmi - Yea
Senator Wang - Yea
Senator Orfano - Yea
Senator Levine - Nae
Senator Chen - Yea
Senator Ho Fung - Yea
Speaker Habib - Yea

By a vote of 10-1-0, the motion passed.

B. Second Reading of Resolution 2019.0003

- Senator Ho Fung presented before the council the second reading of Resolution 2019.0003

Senator Levine moved to amend the last clause to unbold the wording.
Senator Wang seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Nemmi, “There is already a second-floor lounge so should we add more to the language to make it more specific?”

Dr. Montgomery, “Have there been any conversations with the Wolfe Center Administration about this?”

Senator Ho Fung, “We spoke with Scott Jones, he said yes but we just need more discussion.”

Senator Nemmi, “We’re not thinking about painting the walls, just adding some student art.”

Speaker Habib moved to amend the resolution to change all instances of the word “lounge” to “sitting area” and to amend the last section on the 1st whereas.

Senator Nemmi seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Montgomery, “Please keep in mind that there already is the “Culture Corner” and we are struggling to get an adequate amount of student artwork to fill that space. I would appreciate if this effort would not be overthrown by this effort.

Senator Ho Fung, “We will definitely take that into consideration.”

Senator Orfano moved to approve Resolution 2019.0003.
Senator Nemmi seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Senator Balfour - Yea
Senator Ji - Yea
Senator Monaco - Yea
Senator Paisley - Yea
Senator Nemmi - Yea
Senator Wang - Yea
Senator Orfano - Yea
Senator Levine - Yea
Senator Chen - Yea
Senator Ho Fung - Yea
Speaker Habib - Yea

By a vote of 11-0-0, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Second Reading of Resolution 2019.0004

- Senator Wang presented before the council the second reading of Resolution 2019.0004

Senator Nemmi moved to replace all instances of the phrase “hospitality school building” to the proper name of “Hospitality & Tourism Management.”

Senator Orfano seconded the motion.
The motion passed by majority.

Point of Personal Privilege - Director Gordon - 4:46 PM

Senator Balfour moved to approve Resolution 2019.0004.
Senator Ji seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Senator Balfour - Yea
Senator Ji - Yea
Senator Monaco - Yea
Senator Paisley - Yea
Senator Nemmi - Yea
Senator Wang - Yea
Senator Orfano - Yea

Senator Levine - Yea
Senator Chen - Yea
Senator Ho Fung - Yea
Speaker Habib - Yea

By a vote of 11-0-0, the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Speaker Habib moved to amend the agenda to include a message from the Vice Provost before Appointments in New Business.

Senator Orfano seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

A. Address By Vice Provost Dr. Pablo Ortiz...

- Stated that he is very happy with everyone and that he can definitely see how their influence and work has impacted this campus everywhere that he walks.
- Quickly shared with the council his three goals:
 1. Revolves around experience - Plans to improve the campus experience, interaction, appearance, and safety. "I need to hear a lot from you all on what we can do and how we can accomplish this."
 2. Strategically increase enrollment in the right places.
 3. Enhance FIU-BBC engagement in the community.
- Thanked the council for having him.

President Noel thanked Dr. Ortiz and informed the council that they will all be able to ask him questions after the meeting during the Reception with the Vice Provost.

Point of Personal Privilege - All of Cabinet - 5:00 PM

Senator Nemmi moved to extend the General Meeting for 20 minutes.
Senator Balfour seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

B. Appointments

a. Appointment of Jennifer Nguyen for Director of Campus Services

- i. Ms. Nguyen introduced herself before the council.
- ii. The council asked Ms. Nguyen questions regarding why she should be chosen for this position.
- iii. Ms. Nguyen answered each question in the order they were asked.

Senator Chen moved to appoint Jennifer Nguyen to the position of Director of Campus Services.

Senator Balfour seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Senator Balfour - Yea
Senator Ji - Yea
Senator Monaco - Yea
Senator Paisley - Yea
Senator Nemmi - Yea
Senator Wang - Yea
Senator Orfano - Yea
Senator Levine - Yea
Senator Chen - Yea
Senator Ho Fung - Yea
Speaker Habib - Yea

By a vote of 11-0-0, the motion passed unanimously.

b. Appointment of Yimin Feng for Director of International Student Affairs

- i. Ms. Feng introduced herself before the council.
- ii. The council asked Ms. Feng questions regarding why she should be chosen for this position.
- iii. Ms. Feng answered each question in the order they were asked.

Senator Nemmi moved to appoint Yimin Feng to the position of Director of International Student Affairs.

Senator Balfour seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Senator Balfour - Yea
Senator Ji - Yea
Senator Monaco - Yea
Senator Paisley - Yea
Senator Nemmi - Yea
Senator Wang - Yea
Senator Orfano - Yea
Senator Levine - Yea
Senator Chen - Yea
Senator Ho Fung - Yea
Speaker Habib - Yea

By a vote of 11-0-0, the motion passed unanimously.

Point of Personal Privilege - Chief of Staff Javellana - 5:06 PM

President Noel relinquished his chair position to Speaker Habib - 5:06 PM

Point of Personal Privilege - President Noel - 5:07 PM

c. First Reading of University-Wide Resolution 2019.0001

- Senator Balfour presented the first reading of University-Wide Resolution 2019.0001
- Senator Nemmi recommended that the specifics of how much it should be reduced to be included.
- Senator Levine questioned if there was any way to expand the shuttle to I-75.

Point of Personal Privilege - President Noel - Return - 5:11 PM

d. First Reading of Resolution 2019.0005

- President Noel presented the first reading of Resolution 2019.0005

Senator Wang moved to extend the General Meeting to 5:30 PM.

Senator Orfano seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

- Senator Levine recommended that the document is double-checked for formatting errors and advised President Noel to think twice about using quotes that are just posted on a website.
- Ms. Adames recommended that another term is used instead of using “The other half of SGA.”

Speaker Habib relinquished his chair position to President Noel- 5:27 PM

Senator Balfour moved to skip all remaining reports and student concerns on the agenda.

Senator Wang seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Blue & Gold Recruitment Week, 30, and 31, 2019**
 - 1/30: Wild n’ Out, 7:00pm (WUC Ballrooms)
 - 1/31: Pop-In on your BBC Orgs, 11:00am-2:00pm (AC2); Game Night, 7:00pm-9:00pm, Bayview
- **Vice Provost Reception w/ Dr. Pablo Ortiz, January 30, 2019**
 - 5:30pm-7:00pm

- WUC 155
- **Student Leadership Summit**, February 2, 2019
 - 8:30am-4:30pm
 - WUC
- **Self Defense Class**, February 7, 2019
 - 6pm
 - WUC Ballrooms
- **Town Hall Meeting with President Rosenberg**, February 11, 2019
 - 2:00pm-5:00pm
 - Mary Ann Wolfe Theater
- **SGA Week**, February 18-23, 2019
- **SGA Budget Hearings & Deliberations**
 - Deliberations
 - U-Wide @ MMC 9:00 am to 5:00 pm - GC 325
Tuesday, February 12, 2019
 - U-Wide @ BBC 9:30 am to 4:00 pm - WUC 155
Thursday, February 14, 2019
 - Deliberations BBC Specific - 9:30 am to 4:00 pm - WUC 155
Thursday, February 21, 2019
- **Admitted Students' Day**, March 2, 2019
 - Time: TBA
 - WUC

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Nemmi moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 PM.

Senator Orfano second the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was dismissed by President Noel at **5:29 PM**.