



# Florida International University

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

## MINUTES

**SGC-BBC General Meeting**

**March 27, 2019**

### IN ATTENDANCE

Jefferson Noel, President  
Jonathan Espino, Vice President  
Ronan Kelly, Comptroller  
Karla Hernandez, Public Relations Manager (3:50 PM)  
Stephanie Morisset, Director of Cultural Affairs  
Chelsea Oscar, Elections Board Commissioner  
Aaliyah Gordon, Director of Events  
Gabiella Malak, Director of Accessibility  
Merveline Nelson, Director of Community Relations  
Jennifer Nguyen, Director of Campus Services  
Regine Brown, Elections Board Member  
Leonorias Beasley, Elections Board Member  
John Habib, Speaker of the Senate  
Mahalia Balfour, Senator/Student Advocacy Chair  
Xu Chang, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator  
Mark Monaco, Health Services Administration Senator  
Mickalia Paisley, Upper Division Senator  
Gabriel Hernandez, Upper Division Senator  
Pamela Ho Fung, Lower Division Senator/Speaker Pro Tempore (4:11 PM)  
Catalina Nemmi, Lower Division Senator  
Priscila Sevil, Senator At-Large/Internal Affairs Chair (4:02 PM)  
Keanu Orfano, Senator At-Large  
Brian Levine, Housing Senator/RLJ Chair  
Jiaqi Chen, Graduate Senator/Finance Chair

### EXCUSED

Coral Murray, Director of Campus Sustainability  
Yimin Feng, Director of International Student Affairs  
Sabrina Javellana, Chief of Staff  
Yuze “Crystal” Ji, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator  
SaVonne Reddick, Director of Student Wellness  
Xin Wang, Senator At-Large/Operational Review Chair

### ABSENT

Bryan Regalado, Elections Board Member

## **GUEST**

Larissa Adames, SGA Advisor  
Dr. Kerrie Montgomery, Campus Life Director  
Anthony Jones, Student Assistant

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on March 27, 2019 – Located in **WUC 221**. The meeting was called to order at **3:38 PM**, by President Noel who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

## **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

- President Noel welcomed everyone with a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King JR, “All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”
- This quote was chosen because everything that we do individually affects who we are as a unit and as a team, therefore, together as SGA, we need to always remember that everything we do always affects one another.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The council reviewed the minutes of February 27th, 2019.

Senator Orfano moved to approve the minutes of February 27th, 2019.

Senator Nemmi seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**The President's Official Report Is As follows...**

- FIU Day was a smashing success. I led a delegation speaking at Senators and Representatives on FIU Priorities
- North Miami Mayoral Junior Council, I helped in its inception with Mayor Smith Joseph, is doing great. We just collaborated with Miami Gardens Junior Council.
- I attended the Faculty Senate meeting and presenting all SGA is working on
- Day on the Bay was an amazing experience. We cleaned up the bay and broke ground on an edible garden. Afterwards, everyone went kayaking
- Career and Talent Development partnered with Royal Caribbean to do a tour of the facility on campus
- We supporting supported our Student Organizing Council who partnered with our Incubator on Designed for Impact to learn how to maximize our impact
- Women Who Lead Conference is Wednesday
- Mentor Monday was a blazing success, the Mayor of Aventura was here
- SGA Week (DRC Luncheon, Financial Wellness Workshop, Celebration of Culture, and BBQ at Bayview) was incredible
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## **FIU AT I-75 REPORT**

### **The FIU At I-75 Official Report Is As Follows...**

- Diversity Week Spring 2019 on Tues. & Wed., April 2nd & 3rd from 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM on Ground Floor. We will collaborate with our joint tenant Broward College in fun activities. We'll have "Fast & Furious Foosball Tournament" on Tuesday and then a Wii "Let's Dance" challenge on Wednesday. Students will receive FREE cookie packs, popcorn, Capri Sun juices and bottled water. There are special prizes for the winners!
- Mon. – Thurs., April 8th – 11th & Sat., April 13th. Students will receive delicious mini Jimmy John's subs.
- Mon. – Thurs., April 15th – 18th & Sat., April 20th. Students will enjoy FREE chair massages and assorted snacks & beverages.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Vice President Espino...**

- Stated that his report today would be quick.
- Wished the council the best for the remainder of the semester and to be sure to have their grades on point."
- Informed the council that the PharmaBox is coming to the Biscayne Bay Campus very soon.
- Informed the council that the Leadership lounge event is moved to next week.

## **SENATE SPEAKER REPORT**

### **Speaker Habib...**

- Stated that the Senators have been doing an amazing job.
- Informed the council of the open form that is available, which contains various student concerns, council concerns, and additional comments.
- Reflected on his experience in Tallahassee for FIU Day.
- Stated how great of a job Senator Nemmi had done during the women Who Lead conference.
- Congratulated the Student Advocacy committee on their successful Painting with a Twist event.
- Encouraged everyone to come to the upcoming committee meetings.
- Announced that the M.V.P of this month goes to.... Senator Paisley.
- Reminded the council that the T.I. Lecture Series event is tomorrow and encouraged everyone to come early to enjoy the various student talents who will be opening for the event.
- Encouraged next years council to use himself, E-Board, and all other available sources of knowledge and help to prepare themselves for the upcoming year, stating, "we want you all to be as prepared as possible."

## **COMPROLLER REPORT**

### **Mr.Kelly...**

- Informed the council that the budget process is completely finished and approved.
- Went over the remaining discretionary accounts and the funds still available within them.
- Highly encouraged the council to make use to the remaining discretionary funds because the funds do not roll over.

## **CABINET REPORTS**

### **Director Gordon...**

- Informed the council that she is currently working on 2 events: Breakfast at BayView and The Battle of the councils

### **Director Malak...**

- Reflected on the successful epilepsy training that took place this month and informed the council that there will be another epilepsy training very soon
- Informed the council that the Best Buddies eboard is almost full

### **Director Nelson...**

- Reflected on the success of the Mentor monday Event
- Informed the council many students were able to take free professional headshots and receive free business cards.
- Informed the council that the mayor of Aventura attended the event.

### **Director Oscar...**

- Informed the council that she worked with Panther Power to help promote the elections.
- Reflected on the success of the first ever Meet the Committees event that took place yesterday.

### **Director Hernandez...**

- Spoke about the projects that she is currently working on with BayView Student Living.
- Encouraged the council to let here know if any of them had any student/council photos they would like for her to share on Instagram and tag them in.

## **ADVISOR'S REPORT**

### **Ms. Adames...**

- Informed the council that she is currently in the process of creating stipend contracts.
- Informed the council that if anyone has received an email from her, it means that they are not yet officially in the HR system and need to complete the onboarding packet.
- Informed the council that if they have not received an email from her, then their contract should be processed by next week and if anyone has any questions regarding the emails, HR, onboarding packet, or stipends, to please let her know.
- Asked the council if anyone would be able to assist in checking people in for the upcoming Lecture series event and if so to please see her tomorrow so that they can be shown how to check people in.

- Reminded the council to please reserve their tickets for the lecture event if they haven't done so already.
- Reminded the council that the SGA office will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday at 5:00 PM.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Lecture**

President Noel spoke to the council about the history of the Lecture Series events.

President Noel, “We need all hands on deck, we are expecting a lot of people to attend and we need people to help in any way that they can.”

President Noel informed the council that SGA Council members will have VIP seating toward the front for the event.

Point Of Personal Privilege - Speaker Habib - (4:17 PM)

Point Of Personal Privilege - Director Reddick - (4:18 PM)

Speaker Habib - Returned - (4:19 PM)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Council’s Choice Award**

President Noel, “Your peers will choose someone from this council to receive this award, write the name of the person who you think deserves this award down on the slip of paper that is being passed out and we will collect them once everyone has finished.”

Slips of scrap paper were passed out to each council member.

Each council member casted their vote as the slips of paper were collected.

### **B. SGA Superlatives**

President Noel explained to the council what a superlative was for those who did not know.

President Noel, “What are some superlatives that you all can think of?”

The council provided a list of potential superlatives.

President Noel, “If any of you have any more ideas, please be sure to send them to Vice president Espino so that we can possibly add them to the list.”

Point Of Personal Privilege - Comptroller Kelly - (4:33 PM)

## **DISCUSSION**

### **A. Finish Strong**

President Noel, “Part of what we're here for is leadership development. This year is coming to a close and I would like for us to finish strong. For example, we still have discretionary dollars that are still available for use, let's think about how can we use those dollars and what can we do for the FIU student body.”

Point Of Personal Privilege - Speaker Habib - (4:41 PM)

The council discussed how they can contribute to the student body and possible ways of using the remaining discretionary funds

Speaker Habib - Returned - (4:43 PM)

Point Of Personal Privilege - Senator Balfour - (4:43 PM)

Senator Balfour - Returned - (4:45 PM)

### **B. Student Concerns**

President Noel Suggested to skip this section of the agenda.

Senator Paisley seconded.

By a unanimous decision, this section of the agenda was skipped.

## **REPORTS CONT.**

### **Senator Reports**

Senator Levine...

- Stated that there is an RLJ meeting tomorrow.

Senator Nemmi...

- Reflected on the success of the recent Painting With a Twist event.
- Informed the council that she was able to lobby for some really cool things such as STEM and pediatric cancer therapy during FIU Day.
- Informed the council that she is currently working with Career & Talent Development on an event and is looking for 2 council members who could help out, so to please let her know if you would like to help.

Senator Paisley...

- Thanked everyone who attended the Painting With a Twist event.
- Stated that she was concerned about the awareness of the event and suggested to find more ways to promote events like this one in the future.

Senator Chen...

- Reminded everyone that there is a Finance Committee meeting tomorrow.
- Reminded everyone that the, It Takes a Village event is taking place on Saturday and that it is a great way to help boost the relationship with the local community.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Lecture Series**, March 28th, 2019, WUC Ballrooms

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Orfano moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:59 PM.

Senator Hernandez seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by President Noel at **4:59 PM**.