



Florida International University

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

MINUTES

SGC-BBC General Meeting

July 25, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE

John Habib, Speaker of the Senate
Jiaqi Chen, Finance Chair
Xin Wang, Upper Division
Catalina Nemmi, Lower Division
Priscila Sevil, At-Large
Jefferson Noel, President
Jonathan Espino, Vice President
Ruyu Hua, Housing Senator (3:40)
Sabrina Javellana, Chief of Staff
Flora Bourdeau, Director of Campus Services
Merveline Nelson, Director of Community Relations (3:56)
Daniel Velasquez, Chief Justice
Aaliyah Gordon, Director of Events

EXCUSED

Ronan Kelly, Comptroller
Gabriella Malak, Director of Accessibility
Leonardo Cosio, Communication & Journalism Senator
Chelsea De Silva, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator

GUEST

Monica Castillo, Student
Roberta Coaches (BBC Center for Academic Success)

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Council- BBC held a meeting on August 2, 2018 – **WUC #221**. The meeting was called to order at **3:39 PM**, approximately, by President Noel who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Noel...

- Opened his report by wishing that everyone was doing well during finals week and with a quote from FIU President Rosenberg stating, "Words are not deeds."
- Informed the council that there will be an upcoming SGA training that will help council members learn how to deal with the media.
- Informed the council that he recently met with student public relations to learn new ways to deal with SGA public relations.
- Reminded the council of the room rental agreement and that it needed to be discussed on and approved by August 1st.
- Ended his report by informing the council that last wednesday he and Vice President Espino met with President Rosenberg to discuss a resolution concerning counseling and psychological services as well as the proposed merger of both SGA's, stating that it should be left up to the students to decide.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Vice President Espino...

- Opened his report by updating the council on various special projects that have been in the works.
- Updated the council on the Mangrove Wall project stating that it will eventually house baby mangroves however there still needs to be a decision on how exactly the wall should be structured.
- Updated the council on the Reflexology Path stating that rails are currently being installed so that it can be used in the fall.
- Updated the council on the Zen Garden stating that he has had meetings to work toward getting a speaker to continuously play zen music in the garden.
- Ended his report by updating the council on the Pharma Box stating that Fellicia Thompson recently reached out to him to discuss about the Pharma Box and that AC1 & the Wolfe Center are possible locations for the Pharma Box as it would allow the Pharma Box to be more accessible to all students.

SPEAKER REPORT

Speaker Habib...

- Opened his report by updating the council on what the senate has been doing these past few weeks.
- Discussed how the senate was assigned resolution homework and their progress with the resolution homework.
- Reminded the council what a resolution is.
- Ended his report by informing the council that he and Vice President Espino have been reviewing previous resolutions and coming up with ideas for new resolutions.

CHIEF JUSTICE REPORT

Chief Justice Velasquez...

- Opened his report reflecting on the summer semester.
- Informed the council that the main thing he's been dealing with has been the merger of both SGA councils.
- Discussed with the council exactly what the merger was and what it meant for our SGA council at BBC.
- Ended his report by announcing to the council that if anybody knew anyone who would be interested in joining the Judicial Branch of the SGA council to please let him know so that he could reach out to them.

CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT

Chief of Staff Javellana...

- Opened her report reflecting on the NACA Western conference that she recently attended with a few of the other council members, stating that she received a lot of great ideas such as how to advertise for the hydration station.
- Ended her report by informing the council that she has also gone through trainings during the NACA Western conference which have helped train her on how to act as an introvert and that she will send a slideshow of the training to the council members so that they too can receive the training.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Ms. Adames...

- Informed the council that the tabling sign up sheet has grown and that there are plenty of opportunities to sign up to table.
- Reminded that August 17th orientation for new students will be taking place from 12:00 to 1:00 P.M, she highly recommended that council members sign up to table for this event as it would be a perfect opportunity for SGA to recruit new council members.
- Ended her report by reminding the council that she will be out of the office from July 30th to August 6th for vacation and if any of the council members needed help to please reach out to Dr. Montgomery or one of the two front desk assistants.

Dr. Montgomery...

- Stated she only had one update for the council which was that we have successfully completed our migration from RoarSync to Panther Connect and that although there are a few glitches we are working diligently to get them worked out. Also she asked the council to please inform those around them that they should try to update their info on Panther Connect asap.

SENATOR'S REPORT

- Senator Nemmi addressed the issues with her availability, stating that she will be more available during the fall semester and that she is excited to table at some of the upcoming tabling events.

- Senator Chen announced that there will be 2 funding requests during this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Emoluments

- Vice President Espino presented to the council the second reading of the emoluments for the current fiscal year then opened the floor for discussion and questions.

Point of Inquiry - Vice President Espino: *“The Bayview Housing Council is not listed on the current document for the emoluments, shouldn't it be listed?”*

Ms. Adames Responds: “Yes it should, the amount was \$2,500”

- Vice President Espino recommends to the council that they should move to add the Bayview Housing Council to the Emoluments document.

Speaker Habib moved to amend the Emoluments document to include the \$2,500 for the Bayview Housing Council

Senator Chen Seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yay

Senator Chen - Yay

Senator Wang - Yay

Senator Nemmi - Yay

Senator Sevil - Yay

Senator Hua- Yay

By a unanimous decision, the Emoluments document was amended to include the \$2,500 for the Bayview Housing Council

Point of Inquiry - Chief Justice Velasquez: *“There should not be one single person who covers more than 1/6th of the budget, should there be a base budget instead since the percentages of the presidents emolument cuts are very significant?”*

Vice President Espino suggested to Chief justice velasquez that he should submit a bill to change the base of the so called funds.

Chief Justice Velasquez states, what if we aim to get the funds received bi-weekly instead of semesterly?

Point of Information - Ms. Adames: *In response to Chief Justice Velasquez, “Depending on the amount, a bi-weekly stipend can potentially break the law by violating the minimum wage requirements and it would also be a ton of unnecessary HR work.”*

- Vice President Espino continued to move through the 2nd reading of the emoluments.

Point Of Inquiry - Vice President Espino: *“Shouldn't the total amount allotted to the Chief Justice position for last years emoluments be \$1,025 instead of \$1,250?”*

Ms. Adames responds: Yes

- President Espino strongly suggested that the council amend the emoluments document from the past year to reflect \$1,025 rather than \$1,250 for the position of Chief Justice

Speaker Habib moved to amend the emoluments document from the past year to reflect \$1,025 rather than \$1,250 for the position of Chief Justice

Senator Sevil Seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yay
Senator Chen - Yay
Senator Wang - Yay
Senator Nemmi - Yay
Senator Sevil - Yay
Senator Hua- Yay

By a unanimous decision, the emoluments document from the past year was amended to reflect \$1,025 rather than \$1,250 for the position of Chief Justice.

Senator Chen moved to approve the emoluments

Senator Sevil Seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yay
Senator Chen - Yay
Senator Wang - Yay
Senator Nemmi - Yay
Senator Sevil - Yay
Senator Hua- Yay

By a unanimous decision, the emoluments were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes

Speaker Habib moved to approve the general meeting minutes from 06/27/2018

Senator Sevil Seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yay

Senator Chen - Yay

Senator Wang - Yay

Senator Nemmi - Yay

Senator Sevil - Yay

Senator Hua- Yay

By a unanimous decision, the general meeting minutes from 06/27/2018 was passed.

FINANCE REQUESTS

A. Monica Castillo (Synergistic Effects of Coupled Stressors)

- President Noel opened the floor for 5 minutes of presentation followed by 2 minutes of questions.
- Ms. Castillo presented her proposal for the assistance in funding for her project, "The Synergistic effects of coupled stressors."

Senator Wang moved to presentation time by 1 minute

Senator Chen seconded the motion

The motion passed unanimously

- The council asked Ms. Castillo questions concerning her project and her request.

Senator Habib moved to extend discussion time by 2 minutes

Senator Sevil seconded

The motion passed unanimously

Senator Chen moved to extend discussion time by 3 minutes

Senator Wang seconded

The motion passed unanimously

Senator Chen moved to end discussion

Senator Nemmi seconded

The motion passed unanimously

Speaker Habib moved to allocate \$1,069.89 to Monica Castillo for the Synergistic effects of coupled stressors project

Senator Chen seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yay

Senator Chen - Yay

Senator Wang - Yay

Senator Nemmi - Yay

Senator Sevil - Yay

Senator Hua- Yay

By a unanimous decision, \$1,069.89 was allocated to Monica Castillo for the Synergistic effects of coupled stressors project.

B. Roberta Coaches (BBC Center for Academic Success Open House)

- President Noel opened the floor for 5 minutes of presentation followed by 5 minutes of questions.
- Ms. Coaches presented her request
- The council asked Ms. Coaches questions concerning her request.

Senator Sevil moved to extend discussion time by 2 minutes

Senator Nemmi seconded

The motion passed unanimously

Senator Nemmi moved to end discussion

Senator Sevil seconded

The motion passed unanimously

Senator Chen moved to allocate \$500 to Roberta Coaches for the center of Academic Success Open House

Senator Sevil seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yay

Senator Chen - Yay

Senator Wang - Yay

Senator Nemmi - Yay

Senator Sevil - Yay

Senator Hua- Yay

By a unanimous decision, \$1,069.89 was allocated to to Roberta Coaches for the center of Academic Success Open House.

Senator Nemmi moved to extend the general meeting by 10 minutes

Senator Chen Seconded

The motion passed Unanimously

CHAIR APPOINTMENTS

- President Noel opened the floor for nominations.
- Speaker Habib nominated Senator Sevil for Internal Affairs Chair.
- Senator Sevil accepts the nomination for Internal Affairs Chair.
- Senator Sevil is given 1 minute to present herself before council as to why she should be appointed to Internal Affairs chair then 1 minute of a discussion period followed.
- Senator Sevil Presents herself before council.

Senator Nemmi moved to bypass discussion and approve Senator Sevil for Internal Affairs Chair

Senator Chen seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yay

Senator Chen - Yay

Senator Wang - Yay

Senator Nemmi - Yay

Senator Sevil - Yay

Senator Hua- Yay

By a unanimous decision, Senator Sevil was appointed to Internal Affairs Chair.

COMMITTEE FOR PANTHER STATUE (\$147,000)

Senator Chen moved to table the Committee for Panther Statue for the next general meeting

Senator Sevil seconded

The motion passed unanimously

STUDENT AFFAIRS XPOSE

- President Noel briefed the council on the Student Affairs Xpose and gave background on the “It’s on us” campaign.

TABLING FOR PRIMARY ELECTIONS

- President Noel briefed the council on tabling for the primary elections and gave background as to what they are.

DISCUSSION

A. SGA DAY

- President Noel Briefed the council on SGA Day.
- Ms. Adames recommended to the council that they start planning for SGA Day.

B. NACA Debrief

Speaker Habib moved to table the remaining discussion to the next general meeting

Senator Sevil Seconded

The motion passed unanimously

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SGA Day (August 29th)
- FSA at FIU July 27th and 28th
- Bayview Move-in, August 18, Bayview Housing
- Freshman Convocation, August 19, Riccardo Silva Stadium-MMC
- Week of Welcome, August 20-24

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Sevil moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 P.M.

Speaker Habib Seconded

The motion passed unanimously, The meeting was adjourned by President Noel at 5:10 P.M.