



Florida International University

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

MINUTES

SGC-BBC General Meeting

October 31, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE

Jefferson Noel, President
Jonathan Espino, Vice President
Ronan Kelly, Comptroller
John Habib, Speaker
Pamela Ho Fung, Speaker Pro Tempore
Jiaqi Chen, Finance Chair, Graduate Senator / Finance Chair
Xin Wang, Operational Review Chair, Senator At-Large
Mahalia Balfour, Student Advocacy Chair/ CASE Senator
Yuze “Crystal” Ji, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator
Catalina Nemmi, Lower Division Senator
Priscila Sevil, Internal Affairs Chair,
Flora Bourdeau, Director of Campus Services
Chelsea Oscar, Elections Board Commissioner
Aaliyah Gordon, Director of Events
Gabriella Malak, Director of Accessibility
SaVonne Reddick, Director of Student Wellness
Karla Hernandez, Marketing Coordinator

EXCUSED

Sabrina Javellana, Chief of Staff

ABSENT

Coral Murray, Director of Campus Sustainability
Merveline Nelson, Director of Community Relations
Daniel Velasquez, Chief Justice

GUEST

Larissa Adames, SGA Advisor
Kaila Jospitre, SGA Graduate Assistant
Cynthia Jacques, SGA Student Assistant
Xu Chang, Student
Stephanie Morisset, Student
Joanne Saint Louis, SOC Secretary
Christ Saint Hilaire, SGC BBC Intern

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on October 31, 2018 – Locale (WUC #221). The meeting was called to order at **3:40PM**, approximately, by President Noel who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

- President Noel welcomed everyone with a Latin phrase “Out of many one”, which is the motto of the United States.
- This quote was chosen because the council is comprised of many different types of people who have come together to achieve one mission.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- On Tuesday October 30th, President Noel worked with the Office of Engagement on a MyMiami story.
- There is a project in the works, in collaboration with the Mayor of North Miami which will create a mock youth council for the city of North Miami.
- Mentor Monday on October 29th was a huge success. Ms. Nelson did a great job bringing in employers from Telemundo, NBC Universal, Univision, etc. All students who attended the event will have business cards printed for them.
- Donuts with the Deans (October 30th), was also huge success, with 4 deans in attendance.
- SGC-BBC provided sponsorship for students to attend the NAAHP conference from October 25th-October 27th. President Noel accepted the award for Distinguished Service.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Vice President Espino is still in the process of working with Scott Jones and the Pharmabox contractor to decide the placement of the Pharmabox and what can/should be moved to make space for the box.
- There are no updates on the fitness class. The E-board is trying to decide whether or not to continue with the project.
- The new Zen space will be using some rocks from the reflexology path. This space will also feature speakers that will play therapeutic/peaceful music.
- The Mango Wall will feature some of the mangos picked during Day on the Bay.

SENATE SPEAKER REPORT

- Senators are doing a great job with initiatives.
- Senators will soon be making resolutions based off of those initiatives.
- Mr. Xu Chang is the nominee for Hospitality Senator.
- MVP of the month is Senator Nemmi, who has gone above and beyond with working on initiatives.
- Senators are working on passed resolutions that have not yet been put into action. For example: Senator Chen is working on the resolution that focused on lighting issues on campus.

- Speaker Habib created “Habib’s Guide to SGA” which is an educational tool that all council members can use to look up complicated terms or concepts pertaining to SGA.
- Speaker Habib welcomed the council’s newly appointed Hospitality Senator, Ms. Crystal Ji (Senator Ji).
- Senator Chen, Senator Wang, Senator Balfour, and Senator Sevil are also committee chairs for a variety of different areas (Finance, Operational Review, Student Advocacy, and Internal Affairs).
- Committee meetings are open to everyone.
- A Student Government Congress Meeting will be taking place. More information about this meeting will be provided later on in this General Meeting.

SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE REPORT

- Speaker Pro Tempore Ho Fung is also very pleased with how hard the senators have been working on initiatives.
- Senator Balfour who is the Advocacy Chair, has been working hard on various student concerns
- Senator Chen who is the Finance Chair, has been working on funding requests.
- Senator Sevil who is the Internal Affairs Chair, has been communicating between the different branches. She has also reached out to the Institute of Water & Fire to inquire about installing solar charging panels in outdoor student spaces.
- Senator Wang who is the Operational Review Chair, has been working hard on ensuring that the operations of the council are running smoothly.
- The Leadership Lounge on October 31st was a great success.
- Speaker Pro Tempore Ho Fung is looking forward to the ASGA conference coming up on November 3rd.

COMPTROLLER REPORT

- As far as stipends, any council member who holds two positions will be paid for whichever position pays more, not both.
- Stipend details and rules can be found in the constitution under the “Remunerations” section.
- Comptroller Kelly had his second comptroller’s meeting in which they discussed a quiz being put on the Engage platform. This quiz will test the financial knowledge of council members.
- Budget hearings will begin in January. The same budget process that was used last year will also be used this year.
- After the upcoming ASGA trip to Denver and FSA Meetings, there will be \$4,000 left over.
- Finance spent \$1570 and Graduate Pool spent \$600.

SENATOR’S REPORT

- Senator Nemmi is working on a support group for exploratory majors (student’s unsure of what to study). This group will help guide students toward a major based off their interests.

- Senator Nemmi has a new intern named Christ, who she will help build and improve his leadership skills.
- Senator Nemmi is working on a food pantry event with career and talent development.
- There will also be a food drive at SGA on November 13-15. People who donate will receive raffle tickets for a party at the end of the week.
- Senator Balfour is working on an SGA information session set to take place at Bayview.
 - The Student Advocacy Committee is working on the parking sign situation.
- Senator Sevil wants to applaud almost everyone for doing well with minutes.
 - If a council member forgets to clock out then they should let her know through text.
- Senator Wang has been approached by the library team to help promote the library system.
 - International Day of the Elimination of Violence against Women will take place on November 14th.
- Senator Chen needs 5 members for the Finance Committee.
 - Spoke to Scott Jones about the food pantry boxes. Senator Chen wants to provide bigger boxes or multiple boxes which will hold more items.

CABINET'S REPORT

- Ms. Oscar held an informational/recruitment session to bring in members for the Elections Committee.
- Ms. Gordon thanked everyone who came out and helped make “Donuts with the Deans” a success.
- Ms. Bordeau thanked everyone who came to the Leadership Lounge and helped make the event a success.
 - There will be an SGA scavenger hunt from November 5th-November 9th.
- Ms. Hernandez reminded everyone that the deadline to register for the Artsy event is November 6th. The event will take place on November 13th at the bay.
 - Ms. Hernandez and Ms. Gordon are still debating on whether or not to get a food vendor for the Artsy event.
 - Will be vlogging at ASGA conference this upcoming weekend.
 - If any council members have events they want posted on social media, they need to send her an email with the flyer and event details.
- Ms. Reddick has an event on November 28th in collaboration with Campus Life and Healthy living. There will be massages, body scrubs, etc.
 - On November 29th from 6pm-8pm here will be a free self-defense class for women. This class will take place in the WUC ballrooms.
- Ms. Malak will be having a meet and greet on November 28th, in collaboration with the Disability Resource Center.
 - She will also be starting a DRC peer mentor group in the spring semester.

Point of personal privilege taken by President Noel at 4:21 PM. President Noel yielded to Vice President Espino during his absence.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Council members need to fill out paperwork so campus life can process stipends.
- If paperwork was previously filled out then the stipend will be automatically dispersed.
- The last day for council members is December 7.
- Next Tuesday (October 6th) is active shooter training. The office will be closed starting at 1:30 PM.

GRADUATE ASSISTANT REPORT

- Debating on requiring professional attire for 1-2 general meetings each semester.
- There are now 8 SGA BBC interns. There is not really a need for any more.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of minutes for (9/26)

- I. Speaker Habib moved to strike Ms. Hernandez from “in attendance” to “absent”. Speaker Pro Tempore Ho Fung second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- II. Senator Wang moved to approve the General Meeting minutes from 9/26/18. Senator Balfour second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Appointments

- I. Xu Wang was given 3 minutes to present himself for the position of Hospitality Senator.
 - Mr. Wang is a freshman hospitality major from China.
 - He wants to learn more about FIU and America.
 - His goals are to be a voice for hospitality and international students.
 - Mr. Wang's Presentation was followed by a 3 minute Q & A.
 - Ms. Bordeau asked “What do you want to specifically bring to SGA?”
 - Senator Chen asked “If you are appointed, how will you connect SGA to hospitality?”
 - Senator Seville asked “What ideas do you have to connect international students to other individuals?”
 - Speaker Habib moved to extend Q & A for 2 minutes. Senator Ji second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Senator Nemmi asked “Are you aware of your duties as hospitality senator?”
 - Senator Wang asked “What are the top 3 reasons you want to join SGA?”
 - Speaker Habib asked “How would you benefit hospitality students?”
 - Senator Chen moved to appoint Mr. Xu Chang to the position of Hospitality Senator. Senator Balfour second the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 6-2.
- II. Ms. Karla Hernandez (current Marketing Coordinator) was given 2 minutes to present herself for the position of PR Manager.

- Ms. Hernandez wants to be PR Manager because she feels that communication is the key to getting contributions.
 - Ms. Hernandez's presentation was followed by a 3 minute Q & A.
 - Speaker Habib asked "What are some differences between Marketing Coordinator and PR Manager?"
 - Speaker Pro Tempore Ho Fung asked "Name a time when you used communication to resolve an issue."
 - Senator Seville moved to appoint Ms. Hernandez to the position of PR Manager. Senator Wang second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- III. Ms. Stephanie Morisset was given 2 minutes to present herself for the position of Director of Cultural Affairs.
- She is interested in sharing and promoting the culture at FIU.
 - Ms. Morisset loves to travel, learn, etc.
 - She wants to see more students promoting their culture.
 - Ms. Morisset's presentation was followed by a 3 minute Q & A.
 - Speaker Habib asked "Is your brother Christopher Morisset?"
 - Speaker Habib also asked "What is the purpose of SGA?"
 - Senator Seville asked "What activities do you have in mind?"
 - Senator Balfour asked "What is one value from your culture that you can share with students from FIU?"
 - Speaker Habib moved to extend Q & A for 1 more minute. Senator Chen second the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 7-1.
 - Ms. Bordeau asked "How would you use your position to go beyond promoting specific cultures?"
 - Ms. Balfour moved to appoint Stephanie Morisset to the position of Director of Cultural Affairs. Senator Seville second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Speaker Habib moved to extend the meeting to 5:20PM. Senator Nemmi second the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-3.

Point of personal privilege taken by Ms. Bordeau at 4:59 PM.

Point of personal privilege taken by Senator Seville at 5:00 PM.

Point of personal privilege taken by Senator Balfour at 5:00 PM.

- C. Panthers to the polls will be taking place on Thursday November 1st.
- D. The Self Defense class will be taking place November 29th and is currently only open to women.
- E. The FIU NextHorizon 2025 town hall meeting with President Rosenberg will be taking place on Monday November 5th from 2PM-4PM.

DISCUSSION

A. The student government congress meeting will be taking place on November 5th after the town hall meeting with President Rosenberg.

- Both councils (BBC & MMC) will come together to discuss why certain students (specifically BBC) do not want the merger to happen.
- Ms. Adames asked “Was the congress meeting decided at Monday’s Senate Meeting?”
- Senator Chen asked “After it is found that the merger is not wanted, what is the next step?”
- Ms. Hernandez thinks “BBC needs MMC to take them more seriously”.
- Speaker Habib moved to extend the meeting to 5:25 PM. Senator Nemmi second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Panthers to the Polls, November 1st, 9am-5pm
- FIU vs. FAU, November 3rd, 6:30 pm, Riccardo Silva Stadium
- Student Government Congress Meeting, November 5th, 2018
- BBC Active Shooter Training, November 6th
- International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women, November 14th
- SGA BBC General Meeting, November 28th, WUC 221
- Self Defense Class, November 29, Ballroom, 6pm-8pm

Speaker Habib moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 PM. Senator Chen second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was dismissed by President Noel at **5:25PM**.