



# Florida International University

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

## MINUTES

**SGC-BBC General Meeting**

**November 28, 2018**

### IN ATTENDANCE

Jefferson Noel, President  
Jonathan Espino, Vice-President  
Ronan Kelly, Comptroller  
John Habib, Speaker of the Senate  
Jiaqi Chen, Finance Chair  
Xin Wang, Operational Review Chair  
Priscila Sevil, Internal Affairs Chair  
Pamela Ho Fung, Rules, Legislation and Judiciary Chair  
Catalina Nemmi, Lower Division  
Brian Levine, Housing Senator  
Mark Monaco, Senator  
Sabrina Javellana, Chief of Staff  
SaVonne Reddick, Director of Student Wellness  
Chelsea Oscar, Elections Commissioner  
Merveline Nelson, Director of Community Relations  
Karla Hernandez, Marketing Coordinator  
Coral Murray, Director of Campus Sustainability  
Gabiella Malak, Director of Accessibility  
Aaliyah Gordon, Director of Events  
Flora Bourdeau, Director of Campus Services

### EXCUSED

### ABSENT

### GUESTS

Larissa Adames, Assistant Director of Campus Life/SGA Advisor  
Heidy Martinez, SGA Front Desk Assistant

### CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Date – Locale **WUC 221**. The meeting was called to order at **3:37 PM**, approximately, by **President Noel** who presided over the meeting in its entirety

**PRESIDENT’S WELCOME**

President Noel...

- Greeted the council and expressed that although FIU lost against UM it was the effort that counted.
- Concluded his welcome with a quote, “The enemy of the best is good.”

**PRESIDENT**

**REPORT**

President Noel...

- Opened his report by reflecting on his conversations at the barbershop at MMC with the Black Student Union, speaking about consent.
- Mentioned to the council that mentor monday and the leadership lounge have been a great success. Currently working on safety town hall along with the safety walk, because of students specifically at BBC feeling unsafe. The Town hall will host the chief of police which will allow students to ask questions.
- Informed the council that he sat in place of the MMC President recently for a student finance committee.

**FIU**

@

**I-75**

**REPORT**

President Noel...

- Mentioned to the council that he will be giving the I-75 campus report on behalf of Diana Arcentales.
- Informed the council on meeting with four people on the committee that will soon take place that report will be coming soon.
- Notified the council that the Center for Academic Success will be there once a week to tutor students at the I-75 campus. Also between October 8-11 and the 13, they will be hosting homecoming week with giveaways and DJ’s. 200 students have expressed interest to attend the homecoming game, currently working on a bus to be able to provide transportation to and from.
- Concluded his report in entirety by expressing his excitement on the faculty/student satisfaction survey has been helping and improving student/faculty life at FIU.

**VICE**

**PRESIDENT**

**REPORT**

Vice President Espino...

- Opened his report with a few updates, including the Pharma Box that is in the works to be placed in WUC. But there is a current issue with the location so he is working closely with Scott Jones. Also, the idea came up about a Pharma Box in Bayview for the residents to access 24/7, speaking with Dr. Montgomery and others to get that going.
- Informed the council on the progress of the mangrove wall which will be located around where the lunch room is in AC1. The wall will be made out of wire so it is removable during a natural occurrence, any ideas for creativity to let him know. He would like it to

be a zen space, so he is working on using left over rocks from the reflexology path, maybe adding some benches and having ambient music playing.

- Concluded his report by stating to the council that he is waiting to hear back about the fitness path, and his one on one senate meetings with the senators have been great.

## **SPEAKER OF THE SENATE REPORT**

Speaker Habib...

- Opened his report by encouraging the other branches to attend the committee meetings, because regardless of not being in the senate you are still SGA.
- Informed the council of his pick for MVP of the senate for this month, Senator Ho Fung and Senator Sevil, who have showed extraordinary work and leadership.
- Notified the council of a possible appointment to the Upper Division senate seat.
- Informed the council of his worry of students taking the pre-health track aren't aware or as educated to know exactly why they are taking that track. In the works to have some sort of Med. Expo where employers educate students and let them know what they are looking for.
- Concluded his report by discussing his idea with partnering with Panther Now on televising small segments by media students. To help students gain experience also promote why students should come to BBC.

## **CHIEF JUSTICE REPORT**

Chief Justice Velasquez...

- Opened his report by letting everyone know that if anyone has anything to add to the constitutional review to let him know.
- Concluded his report by exerting the importance of committing to the role you are in. Congratulated those who are in attendance. You should be making every single meeting and those who do not will be held accountable.

## **CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT**

Chief of Staff Javellana...

- Opened her report by greeting the council and introducing the new Elections Commissioner Ms.Oscar.
- Informed the council about Mentor Monday, Leadership Lounge, Presidents Corner, Safety Walk, Town hall and awareness initiatives. To keep informed please see social media and follow our marketing coordinators.
- Concluded her report by acknowledging that last cabinet meeting no one was aware of where the FIU police is located. A field trip walk over there will take place very soon.

## **COMPTROLLER**

## **REPORT**

Comptroller Kelly...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that he had a comptrollers meeting with MMC about the money for BBC.
- Informed the council about the leftover contingency of \$157,523.76 after starting with \$133,597.03 and adding the rollover 50% which was \$107,153.80 but after deducting \$83,227.07 for up and coming plans.

## **SENATOR'S REPORT**

Senator Nemmi...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that she had a one on one with Vice President Espino about taking on more.
- Informed the council about working with Ms. Ontonella to take away the stigma of being an exploratory major and it being okay to not know what major to declare.
- Concluded her report by letting the council know that the MAST FIU students who were victims to the previous random attack on BBC are back on campus. "If you see them acknowledge them, ask them how they are doing, as SGA that is our job."

Senator Sevil...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that everyone is doing very well with their hours.
- Informed the council about working with Sahara to create a flyer for SGA positions where they can visually see all their responsibilities.
- Concluded her report by mentioning she is working on the student information board, so the council and students can post about meetings and other information.

Senator Ho Fung...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that she had a one on one with Vice President Espino.
- Informed the council that after some summer classes here at BBC she noticed that the rooms were grey and dull. So she is working on an initiative to bring some life to the classrooms though the idea is still raw so to please talk to her for any ideas.

Senator Chen...

- Greeted and informed the council that she had a good experience at the leadership lounge.
- Informed the council about Senator De Silva's resignation, and spoke about not having representation for the Hospitality committee so she is willing to be there to help out.

Senator Wang...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that she was excited to attend the Leadership lounge.
- Informed the council of her operational review meeting for tuesday with Senator Chen. Also about how they moved the Violence Against Women Event to November so it has not been forgotten.

## **CABINET'S**

## **REPORT**

Ms. Bourdeau...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that she enjoyed the Leadership Lounge and it is a great place to develop leadership skills.
- Informed the council of the safety walk on OCT. 2. Also there will be a scavenger hunt in order to be more knowledgeable on campus.

Ms. Nelson...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that Mentor Monday took place from 12pm-2pm, where different networks and employers came together to help students. 29 students signed in on handshake for the event. Next Mentor Monday takes place on Oct. 29.

Ms. Murray...

- Greeted the council and mentioned that Day on the Bay is taking place on Oct. 20.
- Informed the council that an MMC project is looking for architecture students or anyone interested in architecture for research and ideas.

Ms. Gordon...

- Informed the council of the Constitutional town hall, to please attend. Also about President's corner taking place on Oct. 4 around HM building.

### **ADVISOR REPORT**

Ms. Adames...

- Opened her report by thanking everyone who helped this morning.
- Informed the council that Yselande Pierre is running for homecoming faculty queen, please vote for her.
- Mentioned to the council that we have a homecoming float for the homecoming parade, anyone interested to help please get in contact with her.
- Informed to the council there are many scholarships online via the FIU scholarships website where you can apply and maybe receive free money.
- Mentioned to the council that our SGA intern is here wednesday and friday so please say hello.
- Concluded her report by telling the council to please read the Panther Now articles, and take it as a challenge to show what BBC does for its students.

### **GRADUATE ASSISTANT REPORT**

Ms. Jospitre...

- Informed the council that if you have not joined the council chat please see her.
- Concluded her report by stating that SGA interns will be here next week and will be paired up based on interests and positions. Stay tuned for an email on your intern assignment.

### **NEW**

### **BUSINESS**

**A.** **Approval** **of** **Minutes**  
 A motion to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2018 meeting was made by Senator Chen  
 Senator Nemmi seconded.

All in favor, I  
All opposed, silence  
Vote Passes 6-0-0.

By a unanimous decision, the general meeting minutes from 08/29/2018 was passed.

## B. Chair Appointments

Q&A Discussion

A motion to appoint Christopher Gil for Upper Division Senator was made by Senator Nemmi and seconded by Senator Ho Fung.

All in favor, I  
All opposed, silence  
Vote Passes 6-0-0.

By a unanimous decision, Christopher Gil was appointed for Upper Division Senator.

**C. When We All Vote**  
President Noel...

- Greeted the council and encouraged the council to vote as the deadline to register is October 9, 2018.
- Concluded this section of New Business by sharing that Chief of Staff Javellana is running for commissioner of Hallandale Beach.

## D. Presidential Leadership Award

President Noel...

- Mentioned to the council that since there were zero applications for this months leadership award they nominated and declared Trevis Belle a former applicant as the winner.

**E. Day on the Bay**  
President Noel...

- Mentioned to the council that Day on the Bay is taking place on October 20 at 8:30am.

*Ms. Murray asked for a personal privilege after section E. of New Business, at 4:48 PM.*

**F. Black Professional Summit**  
President Noel...

- Informed to the council that many leaders will be here at BBC in the Kovens Conference center. They are sponsoring students to attend so if you would like to attend email Larissa.

*Chief Justice Velasquez asked for a personal privilege after New Business, at 4:51 PM.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. When We All Vote, TODAY 5pm-6:30pm
- B. Haitian Student Association Game Night, September 27th, 6pm-9pm, WUC 155
- C. Constitution Review Meeting, September 28th, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm, BBC WUC 221
- D. FIU vs. Arkansas Pine Bluff, September 29th, 7:00 pm, Riccardo Silva Stadium
- E. Journalism Media Hub ribbon cutting, October 1, 5pm-8pm
- F. Safety Walk, October 2nd, 7:30pm-9pm
- G. 4th Annual Dessert Challenge for Roary's Birthday
- H. Panthermonium w/ Miguel + Rich the Kid, October 6th
- I. Homecoming Week, October 7-13
- J. Day on the Bay, October 20th, 8:30am-1pm
- K. Leadership Lounge, October 29th. 1pm, SGA BBC Conference Room
- L. Doughnuts with Dean, October 30, 2018, TBA
- M. SGA BBC General Meeting, October 31, 3:30pm, WUC 221
- N. YSELANDE PIERRE FOR FIU HOMECOMING FACULTY/STAFF QUEEN!!!

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn at 4:53 PM was made by Senator Wang and seconded by Senator Nemmi.

*All in favor, I*  
*All opposed, silence*  
Vote Passes 6-0-0.

The meeting was dismissed by President Noel at **4:53 PM**.