



# Florida International University

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

## MINUTES

### **SGC-BBC General Meeting October 7th, 2019**

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Pamela Ho Fung, President  
Mahalia Balfour, Vice President  
Dora Febles, Comptroller  
Patricia Moreno, Chief of Staff  
Karla Hernandez, Public Relations Manager  
Abu Chowdhury, Director of Events  
Kelli Perkins, Director of Community Relations  
Shinise Lewis, Director of International Cultural Affairs  
Gabriella Malak, Speaker of the Senate  
Gabriel Hernandez, Upper Division Senator/ Speaker Pro Tempore  
Aaliyah Gordon, Communication + Journalism Senator  
Vivian Desme, Communication + Journalism Senator  
Lauren Doughty, Hospitality & Tourism Management  
Mark Monaco, Health Services Administration  
Diamond Barnett, Upper Division Senator  
Catalina Nemmi, FIU at I-75 Senator (Student Advocacy Chair)  
Mickalia Paisley, At-Large Senator (Internal Affairs Chair)  
Keanu Orfano, Chief Justice

#### **EXCUSED**

Junia Benoit, Director of Student Wellness  
Stephanie Morisset, CASE Senator (Finance Chair)

#### **GUEST**

Larissa Adames, SGA Advisor  
Sahara Martin, Graphic Artist  
Derek Biaselli Jr., Student Assistant  
Daddyann Toussaint, Student Assistant  
Dr. Anthony DeSantis, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on September 25th, 2019 – Located in **WUC 221**. The meeting was called to order at **3:38 PM**, by President Ho Fung who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

#### **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

- She stated a greeting.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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

- She attended the Amnesty Bill event and mentions that it was meaningful.
- The Blue Table Talk is this week and she looks forward to it.
- Is meeting with Senator Paisley this week.
- This Friday is the AVP event and is attending the event with Speaker Malak and Vice president Balfour.
- There is a conversation going around to have the general meeting at FIU AT I-75.
  - She provided a report on behalf of the Senate that way everybody has an idea of what is happening.
- Met with a member of the Women's Center
  - there will be a Womanhood Podcast
  - It will be the first one ever
  - It will be held at MMC at 3pm.
- Career and Talent will be enhancing or improving resources at BBC.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Vice President Balfour ...**

- Greeting
- October 14th is the Blue Table Talk
  - There will be a panel discussion with 3 generations of people
  - There will be a discussion of beauty standards
- October 9th is the Family Reunion with Ms. Adames and Ms. Josprite
  - Tell Alumni to come back and visit the event
- Yesterday was the Silver's Event

## **COMPROLLER'S REPORT**

### **Comptroller Febles ...**

- Has gone over budget requests
- Comptroller monthly meetings starting on October 14th
- Completed all purchase requests so far

## **SENATE SPEAKER REPORT**

### **Speaker Malak ...**

- Everyone can use the folders on the team drive
- There is a Congress Meeting at 4:30pm on October 24th
- Senators have been working a lot and there will be a retreat in the future
- Speaker Angel will come in Wednesday not Monday's meeting
- SAG Day was great.
- Wants to bring member of the month back.
  - Asks for drumroll...
  - Member of the Month winner is Senator Monaco

## **SPEAKER-PRO REPORT**

### **Speaker Pro Hernandez ...**

- Greeting
- Reminder of the one on ones with committee chairs
  - There are 2 open positions for the committee
- Reminder of the legislation deadline happening on October 7th
- Preparations of Congress meeting which include learning of Robert's Rules

## **CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT**

### **Chief of Staff Moreno...**

- Cabinet meeting on Wednesday at 4:30pm-5:30pm
- Updated the SGA binder
- Agenda minutes have been updated
- Helped the Director of Events with ideas for October and November
- Is working on emails
- Starting to open cabinet positions

## **CHIEF JUSTICE**

### **Chief Justice Orfanu...**

- Greeting
- Attended the Summer Leadership Meeting
- Hopeful that the Dining Hall will be open
  - Chick-fil-A will not be open
  - Vicky's Bakery will be here in AC1
- Construction for beach volleyball will be in Bayview
- Stairwell will be closed for 16 weeks in Bayview
- MAST Academy school will be built in Fall 2020
  - Student will attend in Spring 2020
- Attended Silver's Mouny Ball
- Received 1 Justice Application

## **FIU AT I-75 REPORT**

### **President Ho Fung...**

- Homecoming Events happening on Monday through Thursday
- Free T-shirts on Saturday 11am to 1:30pm.

- I-75 Senator Nemmi will host Midterm Motivation event

## **CABINET REPORTS**

Public Relations Manager Hernandez...

- Greeting
- States that her goal is to increase awareness of events coming up.
- States that time management is an issue
  - Made a calendar on Google Drive
  - Asks that members please plugin events in the calendar
  - Asks that members notify her of events 2 weeks prior to event date.
- Wants to start creating skits and commercials.
- Visited the Media Hub
- Reminds everyone to give her their birthdays after the meeting.

Speaker Malak moves to present Dr. Anthony DeSantis. Senator Paisley seconds.

Dr. DeSantis presents himself.

- Talks about FIU upgrades
- Pool had 1.3 million renovation
- Talked about the MAST highschool building and Vicky's
  - Senator Nemmi questions.
  - Dr. DeSantis answers.
  - Senator Nemmi states a comment.
  - Dr. DeSantis responds.
- Talks about the Nursing Pod,
- A beach volleyball court will be added.
- talks about new initiatives
- Mentions social justice organizations
  - You can register through Panther Connect
- Kayaking is free for now
  - Director of Events Chowdhury asks a question.
  - Dr. DeSantis answers.
- Run/Walk with the AVP is free.
- Mentions that the Campus Life Life-Series
- Talks about the Career and Talent Development Shadowing Program.
- Talks about the Emerging Leader Program

- Speaker Malak asks a question
- Dr. DeSantis answers
- Talks about Homecoming
- Shuttle Bus Data shows an increase of 13% of attendance
- There is a Badge Program happening at the Women's Center
- There are work groups with BBC Academic & Student Affairs
- Final remarks of Dr. DeSantis
- President Ho Fung thanks him.

Director of Community Relations Perkins...

- Tabled with Victoria Reyes for voting.
  - 14 students came to the table
- States that she is joining the President's round Table
- Mentions that she is meeting with Yansy Torress
- She is also meeting with Pablo Ortiz

Director of Events Chowdhury...

- Greeting
- States that his monthly goals are the Pumpkin Patch, Trunk or Treat and Donuts with the Dean events
- He mentions that he has completed no tasks this week
- Mr. Pestana is helping him with the events
- He states that he visited the kovens Center and with Ms. Tiffany to have a dancing event
  - She will give him a quote
- States that there are 400 - 500 students that live in Bayview but only 90 show up to a small event.
- Asked if parking is included with tuition to Parking and Transportation and was sent to the higher ups.
- Continues to talk about events and demographics.

President Ho Fung states that she was reminded of the FIU food fund.

Senator Nemmi states a comment about the food pantry.

Director of International Cultural Affairs Lewis...

- Talks about events and is meeting with Ivana
- Mentions about the increase of residents in Bayview

## **SENATORS REPORTS**

Senator Monaco...

- Having a meeting on October 2nd at 9:30pm.
- Mentioned that he has done Student Advocacy
- One student states that they want more food.

Senator Desme...

- Introduction
- Mentions that she got the new regalia for senate members
- had one on one meeting today with Vice President Balfour
- Talked with Public Relations Manager Hernandez about the Miami Herald
- Working on resolution to prevent MAST students from accumulation prizes and items that are meant FIU students
  - Mentions experience where a student complained that they couldn't get food at an event due to MAST students acquiring it first
- Had a meeting with Speaker Malak

Senator Gordon...

- Hello
- Talks about Donuts with the Dean event and is speaking with Ms. Adames and Ms. Josprite on the subject matter
- Spoke about a big event to Commemorate the Queen.
  - Has gotten the idea from former President Noël.
  - will speak with the Women's Center concerning this matter
- Mentions the recycle Event

Senator Paisley...

- Has been working hard to have the Level Up Leadership event
- There will be an Information session in November.
  - The first meeting for it will be next week in the conference room.
- There was a lot of issues last week concerning hours.
  - No punishments will take place
  - She states that if anyone has trouble with hours, please ask her for help.
- Reminds everyone that every member has to do tabling twice a semester.
- States that she has been having IT issues with her email.

Senator Barrett introduces herself.

Senator Nemmi...

- Mentions the GSA LGBT group event in December
  - First meeting happens soon
- Mentions that Midterm Motivation is giving away school supplies to encourage studying
- Talks about Stress Relief Week collaboration with FIU at I-75
  - Providing massages and doing Painting with a Twist there.
- Mentions the Soccer game on November 8th
  - Is going to be working with Ms. Josprite in this event
- Mentions that tabling for students at I-75 happens today at BBC.
- The Town Hall meeting is happening at BBC.
- The next Student Advocacy meeting is happening at 3:20pm
- Talks about The Food Pantry
- Mentions a Resolution based on donations resolving Parking Tickets.

### **ADVISOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Adames...

- Reminds everyone of available messenger bags
- There is a Dr. Martin Luther King scholarship.
  - First place prize is \$2,500 and a food plan stipend
  - Second place prize is \$1,500
  - Third place prize is \$1,000
  - You have to write a 500 word essay
  - The deadline is October 8th
  - The winners will be announced at a breakfast
    - Yusef Salaam is the speaker at the breakfast
  - Please apply
- Homecoming is 2 weeks
- Announces that there is two new assistants
- At 9:30 AM this Saturday the six time champion women's swim team will be having an event.
  - President Rosenberg will be there.
- Director of Community Relations Perkins asked a question

*Point of Personal Privilege - Senator Nemmi - 4:31 PM*

*Point of Personal Privilege - Public Relationship Manager Hernandez - 4:31 PM*

- Vice President Balfour states that Yusef Salaam is the person that was exonerated for the Central Park case. She asks that members attend the breakfast because he is a prominent black figure.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The council reviewed the minutes of August 28th, 2019.

Senator Paisley moved to approve the minutes of August 28th, 2019 at 4:56pm.

Senator Gordon seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Second Reading of Resolution 2019.0011**

President Ho Fung relinquishes power to Vice President Balfour.

President Ho Fung reads resolution.

Questions and answering happens and comments are made.

Speaker Paisley moves to include an “and” before Vice Provost.

Senator Gordon seconds.

President Ho Fung states the changes she made.

Speaker Malak opens discussion to talk to each other concerning the resolution.

Speaker Pro Hernandez asks a question.

Vice President Balfour states a comment.

President Ho Fung provides further explanation.

Senator Nemmi states that this can be a very important bill.

But she doesn't know if there is a lot of statistics on it or that it's just too much.

Vice President Balfour states that it's our opinion. What she is missing is the support of the students.

She mentions that she wants to see action behind the solution.



Speaker Pro Hernandez moves to extend discussion by 5 minutes.

Speaker Malak seconds.

President Ho Fung continues to talk about the resolution.

Speaker Malak asks Senator Nemmi a question regarding her statement.

Senator Nemmi answers and provides further explanation.

President Ho Fung asks a question.

Vice President Balfour answers.

President Ho Fung continues to explain herself.

Ms. Adames suggests a solution.

Speaker Malak asks if President Ho Fung is willing to do a survey and reforms her question to ask what is her plan of action?

President Ho Fung answers.

Speaker Malak agrees.

Vice President Balfour checks the time.

Speaker Pro Hernandez agrees with Speaker Malak & Ms. Adames and asks President Ho Fung a question.

Speaker Pro Hernandez moves to extend questioning for 5 minutes.

President Ho Fung asks a question.

Speaker Pro Hernandez asks for a more clarified question.

President Ho Fung answers.

Speaker Pro Hernandez states a comment and a suggestion.

President Ho Fung states a comment.

Director of Events Chowdhury asks a question.

President Ho Fung and everyone starts to answer.

Speaker Paisley moves to approve.

Senator Gordon seconds.

### ROLL CALL

Speaker Malak - Yea

Speaker Pro Hernandez- Yea

Senator Gordon - Yea

Senator Monaco - Yea

Senator Paisley - Yea

Senator Nemmi - Yea

Senator Morisset - Abs.

Senator Doughty - Abs.

Senator Desme - Yea

Senator Barnett - Yea

With a vote of 8/0/2, Resolution 2019.0011 was approved.

Vice President Balfour congratulated President Ho Fung.

### **B. General Meeting in FIU at I-75 Center**

#### **President Ho Fung...**

- There will be a General meeting held on October 30th at FIU at I-75.
- States that she would appreciate to see the senator's there.
- Mentions that it's important to members to meet with students.
  - States that its necessary for members and FIU at I-75.
- For transportation, a mini shuttle will be rented to get to FIU at I-75.

- Asks if that works for everyone.

Director of Events Chowdhury asks a question.

Vice President Balfour answers.

Director of Events Chowdhury asks another question.

Director of Community Relations Perkins answers.

President Ho Fung asks members to talk to her 2 weeks prior.

She goes on to ask if this is a good idea.

Everyone answers with yes

Senator Paisley asks a question.

President Ho Fung answers.

Speaker Malak comments.

Senator Paisley states a comment.

Senator Nemmi states a comment.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **A. Student Concerns**

President Ho Fung emailed the Vice Provost and the Department of Parking and Transportation. She states what happened and how the student wanted to remain anonymous.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mentor Monday will take place September 30 at WUC FROM 12PM - 1:30PM.

There will be a football game and a shuttle will be provided.

Homecoming and the Blue Table Talk were mentioned.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Monaco moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 PM.  
Senator Gordon seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by President Ho Fung at **5:29 PM**.