



Florida International University

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

MINUTES SGC-BBC Senate Meeting October 7th, 2016

IN ATTENDANCE

Hala Baaj – Arts and Sciences
Tonie Jean – Arts and Sciences / Speaker of the Senate
Michaela Suarez – Business Administration
Armani Someillan – Hospitality Management
Nikole Torregiante – Hospitality Management **3:39pm**
Nicole Mare – Lower Division
Maria Fauve – Lower Division / Speaker Pro-Tempore
Ronan Kelly – Lower Division
Alexandra Laroche – Lower Division
Mitesh Addhate – Graduate
Michema Lafontant – Vice President
Larissa Adames – Advisor
Gerald Johnson – Graduate Assistant

ABSENT

Jonathan Espino

GUESTS

Dianne Morales

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on October 7th, 2016 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at **3:34pm**, approximately, by Speaker Tonie Jean who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Speaker Jean said she sent a reminder text to everyone about the last week's meeting minutes.

Senator Suarez moved to approve the October 31st, 2016 Senate Meeting Minutes.
Senator Someillan seconded the motion.

By a unanimous decision, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.

SENATE SPEAKER REPORT

- Speaker Jean wished the council good luck on their upcoming final exams.
- Speaker Jean reminded the council to cast their vote tomorrow.
- Speaker Jean advised the council to keep the upcoming Public Forums and Statutes changes in mind.
- Speaker Jean said next week, an important bill will be discussed. She said the E-Board is working on making changes to the senate seats and job descriptions.

SPEAKER PRO-TEMPORE Report

No Report

VICE PRESIDENT Report

- Vice President Lafontant said school will end in about four to five weeks and she would like to create an event to serve coffee and/or energy drinks to the student body during finals week. She thinks sometime during midday or 5pm to 8pm is best for the event.
 - Senator Baaj said only coffee should be served, instead of energy drinks. She also suggested scheduling the event on the week before finals week.
 - Senator Mare said it would be a good idea to collaborate with the Department of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) where they can discuss anxiety, stress, and breathing exercises. She advised of her plans to contact CAPS.
 - Speaker Jean said it would be best to do it at night to not interfere with Starbucks' hours of operation.
 - Advisor Adames said bean bags are available through the Wolfe University Center.
 - Speaker Jean said it is a great idea and to consider the upcoming events schedule during finals week to avoid any interference. She asked everyone to finalized the idea and schedule the event during a peak day and time.

ADVISOR REPORT

- Advisor Adames said the annual SGA-BBC Potluck will be held on Wednesday, November 23rd from 3:30pm-5pm. She said an updated Google Document is available to add the dish that each council member will bring.
- Speaker Adames said everyone can either make the food or buy it.
- Speaker Adames said the forums for the constitutional changes are next week and asked the council to please make sure to inform the student body of the changes.
- Speaker Adames said the spring semester ropes course is on Friday, January 20th 2017. She said the event will include team building exercises for the council, kayaking, a ropes course and lunch.

FINANCE CHAIR Report

- Senator Suarez said a vote will be held later to induct a new member into the finance committee and she will be having a finance meeting.

RLJ CHAIR REPORT

No Report

OPERATIONAL REVIEW CHAIR REPORT

- Senator Laroche said she was able to fix and discuss the issue with the Director of Campus Life, Kerrie Montgomery, and can now move forward.

INTERNAL RELATIONS CHAIR REPORT

- Senator Mare advised the council to please vote tomorrow and said early voting ends today.

STUDENT ADVOCACY CHAIR REPORT

- Senator Someillan said the food survey was sent out and had about 300 responses.
- Senator Someillan said he was advised to stop the survey and will meet to discuss the survey issues with Senator Jean, President Mejia and Chief of Staff Cosio.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Director of Events Morales' Presentation

- Director of Events Morales reminded the council of the upcoming Public Forum.
- Director of Events Morales said the Holiday Toy Drive with Broward County Outreach, the Miami Rescue Mission and Lavender House will be held from November 14th through December 2nd.
- Director of Events Morales said the His House Holiday Thanksgiving Dinner, which is catered by Boston Market, is on Thanksgiving day from 3pm-5pm. She asked the council to RSVP.
- Director of Events Morales said there is a second holiday toy drive, which ends on November 22nd.
- Director of Events Morales said Day on the Bay is on Saturday December 3rd and lunch is provided.
- Director of Events Morales said the North Miami Thanksgiving Day Parade is in the morning, and carpooling is available.

B. Rules, Legislation, & Judiciary Chair Nominee - Hala Baaj

Senator Baaj moved to postpone the nomination until next week.
Speaker Mare seconded the motion.

By a unanimous decision, the motion passed and the appointment was postponed.

C. Finance Committee Member Appointment - Mitesh Addhate

- Senator Addhate thanked the council for appointing him as graduate senator.
- Senator Addhate said he will abide by the rules of the finance code and will help the committee as much as possible.

Senator Mare moved to appoint Mitesh Addhate as a Finance Committee member.
Senator Someillan seconded the motion:

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Baaj – Yay
Senator Suarez – Yay
Senator Someillan – Yay
Senator Torregiante – Yay
Senator Mare – Yay
Senator Kelly – Yay
Senator Laroche – Yay
Senator Addhate – Yay
Senator Fauve – Yay
Senator Jean – Yay

By a vote of 10/0/0, Mitesh Addhate was appointed as a Finance Committee Member.

D. Senator At Large - Micaela Suarez

Senator Mare moved to appoint Senator Suarez as Senator At-Large.
Senator Baaj seconded the motion:

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Baaj – Yay
Senator Suarez – Yay
Senator Someillan – Yay
Senator Torregiante – Yay
Senator Mare – Yay
Senator Kelly – Yay
Senator Laroche – Yay
Senator Addhate – Yay
Senator Fauve – Yay
Senator Jean – Yay

By a vote of 10/0/0, Micaela Suarez was appointed as Senator At-Large.

E. Senate Recruitment:

- Senator Jean advised the council of the importance of filling in the empty senate seats.
- Senator Jean said three hours of office hours will be dedicated to recruitment until all positions are filled. She reminded the council of the out of office hours process.
- Senator Jean asked the council to please fill out the Excel sheet to sign up for tabling and other recruitment related activities.
- Senator Jean advised the importance of speaking to students in all colleges.
- Senator Mare suggested a street team for recruitment.
- Graduate Assistant Johnson suggested canvas marketing.
- Senator Jean advised the council to inform Vice President Lafontant their recruiting method choice by Friday.
- Vice President Lafontant suggested presenting in classes.
- Senator Suarez said tabling should be more interactive to make it more interesting for the students.
- Senator Mare suggested a picture board.
- Senator Jean said this week is brain storming week and next week, the recruitment plan will be implemented. She added that recruitment is open to renovation and suggested everyone try different methods out and choose the one they are best at.

ANOUNCEMENTS

- Toy Drive donations
- Student Feedback Forum
- Veterans Day, University Closed

The meeting was dismissed by Speaker Jean at **4:16pm**.