



Florida International University

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

MINUTES

SGC-BBC Senate Meeting

January 24th, 2019

IN ATTENDANCE

Jonathan Espino, Vice President

John Habib, Speaker / Arts, Sciences, & Education Senator

Pamela Ho Fung, Speaker Pro Tempore / Lower Division Senator

Mahalia Balfour, Arts, Sciences, and Education Senator / Student Advocacy Chair (10:47am)

Jiaqi “Water” Chen, Finance Chair / Graduate Senator

Yuze “Crystal” Ji, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator

Catalina Nemmi, Lower Division Senator

Priscila Sevil, Internal Affairs Chair/ At-Large Senator (10:57am)

Xin Wang, Operational Review Chair / At-Large Senator

Xu Chang, Hospitality & Tourism Management Senator

EXCUSED

Brian Levine, Housing Senator, RLJ Chair

Mark Monaco, Health Services Administration Senator

GUESTS

Mickalia Paisley, Upper Division Senator Candidate

Jefferson Noel, President

Ronan Kelly, Comptroller

Alejandro Narvaez, Front Desk Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

The SGC-BBC Senate held a meeting on January 24, 2019– **WUC 221**. The meeting was called to order at **10:20 am**, approximately, by **Speaker Habib** who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

WELCOME

Speaker Habib welcomed the Senate to this special session.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Upcoming Congress Meeting

Speaker Habib...

- Reminded the Senate of the upcoming Congress Meeting and advised the Senate to be prepared for it.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of 1/14/2019 Minutes

Senator Nemmi motioned to move the approval of January 14, 2019 Senate Meeting minutes on to next Senate meeting.

Senator Chen seconded.

By unanimous decision the approval of January 24, 2019 Senate Meeting minutes have been moved to next Senate meeting.

B. Appointments (Upper Division Senator)

Speaker Habib introduced Ms. Paisley and gave her two minutes to present herself to the Senate.

Ms. Paisley presented herself.

Speaker Habib gave the Senate two minutes for Q/A.

After two minutes of Q/A, Senator Chen motioned to extend the Q/A session for two more minutes.

Senator Chang seconded.

Senator Nemmi moved to appoint Mickalia Paisley for a position as Upper Division Senator.

Senator Wang seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Speaker Habib - Yea

Speaker Pro Ho Fung - Yea

Senator Chen - Yea

Senator Ji - Yea

Senator Chang - Yea

Senator Nemmi - Yea

Senator Wang - Yea

The Motion to appoint Mickalia Paisley for a position as Upper Division Senator passed with a vote of 7-0-0.

C. First Reading of Resolution 2019.0002

Resolution 2019.0002 was read by President Noel.

Senator Nemmi: “I love this Resolution, I feel frustrated because I have to take most of my classes at MMC keeping me away from BBC and doing Panther Power and SGA, and also, it’s very hard to pay \$5 each day for transportation”

Senator Balfour stated that transport to and from MMC was not only a fiscal, but also a physical difficulty.

Speaker Habib asked if there were any further questions, comments or concerns.

President Noel: “Senator Sevil mentioned adding PACE classes into the BBC course offerings. Do you think this will work, or should we also add special ones? Do you all think I keep the resolution like this or mention special classes in it?”

Senator Nemmi: “I would suggest to also include the fact that we should add more classes in the I-75 campus, just so that there is more life at I-75, and if I had to go to Miramar to take classes, would that make me a BBC student so that I can keep being a part of SGA?.”

Senator Balfour: “I-75 classes count as BBC classes to be considered an SGA student”.

Senator Chen: “I would suggest to have a higher amount of course offerings at BBC. The Resolution should be more specific as to how many courses should be added or to what percentage of all of FIU courses should BBC’s be increased.”

President Noel: “Some courses will not be offered here, because this campus does not have the infrastructure for twenty thousand students”.

Senator Paisley: “Most classes offered at BBC only have one professor teaching it. Also, the classes to be added should be separated by school, such as the College of Business and so on”.

Senator Wang: “FIU won’t add classes to the BBC campus if they can’t keep up with the demand for online classes”.

President Noel: “There’s already a notice for the demand of the online classes, which they’re planning to increase. The course distribution will be 40% online, 30% at MMC and 30% at BBC”.

Senator Sevil: “The resolution should focus on in-person classes, and should include STEM classes, because only physics is taught here at BBC. Also, there should be more upper division classes at BBC, so that students can communicate within students of the same major”.

President Noel: “If you have any more suggestions, add them to the document. Comment on it and I’ll address them later on”.

Senator Balfour: “Make sure to send the Resolution to the faculty Senate”.
President Noel agreed.

Speaker Habib moved to conclude the discussion.

D. First Reading of Bill 2019.0001

Bill 2019.0001 was read by Speaker Habib.

Speaker Habib asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns.

Senator Nemmi: “Are you aware that I was promoting the I-75 chair position? I even had fliers for students to look at.”

Speaker Habib: “I was aware, but we haven’t gotten any kind of I-75 member in many years. The last time we had I-75 representatives at SGA was eight or nine years ago, and they both had to resign because of transportation issues. We should represent them because we need their voices to be heard. Our At-Large Senators will represent I-75 students, because we don’t have a representation for them. I apologize for disrupting your campaign.”

Senator Nemmi accepted the apology.

Speaker Habib stated that the bill hasn’t passed, meaning that it can still have changes.

Speaker Habib asked again if there were any questions, comments or concerns.

Senator Nemmi stated that there were no specific duties for the At-Large Senators to do at the I-75 campus in the bill.

Senator Habib explained that their duties are similar, and explained what the Senators would have to do differently.

Senator Chen: “Will the At-Large Senators meet with the I-75 committee?”

Speaker Habib: “It’s not something that we can ensure every single year. The committee doesn’t fall under our statutes, so that’ll still exist. As you can see I copied some of the duties of the I-75 committee as duties for our At-Large Senators. If we remove the I-75 Senator position we will have four Senators that will get reports from there and interact with students. Transportation is an issue so the best way for us to get in contact with them is through e-mail given that there is no shuttle card from BBC to I-75. However; the bill can change, we can require physical appearance.”

Vice President Espino: “It would be nice if we could go to I-75 and interact with the people in that campus, and have meetings with the committee. If it’s feasible, we can use Senator’s discretionary or Vice President discretionary to pay for the At-Large Senators’ transportation from BBC to I-75.”

Speaker Habib agreed.

Senator Wang: “At-Large Senators should go there once a month. If there are four Senators, a different Senator would go each month so that we can keep contact with the students at the I-75 campus. I think this is a very good idea to work on.”

Speaker Habib moved to conclude the discussion.

DISCUSSION

A. Student Concerns

Speaker Habib asked the Senate if any of them had any student concerns that they would like to share and granted five minutes to share.

There were no student concerns to share.

SPEAKER REPORT

Given that there was a short amount of time available, there was no report from Speaker Habib.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

Given that there was a short amount of time available, there was no report from Vice President Espino.

FINANCE CHAIR REPORT

Senator Chen...

- Informed that the Finance committee will meet next Monday from 1 pm to 2 pm, and the meeting will take place in the SGA Conference Room.

OPERATIONAL REVIEW CHAIR REPORT

Senator Wang...

- Informed that she will meet with the vice chair next Monday from 12:30 pm to 12:55 pm.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS CHAIR REPORT

Senator Sevil...

- Informed that the office hours for this week will not count because it was a holiday week (MLK Day).
- Mentioned to the Senate that council members who miss their hours for three consecutive weeks will be removed from the Student Government Council.

STUDENT ADVOCACY CHAIR REPORT

Senator Balfour...

- Mentioned that the first Student Advocacy committee meeting already took place in the SGA Conference Room.
- Informed the Senate that she is planning to produce a video to promote BBC.

SENATORS REPORT

There were no reports from the Senators.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Operational Review Committee Meeting**, January 28th
 - 12:30pm-12:55pm
 - SGA Conference Room (WUC 301)
- **Finance Committee Meeting**, January 28th
 - 1:00pm-2pm
 - SGA Conference Room (WUC 301)
- **SGA Budget Hearings & Deliberations**
 - Deliberations

- U-Wide @ MMC 9:00 am to 5:00 pm - GC 325 Tuesday, February 12, 2019
- U-Wide @ BBC 9:30 am to 4:00 pm - WUC 155 Thursday, February 14, 2019
- Deliberations BBC Specific - 9:30 am to 4:00 pm - WUC 155 Thursday, February 21, 2019
- **Student Leadership Summit**, February 2nd
 - 8:30am-4:30pm
 - WUC
- **Town Hall Meeting with President Rosenberg**, February 11
 - 2pm-5pm
 - Mary Ann Wolfe Theater
- **Admitted Students' Day**, March 2nd
 - Time: TBA
 - WUC

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Chen moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 am.

Senator Sevil seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned by Speaker Habib at **11:21 am**.