



Student Government Association
 Budget Committee Hearing Minutes
 Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 10th, 2021
 Start Time: 9:15am

1. Call to order
 - a. Call to order by Alexander Rubido 9:15am
2. Roll Call

SGA President Alexandra Valdes	Present
SGA Vice President Alexandra Ibarria	Present
Comptroller Alexander Rubido	Present
SGA Floor Leader	Present
Senate President	Present
Executive Administrator Cristina Vale	Present

BBC Governor Keanu Orfano Present
 Senate President Pro Tempore Bryan Gomez Present

3. Campus Life (Base Budget)- 9:15am

- a. As the MMC and BBC campus life merge, we must accommodate for factors like Publications, which has graphics and marketing, and fraternirt and sorority life
- b. Our mission is to engage students in holistic learning by instilling diversity, leadership, and personal development
- c. We fulfill our mission through advising and training, as well as programming with examples such as week of welcome and fall and spring late night breakfast
- d. 17 full time staff, 6 graduate assistz, as well as student staff
- e. Total budget request 680,768
 - i. \$180,768 BBC
 - ii. \$500,000 MMC

4. Student Conduct and Academic Integrity- 9:35am

- a. Responsible for student conduct and the Honor Code
 - i. The Honor Code is a compilation of policies, regulations, and rights designed to serve the FIU community
- b. We hope to achieve our goals by educating, engaging, and empowering students
- c. In order to establish a baseline of misconduct reports, we review existing data
- d. The department will launch a campaign to increase awareness about misconduct. Collaboration and programming are key

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: How do you plan to use the \$8,000 requested to achieve your goals?

Answer: One of the things we've seen are really effective are programming efforts like stickers behind doors and on the floors you see around campus

Giacomo Natteri: how are you handling covid related misconduct issues?

Answer: We handle each case seriously. We handle all mask violations and any social distancing issues. we can provide any data you deem necessary. Its worth noting that our covid related misconduct cases are much lower than our neighboring colleges.

Bryan Gomez: Is there a hearing for covid related misconduct issues?

Answer: Absolutely, with exception to the first warning letter, but after than the student has the full right to a hearing same as if it was a normal misconduct issue.

5. Student Programming Council BBC- 10:15am

- a. goals are to foster a quality university experience through student programming
- b. pre pandemic, we had many events planned, and have since adapted to a hybrid style of event programming
- c. we plan to continue expanding events on campus and implement new ideas dealing with hybrid events due to the pandemic
- d. Total Budget request \$216,124.03

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: how do the engagement numbers look for the hybrid events?

Answer: we can get you those numbers before deliberations, but we average 6-15 students for smaller events, but events like wild and out we had about the same number as pre pandemic, drive ins had 64 sign ups with about 20 more showing up the day of. We have found that the issue is not in students wanting to attend, but being able to attend because of classes or other factors.

Alexander Rubido: how are you defining large scale programming for this ans next year?

Answer: Large scale looks like mid stuff, our questions are how many people can we fit into a place safely? We want as many people to attend, but safety is our number one priority

Alexander Rubido: how do you plan to engage students who aren't on campus but want to be engaged?

Answer: We've found that Instagram is a great way to interact with students and they can spread the word and give feedback all on the same platform

6. SGA BBC Main Office- 10:55am

- a. Total request \$66,465
 - i. Office supplies
 - ii. Copier services
 - iii. Maintenance
 - iv. Subscriptions/services
 - v. Misc.
- b. 3-4 student staff
- c. Office branding in order to ensure a cohesive look between SGA BBC and MMC- \$8,000
- d. Replace 2 front desk computers- \$3,000
- e. Phones- \$3,000
- f. Shared services- \$3,465

7. FIU at I-75- 11:15am

- a. Stationed in Miramar, our campus shares a space with Broward college
- b. Students have access to classrooms, study areas, computers, and vending machines
- c. Due to the pandemic, we had to curtail events
- d. Upon return to campus, our week of welcome was in compliance with social distancing and reusable face coverings were given out
- e. Our spring week of welcome usually has an attendance of 600, but due to the pandemic only 98 students were able to attend
- f. Unlike MMC and BBC, I-75 does not have on-site catering
- g. Total budget request \$58,898

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: how can you confirm that there are FIU students reaping the benefits of FIUs events

Answer: we check their panther IDs, but broward students are also not on campus at the moment, there is also the fact that we can recognize a good amount of faces

8. Campus Life Programming- 11:35am

- a. Fall/spring/summer programming, panther luau, and leadership banquets make up the budget overview
- b. Resource fairs allow opportunities to collaborate with both campuses online and hybrid events
- c. Week of welcome is a great event to show and gain affinity for FIU
- d. Total Budget request \$74,905

9. Bayview Hall Council- 12:15pm

- a. Works to advocate on behalf of bayview community
- b. Past events include 2020 week of welcome and thanksgiving celebrations
- c. Need a few marketing essentials like polos, flyers, and holiday gift bags
- d. We will continue to use hybrid events and digital/ social media marketing
- e. Total Budget Request: \$6,697

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: What is the student participant rate for the 19-20 year?

Answer: There is a number of participants, anything that is specifically required can be brought to you before deliberations

Alexander Rubido: how do you plan on getting people into your new events?

Answer: Students have been wanting to expand, for instance there has been a strong need for cleanups near bayview, so we worked with FIUs facilities to get a plan together. The option to have hybrid events gives us hope that people will rather go in person instead of zooming into the event.

Alexander Rubido: Does bayview organization give you any supplemental resources?

Answer: They don't charge us to use the rooms, but they do not give us supplemental resources

10. FIU Online- 1:35pm

- a. Our goal is to engage, empower, and guide our learners to achieve success
- b. Many are non traditional students, meaning they have full time jobs or are enrolled part time
- c. Asking for assistance in funding support for engagement

- d. Online students have contributed over 2 million dollars to a&s funds

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: asking for an additional 176,000, is this to support an increase in salary? More hires? How will it look when put into action?

Answer: we were already underfunded last year, and with the growth experiences this year we want to increase our student staff so other students can get answers to their questions without having to wait an incredible amount of time in canvas customer support

Alexandra valdes: do you see yourselves putting time and effort into marketing campaigns for new and current students ?

Answer: We get allocations for marketing and we do many campaigns to show how effective FIU online is. Marketing will not decrease this year, if anything it will increase

Alexander Rubido: what would be the minimum allotment to keep everything in house?

Answer: We would have to stay with the amount of staff if you weren't going to increase the funding. We would have to send students to canvas support to wait in long waiting times.

11. Student Creative Media- 1:55pm

- a. We design everything from flyers and wall wraps to council polos
- b. We design for over 200 university wide student organizations
- c. Hardware, software, travel, and miscellaneous services are the main points of funding
- d. Total budget request: \$80,000

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: Was travel a number one priority?

Answers: Hardware and software are number one, travel follows after

12. ISSS- International Student & Scholar Services- 2:15pm

- a. Over 1 million international students in the U.S. in 2017/18
 - i. 4,494 international students at FIU
 - ii. 143 countries represented
- b. International students bring in 39 billion for the U.S. economy
- c. SGA's funding helps provide for more than 32 different events and programs as well as workshops at both MMC and BBC
- d. ISSS programming deals with events like F-1 information session and FIU football homecoming games
- e. Total budget request: \$19,432

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: the budget request given to us and the one presented is different, do we know which one is correct?

Answer: I will look into it and get you the proper number

Bryan Gomez: did the population of international students decline due to the pandemic?

Answer: It was very complicated with immigration, so about 30% of our students elected to stay in their home country, but luckily those students are able to study fully online

13. Center for Student Engagement- 2:35pm

- a. We service all FIU students at all campuses and help build their affinity with FIU
- b. We do this through planning workshops and fairs to initiate student engagement as well as peer mentor programs

- c. First part of request deals with our signature events like the student engagement fair and love your major fair.
 - i. Engagement liaisons connect students to engagement opportunities as well as provide peer support and role modeling
- d. The next part deals with peer mentor programs. With almost 20 events planned for the year as well as several workshops.

14. Registered Student Organization Council- 2:55pm

- a. Work with more than 180 active student organizations across both campuses
- b. Total budget request: \$347,306
 - i. Programming- 67,000
 - ii. Operational expenses: \$10,000
 - iii. Giveaways/ marketing: \$10,000
 - iv. Basic funding: \$160,000
 - v. Special allocations: \$40 ,000
 - vi. Executive board stipend: \$9,000
 - vii. 2 OPS SORC student assistants: \$18,000
 - viii. Graduate assistant: \$15,000

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: you said you wont prioritize marketing this year, what will you be marketing?

Answer: We'll be using social media for marketing, and any purchases made will be made before the fiscal year ends.

Alexander Rubido: will panther connect be used to help track events?

Answer: Absolutely. Often if an organization wants credit for an event we have them make sure to post everything on panther connect.

15. Fraternity and Sorority Life- 3:15pm

- a. Specializing in leadership development and training
 - i. Council retreats and trainings
- b. Multicultural Greek council organizes events like FIU jeopardy and pit party
- c. Virtual programming includes Real Talk Social Justice and Inclusion Series

Questions:

Alexander Rubido: What extra programming at BBC can we see?

Answer: That question relies on what kind of students are at BBC and what times they are on campus. We have collaborated with MMC and noticed there are many more eligible students at MMC.

Janelle Fraga: why was there such an increase in leadership fund?

Answer: We always try to rely on alumni to help fund. But we have had a couple rough years. The pandemic hasn't made things any better, so we are sometimes at the mercy of alumni. We prefer to have the security of funding from an FIU entity

16. SGA MMC Main Office- 3:35pm

- a. SGA office serves as a location for meetings as well as a creation space for programming
- b. Location for senate and cabinet members office hours
- c. Storage for giveaways and other items
- d. Total budget request: \$132,402.50

Questions:

Keanu Orfano: about F&E line, what is that?

Answer: Furniture or anything under \$5,000

17. SGA- 3:55pm

- a. President discretionary: \$49,500
- b. Executive Branch: \$13,200
- c. Legislative branch: \$35,000
- d. Special Expenses: \$2,750
- e. Contingency: \$33,000
- f. Recharge for Finals: \$57,2000
- g. Blue Books: \$3,000
- h. Travel: \$30,000
- i. Convocation shirts: \$7,700
- j. SGA banquet: \$2,750
- k. Elections: \$3,300
- l. Executive Board: \$49,500
- m. Special projects: \$22,000
- n. Emoluments: \$154,000
- o. Graduate and Professional Student Committee: \$300,000
- p. Medallions and Stoles: \$1,100
- q. Governor of BBC discretionary: \$11,000
- r. Marketing: \$11,000
- s. Student Engagement: \$8,800
- t. SGA lecture series: \$38,500
- u. SGA attire: \$13,200
- v. Affinity Programs: \$8,800
- w. Total Budget Request: \$873,329

18. Room Rentals- 4:15pm

- a. **Created to have equity among organizations**
- b. **Due to the pandemic, room rentals have been very limited but the importance of room rentals once repopulation fully takes place is significant**
- c. **Expected increase in budget request (about \$50,000)**
- d. **Since it is a&s funded, we need to stay within student unions**

Meeting Adjourned at 4pm until tomorrow morning at 9:15am