



Student Government Association  
 Budget Committee Hearing Minutes  
 Meeting Date: Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> 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 Janelle Fraga	Present
Executive Administrator Cristina Vale	Present
BBC Governor Keanu Orfano	Present
Senate President Pro Tempore Bryan Gomez	Present

**3. Model United Nations- 9:15am**

- Talks about core values and how they are taught.
- A video from Ashley Weather, President of E-Board
- Tangible outcomes- biweekly class and current conference schedule
- University wide workshop series born from COVID outcome
- Ashley Weather's comes in
  - Talks more about workshops
- Divisional Goals
  - Increase Affinity
- A video of a student named Prachi is shown giving experience of Model united nations experience
- A look to the future...
  - Prices of conferences are the same even in COVID times
  - Travels will be made in Fall 2022
  - Prices will increase overtime
  - Hybrid classes

- FIU pride
- 1. Video of Nicholas Velasquez, senior, giving experience of Model United Nations experience
- 2. Alexander Rubido extends 30 seconds
- 3. Questions?
  - None

Came back in 9:32

#### **4. Center for Leadership & Services (Base Budget)- 9:35am**

- Patty Lopez Guerrero
- Joana Garcia
- CLS Missions
- Relocated from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> floor at BBC
- More info of CLS office
- CLS Effect
- Joana Garcia talks about Highlights & Accomplishments
  - Food Pantry never closes
  - Has a good amount of virtual programs
- Innovative Spring Semester
  - Hybrid Programs
    - MLK Day of service
    - Roar-a-thon and Relay for Life
- Shows a pie chart of Base Budget
- Measuring Impact
  - Supports affinity
  - Hybrid engagement helps
  - 930k hours used in the metric
- Joana speaks
  - BBC Pantry has its own space
  - Runs on donations
  - Opens this spring
- Answering Questions
  - Should continue in student programming

Meeting extended 20 seconds

- Finishes answering pre-asked questions
- Student employees tied to minimum wage? Question
  - Patty answers
- Another question is asked to describe further
  - Patty answers

Recess 9:47am

Comeback 10:15am

#### **5. Childrens Creative Learning Center- 10:15am**

- Silvia Valdes Director of Children's learning center
- Who is CCLC is explained

- Alumni came back
- Student Parents
  - Parent Workshops
  - Family Meetings & Teacher Support
- Student Support Staff
- Other University Students
  - Students complete hours
- Annual Winter Festival Event
  - Signature event
  - Sponsored from SGA
  - People look forward to the most
- 10 tons of snow
  - Wants to increase snow amount
- Student Employee Work Program
- 2021-2022 looking forward
  - Enrollment decreased
  - Loss of revenue
  - Hours have changed
  - Hybrid early learning program
    - Parents satisfied
  - No events for Fall
  - planned online zoom events in spring
  - hopefully next year will have Winter festival and more snow
- questions
  - Asks question about Winter Festival
  - Silvia answers
- Ends at 10:28

## **6. University Tailgate Safety- 10:35am**

- Jose Toscano speaks
- U-Wide tailgate
  - Not sure who attended previous to COVID
  - Making sure students are safe
  - Initiative was started by DeSantis
  - Less folks getting into a situation of intoxication and removal
  - No conversation of Fall football
  - Talks about national sports league game attendances
  - Looking to do in person football games and tailgates
- Questions

Recess 10:33am

We're back in 10:41

## **7. Student Programming Council- 10:55am**

Student Programming Council by Stephaine Miller

- Isaiah and another student conduct intro

- What is SPC?
- Leadership Structure
  - Talks about the member's titles in the organization
- Talks about Achievements
  - Marketing has increases
  - 11k followers on Instagram
- Virtual Events
- Distributions
  - Giveaways
  - Sofa safari
- UPRoar 2021 Concert
  - Distribution
  - VIP
  - Concert
- Budget request
  - 2020-2021 total 400752
  - Asks for additional \$7,500 for GA Stipend
  - 1200 officer stipend- additional
  - Additional 1907 for emergency funds
  - Uproar concert -Additional 8000
  - Engineering events additional 1600
  - Virtual engagement additional 14000
- 2021-2022 measure outcomes
  - Increased affinity
- SGA answered questions
  - The other female student answers
  - Isaiah talks about in person activities
  - Another pre-asked question
  - The other female student answers
- Questions
  - How did you arrive to specific emergency fund number?
    - Stephanie answers
  - Another question about moving GA's out of campus life budget
    - Stephanie also answers
  - Questions about small lecture vs. large lecture
    - The female student answers
- Comments about how great the SPC presentation was

Break at 10:55am

Back on at 11:01

## 8. Homecoming Council- 11:15am

Homecoming Council by Natalia Betancourt & Elizabeth Celeide

-Intro

- What is Homecoming
- Structure

- Accomplishments
  - Came up with the Roar Report
    - 500 viewers
  - Created a week of events in the pandemic
    - Other universities reached out
  - New executive board positions
  - Merger of MMC & BBC
- Signature Events
- Budget Request
  - Requested 553,980
  - Increase request 53,890
    - Programming \$15k
      - Permit Parking
      - Sanitization
    - Biscayne Bay campus 7000
- Pauses clock due to technical difficulties of Alyshia Dolce's computer
  - Stephanie takes over
- Continues
  - BBC Taste at the Bay reimagined
  - Stipends -8700
    - GA
    - Executive Staff
  - Virtual Engagement – 5000
  - Engagement -15,466
- Measured Outcomes
  - National best Practice programs
  - Online student services & resources
  - Marketing & communications
- Stephanie answers question
  - Elizabeth answers another question
  - Natalia explains in more detail for the measure outcomes
- Questions
  - Elizabeth answers a question that was asked
  - Is there anything that happened this year that has caused you to think about efficiency with homecoming and other events?
    - Stephanie answers that question
  - BBC questions concerning lines
    - Stephanie answers
  - Will you commit to working closely with SGA?
    - Elizabeth explains more
  - Marketing strategy questions?
    - Natalia answers
  - Minimize Miscommunication question
    - Elizabeth answers
    - Stephanie chimes in

Time extended 2 minutes

- What does the overall line cover?
  - Stephanie answer to tell them to look at the budget

Breaks at 11:23am

Come back 11:31am

### **9. Honors College- 11:35am**

Honors College

Eileen Rodriguez & Enrique Rosell

- Introductions
- What is URFIU?
  - Undergraduate Research FIU
  - Benefits of URFIU
  - Happens in spring 3/24 – 3/25, 2021
  - More URFIU Information
    - 340 attendees to conference
    - 31 recruiters
- URFIU Financials
  - Program 3.5k
  - Operations expenses 1.84k
- URFIU Testimonials
- URFIU Financials
- What is AMTA?
  - Benefits of AMTA
    - Develop skills
  - AMTA Competition Dates
  - AMTA Financials
    - Total \$13,290
    - Requested \$22,195.20
- Questions
  - Comments on budget request amount confusion
    - Back and forth conversation upon fixing the amounts for budget request amounts
- Question concerning communication and linking between the Honors College and SGA.

### **10. Academic Programs and Partnership (Financial Wellness Program)- 11:55am**

Academic Programs & partnerships by Kimberly Noy

-Mentions that this is her first time through the budget request process

- The Financial Wellness Program
- Division Wellness Program
- Components of Financial Wellness
- Services and Resources
- Funding Goals
- Budget Request- \$2386.94
  - On Campus guest speaker
- Addresses pre-asked SGA committee questions

- Questions
  - Comments about Presentation
  - How can we help you?
  - Kimberly answers with promotions

### **11. University Wide Retreat- 12:15pm**

U-Wide Retreat with Jose Toscano

- Brief History
- Mentions that it has been there, when he was an Undergrad
- 2 ½ day retreat
- Usually a speaker would be present
- Fun will be included
- Expenses are a couple of thousands of dollars
- Mentions virtual trainings over the summer
- Doesn't know what summer will look like
- Questions

Adjournment for lunch 12:08pm

Back at 1:36pm

### **12. SAGA (Student Affairs Graduate Association)- 1:35pm**

- a. We serve various departments with higher education graduate assistants
- b. SAGA events and activities
  - i. General body meetings: \$800
  - ii. SAGA Days: \$2,000
  - iii. Practice Placement Exchange: \$1,000
  - iv. SAGA Symposium: \$2,100
  - v. SAGA Bootcamp: \$500
  - vi. SAGA Retreat: \$615
  - vii. SAGA Connect: \$200
  - viii. Professional Development Support: \$1,500
  - ix. Giveaways/Marketing: \$1,000

#### **Questions:**

Alexandra Valdes: How do you plan on using multiple platforms to get your messages across?

**Answer:** We plan to work with various organizations and learn and collaborate to get our name out.

### **13. Activity and Service Business Office- 1:55pm**

- a. Coordinates university with activity and services fee disbursements, providing accounting for student organizations
- b. Total Budget Request: \$38,697
  - i. OPS
  - ii. Food Supplies
  - iii. Office Supplies/ Office Phones
  - iv. Professional Development
  - v. Budget Submission software program
  - vi. Shared services
- c. Office acts as a purchasing/back-office

- i. does not offer programming/events

**14. Veteran and Military Affairs- 2:15pm**

- a. Committed to delivering and facilitating military friendly services programs to service members who attend FIU
- b. Goals of division are to increase affinity and enhanced student development
- c. Total Budget Request: \$51,141

**Questions:**

Alexander Rubido: How have you been doing graduation ceremonies during the pandemic

**Answer:** We have been doing them virtual, we actually have a youtube channel where you can see them

**15. Student Bar Association- 2:35pm**

- a. **Governing body of the college of law**
- b. **We oversee over 30 student organization within the college of law**
- c. **Even from home, we try to interact with students and get them goody bag or even continue to fund conference visits**

**Questions:**

Alexander Rubido: Could you enlighten the committee about the ballisters ball?

**Answer:** Some people refer to it as a law school prom, but I like to think of it as a gala, its really nice because faculty and staff go as well and it offers an opportunity to bring camaraderie to the law school attendees.

**16. WRC BBC (Base Budget)- 2:55pm**

- a. Programming for student centers have been extremely successful
- b. Pandemic impacted every aspect of our experience
  - i. Revenue was a major part
    - 1. MMC: -75%
    - 2. BBC: -94%
- c. Looking to implement new strategies virtually
  - i. Possibly with youtube channel or building a virtual membership
- d. Student operation centers were impacted as well
  - i. Certain new strategies include setting up streaming studios and revised layouts for in-person programming
- e. Outdoor recreational renovations are also needed
- f. Total Budget Request: \$3,168,049

**17. WRC MMC (Base Budget)- 3:15pm**

- a. Programming for student centers have been extremely successful
- b. Pandemic impacted every aspect of our experience
  - i. Revenue was a major part
    - 1. MMC: -75%
    - 2. BBC: -94%
- c. Looking to implement new strategies virtually
  - i. Possibly with youtube channel or building a virtual membership
- d. Student operation centers were impacted as well
  - i. Certain new strategies include setting up streaming studios and revised layouts for in-person programming
- e. Total Budget Request: \$1,096,175

**18. Wolfe University Center (Base Budget)- 3:35pm**



- a. Due to the help of SGA, the WUC has had upgrades in almost every aspect
  - i. Meeting rooms have been renovated
    - 1. Ballroom renovation planning
  - ii. Collaborative study stations
    - 1. New furniture allowing small individual groups to sit together
  - iii. Outside furniture
- b. Total Budget Request: 1,912,001.82

**19. Graham University Center (Base Budget)- 3:55pm**

- a. Various renovations have taken place
  - i. Welcome center
  - ii. Piano lounge
  - iii. GC lawns
  - iv. Floor projectors
- b. Esports lounge has also been renovated
- c. Study spaces may now be reserved
- d. Enhanced cleaning and disinfectants
- e. Total Budget Request: \$3,002,145

**Questions:**

Alexander Rubido: is there going to be expanded hours in the facilities?

**Answer:** Yes we are always open to expanding our hours for both campus facilities, if you, the students feel that is necessary then we will listen

Alexander Rubido: Will we use Cares Act funding for the P3 ambassadors?

**Answer:** we have team members helping out, and yes it is coming from Cares Act.

Alexander Rubido: if we could have the data for the traffic records in both graham and wolfe center that would be great

**Answer:** absolutely we will have those for you soon.

Alexandra Valdes: how is GC using its employee funding for overtime and OPS during the pandemic?

Answer: our main focus is to be as efficient as possible, when the pandemic hit we were in uncharted waters. When it came to student employees, we rely on them and they rely on their paychecks. Our cost of operating has not changed too much, we have not been doing overtime because there has been no need for it.

Comptroller Rubido moves to adjourn meeting at 4:05pm, motion passes.