



**Student Government  
Association**

The 39th Session of the Student Body Senate

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 9, 2023

I. Call to Order

A. Meeting called to order at 4:09 p.m.

B. The Pledge of Allegiance

1. "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

C. Alma Mater

1. "We pledge to thee dear FIU, with voices loud and true. Alma Mater falter never, shine forever Gold and Blue. We fly our banners high, every culture we embrace. All our love and Panther spirit, young and old we make this place. We hail together FIU, every scholar side by side. And we hail to Alma Mater, Alma Mater be our guide!"

II. Roll Call

Vacant	BBC Housing	Vacant
Tiara Campbell	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant
Delano Cicconi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present
Nicolas Marquez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present
Kaitlyn Coll	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present
Scott Ahlren	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present
Alessandra Gonzalez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent
Genesis Moreno	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present
Samuel Morales	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present
Alexandra Miqueli	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent
Adrian Rodriguez	College of Business	Present
Aleck Estrada Arzamendi	College of Business	Present

Martyna Reiban	College of Business	Present
Ian Lares-Chacin	College of Business	Present
Matthew Gaynor	College of Business	Present
Isabel Quintanilla	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent
Rafael Moya-Palacios	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Present
Fernando Melara Barahona	College of Engineering and Computing	Present
Francesca Casanova	College of Engineering and Computing	Present
Karina Hernandez	College of Engineering and Computing	Present
Gabriel Rondon	College of Engineering and Computing	Present
Grace Mccullough	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Present
Cole Sebastian	College of Law	Absent
Shebin George	College of Medicine	Present
Kenrik Chirinos	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Absent
Vacant	College of Public Health and Social Work	Vacant
Ahmend Soliman	University Graduate School	Present
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant
Haley Dawson	University Graduate School	Present
Arturo Barahona	University Graduate School	Present
Nick Kukuk	University Graduate School	Present
Vacant	Honors College	Vacant
John Boris	Lower Division BBC	Absent
Zachary Stangl	Lower Division MMC	Present
Mia Rodriguez	MMC Housing	Present
Sofia Castillo	MMC Housing	Present
Alexander Stone	MMC Housing	Present
Vacant	Online Student Senator	Vacant
Alexander Sutton	School of International and Public Affairs	Present
Kaily LaChapelle	School of International and Public Affairs	Present

Manuel Soltero	School of International and Public Affairs	Present
Vacant	Upper Division BBC	Vacant
Vacant	Upper Division BBC	Vacant
Iara Raggio	Upper Division MMC	Present
Nathalie "Naty" Jusino	Upper Division MMC	Absent

III. Correction and Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

- A. The minutes were approved with no objections

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

- A. The agenda was adopted with no objections

V. Invited Speakers

- A. There were no invited speakers

VI. Committee Reports

A. Appropriations Committee

1. They will be sending out the new schedule for meeting in this semester

B. International Student Affairs Ad-Hoc Committee

1. They will be sending out the new schedule for meeting in this semester  
 2. They are working on setting priorities for the committee

C. Graduate and Professional Student Committee

1. They will be sending out the new schedule for meeting in this semester

D. University Sustainability and Innovation Committee

1. They will be sending out the new schedule for meeting in this semester  
 2. They are looking to collaborate and will be relaying any information

E. Health and Well-Being Committee

1. They will be sending out the new schedule for meeting in this semester

F. Student Life and Academic Concerns Committee

1. They will be sending out the new schedule for meeting in this semester

G. Committee on Rules and Administration

1. They will be sending out the new schedule for meeting in this semester

VII. Executive Board Reports

- A. Student Body President Cristhofer Lugo

- B. Senate President Alexander P. Sutton

1. Open for questions and any discussions
  - C. Senate President Pro-Tempore Zachary Stangl
    1. Working on organizing Meet Your Dean event
      - a) Working on securing date- potentially in February
  - D. Senate Floor Leader Fernando Melara
    1. Open to collaborating and working together
  - E. Student Body Vice President Valentina Casanova
    1. General welcome to the new semester
  - F. Comptroller Gabriela Alvarez
    1. Not present/no report
  - G. Executive Administrator Mariana Machado
    1. Not present/no report
  - H. Governor of the Biscayne Bay Campus Ava Barnd
    1. Not present/no report
  - I. Chief of Staff Kyomi Cabral
    1. Not present/no report
  - J. Chief Justice Sebastian Aviles
    1. Not present/no report
- VIII. Vetoed Legislation
- A. No vetoed legislation
- IX. Unfinished Business
- A. SB 03 007: The Checks and Balances Act
    1. Senate President Protemp Stangl move to read out the bill, Senator Stone seconded. Motion passes
    2. Senator Stangl moves to go into a 20-minute discussion about the bill, Senator Cicconi seconded. Motion passes
    3. Senator Stangl said there is no solid argument for changing the constitution and there is no need for this bill
    4. Senator King (McCullough) said they disagreed because it would preemptively fix things
    5. Senator Gaynor said the Senate should break this up into small bills to fix issues as they arise, and the bill is not good because anyone could subpoena anyone they want

6. Senator LaChapelle said that they should improve rules if they can be improved and that this bill creates checks and balances within the student government
7. Senator Stone said they were indifferent at first but now opposed then questioned Senator Gaynor. Senator Stone said that this bill is putting up unnecessary red tape
8. Senator M. Rodriguez said they agreed with Senator LaChapelle's argument. Senator M. Rodriguez asked a question to the other senator about what would need to be changed in order for them to agree with the bill
9. Senate President Protemp Stangl moved to extend the discussion by 15 minutes, Senator Lares-Chacin seconded. Motion passes
10. Senator Moya-Palacios said he support some clauses but disagree with others. Senator Moya-Palacios said there should be a constitutional review committee made up of people from the Senate and Judicial
11. Senator Ahlgren said they call for breaking up the bill because they agree with some of the bill but disagree with some
12. Senator Soltero said they are not against breaking up the bill because they agree with some parts but disagree with others. Senator Soltero said this would allow for a more democratic process
13. Senator Sutton said they can do consideration by section for future voting
14. Senator Cicconi said they should not create a new constitution but amend the current one
15. Senator Casanova said if others disagree with the bill to vote no, do not abstain
16. Senator Lares-Chacin asked if the bill is not passed, would they have to wait until the next semester
17. Senator Barahona said that breaking the bill down would take too long and they should vote section by section
18. Senator King (McCullough) moved to go through the bill section by sections. Motion fails
19. Senator Stangl said that SGA functions based on who is elected. Senator Stangl said they are afraid of what the red tape will do to SGA operations and to hold off on the bill to see if it is necessary

20. Senator Stone said they agreed with Senator Stangl and Senator Rodriguez. Senator Stone said that SGA must respect the values of the student body and asked Senator Sutton some questions
21. Senator Rodriguez moved to extend the discussion by 15 minutes. Motions fails
22. Senator Sutton moved to take a 5-minute break. Motion passes
23. Senator Sutton called the meeting back to order at 5:39
24. Senator Cicconi moved to vote on the bill. Motions fails by a roll call vote
25. Senator Rodriguez moves to have a 5-minute discussion. Motion fails
26. Senator Raggio moves to table the discussion until the next meeting. Motion fails by placard vote
27. Senator Sutton uses chair's discretion to table the discussion until the next meeting. Chair's discretion is appealed and goes to a vote. Decision stands.

- X. New Business
  - A.
- XI. Public Forum
  - A.
- XII. Senate Forum
  - A.
- XIII. Announcements
  - A.
- XIV. Advisor Reports
  - A. Larissa said to inform her of the committee meeting dates and senator office hours
    1. Breakfast Bonanza at BBC on 1/10/2023
    2. Party applications are due 1/17/2023
  - B. Michelle challenged senators to use SGA office space to hold committee meetings and other meetings
    1. Sneaker event on BBC 1/18/2023 11am-3pm, good opportunity to table
    2. Double header basketball game 1/11/2023
- XV. Meeting Adjournment
  - A. Meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.