



**Student Government  
Association**

The 39th Session of the Student Body Senate

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 6, 2023

I. Call to Order

A. Meeting called to order at 4:08 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

<b>Attendance</b>			
<b>Senator Name</b>	<b>Senators Position</b>	<b>Attendance Status</b>	<b>Additional Note on Senator</b>
Vacant	BBC Housing	Vacant	
Tiara Campbell	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Alisha Loiseau	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Paulina Marin	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Delano Cicconi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Nicolas Marquez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	

Kaitlyn Coll	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Scott Ahlren	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Genesis Moreno	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
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	Absent	
Grace Mccullough	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Present	
Cole Sebastian	College of Law	Present	
Shebin George	College of Medicine	Absent	
Kenrik Chirinos	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Absent	
Vacant	College of Public Health and Social Work	Vacant	

Ahmend Soliman	University Graduate School	Present	
Sarwar Minar	University Graduate School	Present	
Haley Dawson	University Graduate School	Absent	
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	
Imani Doss	Upper Division BBC	Present	
Vacant	Upper Division BBC	Vacant	
Vacant	Upper Division MMC	Vacant	
Nathalie "Naty" Jusino	Upper Division MMC	Absent	

Jabari Baptiste                      BBC Housing                      Present  
Sen Columna                      MMC Upper Division Senator                      Present

<b>Quorum is Established</b>	Present	29
	Absent	11
	Vacant	7

Present: 28

Absent: 12

Reached Quorum: YES

MOTION: Adopting today's agenda: MOTION PASSES

- III. Correction and Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes
  - A.
- IV. Adoption of the Agenda
  - A.
- V. Invited Speakers
  - A. Comptroller Gabriella Alvarez and Student Body President Cristopher Lugo for a presentation on the budgets
  - B. Budget Hearings: Wednesday through Friday (2/8-2/10) OVER ZOOM webcast
    - Cannot ask questions at the Budget Hearings.
  - C. Budget Deliberations: Next Wednesday through Friday (2/15-2/17)
    - Cannot ask questions or engage in the discussion
    - **Difference between Hearing and Deliberations:**
    - Hearing: The entities present to us and why they need X amount of money and who they are for example.
    - Deliberations: Discussion if money should be given to X organization or if we will give them X amount for example.
- VI. Committee Reports
  - A. Appropriations Committee:
    - N/A
  - B. International Student Affairs Ad-Hoc Committee:
    - Met last Thursday and started to draft an international student advisor
    - Started working on a bill that will come up in March
  - C. Graduate and Professional Student Committee:
    - N/A
  - D. University Sustainability and Innovation Committee:
    - One more person to fill out the "Whentomeet" to meet quorum
  - E. Health and Well-Being Committee:
    - Vaccine drive initiative on Campus for the FLU vaccine
    - Send out an SGA questionnaire to see how mental health can be improved
  - F. Student Life and Academic Concerns Committee:
    - Still trying to work out when to meet
  - G. Committee on Rules and Administration
    - Meeting is on Tuesday at 11:30am

- Looking for someone to take the minutes
  - H. Oversight Committee:
- Formalize the format of the petition form that will go on Panther Connect

VII. Executive Board Reports

- A. Student Body President Cristhofer Lugo: No report
- B. Senate President Alexander P. Sutton: BBC in person meeting: March 20<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>
- C. Senate President Pro-Tempore Zachary Stangl: Committees should be meeting and please try to make it in-person
- D. Senate Floor Leader Fernando Melara: No report
- E. Student Body Vice President Valentina Casanova: No report
- F. Comptroller Gabriela Alvarez: No report
- G. Executive Administrator Mariana Machado: No report
- H. Governor of the Biscayne Bay Campus Ava Barnd: No report
- I. Chief of Staff Kyomi Cabral: No report
- J. Chief Justice Sebastian Aviles: No report

VIII. Vetoed Legislation

- A. N/A

IX. Unfinished Business

- A. N/A

X. New Business

- A. Confirmation of Angie Diaz as Elections Board Member
- B. Confirmation of Jabari Baptiste as BBC Housing Senator
- Wants to see a change and gets to speak and residents and hear their complaints and problems that haven't been situated things.
- Wants to work on many projects: For example:
  - Wants more security
  - Wants more restaurant options
- Question: Sen Stone: What are some of the problems at BBC and how can you solve those problems
- Baptiste: Security is a problem at BBC. Wants to install camera surveillance to ensure more security
- Question: Sen Rodriguez: How would you try to get more restaurants on campus

- Baptiste: Reach out to all of the residents and find out which is the most preferred that they would like to be on campus.
- MOTION: Sen Moya Palacios: Move to motion to vote unanimously for Baptiste for BBC housing senator
- Baptiste: Senator
  - C. Confirmation of Yishmael Columna as MMC Upper Division Senator
- Wants to tackle spiritual concerns, plant more trees, improve air quality
- Question: Sen Cicconi: Trees cannot be installed because they fall under the category of flowers. Would you like to amend this part to plant more trees.
- Columna: Through decision and discussion amendments can be made
- Question: Sen. Loiseau: How would you go about your plans relating to nature?
- Columna: We need people to understand nature. An initiative we can do is to take students to BBC and take them out of their comfort zone and show them the bond between them and nature.
- Question: Sen. Gaynor: How do you want to get people out there to enjoy and interact with nature:
- Columna: Push information to clubs and have them volunteer at the preserves.
- Question: Sen. Gaynor: What are your thoughts on the resolution to support Jewish people?
- Columna: I do not know what is stated in the resolution. But the people who used communism should be in the wrong.
- Question: Sen Hernandez: Would you be willing to get the volunteers a budget?
- Columna: They should get some kind of payment and will be working to get them some sort of payment.
- Question: Sen. Stone: What spiritual problems are present on campus
- Columna: Dietary needs are a problem. Vegan food is present but not all food are present for specific religions. People don't respect certain aspect of religions.
- MOTION: Additional 1 to 2 minutes question period: MOTION PASSES
- Columna: SGA represents all of the students in the school and people should be educated on these dietary needs. And he doesn't want to force anything on anyone.
- Sen. Hernandez: Would you be willing to making their own office/department so that they may get a budget and so they can resolve sustainability problems.
- Columna: Sustainability is something that needs its own space
- MOTION: 5 minute discussion period: MOTION PASSES
- 5 MINUTE DISCUSSION PERIOD:

- Sen Moya Palacios: Not too sure about him. Vote is not decided yet because he did not give many solutions
- Sen King: Columna brought a perspective that a lot of the senator cannot relate too or speak on. Having someone represent another viewpoint is very important.
- Sen LaChapelle: Columna’s concerns are valid and his concerns are not represented because his religion is underrepresented since Christians make up the majority on campus
- Sen Reiban: Sen Gaynor already bring a different viewpoint so we shouldn’t be focusing too much on branches out for other viewpoints.
- Sen Gaynor: The candidate does not have an action plan and seem very forceful on Judaism and we should invite people and not force this on anyone.
- MOTION: Extend discussion period by 3 minutes: MOTION PASSES
- Pro Temp Stengl: Conflicted on the candidate
- Sen Rodriguez: The candidate gave solutions with the community service. And having a veteran senator and new senator would open the door to solutions.
- Sen Cicconi: Candidate does not have leadership experience but should apply at a later date
- MOTION: Extend by 2 more minutes
- Sen LaChapelle: Is the quality low because his beliefs are not the same as yours?
- Sen Ahlren: If the candidate is voted “yes” on we could guide him and when he started he wasn’t sure of what he was doing but with guidance solutions will be able to be made
- MOTION: Go into vote via ROLL CALL: MOTION PASSES
- SEN COLUMNNA IS CONFIRMED AS SENATOR

<b>Confirmation of Yishmael Columna as MMC Upper Division Senator</b>				
<b>Senator Name</b>	<b>Senator Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Vote</b>	<b>Reason for Abstention</b>
Vacant	BBC Housing	Vacant	Vacant	
Tiara Campbell	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Alisha Loiseau	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Paulina Marin	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Delano Cicconi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	No	

Nicolas Marquez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Kaitlyn Coll	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Scott Ahlren	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Genesis Moreno	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Samuel Morales	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	No	
Alexandra Miqueli	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Adrian Rodriguez	College of Business	Present	Yes	
Aleck Estrada Arzamendi	College of Business	Present	Yes	
Martyna Reiban	College of Business	Present	No	
Ian Lares-Chacin	College of Business	Present	No	
Matthew Gaynor	College of Business	Present	No	
Isabel Quintanilla	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Present	No	
Rafael Moya-Palacios	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Present	No	
Fernando Melara Barahona	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	No	
Francesca Casanova	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	No	
Karina Hernandez	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Gabriel Rondon	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	Absent	
Grace Mccullough	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Present	Yes	
Cole Sebastian	College of Law	Present	Abstention	
Shebin George	College of Medicine	Absent	Absent	
Kenrik Chirinos	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	College of Public Health and Social Work	Vacant	Vacant	
Ahmend Soliman	University Graduate School	Present	Abstention	
Sarwar Minar	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	



Haley Dawson	University Graduate School	Absent	Absent	
Arturo Barahona	University Graduate School	Present	Abstention	
Nick Kukuk	University Graduate School	Present	Abstention	
Vacant	Honors College	Vacant	Vacant	
John Boris	Lower Division BBC	Absent	Absent	
Zachary Stangl	Lower Division MMC	Present	No	
Mia Rodriguez	MMC Housing	Present	Yes	
Sofia Castillo	MMC Housing	Present	Yes	
Alexander Stone	MMC Housing	Present	No	
Vacant	Online Student Senator	Vacant	Vacant	
Alexander Sutton	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	Yes	
Kaily LaChapelle	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	Yes	
Manuel Soltero	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	No	
Imani Doss	Upper Division BBC	Present	Abstention	
Vacant	Upper Division BBC	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	Upper Division MMC	Vacant	Vacant	
Nathalie "Naty" Jusino	Upper Division MMC	Absent	Absent	
<b>Vote Count</b>				
Yes	No	Abstention	Vacant	
13	12	5	7	

Motion Failed	Vote	Vote Count	Achieve
	Simple Majority	15.5	Failed
	Two-Thirds	19	Failed
	Three-Fifths	17	Failed

#### D. Confirmation of Rubens Bravo as Online Senator

- Has held two leadership positions over the last 8 years for the Greater Miami youth symphony
- Campus involvement chair for his fraternity
- Online students are not represented and do not get to enjoy the amenities that FIU provides
- Online students do not get the information that they need
- Wants to give online students information and opportunities
- Sen Reiban: How would you approach these problems with online students would cannot have a “campus life”
- Bravo: Plan events for online students
- Sen Rodriguez: How have you ensured that more people can be present on campus?
- Bravo: We have the space to put more parking for online students to come to campus
- Sen Cicconi: What do you suggest about the parking at the school?
- Bravo: Finding the space to put in parking lots and trying to lower the fees.
- MOTION: VOTE UNANIMOUSLY: MOTION PASSES
- SEN BRAVO IS CONFIRMED AS SENATOR

#### E. Confirmation of Victor Tuñon as Honors Senator

- Has sent out a poll to other students in his class. And has received very negative comments on the Honor College (looking for jobs and opportunities is very difficult).
- Sen Laiseau: What propositions would you have to approach the honors colleges?
- Tunon: Forced volunteer work should not be allowed
- Sen Stone: How can we better incentivize honor college students?
- Tunon: Attending the FIU events makes sense, but we need to advertise the events more because if you do not go to events you can be kicked out of the honors college and it is not fair.
- Sen Hernandez: How do we solve the inclusivity issue with students whose majors are not included?
- Tunon: Push more for the inclusivity

- Sen King: What other ways can information be sent out to student (jobs and opportunities)?
- Tunon: Fix the FIU honors college website and include a clear bulletin that says “jobs and opportunities”.
- MOTION: Extend question-answer period by 2 minutes: MOTION PASSES
- Sen Rodriguez: Would you be interested in doing something similar to what you did to ask students about their opinion on the honors college.
- Tunon: These are not my goals, these are the goals of the people. There are many opportunities like the FIU story, google form, etc.
- Sen Gaynor: Do you approve of the engagement points?
- Tunon: Would like to amend the engagement points but teaching people how to do those engagement points.
- MOTION: CONFIRMING TUNON AS SENATOR THROUGH UNANIMOUS VOTE: MOTION FAILS
- MOTION: Sen Stone: PLACKARD VOTE: MOTION PASSES
- SEN TUNON IS CONFIRMED HONORS SENATOR
- MOTION: TO MOVE RAMOS SPEECH TO NEXT WEEK: MOTION FAILS
- F. Confirmation of Alexander Ramos as CASE Senator
- Biochemistry major on a Pre-Med track, CEO and founder of a non-profit organization.
- As CASE senator he would focus on certain topics
- Student life: More funding for labs
- Safety and Wellness: Emphasize and increase more healthier options for food on campus
- Sen Rodriguez: Tell us about your non-profit
- Ramos: We are involved with pediatric cancer patients
- Sen Gaynor: Do you have the availability to be active?
- Ramos: Responsibilities are very flexible, able attend Senate meetings on Monday.
- MOTION: TO CONFIRM RAMOS BY UNANIMOUS CONCENT: MOTION FAILS
- MOTION: EXTEND SENATE BY 5 MINUTES: MOTION PASSES
- MOTION: PLACKARD VOTE: MOTION PASSES
- SEN RAMOS CONFIRMED AS CASE SENATOR
- MOTION: TO DO ADVISOR REPORTS NOW: MOTION PASSES

XI. Public Forum

XII. Senate Forum

A. Discussion on ideas for Senate initiatives and legislation

XIII. Announcements

- A. N/A
- XIV. Advisor Reports
  - A. Larissa: Please try to attend the budget hearings
  - B. Outstanding leadership awards have been sent so you are able to nominate
  - C. Submit office hours
  - D. New senators will be sent an email from Larissa
  - E. MOTION: TABLE DISCUSSION FOR NEXT WEEK: MOTION PASSES
- XV. Meeting Adjournment
  - A. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.