

FIU**Student Government
Association**

The 42nd Session of the Student Body Senate
Meeting Minutes
February 16th, 2026

- I. Call to Order @ 4:14pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance/FIU Alma Mater
- III. Roll Call

Senator Name	Senators Position	Attendance Status	Additional Note on Senator
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Ariana Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Sean Remedios	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Samantha Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Arianna Bencid	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	
Alejandro Madrigal	College of Business	Absent	
Andrew Martinez	College of Business	Absent	
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	
Kirsten Maxwell	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent	

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Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Present	Unexcused
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Jaedon Charles	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Ashley Prado	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Alonso Ochoa	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Kamila Gonzalez	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Trevor See	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Niska Lavaud	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Present	
Natalie Jusino	College of Law	Absent	
Angel Herrero	College of Medicine	Present	
Vacant	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Vacant	
Alexis Lofton	College of Public Health and Social Work	Absent	
Vacant	Honors College	Vacant	
Tanner Croddy	Housing- BBC	Present	
Vacant	Housing-MMC	Vacant	
Ziya Brown	Housing-MMC	Present	
Daijah O'neal	Housing- MMC	Present	
Alison Stangl	Lower Division	Absent	
Sofia Araoz	Lower Division	Absent	
Vacant	Online Student Senator	Vacant	
German Mata	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	



Selma Sena	School of International and Public Affairs	Absent	
Manuel E. Fernandez	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	
David Riera	University Graduate School	Present	
Mateo Suarez	University Graduate School	Present	
Julian Esquivel	University Graduate School	Present	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Present	
Shameka Jean-Baptiste	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	
Marville Marcelin	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	
Tiffany Lindsay	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	
Eric Slater	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	
Emma Zelkowitz	Upper Division	Present	
Connor Tafur	College of Business	Present	
Ronyde Pontheiux	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator/Pro-Tempore	Present	
Isabella Romeo	Housing-MMC/Speaker	Present	

Quorum is Established	Present	22
	Absent	20

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	Vacant	13
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- IV. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – February 9th, 2026
 - A. With no objections, minutes were approved.
- V. Adoption of the Agenda
 - A. Pro-Tempore Pontheiux motions to add Elections Commissioner Carlos as an invited speaker after Adoption of the Agenda to present the Election Report.
 - i. With no objections, motion was passed.
- VI. Elections Report – Carlos Ricotti
 - A. Successful election process with many approved candidates running. Elections Debate tomorrow at 4pm, if anyone would like to attend.
 - B. Senator Riera asks what the info sessions go over.
 - i. Commissioner Ricotti responds and says that the info sessions go over the rules in the Statutes and Constitution, so they are not misinterpreted.
 - C. Senator Croddy asks about the order in the debate.
 - i. Commissioner Ricotti says it is Governor, President, and then Vice-President.
- VII. Research Forum – Tamarra Rousseau
 - A. Tamarra Rousseau talks about a 10-minute dissertation survey investigating how self-reflection empowers employees to identify, interpret, and respond to incivility in the modern workplace. If anybody would like to complete the survey, it would be highly appreciated.
 - B. Pro-Tempore asks if the results go directly to her after completing the survey.
 - i. Miss Rousseau states that the survey is completely anonymous, and she can only assign credit for it through the platform without seeing any answers or employer information. The survey takes 8-10 minutes to complete.
 - C. Senator Brown asks if you must be employed full-time to take the survey.
 - i. Miss Rousseau states that to complete the survey you must have been working for at least a year and for at least 35 hours a week.
 - D. Senator O’Neal asks if past full-time employment counts as a qualification to complete the survey.
 - i. Miss Rousseau says yes it counts because you had previously worked for at least a year full-time.
 - E. Senator Riera asks if the flyer can be shared on the SGA social media.

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- i. Miss Rousseau says absolutely and it would be greatly appreciated. She will be sending an updated flyer with her contact information.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Finance Chair – Connor Tafur

- i. Last week on Friday, went over events and will be meeting again on Friday. Any questions please contact Senator Tafur.

B. Floor Leader – Internal Affairs Committee – Emma Zalkowitz

- i. No reports.

C. Rules Committee – Kamila Gonzalez

- i. Short meeting last week, went over changes to the rules. Meeting again on Friday.

D. SLAC Committee – Manual Fernandez

- i. No reports.

E. BBC LC Committee – Tanner Croddy

- i. Going to send a Timely to see when they could meet or talk in person after the meeting after Toasty Tuesday.

F. GPSC Committee – David Riera

- i. Finalized four events for Graduate Appreciation Week.

G. International Student Ad Hoc – Ashley Prado

- i. Got approved for flyers and cards, would appreciate if cards could be given out by other senators to any international students they know or see around campus. If anybody is interested in volunteering in the events, please let Senator Prado know.

H. Pre-Professional Ad Hoc – German Mata

- i. New legislation coming from the Committee.

I. Meet Your Dean Ad-Hoc – Jerilyn Davis

- i. No reports.

IX. University-Wide Council Reports

A. Student Body President – Francesca Casanova

B. Vice President – Wilkin Caseres

C. Speaker of the Senate – Izzy Romeo

- i. Wrapped up a week-long budget deliberation. Increased budget for the most part. If anybody wants to go look into the deliberations, or have any questions, please talk to Izzy after the meeting.
- ii. Please try to send attendance confirmation emails 24 hours in advance.

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- D. Speaker Pro-Tempore – Ronyde Ponthieux
 - i. Pro-Tempore states concern with people not joining the Zoom meetings. A lot of people sent their emails confirming their attendance for today and CC senate leadership which good job.
- E. BCC Governor – Hailey Menendez
- X. Advisor’s Report – Larissa, Patty & Blanca
 - A. Budget deliberations recordings are in the Teams folder. Reminder that next week is Spring Break, office will close at 5pm on those days. Reminder that whenever you are sending any SGA correspondence or emails please CC Larissa and Blanca.
 - B. If anyone is interested in the Banquet Committee, please go to Blanca’s office. SGA Composites March 16th everyone received an email. Please wear SGA polo.
- XI. New Business
 - N/A
- XII. Senate Forum
 - A. Senator Croddy talks about if anyone would like to do volunteering for the FIMUM events.
 - B. Senator Riera states if anyone would like to participate and volunteer for the events for Graduate Appreciation Week, please let David know.
 - C. Senator Prado shares that the English Language Institute is hosting an event in which they help non-English speaking students have conversations, if anyone is interested in supporting international students, please feel free to participate.
- XIII. Public Forum
 - A. Connor came to ask questions regarding marketing events.
- XIV. Adjournment
 - A. Meeting was adjourned @ 4:54pm