

**FIU****Student Government  
Association**

The 42nd Session of the Student Body Senate  
Meeting Minutes  
February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

- I. Call to Order @4:12pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance/FIU Alma Mater
- III. Roll Call

## Attendance

<b>Senator Name</b>	<b>Senators Position</b>	<b>Attendance Status</b>	<b>Additional Note on Senator</b>
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
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	Present	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Sean Remedios	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Samantha Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
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	

**FIU****Student Government  
Association**

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	
Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
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	Present	
Niska Lavaud	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Present	
Natalie Jusino	College of Law	Present	
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	
Zayi Brown	Housing-MMC	Present	
Daijah O'neal	Housing- MMC	Present	
Alison Stangl	Lower Division	Present	



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	Absent	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Absent	
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	Absent	
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	Present	

**FIU****Student Government  
Association**

<b>Quorum is Established</b>	Present	25
	Absent	17
	Vacant	13

- IV. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – January 26<sup>th</sup> 2026
- A. With no objection, last meeting minutes were approved.
- V. Adoption of the Agenda
- A. Senator Croddy introduces a motion to add Finance Reform Bill to New Business.
- i. With no objections, motion was passed.
- VI. Committee Reports
- A. Finance Chair – Connor Tafur
- i. No reports.
- B. Floor Leader – Internal Affairs Committee – Emma Zalkowitz
- i. No reports. Meeting on Wednesday (Mandatory).
- C. Rules Committee – Kamila Gonzalez
- i. Meeting on Friday.
- D. SLAC Committee – Manual Fernandez
- i. No reports.
- E. BBC LC Committee – Tanner Croddy
- i. Meeting on Friday.
- F. GPSC Committee – David Riera
- i. Able to meet with UGS about Graduate Appreciation Week. Looking forward to hosting 3 events, including a Family Social Event.
- G. International Student Ad Hoc – Ashley Prado
- i. Official meeting time will be Tuesday at 5:30pm. If anyone is interested in joining, please let Senator Prado or Speaker Izzy know.
- H. Pre-Professional Ad Hoc – German Mata
- i. Meeting on Tuesday and Thursday.
- I. Meet Your Dean Ad-Hoc – Jerilyn Davis
- i. Meet Your Dean will take place on Thursday, dress code is business casual.
- VII. University-Wide Council Reports
- A. Student Body President – Francesca Casanova

**FIU****Student Government  
Association**

- B. Vice President – Wilkin Caseres
  - C. Speaker of the Senate – Izzy Romeo
    - i. No reports.
  - D. Speaker Pro-Tempore – Rondye Ponthieux
    - i. Everyone needs to make sure they go to one Meet Your Dean event per semester as a senator. Those on Zoom remember to keep their cameras on.
  - E. BCC Governor – Hailey Menendez
- VIII. Advisor’s Report – Larissa, Patty & Blanca
- A. Larissa: Out Tuesday but back on Wednesday. When contacting anyone on SGA business please CC Blanca/Larissa. The applications are open and according to statutes if the application doesn’t receive entries, it will be open for 5 more days and after that it’ll close.
  - B. Blanca: If you haven’t picked up SGA sweaters, pick them up in Blanca’s office.
- IX. New Business
- A. Finance Reform Bill
    - i. Senator Croddy introduces Finance Reform Bill which focuses on clearer finance policy and transparency.
    - ii. Q&A Period:
      - 1. Senator Gonzalez asks about finalization
      - 2. Senator Riera asks if the point system will link with them.
        - a. Senator Croddy responds by saying that special allocations are designed for the Finance Committee
      - 3. Senator Mata asks what made Senator Croddy write the bill
        - a. Senator Croddy answered that having to meet during Finals Week to discuss budget was unfair to the Senate and that made him want to write it
      - 4. Senator Mata introduces motion to elapse Q&A period
        - a. By unanimous consent, motion was passed
    - iii. Discussion Period:
      - 1. Senator Tafur introduces motion to elapse Discussion period
        - a. By unanimous consent, motion was passed
    - iv. Roll Call Vote:

**FIU**Student Government  
Association**Vote on Finance Reform Bill**

<b>Senator Name</b>	<b>Senator Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Vote</b>	<b>Reason for Abstention</b>
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent		
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent		
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Ariana Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Sean Remedios	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent		
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Samantha Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Arianna Bencid	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	Vacant	
Alejandro Madrigal	College of Business	Absent		
Andrew Martinez	College of Business	Absent		
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	Vacant	
Kirsten Maxwell	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent		
Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent		

**FIU****Student Government  
Association**

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



Manuel E. Fernandez	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	Yes	
David Riera	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	
Mateo Suarez	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	
Julian Esquivel	University Graduate School	Absent	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Absent		
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	Present	Yes	
Eric Slater	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent		
Emma Zelkowitz	Upper Division	Present	Yes	
Connor Tafur	College of Business	Present	Yes	
Ronyde Pontheiux	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator/Pro Temp	Present	Yes	
Isabella Romeo	Housing-MMC	Present	Yes	

**Vote Count**

Yes	No	Abstention	Vacant
-----	----	------------	--------



23	0	0	14

	Vote	Vote Count	Archive
Motion Passed	Simple Majority	14.0	Passed
	Two-Thirds	17	Passed
	Three-Fifths	16	Passed

X. Senate Forum

- A. Senator Croddy states the success of Model UN in Montreal.
- B. Senator Riera states that in the current political climate we must remember that behind political correctness there are hearts.
- C. Speaker Izzy talks about her experience in Tallahassee and performance-based funding.

XI. Public Forum

XII. Adjournment

- A. Meeting was adjourned @ 4:53pm.