

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

The 42nd Session of the Student Body Senate

Meeting Agenda

Date: April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

- I. Call to Order @ 4:08pm
- 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	Present	
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
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	Present	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
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	
Alejandro Madrigal	College of Business	Present	

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Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Present	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Jaedon Charles	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Ashley Prado	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	
Kamila Gonzalez	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Trevor See	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Niska Lavaud	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Absent	
Natalie Jusino	College of Law	Absent	
Kevin Radcliffe	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	Absent	
Vacant	Housing-MMC	Vacant	
Zayi Brown	Housing-MMC	Present	
Daijah O'neal	Housing- MMC	Present	
Alison Stangl	Lower Division	Absent	



Vacant	Lower Division	Vacant	
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	Present	
Shameka Jean-Baptiste	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	
Marville Marcelin	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	
Tiffany Lindsay	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	
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	Present	

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<b>Quorum is Established</b>	Present	24
	Absent	13
	Vacant	18

- IV. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- A. With no objections, minutes were approved.
- V. Adoption of the Agenda
- A. Senator Riera motions to add S.E.E.C. Ad-Hoc Committee Sustainability Engagement & Educational Conservation resolution to New Business by unanimous consent.
- i. With no objections, resolution is added under New Business.
- B. Senator Riera motions to add Saunder’s S.H.O.U.T. Ad-Hoc Committee Student Housing Oversight & University Transparency resolution to New Business by unanimous consent.
- i. With no objections, resolution is added under New Business.
- C. Senator Riera motions to add SGA C.A.T.S. Action Initiative Conserving, Awareness, Treatment, and Stewardship resolution to New Business by unanimous consent.
- i. With no objections, resolution is added under New Business.
- VI. Committee Reports
- A. Finance Chair – Connor Tafur
- i. No reports. Finance requests are closed.
- B. Floor Leader – Internal Affairs Committee – Emma Zelkowitz
- i. The committee went over the removal of 9 people and 6 people got approved. Quorum was adjusted and approved.
- C. Rules Committee – Kamila Gonzalez
- i. Last meeting reviewed and passed “I Stand for International Bill.”
- D. SLAC Committee – Manuel Fernandez
- i. The SLAC meeting did not meet quorum, and they were not able to review legislation.
- E. BBC LC Committee – Tanner Croddy
- F. GPSC Committee – David Riera
- i. GSAW was a success. Working on a plan to help future GPSCs.
- G. International Student Ad Hoc – Ashley Prado





- a. Senator Gonzalez says she is amenable to keeping it on Teams but sending an email notification that it has been added.
  - 3. Pro-Tempore Pontheiux motions to elapse Q&A period by unanimous consent.
    - a. By unanimous consent, motion passed.
- iii. Discussion Period
  - 1. Senator Riera expresses support.
  - 2. Speaker Izzy appreciates the PowerPoint presentation.
  - 3. Pro-Tempore Pontheiux motions to elapse Discussion period by unanimous consent.
    - a. By unanimous consent, motion passed.
- iv. Roll Call Vote

<b>Vote on Senate Rules of Procedure Spring 2026 Revised Bill</b>				
Senator Name	Senator Position	Attendance	Vote	Reason for Abstention
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Ariana Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Samantha Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	

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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	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	Vacant	
Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	Absent	
Jaedon Charles	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Absent	
Ashley Prado	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	Vacant	
Kamila Gonzalez	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Trevor See	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	Absent	
Niska Lavaud	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Absent	Absent	
Natalie Jusino	College of Law	Absent	Absent	
Kevin Radcliffe	College of Medicine	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Vacant	Vacant	
Alexis Lofton	College of Public Health and Social Work	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	Honors College	Vacant	Vacant	
Tanner Croddy	Housing- BBC	Absent	Absent	

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Vacant	Housing-MMC	Vacant	Vacant	
Zayi Brown	Housing-MMC	Present	Yes	
Daijah O'neal	Housing- MMC	Present	Yes	
Alison Stangl	Lower Division	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	Lower Division	Vacant	Vacant	
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	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	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Present	Yes	
Shameka Jean-Baptiste	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	Absent	
Marville Marcelin	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	Absent	
Tiffany Lindsay	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	Yes	
Eric Slater	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	Yes	
Emma Zelkowitz	Upper Division	Present	Yes	
Connor Tafur	College of Business	Present	Yes	
Ronyde Pontheiux	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator/Pro-Tempore	Present	Yes	



Isabella Romeo	Housing-MMC	Present	Yes	

Vote Count			
Yes	No	Abstention	Vacant
23	0	0	19

	Vote	Vote Count	Archive
Motion Passed	Simple Majority	13.0	Passed
	Two-Thirds	16	Passed
	Three-Fifths	14	Passed

- B. "I Stand For International" Bill
  - i. Senator Riera presents "I Stand For International" Bill to establish the International Student Affairs Committee (ISAC) as a permanent standing committee of the Senate of the Student Body at Florida International

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University (FIU), dedicated to advocating for and supporting international students.

ii. 5-minute Q&A Period:

1. Senator Gonzalez asks about new language and updates.
2. Senator Gonzalez asks for amendments on the 5<sup>th</sup> whereas clause, adding language such as “the” and “and” at the end.
  - a. Senator Riera is amendable.
3. Senator Suarez asks if it is necessary to create an International Student Committee for SGA when there are so many organizations on campus for international students.
  - a. Senator Riera states that he wants representatives in the Senate to be the bridge between FIU international student organizations and the committee.
4. Senator Suarez asks if without this committee in place SGA would be unable to represent international students
  - a. Senator Riera states that this committee is a special arm to work on representing international students.
5. Senator Mata states that he would like to have the committee established.
6. Senator Gonzalez asks about language not normally used in statutes.
7. Senator Gonzalez asks to remove the clause on electing a vice chair because it understood.

iii. Discussion Period:

1. Senator Mata states that some guidance is necessary when forming partnerships. He would like other committees to have it.
2. Speaker Izzy states support for having a committee for international students in the Senate.
3. Pro-Tempore Pontheiux states that there is a point for having an international student committee since it is good to have a designated committee for future university-wide international issues.
4. Senator Fernandez states that this committee is great for serving as a liaison between organizations and the Senate.
5. Senator Suarez states that a committee doesn't necessarily mean results. He states that there is a risk that future committee members will not do as much work as the current members. He states that this leaves a



question of whether there will be more committees created for all groups?

6. Pro-Tempore Pontheiux motions to add 8 minutes to discussion time by unanimous consent.
  - a. By unanimous consent, motion passed.
7. Pro-Tempore Pontheiux states that the point on quorum was redundant because there will be times where committees cannot meet and it doesn't invalidate the committee. An international university merits an international student committee that is permanent.
8. Senator Cruz piggybacks on what Pro-Tempore Pontheiux says and states that next year students will have a guarantee that this committee will exist and will represent them.
9. Senator Mata states this committee will not only cater to international students.
10. Senator Gonzalez agrees.
11. Senator Madrigal motions to elapse Discussion period by unanimous consent.
  - a. By unanimous consent, motion passed.

iv. Roll Call Vote:

Vote on "I Stand For International" Bill				
Senator Name	Senator Position	Attendance	Vote	Reason for Abstention
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	

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Ariana Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
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	
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Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	Vacant	
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Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	Absent	
Jaedon Charles	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	

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Ashley Prado	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	Vacant	
Kamila Gonzalez	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Trevor See	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	Absent	
Niska Lavaud	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Absent	Absent	
Natalie Jusino	College of Law	Absent	Absent	
Kevin Radcliffe	College of Medicine	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Vacant	Vacant	
Alexis Lofton	College of Public Health and Social Work	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	Honors College	Vacant	Vacant	
Tanner Croddy	Housing- BBC	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	Housing-MMC	Vacant	Vacant	
Zayi Brown	Housing-MMC	Present	Yes	
Daijah O'neal	Housing- MMC	Present	Yes	
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Manuel E. Fernandez	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	Yes	



David Riera	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	
Mateo Suarez	University Graduate School	Present	No	
Julian Esquivel	University Graduate School	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Present	Yes	
Shameka Jean-Baptiste	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	Absent	
Marville Marcelin	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	Absent	
Tiffany Lindsay	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present		
Eric Slater	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present		
Emma Zelkowitz	Upper Division	Present	Yes	
Connor Tafur	College of Business	Present	No	
Ronyde Pontheiux	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator/Pro-Tempore	Present	Yes	
Isabella Romeo	Housing-MMC	Present	Yes	

**Vote Count**



Yes	No	Abstention	Vacant
20	2	0	18

Motion Passed	Vote	Vote Count	Archive
	Simple Majority	13.0	Passed
	Two-Thirds	16	Passed
	Three-Fifths	14	Passed

- X. Senate Forum
  - A. Senator Riera states appreciation for the Senate.
  - B. Speaker Izzy expresses gratitude for the Senate.
- XI. Public Forum
- XII. Adjournment @ 5:47pm