

FIU**Student Government
Association**The 41st Session of the Student Body Senate

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, June 3rd, 2024.

- I. Call to Order 4:23 pm
- II. FIU Alma Mater
- III. Roll Call

Attendance

Senator Name	Senators Position	Attendance Status	Additional Note on Senator
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Efrain Gonzalez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Shreeya Gudipati	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Brianna Romeo	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Daniel Salup-Cid	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Alison Stangl	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Nicholas Sutton	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Manuela Trejos	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Emma Wolff	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Kai Palomino	College of Business	Absent	
Callista Peterson	College of Business	Absent	
Faith St. Rose	College of Business	Present	
Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	

FIU**Student Government
Association**

Vacant	College of Business	Vacant	
E.M. Krause	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Rayhan Marreroo	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Chloe McGuire	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Lucas Menendez	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Ericka Noel	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	
Hailey Menendez	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Present	
Noah Fineberg	College of Law	Present	
Daniel Cambron	College of Medicine	Present	
Vacant	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Public Health and Social Work	Vacant	
Anish Sharma	Honors College	Present	
Ashley Young	Housing- BBC	Absent	
Alex Wagenman	Housing-MMC	Absent	
Vacant	Housing-MMC	Vacant	
Davari Demps	Lower Division	Absent	
Vacant	Lower Division	Vacant	
Vacant	Online Student Senator	Vacant	



James Hernandez	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	
German Mata	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	
Liz_angela Tillias	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	
Mahmoud Abdelrahman	University Graduate School	Absent	
Oghoritsewarami Boyo	University Graduate School	Present	
Patraillia Davis Bryant	University Graduate School	Absent	
Hossam Hussein	University Graduate School	Present	
Anurag Sharma	University Graduate School	Present	
Gabriel Diaz-Gonzalez	Upper Division	Present	
Kassandra Toussaint	Upper Division	Present	
Dale Brochinsky	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	
Nicolas De Aguilar	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	
Vacant	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Vacant	
Vacant	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Vacant	
Vacant	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Vacant	
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	
Marc Gedeon	Housing- MMC	Present	
Wilkin Caseres	College of Business	Absent	
Alexandra Barriga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Alexander Stone	Housing-MMC	Present	

Quorum is Established	Present	26
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FIU**Student Government
Association**

	Absent	14
	Vacant	16

- IV. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes
 - A. Monday, May 20th, 2024.
- V. Adoption of the Agenda
 - 1. Sen. Gedeon moves to have the reports after the adoption of the agenda, motion passes.
 - 2. Sen. Touissant asks about public forum, Sen. Stone: yes, will take place at the end of the meeting
- VI. Invited Speakers
 - A. N/A
- VII. Public Forum
 - A. 1. Speaker 1: new seats have been added with the new Constitution, total number of vacant seats is 16, considers appointments a form of voter suppression, SGA's job is to support students in expressing their will. Encourages support for a special election
 - 2. Brian Levine: suggests to move public forum before the Senate forum, the filling of the positions in the Constitution is through an election by Senate or constituents, there is no appointment process, all special elections can be held together
 - 3. Sen. Stone: there is a lot of nuance in the process
- VIII. Vetoed Legislation
 - A. N/A
- IX. Unfinished Business
 - A. N/A
- X. New Business
 - A. Election of our Finance Committee members
 - 1. Sen. Stone read the description of the roles
 - 2. Sen. Hernandez nominates herself
 - 3. Sen. Stangl nominated, accepted
 - 4. Sen. De Aguilar nominates himself
 - 5. Sen. Touissant nominates herself
 - 6. Sen. Boyo nominates himself
 - 7. Sen. Diaz nominates himself
 - 8. Sen. Hernandez gave a speech, gave an outline of her experience with financial and budget matters

FIU**Student Government
Association**

9. Sen. Stangl: gave an outline of her background, would like to be an active SGA members and give students the resources that they need, promote transparency and accountability
10. Sen. De Aguilar: gave an outline of his experiences with budgetary activities, believes in importance of advocacy for campus organizations
11. Sen. Boyo: thanks for the opportunity to run for the position, would like to bring excellence and deliver the results
12. Sen. Diaz: gave an outline of his experience, would like to promote transparency and optimal funds allocation
13. Sen. Touissant: would like to ensure equitable funds allocation, foster relationships with RSOs and make sure that learning environment is fostered, gave an outline of her experiences
14. Sen. Fineberg: asked about the election process, Sen. Stone explained the process of voting with the use of QR code
15. Voting takes place
16. Senators elected for the Finance Committee: Sen. Stangl (19 votes), Sen. Diaz (16 votes), Sen. De Aguilar (14 votes), Sen. Boyo (13 votes)

XI. Committee Reports

- A. Finance Committee
- B. Internal Affairs
- C. Graduate and Professional Student Committee
- D. Rules
No report
- E. Student Life and Academic Concerns Committee
2 members attended the meeting that took place last Friday
- F. Biscayne Bay Campus Legislative Council

XII. University-Wide Council Reports

- A. Student Body President
Thanks for the event attendance, Senate Leadership work done on Gainesville appreciated
- B. Speaker of the Senate
Gave a report on the Student Governments event in Gainesville, award was rewarded; Finance Committee members election is going to take place today, committee interest forms to be filled

FIU**Student Government
Association**

C. Speaker Pro-Tempore

Sen. Stone: the CASE club task force work in progress

D. Vice President

E. Governor of the Biscayne Bay Campus

F. Lieutenant Governor of the Biscayne Bay Campus

G. Comptroller

H. Floor Leader

Next week is Juneteenth celebration, SGA members are encouraged to participate

XIII. Senator Forum

1. Sen. Toussant: asks about the discussion on filling the vacant seats
2. Sen. Hernandez moves for a 10-min discussion on special election, motion passes
3. Sen. Hernandez: considers it not to be fair to students to leave the selection to SGA, thinks it would be appropriate to have an election
4. Sen. A. Sharma: disagrees with the proposal to hold the election in the Summer as not many students will be active, can be missing out on the candidates, suggests an election in the fall
5. Sen. Mata: lack of students is a concern, supports appointments before Fall since the establishment process is underway
6. Sen. Touissant: student engagement is important, more people can be engaged to vote, considers appointment not appropriate for the given number of positions
7. Sen. Fineberg: opposed to the special election due to potential low voter turnout, considers the Senate filling the seats appropriate, has been done in other institutions, representation important since the establishment process for SGA agencies underway
8. Sen. Salup-Cid: supports special election, low turnout is an argument to motivate students, considers getting input from constituents more democratic, election to give SGA more attention
9. Sen. Stone: UF has a different election process, considers comparison incorrect, thinks special election detrimental to voter turnout, appointment process can be transparent and democratic
10. Sen. Gudipati moves to extend by 5 min, motion passes

FIU**Student Government
Association**

11. Sen. Mata: 3 seats are open for BBC and only 2 representatives currently active, considers it undemocratic, BBC would be underrepresented in the election is held in the Fall, considers appointment more appropriate
12. Pres. Casanova: considers waiting until Fall too long and Summer turnout would be low, appointments during Summer would be more effective for training and incorporation into committees
13. Sen. Hernandez: part of SGA job is to engage students and have visibility, raise awareness, and do campaigning, students need to be able to have a say as to who represents them
14. Sen. Fineberg: it's SGA job to get students engaged, but students can be turned off by another election campaign
15. Sen. Sutton moves to extend the discussion by 10 min, motion passes
16. Sen. Touissant: SGA is to represent students and their concerns, Florida voter turnout is generally low, election is a chance to learn who is on the ballot, have the voices heard for the students
17. Sen. Gonzales: taking longer to fill the seats lowers the efficiency
18. Sen. Salup-Cid: there is a difference in the voting culture between UF and FIU, FIU can build the capacity, agrees that Summer turnout would be low, suggests innovating to increase engagement and SGA visibility
19. Sen. A. Sharma: need to be pragmatic about limiting factors for holding the election, should take the most efficient course of action in terms of time and budget
20. Sen. Mata: need to be logical, orientation is taking place in the Summer, Summer election would be inefficient, considers Summer appointment the most democratic and efficient
21. Sen. Boyo: Sen. Leadership can reach out to understand why individuals are not present
22. Sen. Stone: discussions can only be extended to 30 min, vacancies are the seats that are not filled yet
23. Pres. Casanova: 9 of the 16 vacant seats were added due to Constitution provisions after the Spring election
24. Sen. Salup-Cid moves to extend the discussion by 5 min, motion fails
25. Sen. Salup-Cid: suggests a compromise, to add a petition process for the application for student input and support
26. Sen. Stone: tomorrow e-board meeting is taking place, to be considered

FIU**Student Government
Association**

27. Sen. Mata: considers the proposed compromise appropriate
28. Sen. A. Sharma: proposes a roll call vote for a special election proposal, Sen. Stone: would not be valid
29. Sen. Gonzales: thinks election is not beneficial as it is stressful for those running and constituents, work on infrastructure should be done
30. Sen. Hernandez: platform is needed for donations and a larger space for career closet
31. Sen. Touissant: there is shortage of blood donations, SGA could assist in promotion; there is an issue with dance rooms access; Senators should be mindful of the language used and respect each other
32. Sen. Mata: Panther Pit at EC has broken equipment, if other Senators are interested in working on this participation is encouraged
33. Sen. Stone: asks Senators to fill out the form with goals for further work planning

XIV. Advisors Report

1. Larissa Adames: email for volunteer opportunities was sent out, if not received will be resent; participation is encouraged, SGA Meet and Greet will take place in July, First Night participation encouraged as well. University Concert will take place, more information will be shared, all SGA members are encouraged to read the documents including the Constitution.

Orientation will take place at MMC and BBC, those able to assist are encouraged to join

2. Sen. Touissant asked about free tickets, Pres. Casanova clarified

XV. Adjournment at 5:51 pm.