



# Florida International University

## MINUTES

### SGA Constitutional Review Committee November 28, 2017

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Student Government Association held a meeting on November 21, 2017– Locale **WUC 155**. The meeting was called to order at **4:48 p.m.**, approximately, by **President Schmidt** and **President Cosio** who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

#### **II. IN ATTENDANCE**

Leonardo Cosio, BBC President  
Krista Schmidt, MMC President  
Meredith Marseille, BBC Vice President  
Jose Sirven, MMC Vice President  
Cooper Eisinger, MMC Chief Justice  
Jamie Adelson, BBC Chief of Staff  
Joshua Mandall, MMC Rules, Legislative and Judiciary Chair (**Arrived 4:59 p.m.**) (**Left 6:15 p.m.**)

#### **III. GUEST(S)**

Larissa Adames, BBC Advisor  
Jerome Scott, MMC Advisor  
Jose Toscano, MMC Campus Life Director  
Samantha Caballeno  
Daybe Eugene, SPC  
Kandice Jospitre  
Taisha Coradin, Panther Power  
Alex Victor, SPC  
Mitesh Addhate, BBC Comptroller  
Ashley Vilsaint  
Tonie Jean  
Luc Pierre-Louis  
Dijon Charles, SOC-BBC President  
Jonathan Banuelos-Espino, BBC Speaker  
David Cruz  
Sergio Molina  
Bryan Aguilar  
Ycole Boncamper

Ty'Trell Dixon, BSU Vice President  
Jenee Williams, SPC-BBC Treasurer  
Jefferson Noel, BBC Speaker Pro Tempore of the Senate  
Noemie Beaubrun, SOC-BBC Secretary  
Milagros Viquez, Student Media  
Daniel Velasquez, BBC Senator  
Nimeha Milien  
Jessalyn Morel, BBC Senator

#### IV.

BBC President Cosio introduced the constitutional review committee to guests.  
MMC Vice President Sirven gave a brief overview of proposed senate.

- The legislative branch will have 40 senators.
- Senators representing the Biscayne Bay Campus:
  - Two (2) Communication + Journalism senators
  - Two (2) CASE senators
  - Two (2) Hospitality and Tourism Management senators
  - One (1) Biscayne Bay Campus Bayview Student Living senator
  - One (1) Graduate senator
- Senators representing the Modesto A. Maidique Campus:
  - Two (2) Modesto Maidique Campus Housing senators
  - One (1) Medical Student senator
  - One (1) Law School senator
- The other senators will be u-wide senators, and can be from any of FIU's campuses:
  - Four (4) CASE senators
  - Three (3) Business senators
  - Two (2) CARTA senators
  - Three (3) SIPA senators
  - Two (2) Nursing senators
  - One (1) Public Health & Social Work senator
  - One (1) Honors college senator
  - Two (2) Graduate senators
  - Two (2) Online senators
  - Three (3) Lower Division senators
  - Three (3) Upper Division senators
  - Two (2) Engineering senators

#### **Article III, Section 2**

- Subsection A: "The SGC-MMC Senate shall be composed of thirty eight (38) Senators which shall be elected at MMC. The allocation of representation is listed within the parenthesis below." was changed to "The Senate shall be composed of forty (40) Senators which shall be elected by the student body. Campus-specific senators must have at least 50 percent or more of their credits on the campus that they represent."

- Subsection A, numbers 1-20: removed from constitution and added to statutes. The committee will research the structure of representatives from Senate.
- Subsection B: removed.
- Subsection C: changed to B. “Each college, school, campus, and housing sector shall be apportioned at least one Senator.” was changed to “Each college and housing sector shall be apportioned at least one Senator.”
- Subsection D: changed to C. “...within the SGC of the corresponding college/school” was removed, and “,” was added.
- Subsection E: changed to D. “...within the SGC of the corresponding campus.” was removed.

### **Article III, Section 3**

- Subsection A: “Each” and “their” changed to “The” and “the”.
- Subsection B: “Summer Senate sessions shall begin on the first day of Summer and shall end at the close of the Summer semester as delineated by the university calendar” was changed to “The First Senate session shall begin the Monday after elections results are validated by the Supreme Court and shall end at the close of the Summer A semester as delineated by the university calendar.”
- Subsection C: “Fall Senate sessions shall begin on the first day of Fall semester and close on the last day of Fall semester as delineated by the university calendar.” was changed to “The Second Senate session shall begin on the first day of Fall semester and close on the last day of Fall semester as delineated by the university calendar.”
- Subsection D: “Spring Senate sessions shall begin on the first day of Spring and close on the last day of Spring as delineated by the university calendar.” was changed to “The Third Senate session shall begin on the first day of Spring and close after election results are validated by the Supreme Court.”

### **Article III, Section 4**

- Subsection A: “The Vice President of each SGC shall be the ex-officio President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless there is a tie.” was changed to “The Vice President of the campus hosting the senate session shall be the ex-officio President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless there is a tie. Should the Vice President of the campus hosting the senate meeting is unable to attend, the Vice President of the non-host campus shall have a vote in the event of a tie.”
- Subsection C: “The Vice President shall chair the Senate until it chooses the Speaker, at which point the Vice President shall permanently relinquish the chair to the Speaker.” was changed to “The Vice President of each campus shall chair the Senate until it chooses the Speaker, at which point the Vice President shall permanently relinquish the chair to the Speaker.”
- Subsection I: “SGC Statutes shall be composed of the Elections Code, Finance Code, and all other laws passed by the SGC Senate; statutes concerning elections shall require a majority vote of the entire Senate membership.” was changed to “SGA Statutes shall be composed of the Elections Code, Finance Code, Agency

and Bureau Constitutions, and binding legislation.; Statutes concerning elections shall require a majority vote of the Senators present.”

- Subsection K: “Senate meetings shall be conducted according to the latest version of Robert’s Rules of Order. By two thirds (2/3) vote, the Senate may alter meeting procedures according to how it deems necessary.” was changed to “Senate meetings shall be conducted according to the latest version of Robert’s Rules of Order. By two thirds (2/3) vote of the Senators present may alter meeting procedures according to how it deems necessary.”

MMC Chief Justice Eisinger moved for a 15 minute recess at 6:00 p.m.  
BBC Chief of Staff Adelson second.

MMC President Schmidt reconvened meeting at 6:15 p.m.

BBC President Cosio opened question session at 6:20 p.m.

- Noemie Beaubrun said the culture of BBC is different than MMC. Doesn’t agree with unification, because BBC will be less represented.
- Milagros Viquez asked if the change is coming from the university level or from SGA. BBC President Cosio said that the constitutional review committee was appointed by Dr. Lunsford, but the change was proposed within committee.
- Tonie Jean asked if the changes the committee are making now can be changed or can have student input. BBC President Cosio said that there will be student input.
- Nimeha Milien shared concern that next president will not be present at BBC if their classes aren't on the BBC campus, leading to the population being underrepresented. BBC President Cosio said that the president would have to do office hours between both campuses.
- Daniel Velasquez said he would like to see more collaboration between both campuses and believes changes should be made gradually.
- Noemie Beaubrun proposed implementing a rule that campus president's visit other campuses. She said she is concerned with other FIU council’s uniting. MMC Vice President Sirven said there was no mention of that happening.
- Luc Pierre-Louis said he is concerned about senate positions being split between BBC and MMC. He proposed that  $\frac{2}{3}$  of allocated campus senators be present for quorum.
- Jessalyn Morel agreed with Luc, and said that the plan should ensure that BBC is represented in meetings.
- Jefferson Noel said that merge should represent interest of student body, rather than be sent to Lunsford for implementation.
- Sergio Molina said it would be beneficial to offer student feedback in a survey.

BBC President Cosio ended question session at 7:11 p.m.

MMC Vice President Sirven moved to recess for 5 minutes.  
BBC Chief of Staff Adelson seconded.

Committee reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

The committee agreed that the next meeting times would be Monday, December 4th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at MMC, and Tuesday, December 5th from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at BBC.

MMC Vice President Sirven moved to set those meeting dates.  
BBC President Cosio seconded.

**BBC President Cosio** adjourned the meeting at **7:48 p.m.**