

6-6-1994

Meeting Minutes 06.06.94

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Student Government Council Minutes; June 6, 1994

Meeting called to order at 3:47 PM by President Abramson.

Roll Call:

Council Members

Brian Abramson, President	
Jason Feldstein, Vice President	
Whit Hollis, SGC Advisor	
Arthur Papillon, Jr., Student Services Chair	
Cori Basulto, Academic Affairs Chair	
Kathy Dennis	Steve Benen
Richard Williams	Guerda Jean-Baptiste
Liz Jacobi	Melanie Bent
Mimmo Sollazzo	Salah Negash

Guests

Sue Koester, ARA Manager
Nakisha Armbrister

Approval of Minutes:

As minutes for the first two meetings had not yet been approved, they were brought up for approval at this meeting. Previous minutes were amended as follows:

Minutes for the May 9 meeting were amended to show that Arthur Papillon was appointed as Chair of the Student Services Committee and Cori Basulto was appointed as Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee; moved by Steve Benen, seconded by Arthur Papillon, motion passed without objection.

Minutes for the May 23 meeting were amended to show that Cori Basulto has requested that each council member find two students to serve on the Academic Affairs Committee, and that the Lower Division Reps should each recommend three to five people, and that Richard Williams had volunteered to serve on the Elections Procedures Evaluations Committee along with Jason Feldstein and Liz Jacobi; moved by Steve Benen, seconded by Richard Williams, motion passed without objection.

President's Report:

Nominations for Certificates of Appreciation made by Steve Benen, Cori Basulto, Richard Williams, and Brian Abramson.

President Abramson clarified the process of appointments: it is the duty of the SGC President to make appointments, which the

council may approve or disapprove. Any individuals suggested for appointment should first be introduced to the President.

President Abramson reminded the council that the FSA conference will be held at FIU North Campus on June 25-26.

President Abramson reminded the council that the first two Freshman Orientation sessions are to held on June 23 and 24, and June 27 and 28, and we should have as many council members participating as possible.

Public Relations report: President Abramson met with Public Relations Officer Brian Yaden on Thursday, June 2. Mr. Yaden suggested that SGC focus on two or three big projects, such as passage of the ad valorem tax and establishing ridership for the shuttle in order to enhance our public image.

Committee Reports:

President Abramson met with UP President Ranier Gonzalez and negotiated on the division of overflow funds. North Campus will have a budget of close to \$400,000 for this coming year, but \$100,000 will go to the University Center. We should also be providing additional funding to the Black Student Leadership Conference and the Graduate Students Association.

Melanie Bent has accepted appointment to the Finance Committee, but the final seat remains open, as Johnathan Hall has declined nomination to this seat. President Abramson asks that council members bring suggestions for an individual to fill this seat to the Finance Chair. If none are forthcoming, and no other students show interest, President Abramson agreed to recommend Graduate Representative Richard Williams to the seat.

Student Services Chair: Arthur Papillon reports that the new parking lot will be finished in about two weeks. The black-top has already been put down and the lines will be painted within the next few weeks.

Mr. Papillon also brought up the matter of the Student Lounge, which has been closed as a lounge and is now being used only for meetings. Many students are upset that their recreational use of this space has been cut off. President Abramson suggested that a petition be drafted to protest this action. Mr. Papillon will follow up on the status of the Lounge.

Academic Affairs Chair: Cori Basulto reports that Liz Jacobi has been appointed Vice Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee. Claudine Gayle has declined appointment as Secretary of Academic Affairs, but Ms. Basulto has a second choice for the position whom she has not yet asked.

Old Business:

Steve Benen has contacted the Dade County Elections Department and learned that they are not willing to conduct a deputization class here as they do not feel they will have a good turnout. He will instead arrange a car-pool for those council members and others who wish to become registrars to the appropriate office.

President Abramson brought up the matter of the Student Services Conference, to which we have been invited to send a representative. The conference will be held on November 19-22 in Orlando, and will cost \$279 per person for registration. The general consensus of the council was in favor of sending one or several representatives.

New Business:

President Abramson asked for an SGC rep to volunteer to coordinate blood drives with the Red Cross.

There will be a Cultural Fest in the Fall of this year, and it would be very good PR for the council to be involved. Mimmo Sollazzo suggested that we should contact the United Nations and see if they can send us a speaker. President Abramson asked Mr. Sollazzo to follow up on that idea, and to also contact the Model United Nations through the University Park SGC.

President Abramson noted that the next SGC meeting will be held on Monday, June 20 at 3:30 PM in the SGC conference room. There will be an executive board meeting on June 13, and a budget reviews meeting on June 17 at 2:00 PM.

Advisors Report:

Whit Hollis reports that the first candidate for the position of Student Activities Advisor has been interviewed, and that the remaining two candidates will be available for interviews by the students on June 7 and June 8, at 2:30 PM on each day.

Sue Koester from ARA, the new cafeteria company, answered concerns from the council. Ms. Koester noted that some prices may have appeared to go up because previous cashiers were not charging the right prices for certain food items. Jason Feldstein noted that many of the less expensive pasta dishes were no longer sold in the cafeteria.

Community Comments:

President Abramson asked the council members to discuss their opinions of the progress of the SGC. Response was generally positive.

Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.