Meeting Minutes 02.19.97

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University
IN ATTENDANCE
Ms. Camille Aub, SJMC Representative
Ms. Safiya Burton, Lower Division Representative
Ms. Zahra Burton, Lower Division Representative
Ms. Thania Cantave, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Jeff Dismukes, Graduate Representative
Ms. Tanisha Drummond, Clerk of Council
Ms. Debra Goldman, Broward Awareness Representative
Ms. Liliana Gomez, Student Services Chair
Mr. Julian Humphreys, Vice President
Ms. Sandra Jean, Representative-At-Large
Mr. Alberto Kan, Representative-At-Large
Mr. Michael Madridejos, Finance Chair
Ms. Esther Navas, Representative-At-Large
Mr. Arthur Papillon, Jr., President
Ms. Stacia Pinnock, CUPA Representative
Ms. Ellen Plissner, Advisor
Ms. Simone Reid, Hospitality Management Representative
Ms. Joanna Wedderburn, Director of Student Lobbying

ABSENT
Ms. Jeannie Lacroix, School of Nursing Representative

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked the Council to review the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Julian Humphreys made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted; Ms. Debra Goldman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Next, the President welcomed our guests, Congressman Bueckner, Congressman Swift and Ms. Elaine Gordon to the North Campus Student Government Council meeting.

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UNIVERSITY-WIDE COUNCIL MEETING
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Mr. Humphreys stated that though he felt monies should be allotted for GSA, the amount ($27,000) is too high. Furthermore, this committee would be an Ad hoc committee and would still have to report to SPC as such. Once again, the President reminded the Council that the figures were skewed. Mr. Dismukes reiterated that he felt 20% should be devoted to GSA and he thought this was agreed upon at the University-Wide Council meeting. Ms. Goldman asked, "How does this break down to fund the Broward campuses, North Campus and University Park Campus?" Mr. Dismukes and Ms. Goldman discussed the possible disservice of the funds being apportioned in this manner. Mr. Humphreys inquired if establishing this committee would provide graduate students with representation. Mr. Dismukes conceded that this would allow more diverse programming, as far as graduates are concerned. Ms. Kristina Nikolic stated that perhaps the problem lies in the lack of graduate student involvement in SPC. Mr. Dismukes restated this would result in conflict, as it would place graduate students in a position of subordinance to undergraduates who may be their students. Ms. Esther Navas interjected that many of the programs, especially the lectures were geared towards graduate students. Mr. Dismukes stated many graduate students are displeased with the current status of things. He urged the Council to establish a Graduate Student Committee as soon as possible to address these needs.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. called for a motion. Mr. Dismukes made a motion to change the proviso language so that it would state the establishment of a Graduate Student Programming Committee that would be responsible for organizing more diversified programming. Additionally, he asked that 20% of the SPC budget be earmarked for this Graduate Committee. The motion died. Mr. Dismukes revised his motion. He made a motion to establish a Graduate Student Committee, which would serve as a part of Student Programming Council. Mr. Humphreys seconded the motion. Mr. Madridejos asked Mr. Dismukes to give the Council an example of "graduate programming". Mr. Dismukes responded, "a lecturer from Yale, a foreign film festival or a networking mixer." Mr. Madridejos returned, "couldn't graduates just join SPC?" A discussion reiterating previous concerns was clarified by Mr. Dismukes. Ms. Nikolic reiterated that anyone, graduates as well as undergraduates could apply for positions in SPC. Ms. Stacia Pinnock advised (Mr. Dismukes) that she did not think it was wise to isolate any particular group, it appeared selfish. She added that SPC does accommodate graduates; classification is not the issue. Ms. Thania Cantave stated that each school or college has committees for this specific purpose. Ms. Plissner and Mr. Dismukes informed the Council that making such a decision would not be setting a precedent; other state universities have committees such as this one. Ms. Goldman stated that having a problem reporting to someone who is beneath you (in terms of academic classification) is a personal issue. She also commented that students simply could not afford to segregate in this manner. Mr. Papillon, Jr. called for a vote. Vote: 4 in favor (Kan, Aub, Navas, Dismukes); 4 opposed (Goldman, Z. Burton, Jean, Pinnock); 3 abstentions (Humphreys, Reid, S. Burton). As there was a tie, the President voted. He voted in favor of the motion, thereby passing it 5 in favor, 4 opposed, 3 abstentions. Ms. Gordon informed the Council that in Congress, there was abstentions were not allowed!

Next, the President called for a motion on the budget. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to accept the budget (not including the proviso language) as submitted; Ms. Goldman seconded the motion. Mr. Dismukes asked if it was possible to take Homecoming out of the University-Wide Council budget. The President responded that Mr. Frank Pena (University Park Campus) is not in support of this. Mr. Dismukes asked if he could make a friendly amendment (to Mr. Humphreys' motion), to not subdivide SPC's budget. Mr. Humphreys did not accept the amendment, stating that it was important certain events and programs had enough funding (i.e., Homecoming).
Mr. Alberto Kan asked why Recreational Sports was decreased from $300,000 to $275,000. The President informed him that he was looking at the wrong budget. Ms. Liliana Gomez commented that Wolfe University Center (WUC) should be increased from $725,000 to $800,000. Mr. Papillon, Jr. informed her that this figure ($725,000) was still a $37,000 increase. He stated that he did not doubt that these entities (i.e., WUC, Rec Sports) needed more funds. However, the problem was that everyone needed more funds! Mr. Dismukes mentioned that he noticed an increase in Student Organization Council (SOC); what was this based on? Mr. Papillon, Jr. responded that this was due to the fact that SOC did show a significant increase in the amount of clubs and organizations on campus. Mr. Dismukes stated that he agreed with this increase as well as the increase in SPC. He also encouraged the Council to take more of a 'Grass Roots' approach to programming. Ms. Cantave asked if WUC would still be purchasing equipment for Recreational Sports with its E & F fees. The President said that he had been told that this agreement could fall through. Ms. Ellison interjected that he (Mr. Whit Hollis) is not certain he will receive certain funds, thus, the Council should not count on these monies. The vote: 11 in favor; one abstention (Aub).

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COMMUNITY COMMENTS
Ms. Debra Goldman took this opportunity to inform the Beacon reporters that the Broward Centers did not receive the newspapers until at least a week after its date. Ms. Safiya Burton reminded the Council that the Freshman Internship Program would begin its first event/meeting on Thursday in WUC 155 at 4:30 PM. Ms. Gomez announced the upcoming Metro-Dade Transit Forum (held by Student Services) next week Wednesday in WUC 244. Ms. Cantave stated that there was an upcoming forum being sponsored by International Black Student Union (IBSU) and National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC); the forum was scheduled for the end of March. Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced the FSA Board Meeting being held on North Campus on this Friday in WUC 157 at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be served at 12:00 PM and the group will reconvene at 2:00 PM. Additionally, both he and Mr. Humphreys would be attending a COSGA Conference in Texas (at Texas A & M University) where they would be presenting two workshops on Florida International University.

Mr. Humphreys made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Goldman seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanisha N. Drummond
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Student Government Council, North Campus
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<th>NAME AND POSITION</th>
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<td>MS. CAMILLE AUB, SJMC REP.</td>
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<td>GUEST Julie Solomon</td>
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COMMUNITY COMMENTS
Ms. Debra Goldman took this opportunity to inform the Beacon reporters that the Broward Centers did not receive the newspapers until at least a week after its date. Ms. Safiya Burton reminded the Council that the Freshman Internship Program would begin its first event/meeting on Thursday in WUC 155 at 4:30 PM. Ms. Gomez announced the upcoming Metro-Dade Transit Forum (held by Student Services) next week Wednesday in WUC 244. Ms. Cantave stated that there was an upcoming forum being sponsored by International Black Student Union (IBSU) and National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC); the forum was scheduled for the end of March. Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced the FSA Board Meeting being held on North Campus on this Friday in WUC 157 at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be served at 12:00 PM and the group will reconvene at 2:00 PM. Additionally, both he and Mr. Humphreys would be attending a COSGA Conference in Texas (at Texas A & M University) where they would be presenting two workshops on Florida International University.

Mr. Humphreys made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Goldman seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanisha N. Drummond, Clerk of Council
Student Government Council, North Campus