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#### STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL BI-MONTHLY MEETING

MINUTES RECORDED ON FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1996 3:30 P.M.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Brian D. Abramson, Finance Chair
Safiya Burton, Lower Division Representative
Tanisha Drummond, Clerk of Council
Amy Ernst, SJMC Representative
Julian Humphreys, Vice-President
Jeannie M. Lacroix, School of Nursing Representative
Mike Madridejos, Senator
Ryan Mathews, Senator
McLamarre Mompremier, CUPA Representative
Kristina Nikolic, Lower Division Representative
Arthur Papillon, Jr., President
Ellen Plissner, Associate Director
Julianna Watson, Academic Affairs Chair

#### **ABSENT**

Steven Chung, Broward Representative Alison Austin Greene, Graduate Student Representative (EXCUSED) Simone Reid, HM Representative (EXCUSED)

#### **GUESTS**

Arnetta Davis
Jeff Dismukes
Liliana Gomez
Sherene Mirander
Mitchell Summer, HA-LO
Joanna Wedderburn

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:47 P.M., by Mr. Arthur Papillon, Jr., SGC President.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that a sign-in sheet was being circulated, therefore the council would not have to take Roll Call. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked the council members to review the minutes for the May 24th meeting. While the council members evaluated the minutes, Mr. Papillon, Jr. reminded them that our meeting dates are also pay dates as well.



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Mr. Papillon, Jr. reiterated that any corrections should be voiced at this time and stated that on page 4, under the Parking and Traffic Committee Meeting (found under President's Report), there were some errors that he wanted to address. He went on to state that this particular committee was creating more student parking by the Library, as there was presently none. The Parking and Traffic Committee also decided to add 15 meters near the FIU bus terminal. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he suggested moving student parking back near the Library, as this area (which is primarily visitor's and faculty's parking) is not always full. Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that the proposed increase in meter time would be discussed at the next Parking and Traffic Committee meeting, to be held at the University Park Campus in the PC Conference room, at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, June 14.

Mr. Julian Humphreys, stated that there was an inaccuracy on page 7, concerning the \$6,000 for the bandshell. He also addressed the figures listed pertaining to the HA-LO invoice (\$3,000 for giveaways) and the PaperDirect order (\$938.55 for brochures and certificates).

Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to entertain a motion to accept the May 24th Minutes with the amendments. Ms. Safiya Burton suggested that the minutes should have been distributed earlier in the week, as the council did not have sufficient time to peruse the 11 page report. Mr. Papillon, Jr. agreed, and assured the council that in the future the minutes would be handed out at an earlier date. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Michael Madridejos seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

#### STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL RETREAT

Mr. Papillon, Jr. acknowledged and thanked those visitors who were in attendance at today's meeting. He thanked those council members who attended the SGC Retreat, conceding that it not only gave the board an opportunity to become familiar; but resulted in several positive outcomes as well, which were the five areas covered in the May 9th meeting (by Mr. Humphreys), under the Vice-President's Report. Mr. Papillon, Jr. interjected that we would be skipping Letters C and D, found on the June 7th Agenda.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like for the council to meet once a month with the other organizations (SPC, SOC) as a means of networking; in a round table atmosphere. This would encourage involvement and promote dialog and awareness. He added that he



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would appreciate any suggestions, thoughts and/or ideas from the council concerning this matter. Mr. Papillon, Jr. then opened the table for questions and/or discussion.

Ms. Kristina Nikolic asked who exactly the council would be meeting with once a month. Mr. Papillon, Jr. responded that it would preferably be the presidents of all other clubs and organizations on campus. Ms. Nikolic inquired if this would be in a formal setting. Mr. Papillon, Jr. replied that it would most likely be in a forum arrangement. Ms. Burton included that in these meetings it would be an ideal atmosphere in which to incorporate the plans for the upcoming SGC Carnival, scheduled to take place in the Fall semester. Mr. Papillon, Jr. acquiesced stating that this was discussed at the SGC Retreat.

#### FSA CONFERENCE

Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that he had attended the FSA conference (hence his absence from the last scheduled meeting), and was pleased to find that this was an opportunity for unity between the North and University Park campuses. Mr. Brian Abramson interjected that he and former University Park campus SGC President, Ranier Gonzalez used to sit together at these meetings, and he would like to have that stated for the record.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. continued disclosing that Carlos (Becerra), was elected Vice-Chair of the State Council Student Body. Also, FSA would be meeting on the following dates:

- ❖ June 20 22 (UCF, changed to FAU) Also Orientation Dates!!!
- ♦ July 12 13 (FSU)
- ♦ August 11 14 (FSA Retreat Date for meeting hasn't been set)
- September 27 28 (UNF)
- ♦ October 10 11 (UF)
- November 15 16 (To Be Announced... Board of Regents hasn't set a date yet)

Mr. McLamarre Mompremier asked where the FSA Retreat would be this year. Mr. Papillon, Jr. Said that it would probably be in Disney World or Palm Beach.

#### COMPUTER UPGRADES

Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that the SGC computers were severely in need of upgrading, and that the council would be purchasing new computers in the coming weeks. Ms. Ellen Plissner added that this was necessary, as the models presently owned by the council did not have enough memory to handle the programs/applications presently being used in the



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Student Activities office (in addition, Ms. Plissner stated that her computer was being moved to Mr. Derek Veasey's office). Mr. Papillon, Jr. noted that the council would be buying a laptop (which would be used for the FSA Conferences, to receive faxes and to record the minutes at the bi-monthly meetings), two printers (a laser printer and a color printer) and a new fax machine for the Student Activities office. Ms. Plissner included that the computers might be put in the 'Jurassic Parts' display on the third floor. She stated that these computers were fine for use on the Internet, or in network information gathering, but not for the kind of programming the council would be doing.

#### STUDENT LOBBYING

Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that in the past, the Student Lobbyist would attend these functions, primarily to simply collect a lot of information. However, this year he would like to create a 'lobbying team', which would give the school a stronger influence to communicate the needs of our school. These included affairs such as: a polling station and voter registration. He added that this would be a positive method of getting things for the campus, such as a football team. This type of team effort could have a profound impact on local politicians, as the lobbying team would be working with them to get what the students needs. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked for questions at this time.

Ms. Burton asked when this team would be lobbying at FSA. The President responded that they would be lobbying whenever a pertinent issue came up. Ms. Burton asked how the members of this committee would be selected. Mr. Papillon, Jr. replied that he and the Director of Student Lobbying, would be creating the team together. Ms. Burton asked if these members would also be expected to attend all the SGC meetings. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he was not certain, as the group was not coordinated at this time. He also acknowledged that the former SGC President, Mr. Abramson, had made significant strides last year in his attempt to implement this. Ms. Burton proceeded, stating that the council should target Public Administration students for this process. The President agreed, stating that it was imperative that the council use its campus resources to the fullest capacity.

#### KARATE

Mr. Papillon, Jr. informed the council that the school was presently trying to form a karate team with the NCAA, which would cost under \$10,000. The proposal, which he would be sending to Sansei Michael Suarez, would include members from both North and South campuses.



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Ms. Plissner asked if the President had spoken to the Athletics Department as yet. Mr. Papillon, Jr. responded that he had not. The Athletics Department was trying to cut the karate courses being offered at this time. This was another reason he was interested in forming a team. Aside from the health benefits karate offered students, this would be a way of helping out Recreational Sports. The President also added that though it was just a class now, he had plans to create an Intramural Karate Team as well.

Mr. Abramson suggested having an intramural event, which would help to promote karate and give this area some exposure. Mr. Papillon, Jr. commented that the Academic department does not consider this class to be a necessity because of the student interest. Ms. Burton remarked that she had no previous knowledge that such a course even existed. Mr. Abramson closed the discussion by suggesting that an event be incorporated into the SGC Carnival which would increase student awareness.

#### VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

#### SELECTION OF ART FOR NORTH CAMPUS

Mr. Humphreys announced that last Wednesday he had a meeting (with Whit Hollis, Greg Wilkins and Kris, a representative from the art gallery), concerning where to place art that was purchased on the campus. Unfortunately, the art was chosen before Mr. Hollis, Director of the Wolfe University Center, could have an opportunity to offer his input. Mr. Humphreys felt that the students should have had a greater say in what pieces would be selected for this campus, but continued that the art would be placed in areas such as the Ballroom, where it could receive the greatest appreciation.

Mr. Abramson asked if the pieces selected were done by students. Mr. Humphreys answered that all the art selected was done by alumni. Ms. Burton commented that she liked the fact that these projects were student oriented, however, following months of construction and renovation, she didn't feel she had seen anything done. Mr. Humphreys returned that there were extraordinary plans underway for the school, and that construction was still very much underway. If any council member was interested, he/she could see Mr. Hollis for a tour. However, the construction had been temporarily halted due to CITF funding. Ms. Burton responded, "so the expected completion date has been held up by funding?" Mr. Humphreys confirmed this, and went on to say that he encouraged council members to take a tour with Mr. Hollis, or with Mr. Papillon, Jr. in order to see exactly what changes and renovations were being made in the University Center.



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Mr. Humphreys stated that the shirts for Student Government Council had been ordered. However, he would like to propose a new logo for the council (distributed a copy of his logo design). Both he and the President stated that the previous logo was unattractive and plain. Mr. Humphreys continued stating that he needed more input on what the council members would like to see on the t-shirts. At this time, the council members discuss possible designs and color schemes for the SGC T-Shirt. Ms. Plissner asked if Mr. Humphreys could design several logos for the council to choose from.

#### GOALS OF VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. Humphreys stated that there were four goals in particular, that he would like to implement:

- Student Awareness/Student Involvement (Target your students)
- Increase Student Services
- Enhances Student Services
- Address Academic Concerns

The President added that for Orientation (June 20-21), those council members who are representating Schools/Colleges should bring information to distribute to freshmen at this time.

Ms. Burton, inquired as to whether the department heads would be attending the upcoming Orientation. Mr. Humphreys replied that this would no longer be done at Orientation sessions; however, he stated that Student Government could be introduced as a "Hot Topic". Mr. McLamarre Mompremier asked if there a specific time during Orientation when students will be able to interact with the council members. The President directed this question to the advisor, Ms. Plissner. She responded that there was no specific time; clubs and organizations will have the opportunity between skits when commercials are taking place.

#### ADVISOR'S REPORT

#### SPIRIT DAY/CASUAL DAY

Ms. Plissner announced that Dr. Modesto Madique had recently declared all Fridays, Casual Day...however, Ms. Mary Pankowski took this a step further and decided to make Fridays a Spirit Day; Ms. Plissner encouraged council members to think along these lines.



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#### **SEARCH & SCREEN PROCESS**

Ms. Plissner thanked those individuals who participated in the Search and Screen process, in an effort to find a new Student Activities Coordinator. She also noted that July 19, 1996 would be Mr. Derrick Veasey's last day at FIU. His replacement will be Mr. Raphael Zapata.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

#### **BANDSHELL**

Mr. Abramson reported on the construction of the bandshell, which would soon be underway. He had recently had a meeting with Matt, who was leaning towards a more Victorian, gazebo look, while Mr. Abramson was proposing a Tiki Hut style, similar to the ones found on the campus. He added that Matt would get back to him on Monday, June 10th, with additional proposals.

Also, Mr. Abramson announced that the computer upgrades had went through; and briefly mentioned the cost of the calf machine (purchased for Recreational Sports), and the PaperDirect order. In addition, he noted that the Emoluments account is dry, but this should be taken care of in the next few weeks. Ms. Plissner stated that the council members should not stress this fact, as monies have been transferred and the checks should be arriving shortly, if not today.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS IN STUDENT HANDBOOK

Mr. Abramson discussed looking into selling space in the student handbooks, as well as his efforts to get the Golden Panther Debit Card accepted locally. This past Tuesday, he stated that he had attended the Aventura City council meeting, and the participants were generally enthusiastic about getting more involved with the University. Mr. Abramson also discussed a request he had received (concerning the Honors Society), and added that he advised them to speak with the Student Organization Council on the North campus, as State fees assessed the use of funds.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked that before the council members leave today, they should leave information concerning what they would like printed on their business cards, such as name, position and phone number (phone number is optional). This information should be left with Ms. Tanisha Drummond. At this time, Ms. Nikolic displayed the design for the



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Lower Division Representatives, stating that she and Ms. Burton had spoken with Mr. Humphreys in reference to having their brochures printed. Mr. Papillon, Jr. interjected that it was imperative that anything leaving the office (from SGC), receive prior approvement from either himself, Mr. Humphreys or Ms. Plissner. This, he stated, was necessary to ensure that documents leaving the office were in proper format.

Citing that there were no representatives from the Beacon, Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to issue weekly press releases concerning the projects and works of the Student Government Council.

The President apologized for overlooking the Academic Affairs Report and asked if Ms. Julianna Watson would give her report at this time.

#### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

#### **BUY BACK PROGRAM**

Ms. Watson stated that she was not pleased with the present progress of the Buy Back program she was trying to implement. She discussed the fact that she had looked into setting up tables in front of the bookstore, as a way to help students sell their books. However, this too was not as successful as she would have liked.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. said that he felt this program could be more effective if Ms. Watson had more help. Ms. Watson stated that she had passed out flyers to the council members seeking assistance from those who were interested. Mr. Papillon, Jr. encouraged the council members to join her committee.

### OLD BUSINESS (CONT'D.)

#### STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL PICTURES

The President stated that the council needed to set a date for when they would be taking pictures (formal, semi-formal, etc.)--this included all those involved with the Student Government Council. The photographer will be taking photographs of the council at different locations around the campus (Conference Center, AC I, AC II, the bay, the pool, etc.). In addition, there will be professional make-up artist on the premises to ensure that



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the council members are looking their very best.

The council held a brief discussion on the various locations that photographs could be taken at, as well as possible slogans that would reflect the purpose of this year's council. Mr. Papillon, Jr. said that the picture date should be a date when the council is having a meeting. Mr. Mompremier suggested July 12; however, Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that the pictures should be done before July. Several dates were passed back and forth, before Mr. Papillon, Jr. decided that Ms. Drummond would contact the council members in reference to the best possible date and time.

#### **CLAST EXAM**

The President also stressed the importance of informing the students about the recent announcement of CLAST exemptions. Mr. Humphreys and Mr. Madridejos distributed flyers with new information concerning this matter, as the ones from the last meeting has inaccurate information.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. discussed the several conversations that both he and Mr. Abramson had had with Ms. Alison Austin-Greene, concerning the Finance Committee. He further explained that he felt she was an extremely capable individual, who clearly understood the responsibility of such a council. He announced that he would like to entertain a motion to appoint Ms. Austin-Greene to the Finance Committee. Mr. Humphreys made a motion; Ms. Burton seconded the motion.

Mr. Mompremier inquired about the possibility of discussion. Mr. Papillon, Jr. read a letter Ms. Austin-Greene submitted a letter concerning why she would like to join the Finance Committee, which he read aloud to the council. Mr. Abramson added that he also had spoken with Ms. Austin-Greene, and found her to be a knowledgeable individual, and was in full support of her appointment. Ms. Plissner recommended that the council hold off on this appointment until the council could have the opportunity to speak with her. She felt the council should reconsider voting at this time. Ms. Amy Ernst asked if there was an urgent need to vote on this during this meeting. Mr. Papillon, Jr. replied that there was not. Ms. Ernst responded that she didn't see the harm in waiting, if this was the case. The council members seemed to agree. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to entertain a motion to table the appointment for the next two meetings. Mr. Humphreys made a



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motion; Mr. Madridejos seconded the motion. VOTE: 12 in favor, 1 abstention (Ms. Burton).

Mr. Papillon, Jr. began to discuss the appointment of Mr. Everton Garvis to the Finance Committee, however, the board agreed that this discussion should be tabled as well, as he was also absent from the meeting.

Ms. Burton was the next candidate for appointment to the Finance Committee, and on her behalf, she spoke of her extensive experience in this area; over the past several years. Following comments from the President on her behalf, Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to entertain a motion to appoint Ms. Burton to the Finance Committee. Mr. Humphreys made a motion; Ms. Ernst seconded it.

Mr. Abramson asked, "What do you feel you can contribute to this committee?" Ms. Burton responded by discussing her experience with finance, and also said that she was able to be unbiased in any matters the board would be discussing. The voting passed unanimously.

#### STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Mr. Papillon, Jr. introduced the candidate for this position, Ms. Liliana Gomez, stating that he had heard a host of wonderful things about this sophomore, who was quite active around the school. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to entertain a motion to appoint Ms. Gomez to the Student Services Committee Chair. Ms. Ernst made a motion; Ms. Burton seconded the motion.

Ms. Plissner asked, "What are the goals of this position, as you see it?" Ms. Gomez stated that she had spoke to the President earlier on this subject, and continued to say that she felt the departments on campus needed to improve student interaction, which as Student Services, would be one of her duties. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked if there were any further questions. As there were none, the council took a vote. Voting was unanimous.

#### DIRECTOR OF STUDENT LOBBYING

Mr. Papillon, Jr. addressed the fact that the candidate who was quite interested in this position, unfortunately had to leave before the meeting ended. However, Ms. Joanna Wedderburn had made numerous attempts to contact the President, showing a lot of interest in this position. Following briefly commentaries from the President and Ms. Drummond, Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to entertain a motion to appoint Ms.



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Wedderburn to the position of Director of Student Lobbying. A motion was made by Ms. Drummond; it was seconded by Mr. Humphreys.

As Ms. Wedderburn had already left, the council was unable to speak with her. However, they felt the interest she had displayed over the past few weeks was sufficient. With this in mind, the council decided to vote. Voting passed unanimously.

#### **GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that Ms. Sharon Antoine had withdrew her candidacy for the position of Graduate Representative. However, Mr. Jeff Dismukes had shown some interest in this position. Mr. Papillon, Jr. spoke briefly on Mr. Dismukes' credentials highlighting his work with Hospitality Management and Graduate Student Association. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to entertain a motion to appoint Mr. Dismukes to the position of Graduate Representative. A motion was made by Mr. Madridejos; it was seconded by Mr. Abramson.

Ms. Burton asked Mr. Dismukes how he will be able to meet the needs graduates without being unduly influenced by his involvement with the School of Hospitality Management. Mr. Dismukes commented that this concern was understandable; however he felt that through his involvement with GSA, he has learned how to meet the needs of all graduates.

Mr. Abramson inquired as to what Mr. Dismukes thought were the most pressing problems of graduate students. He responded by saying that the graduate students were greatly concerned with the manner in which the A & S fees were being spent. Also, Mr. Dismukes felt that there should be more involvement on the graduate level. Mr. Humphreys asked whether Mr. Dismukes saw his work in GSA and SGC as a compliment or a conflict. He responded that it was not a hindrance. Ms. Plissner asked what changes Mr. Dismukes thought he would bring to the position. Mr. Dismukes stated that he would like for graduates to see that they do in fact, have an active representation in the University.

VOTE: 13 in favor (Ms. Austin-Greene voted by Proxy); one abstention (Mr. Mompremier).

#### **GUEST SPEAKER FROM HALO**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. introduced Mr. Mitchell Summer of HALO. Mr. Summer has done quite a bit of marketing work with both campuses for the past couple of years. Mr. Summer started by thanking the council for the opportunity to work with the University (Homecoming, Peer advising, Wolfe Center). He then gave the council a brief



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presentation on several of the items available through his company, such as visors, fans, buttons, hats and t-shirts.

Ms. Burton asked if the council could get a list of items SGC would possibly be interested in. This would assist the council members in choosing what items they want to purchase. Ms. Plissner commented that the visors and hats were good marketing items, as they were also keychains. She also mentioned this would be something that a Public Relations Chair would handle; and recommended looking into finding an individual for this position. Ms. Burton continued that these would be good to have available for the approaching SGC Carnival. The President concurred, stating that the council had \$3000 that must be spent as soon as possible on said items. Ms. Burton added that half should be given away to those students signing up for the carnival, and the other half should be given away at the carnival.

#### SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION REPORT

#### **ORIENTATION VIDEO**

Ms. Ernst stated that she would begin shooting footage for the Orientation shortly, and would appreciate some feedback on what council members would like to see. Ms. Watson commented that Ms. Ernst should get shots of activities being done on campus; Mr. Papillon, Jr. encouraged her to get shots of the Student Activities office, the dorms, the Wellness Center; areas they should become familiar with. Ms. Plissner added that the video should be more from an entertainment angle, as opposed to an informational one.

Mr. Humphreys discussed the fact that the next meeting date would coincide with the first Orientation. Mr. Papillon, Jr. responded that Ms. Drummond would call council members to find out the best time to meet. For the next meeting, Mr. Papillon, Jr. requested that all council members map out schedules in order to set their office hours. There was a brief discussion on the amount of hours the council members are required to fulfill.

#### **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Mr. Abramson distributed flyers concerning the discussion that would take place about presidential candidate, Bob Dole "Beltway Bob". The President asked council members to come to the next meeting prepared to discuss ideas pertaining to the SGC Carnival.



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Ms. Nikolic used this opportunity to show the council members the designs they ordered for the council members, from PaperDirect.

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janisha N. Drummond

Tanisha N. Drummond, Clerk of Council