

8-9-1996

## Meeting Minutes 08.09.96

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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# Florida International University

Student Government Council

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL BI-MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES RECORDED ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1996 4:00 P.M.

### IN ATTENDANCE

Brian D. Abramson, Finance Chair  
Alison Austin-Greene, Graduate Student Representative  
Jeff Dismukes, Graduate Student Representative  
Tanisha Drummond, Clerk of Council  
Amy Ernst, SJMC Representatives  
Liliana Gomez, Student Services Chair  
Julian Humphreys, Vice-President  
Michael Madrideojos, Senator  
Ryan Mathews, Senator  
McLamarre Mompremier, CUPA Representative  
Kristina Nikolic, Lower Division Representative  
Arthur Papillon, Jr., President  
Ellen Plissner, Associate Director  
Simone Reid, HM Representative  
Joanna Wedderburn, Director of Student Lobbying  
Julianna Watson, Academic Affairs Chair

### ABSENT

Safiya Burton, Lower Division Representative (EXCUSED)  
Steven Chung, Broward Representative  
Jeannie M. Lacroix, School of Nursing Representative (EXCUSED)

### GUESTS

Sean Kramer, Volunteer Action Center  
Erika Pruss, Volunteer Action Center  
Rafael Zapata, Student Activities Coordinator

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 P.M. by Mr. Arthur Papillon, Jr., SGC President.

Next, Mr. Arthur Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to entertain a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Brian Abramson restated that in the previous meeting, he mentioned that University Park Campus would not be interested in funding \$900,000 for the Wolfe University Center, not \$90,000 as listed in the minutes from the July 26, 1996 meeting. Mr. Julian Humphreys made a motion to accept the minutes, with the noted corrections. Mr. Ryan Mathews, seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Papillon, Jr. briefly discussed the Annual FSA Retreat taking place in the following week. The President, and four associates were planning to attend the event, which was scheduled in Tampa.

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
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## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Humphreys informed the Council of the recent University-wide meeting he participated in. He stated that he felt the meeting was quite productive as some positive decisions were reached.

In addition, he declared that the entire Student Government body had been notified of the goals that were to be submitted for the Beacon, however, few turned this assignment in. Nevertheless, Mr. Abramson, had composed a brief summary outlining the duties and responsibilities of all Council members. Mr. Humphreys added that he still expected a synopsis from each Council member within the coming weeks.

Lastly, a final date has been set for the Student Government Council photo session. Mr. Papillon, Jr. interjected that the Council would be taking photographs on August 15, 1996, from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.; and 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. There would be no further extensions made.

## ADVISOR'S REPORT

Ms. Ellen Plissner reiterated that Wolfe University Center would be holding Coffee Breaks (from 7:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. and 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.) in the parking lots on the first two days of school. She suggested the Council participate in this activity, as a method of attracting new students and incoming freshmen. Following a discussion on the location of the event, Ms. Liliana Gomez, Student Services Chair was put in charge of signing Council members up for this event.

Tennis is now officially coming to the North Campus. Ms. Plissner added that this could become the permanent location for the tennis team and tennis events, provided that enough of an interest was exhibited.

Finally, an Open Forum was being held for the incoming Public Safety Chief/Director, on August 21, 1996 (time and place TBA). Ms. Plissner added that this would be an excellent opportunity for Council members to give their input and express their opinions to the department.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### FINANCE

Mr. Abramson stated that he had attended the University-wide Council meeting with Mr. Humphreys, and found that the issues concerning funding, were not resolved. He mentioned that the group had voted on:

- Unions
- Recreational Sports
- Administrative Payroll (would be placed under University-wide budget)
- Other Personal Services
- Emoluments (remains unresolved; proposal on the table)
- FSA costs (would this be covered out of the University-wide budget?)
- Positive check-off for FSA

Next, Mr. Abramson addressed the proposals that had been brought before the Finance Committee. While Campus Ministry receives funding (\$5000) from the University-wide budget for both campuses, apparently, the North Campus has not been receiving designated monies. Mr. Abramson is

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suggesting the Council postpone voting on their issued proposal. Mr. Rafael Zapata petitioned for \$650.00 in order to print the Tri-Council Calendar scheduled to come out for the Fall semester. Mr. Sean Kramer of the Volunteer Action Center (VAC) came seeking funds for the annual Alternative Spring Break. After discussing the intricacies of ASB, Mr. Kramer distributed a copy of ASB's budget. He explained that funding (\$1700) was primarily to cover the transportation costs, and possible registration fee. Mr. Abramson asked how the Volunteer Action Center on the University Park Campus was being funded. Mr. Kramer responded that VAC on the University Park Campus was being funded through the Student Government Council. He added that \$1,700.00 would cover transportation for 25-30 students. In closing, he distributed the Fall calendar for the Volunteer Action Center.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Ms. Julianna Watson reported that there will be a meeting concerning the Book Market. She stated that she would like to have a representative for each college or school (Mr. Michael Madridejos was chosen as representative for the College of Education). Tables would be assigned in order to collect information from students, concerning textbooks specifically for their department. Mr. Papillon Jr. asked how many people Ms. Watson had on her committee. She responded that there were four at this time. Mr. Humphreys interjected that he had an updated list of students who had signed up at the Club Fair.

The President inquired if this Book Market was more of a connection than anything else. Ms. Watson stated that she would rather have the Book Market as a connection, due to the lack of manpower. It would also take some of the responsibility off of Student Government Council and Academic Affairs Committee. Ms. Kristina Nikolic asked about the possibility of schools and colleges using the same textbooks. Ms. Watson responded that they would primarily be handling textbooks that were specific to a college or school. Ms. Plissner suggested making a list that could be posted in designated areas around the campus, which would eliminate some of the confusion.

Next, Ms. Watson distributed the Academic Affairs flyer, which discussed general information about the committee. She requested that the representatives put these in the mailboxes of professors in their respective departments. Mr. Papillon, Jr. suggested adding a memorandum to the flyer in order to maintain the level of professionalism Student Government was trying to uphold. Lastly, Ms. Watson added that she had contacted the University Park campus about the Teacher Evaluation Booklets (cost and production).

**STUDENT SERVICES**

Ms. Liliana Gomez distributed handouts concerning the first Student Services Committee meeting, and her plans for the approaching semester, such as working with the Academic Affairs Committee.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he would like to make a motion to appoint Ms. Thania Cantave to the position of Administrative Assistant. A discussion followed as he reminded the Council that she had been in attendance at the Student Government Retreat. Mr. Abramson made a motion to appoint Ms. Cantave, which was seconded by Mr. Humphreys. The vote passed unanimously.

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
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**Student Government Council Bi-Monthly Meeting  
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***HALO (GIVEAWAYS)***

Mr. Madrideo announced that he would be meeting with Mitchell of HA-LO, and stated that he needed input from Council members concerning the items purchased. Mr. Humphreys suggested reducing the amount of items, which in turn would reduce the overall cost (limit purchases to items such as keychains). He then made a motion to reduce the HA-LO Purchase Order from \$3000 to \$500.00 (not to exceed \$500), which would come out of the General Account. Mr. Jeff Dismukes seconded the motion. Vote: 11 in favor, Abstention: 1 (Michael Madrideo).

***BEACON LAYOUT***

The President stated that he did not anticipate the Council's inability to complete the Beacon layout...see President's Report.

***AWARENESS OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT***

Mr. Papillon, Jr. said that he felt progress was being made in terms of SGC Awareness. He also stressed the importance of using our committees and our advisors to the fullest capacity. In addition, he reminded the Council members that they must plan how they were going to reach their target audience. Mr. Dismukes asked if there were ways in which SGC could receive unpaid publicity. Ms. Amy Ernst stated that she could look into it. She added that she could serve as the liaison between Student Government and the Beacon.

***CARNIVAL***

The President announced that Ms. Safiya Burton was interested in coordinating this event, and would be asking for input from all Student Government members. She would be holding meetings everyday, August 12-16, 1996 (1 - 3 P.M.).

***BROCHURES***

As there is limited funding, Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that we would not be able to afford SGC brochures. He stressed that this was why it was so important that we invest in Student Government paraphenelia (ie, keychains, pens/pencils).

***ORGANIZATION/OFFICE HOURS***

The President stated that office hours for SGC members must be submitted by August 16, 1996 to either Mr. Humphreys or himself.

***INTRODUCTION OF ARNETTA DAVIS***

As Ms. Davis was not present, Mr. Papillon, Jr. briefly discussed the importance of obtaining monthly reports from Recreational Sports, Clubs/Organizations, Committees, etc. as a way of monitoring the use of funds.

***NEW BUSINESS***

***PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR***

Mr. Humphreys explained the need for a Public Relations Chair, citing that the University Park Campus had one as well. Ms. Kristina Nikolic asked him to clarify the duties and responsibilities of the PR Chair. Following this conversation, Mr. Abramson stated that he did not feel the Council needed a PR Chair. Mr. Papillon, Jr. was in agreement, adding that he felt it was the duty of all SGC representatives to publicize and advertise for the Council.

**Student Government Council Bi-Monthly Meeting  
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**BEACON INFO**

Mr. Alex Mena - ABSENT

**TRI-COUNCIL CALENDAR**

Mr. Rafael Zapata, Student Activities Coordinator, discussed the status of the Tri-Council Calendar he was presently assembling. He stated that he would like input from the Council, as the calendar's primary function was to inform FIU students of the events being held on the campus. Following a discussion on the deadline for turning a schedule of events, the President interjected that it was important to publicize all meetings and events, as other Council members might be interested in attending. Mr. Madridejos made a motion to take \$650.00 out of the General Account, towards the Tri-Council Calendar. Mr. Dismukes seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

**BUSINESS CARDS**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. added that he thought Council members needed business cards, as we would no longer be purchasing brochures. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to take no more than \$400.00 out of the General Account for business cards to be printed at Print-All. Mr. Dismukes inquired as to the cost of producing these business cards. Following a discussion on the cost breakdown (per Council member), Mr. Dismukes stated that the Council pay for business cards out of their emoluments. Mr. Humphreys amended his previous motion, stating that the cost of the brochures come out of each representatives' emoluments. Mr. Dismukes seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Abramson stated that he would like to issue a proposal to amend the SGC By-Laws, which could not be voted on until the August 23, 1996 meeting. Mr. Dismukes announced the Ecotourism Seminar (sponsored by Graduate Student Association and the School of Hospitality Management), which was a first for South Florida. In addition, on August 22 and 23, a Welcome Back event was being held in the Residence Halls.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 P.M.

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