

11-1-1996

## Meeting Minutes 11.01.96

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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# Florida International University

Student Government Council

## BI-MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES RECORDED ON

Friday, November 1, 1996  
5:30 P.M.

### IN ATTENDANCE

Alison Austin-Greene, Graduate Representative  
Safiya Burton, Lower Division Representative  
Thania Cantave, Administrative Assistant  
Jeff Dismukes, Graduate Representative  
Liliana Gomez, Student Services Chair  
Julian Humphreys, Vice-President  
Jeannie Lacroix, School of Nursing Representative  
Michael Madridejos, Senator/Finance Chair  
Ryan Mathews, Senator  
McLamarre Mompremier, CUPA Representative  
Kristina Nikolic, Lower Division Representative  
Arthur Papillon, Jr., President  
Ellen Plissner, Associate Director  
Simone Reid, HM Representative

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
ACCOUNTING

### ABSENT

Tanisha Drummond, Clerk of Council  
Julianna Watson, Academic Affairs Chair (EXCUSED)  
Joanna Wedderburn, Director of Student Lobbying (EXCUSED)

### GUESTS

Nerissa Street, WUFI Advertising Manager  
Marsha Lloyd, FAASA Region V Director  
Joan Mills Siesel, FIU Crew Coach  
Gregory Burke, BEACON Reporter

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:49 P.M. by Mr. Julian Humphreys, SGC Vice-President.

Following the noted corrections to the previous meeting's minutes (Ms. Jeannie Lacroix and Mr. Jeff Dismukes), Mr. Julian Humphreys called for a motion to accept the minutes with the amendments. Mr. Michael Madridejos made a motion to accept the November 1, 1996 minutes as submitted. Ms. Alison Austin-Greene seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL, NORTH CAMPUS  
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**VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Humphreys informed the Council of the recent Association of College Unions International (ACUI) Conference that took place in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico (October 24, 1996 - October 28, 1996). This year's theme focused on understanding the interaction between the United States and Puerto Rico. Mr. Humphreys stated that the event was informative and progressed rather well. He thanked all participants and representatives. He also commented that Mr. Whit Hollis was complimented several times on the behavior of the students from Florida International University; as usual, it was exemplary. Mr. Humphreys also discussed the educational aspects of ACUI, noting the leadership sessions all students were required to attend. In addition, he spoke of the day to day operations of the University of Puerto Rico and how it differs from that of the United States. Ms. Liliانا Gomez also announced that Ms. Thania Cantave had been selected as the ACUI Representative for Florida, which includes all schools in the public state university system. Ms. Cantave gave a brief synopsis of the goals and accomplishments that she and her committee would be assessing during her appointment.

Mr. Humphreys also informed the Council of the Media Board meeting that he had attended today. The meeting discussed the possibility of the Beacon becoming independent/incorporating, as well as the arrival of the radio station at the North Campus. He also briefly mentioned the prospect of allocating funds to the Media Board, as SGC does not have extensive experience in this field. Additionally, the Beacon would shortly be going on-line which is expected to increase student response. Mr. Humphreys stated that there needs to be more student participation in the Beacon, in order to keep abreast of the current issues the newspaper is discussing. Additional information concerning these issues will be disputed at the next Media Board meeting.

In closing, Mr. Humphreys spoke about the contemplation of business cards that are being distributed among high school students. The cards would have basic information about Student Government Council on the front; and on the back would list all Council members. Ms. Nerissa Street interjected that WUFI is currently offering free advertising on the radio station to all student organizations, which is another possibility for SGC to explore. Ms. Street then elaborated on the procedure and requirements.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. distributed a copy of the Student Government Council, University Park Campus brochure for the Council members to review. He expressed a concern about this Council adhering to the goals previously set. Mr. Dismukes questioned why it was necessary for funds to be spent on advertisements for Student Government Council. He went on to express his opinion that such publicity could be done in the Student Handbook; which is also more cost effective. A discussion on funding for publicity and advertising (as well as the recent transfer of \$20,000 to the WUC account) ensued.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. also announced the importance of Council members adhering to the Weekly Report Forms, as this is an auditing year. He stressed the imperativeness of

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NOVEMBER 1, 1996**

keeping records on the actions of all Council members. Those who do not adhere to this policy will be dealt with accordingly. They also discussed the possibility ratifying the Constitution/By-Laws to reflect this.

**ADVISOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Ellen Plissner discussed the appointment of individuals to the Student Elections Board (referred to the current By-Laws). Ms. Plissner and the Council also stated that there will not be a Special Elections Board implemented for this semester, however, the Council is still taking applications at this time. She encouraged the Council to advertise and also commented that not having a Special Elections Board seriously brings the integrity of the Council into question. She stressed the necessity of selecting a quality Student Elections Board. The students selected for this committee should be above reproach.

She also mentioned the rulings made at the July 26, 1996 meeting concerning the purchase of new computers. She stated that there was some ambiguity regarding the final location of the computer(s), and would prefer more explicit details as there were three ordered. Mr. Madrideo made a motion to state more specifically where the new computers would be placed (which would be in the Coordinator's office). Ms. Jeannie Lacroix seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. This was followed by a discussion on which account the funds would be coming out of (the General account) as stated in the July 26, 1996 minutes.

In reference to the Advisor's Report, Mr. Dismukes asked if there were any provisions in the By-Laws concerning graduate students in terms of their eligibility for the Special Elections Board. This matter focused on the fact that graduate students research and have T.A. positions on the North Campus; but are recognized as University Park Campus students (in terms of registration).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Finance*

Mr. Madrideo informed the Council that there is a \$50.00 increase in the Athletic Fee and a \$1.50 increase in Activity and Student (A & S) fees, which would bring the total up to \$8.14. He explained that a football team will be implemented by the 2000 - 01 school year; this is one of the reasons for the apparent increase.

*Student Services*

Ms. Gomez announced that her committee had recently purchased tags which were to be placed on any items funded (even partially) by Student Government Council. Complaint forms have also been produced for students with grievances, as well as response forms from the Council. Ms. Gomez added that all Council members will receive petition forms in reference to the Shuttle situation. This is a way for students to express their commitment to having the bus situation rectified. She also shared with the Council that there was an accident involving the Shuttle bus in the previous week. On November 26, 1996, a forum will be held to discuss possible solutions. Ms. Cantave added that a light

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL, NORTH CAMPUS  
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NOVEMBER 1, 1996**

had finally been installed in the hut on Biscayne Boulevard. Mr. Papillon, Jr. appointed Mr. Humphreys to the committee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The President introduced ~~Ms. Marsha Lloyd~~ (Region V Director, ~~Florida African American Student Association~~) who is requesting \$677.00 for eight students to attend a FAASA Conference in Melbourne, Florida (November 14 - 17, 1996). The cost per student is approximately \$84.63. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to send five students at a cost of \$423.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lacroix. A brief discussion followed concerning the \$423.00 that was to be taken out of Student Government Council's Travel Budget. Vote passed: 7 in favor; 3 abstentions. A next motion was made by Mr. Ryan Mathews to decrease the amount from \$423.00 for five people, to \$250.00 for three people. The motion was seconded by Ms. Safiya Burton. Ms. Kristina Nikolic made an amendment to Mr. Mathews' motion, stating that it be changed from funding three individuals at \$250.00; to sponsoring three individuals at \$250.00. Mr. Mathews accepted the amendment. Vote passed: 8 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstention.

Mr. Humphreys nominated Ms. Janice Jones to the Elections Board; Ms. Maureen Sullivan was nominated by Mr. Dismukes. This was followed by a discussion (lead by Ms. Plissner) pertaining to the duties of an Elections Board member. Mr. Papillon, Jr. advised Council members to turn in names of applicants to Mr. Humphreys.

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Ms. Lacroix announced the upcoming Community Blood Drive dates (November 20<sup>th</sup> and November 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM). Mr. Dismukes announced a Diversity Forum (Dr. Marx) which would be taking place in the auditorium on January 9, 1996.

Ms. Nikolic made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Madridejos seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

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