12-13-1996

Meeting Minutes 12.13.96

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL
BI-MONTHLY MEETING
Friday, December 13, 1996
5:30 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE
Alison Austin-Greene, Graduate Student Representative
Jeff Dismukes, Graduate Student Representative
Tanisha Drummond, Clerk of Council
Liliana Gomez, Student Services Chair
Julian Humphreys, Vice President
Jeannie Lacroix, School of Nursing Representative
Michael Madridejos, Senator/Finance Chair
McLamarre Mompremier, CUPA Representative
Kristina Nikolic, Lower Division Representative
Arthur Papillon, Jr., President
Ellen Plissner, Associate Director
Julianna Watson, Academic Affairs Chair
Joanna Wedderburn, Director of Student Lobbying

ABSENT
Safiya Burton, Lower Division Representative
Thania Cantave, Administrative Assistant
Ryan Mathews, Senator
Simone Reid, HM Representative

GUESTS
Claudine Gayle

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM, by Mr. Arthur Papillon, Jr.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked the Council to review the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Jeff Dismukes made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Julian Humphreys seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
The President commented that he felt the Council did not accomplish all that it set out to do in the Fall 1996 Semester. He asked for comments from the Council. Mr. Humphreys stated that he felt the Council completed more than half of the goals that it had established despite the drawbacks and obstacles. He also commented that he still felt it was a positive
experience overall. Ms. Liliana Gomez mentioned that she thought things would have
gone more smoothly if there was more help from Council members. Ms. Ellen Plissner
suggested that the Council evaluate the amount of commitments they had, as this was
important in order to assure success in the events and goals that the Council had set. Ms.
Julianna Watson apologized for her inability to commit to as much as she would have.
She also stated that she intended to try and delegate more in the coming semester. Mr.
Dismukes felt that the problem was primarily because the Council did not fully understand
the responsibility that accompanied the amount of things we set out to do. He also stated
that he would like to see a more 'Grass Roots' effort. Mr. Humphreys asked what he would
suggest. Mr. Dismukes responded that the Council should take more of an interest in
other organizations on campus. Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that the Council should read
their Constitution and their By-Laws, so that there is no confusion, in terms of the
responsibilities of all Council members. While he understood that we all had outside
commitments, being a part of the Council was also a responsibility that needed to be taken
seriously.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Mr. Humphreys thanked the Council members for their assistance with and participation
in Mardi PAW; which was a success. He attributed this in part to the President's cabinet.
He thanked them all for their ability to hold things together, under the circumstances.

Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced the WUC Holiday Party which would be held on December 17,
1996 in WUC 155 from 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM. He also announced the party being held by
Student Affairs on December 20, 1996 in the GC Ballroom at 7:00 PM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
FINANCE
Mr. Michael Madridejos reported that the money spent on Mardi PAW totaled $1,500.00.
He commended the Council for keeping the costs to a minimum. He also investigated the
process of establishing an account with Price Costco; as Price Costco only uses purchase
orders. He stated that FIU already had an account opened with this company. Lastly, he
reported that after Mardi PAW and Association of College Unions International (ACUI),
there was $2,514.00 left in the General Account.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Ms. Watson announced the upcoming dates for the Book Market (January 2, 3, 6, 7 and
8). She also asked the Council members to state their time of availability during the
Christmas Break. The Book Market was scheduled to be held in the Gameroom Hall. Ms.
Watson also mentioned that she had put in a $100.00 PO for food.
In addition, she stated that she had investigated the library situation (cost for using LUIS). The library reported that the sudden cost for using LUIS resulted in the fact that last year they spent over $7,000.00 on paper alone. However, as an alternative, students could download information and print the data in the Computer Labs. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked that she do a comparison between local schools.

**STUDENT SERVICES**

Ms. Gomez thanked the Council members for their participation in the November 26, 1996 Student Services Forum; it was a great success. She also informed the Council that her committee was hard at work, planning for the next semester. The President briefly commented on the great job the committees had performed this semester.

**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT LOBBYING**

Ms. Joanna Wedderburn announced that she was in the process of wrapping up Vision '96 business. She was also in contact with "John" in Tallahassee, in reference to establishing a scholarship. Unfortunately, the Panther Student Lobbyists (PSL) were unable to complete some goals and objectives due to prior commitments. In addition, she concluded by informing the Council that Mr. Carlos Becerra (SGC President, University Park) had received their $500.00 for their participation in Vision '96.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Papillon, Jr. reported that the Council had received $1,000.00 back from Student Activities for the cost of the computer. The Council also received a price quote for the SGC t-shirts. The cost would be $27 - $32 per shirt (including embroidery). However, this process would be difficult due to licensing with the new logo. We are hoping to have the new shirts by Spring 1997. Mr. Dismukes asked if the Council had discussed the allocation of funds for the shirts. The President responded that the Council had budgeted $350.00 in a previous meeting. As for giveaways, the President announced that they were looking into purchasing plain shirts with an SGC logo on the front pocket and flags from around the world on the bag (as FIU is an international school). Meeting dates for the Spring 1997 semester were being changed, as Fridays seem to be a problem for several Council members. The President stated that he was looking at Mondays or Wednesdays. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to hold SGC meetings on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. Ms. Jeannie Lacroix seconded the motion. Vote: 6 in favor, 1 opposed (Madridejos). Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that next semester any Council member who missed three meetings (consecutively) would be automatically dismissed from the Council. The following events were announced to the Council:

- First SGC meeting for Spring Semester (January 8)
The Leadership Conference (March 12 - 16) was in the process of being finalized. At this time, the Tri-Council was deciding on a location (Marco Island or Kovens Conference Center). The new calendar for the Spring 1997 semester was presently being completed; however, it would require $508.00 from each organization on the Tri-Council. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to take $508.00 out of the General Account for the Tri-Council Calendar. Ms. Alison Austin-Greene seconded the motion. Vote: 6 in favor, 4 abstention (Madridejos).

During the first week of classes the Council was hoping to advertise open positions. In addition, the Elections Board needed to be established immediately. The President announced that the North Campus would be attempting 1000 voters. Ms. Plissner attributed the lack of voter turnout to the limited number of candidates. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked Council members to write down suggestions for improving the voting process.

The President also announced the implementation of spending deadlines. This would require organizations to spend their monies by a certain date; if the funds were not used, this money would be returned to SGC. Mr. Dismukes was in opposition of establishing such a rule. Mr. Papillon, Jr. responded that this would prevent clubs from wasting money at the end of the semester. Mr. Dismukes felt that this was condemning clubs for the same thing that SGC was doing. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to set April 11, 1997 as the date for establishing a spending deadline. Ms. Austin-Greene seconded the motion. Vote: 6 in favor, 1 opposition (Dismukes).

The Council had a brief discussion on the need for a Hospitality Management representative on the Elections Board. The candidate "David" had a clear understanding of the responsibilities of the Elections Board. Mr. Dismukes made a motion to nominate David to the Elections Board. Ms. Austin-Greene seconded the motion. Vote: 2 in favor, 2 opposed (Humphreys, Madridejos) 4 abstentions.

The President announced that the Council would be addressing High School Outreach and Community Recruitment in the Spring. Mr. MacIamarre Mompremier suggested SGC bring admissions representatives to the high schools. Ms. Austin-Greene offered her assistance with this project.
The Council discussed two possible groups that could perform at this year’s Homecoming: The Fugees ($40,000) and A Tribe Called Quest ($20,000). Mr. Papillon, Jr. felt that Tribe Called Quest was more affordable, as there was $17,000 going towards the Homecoming. A discussion followed, concerning whether or not SGC would have any input on the spending of funds for the Homecoming as well as the pros and cons of holding the concert off-campus. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to allocate no more than $17,000.00 towards the Homecoming. Ms. Austin-Greene seconded the motion. Mr. Madridejos made an amendment to the motion, stating that SGC would receive 63% of the income made. Mr. Humphreys accepted the amendment. Vote: 6 in favor, 1 abstention (Nikolic).

Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced the Commencement Ceremony that would be taking place on Sunday, December 15, 1996 at the University Park Campus. Ms. Austin-Greene stated that she had enjoyed working with the Council, and would be pleased to continue operating as a resource.

Ms. Claudine Gayle asked the Council to do some investigating as to why the Short Term Loan Process had changed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.
**BI-MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Friday, December 13, 1996**  
**5:30 P.M.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arthur Papillon, Jr.</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Julian Humphreys</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Saflia Burton</td>
<td>Lower Division Rep.</td>
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<td>Kristina Nikolic</td>
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<td>Alison Austin-Greene</td>
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<td>Michael Madridejos</td>
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<td>Jeannie Lacroix</td>
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<td>Julianna Watson</td>
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SGC Bi-Monthly Meeting
Minutes Recorded On
December 13, 1996

- Graduate Student Forum: Research on the Internet (January 14)
- Freshman Intern Workshop (January 21 5:30 PM)
- Student Services Meeting (January 29)
- Academic Affairs Meetings (February 4, March 25)
- SGC Elections (March 25 - 26)

The Leadership Conference (March 12 - 16) was in the process of being finalized. At this time, the Tri-Council was deciding on a location (Marco Island or Kovens Conference Center). The new calendar for the Spring 1997 semester was presently being completed; however, it would require $508.00 from each organization on the Tri-Council. Mr. Humphreys made a motion to take $508.00 out of the General Account for the Tri-Council Calendar. Ms. Alison Austin-Greene seconded the motion. Vote: 6 in favor, 1 abstention (Madridejos).

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