

6-13-1997

Meeting Minutes 06.13.97

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council

BI-MONTHLY MEETING

**FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1997
MINUTES**

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Camille Aub, Student Services Chair
Ms. Melanie Bent, Director of Student Lobbying
Ms. Safiya Burton, Vice President
Ms. Tanisha Drummond, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Council
Ms. Mireidy Fernandez, Academic Affairs Chair
Ms. Debra Goldman, Broward Awareness Representative
Ms. Lakisha Holmes, College of Urban & Public Affairs Representative
Ms. Nia Johnson, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Daniel Kerness, Representative-At-Large
Mr. Gakunga Kihohia, Finance Chair
Ms. Giralda Merkman, Representative-At-Large
Mr. Arthur Papillon, Jr., President
Ms. Ellen Plissner, Advisor
Ms. Avia Rice, Lower Division Representative
Ms. Donna-Ann Russell, School of Journalism & Mass Communication Representative

ABSENT

Ms. Malinda Pearson-Furlong, Graduate Student Representative
Mr. Craig Rapp, School of Hospitality Management Representative (EXCUSED)
Ms. Anette Sandoval, School of Nursing Representative

GUESTS

Mr. Plinio Sanchez

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 PM by Mr. Arthur Papillon, Jr., SGC President.

The President reminded the Council to sign in. He also advised the Council to be cognizant of time and meeting protocol.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President apologized for his absence in the Student Activities Office this past week; he was quite ill. However, he was able to meet with Dr. Paul Gallagher about several pertinent issues.

Next, Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked the Council to review the minutes from the previous meeting (took place on May 30, 1997). Ms. Tanisha Drummond stated that Ms. Giralda Merkman's name had been misspelled several times throughout the document. She also asked him to be more clear about the vote that had taken place concerning Ms. Merkman and Ms. Nia Johnson. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that no one had been removed from the Council. Ms. Merkman, however, had been

voted into the position of Representative-At-Large. Mr. Daniel Kemess made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted (with the noted corrections). Ms. Safiya Burton seconded the move. The vote passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

STUDENT ADVOCATE

CANDIDATE: PLINIO "KEVIN" SANCHEZ

Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that there was a candidate for the Student Advocate position, present at today's meeting. He then introduced Mr. Plinio Sanchez to the Council. Mr. Sanchez spoke briefly to the Council about his experiences as a student and his capabilities as far as this position was concerned. He mentioned that he felt there were several issues he intended to address (if chosen for this position), such as the lack of information/knowledge students seemed to have about their school. Ms. Burton asked the Council if they had each received a copy of Mr. Sanchez's platform. Ms. Burton stated that Mr. Sanchez was presently employed. She asked him, "How do you plan to handle work and Student Government Council?" Mr. Sanchez responded that his work schedule was quite flexible. He expected to be available at least three times a week. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked, "What are some of the things you plan to implement?" Mr. Sanchez said that he first planned to familiarize himself with students. He apologized that he had not had an opportunity to check the FIU Web Page for any student complaints/comments before coming to the meeting. He reiterated the importance of concentrating on the student population. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that one of the goals of this Council was to be more available to the evening students, as this has been a conflict in the past. He asked Mr. Sanchez how he intended to handle this situation. Mr. Sanchez stated that he would also be taking classes in the evening during the summer session. He felt confident that he could make himself available to this population of students, as he would already be on campus at that time. Mr. Gakunga Kihohia made a move to vote. Ms. Debra Goldman seconded the move. The vote passed unanimously. Mr. Plinio Sanchez was voted Student Advocate.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MIREIDY FERNANDEZ, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CHAIR

Mr. Papillon, Jr. recanted a conversation he had with Ms. Mireidy Fernandez, earlier in the week. He commented that the responsibilities she had taken on with Academic Affairs (as well as with the School of Journalism and Mass Communications) had overlapped into Public Relations. Ms.

Burton praised Ms. Fernandez for the article she had recently written in the Beacon (June 3rd Edition; Page 7) on the tutoring lab. Ms. Burton encouraged the Council to read this story as soon as possible. Mr. Kihohia inquired of the responsibilities of this position. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that the individual would be actively involved in all facets of the media. Ms. Donna-Ann Russell made a move to vote. Ms. Goldman seconded the move. Vote: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions: (Merkman and Richards).

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT
COMPUTER LABS

Ms. Burton distributed information concerning the progress of a 24-Hour computer lab. She stated that Mr. Whit Hollis had agreed to commit one staff person to this project, however Student Government Council would have to come up with \$10,000.00. She also mentioned that there was a need for facsimile machines and scanners (see attached handout). Ms. Burton announced that funding would be addressed in the next meeting.

OFFICE HOURS AND WEEKLY REPORT FORMS

Ms. Burton discussed the importance of completing the required office hour and reminded Council of the ramifications (Ms. Drummond distributed a memo documenting the submitted office hours). Though the time on the time clock was incorrect, Council members could have Ms. Barbara Levy initial their time cards. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stressed that any other signature/initials would not be acceptable. Additionally, Ms. Burton announced that the Council would continue using the Weekly Report Forms that were developed last semester. These forms were to be turned in to Ms. Drummond or left in her box each week.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Papillon, Jr. advised new Council members to sort out their paperwork in Personnel by Monday, June 16, 1997. The incomplete paperwork of some Council members was preventing other from receiving their paychecks.

Mr. Kerness mentioned that he was working with the Athletics Director to increase student participation and spirit. Additionally, he had spoken with an employee in the FIU library about putting 'spell check' on the word processing machines.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Ms. Burton discussed the meeting she and Ms. Camille Aub had earlier in the week. The Council members had been assigned to various committees throughout the University. These committees had been divided into Student Services, Vice Presidential and University-Wide Council. The handout concerning this system would be left in the Council members' boxes.

ATTITUDES

Lastly, Ms. Burton stated that there was a lack of unity developing in the Council. She encouraged Council members to respect each other and cooperate in order to accomplish the goals and objectives set for the coming year, and distributed a poem called Attitude, by Charles Swindell.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Ms. Ellen Plissner asked if the Council was aware that no funds were available. Mr. Kihohia interjected that the budget was expected to take effect in July. Ms. Plissner commented that it may even be later than July.

She mentioned that Orientation begins next week. This would be a great opportunity for Council members to introduce themselves to new students. She also suggested wearing buttons or labels that would identify them. Ms. Burton told Council members to look for buttons in their mailboxes. Mr. Kerness asked Ms. Plissner if there would be an opportunity during Orientation to speak directly to the new students. Ms. Plissner stated that Council members would have such a chance during the Hot Topics segment of Orientation.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Mr. Kihohia stated that the Finance Committee had not met as yet, primarily because he was still evaluating candidates. However, he was optimistic about having a meeting as early as next week. Mr. Papillon, Jr. mentioned that both Student Services and Academic Affairs have budgets (\$1000.00). He suggested sharing their money in order to better utilize their funds. Mr. Kihohia stated that both committees were also required to submit monthly report forms (see attached).

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Ms. Fernandez spoke of her recent meeting with Mr. Billy Jones (Vice President, SGC-UP) in

which the GPA and Forgiveness Policy were discussed. She also spoke of her plans to have teacher evaluation forms during the summer term (see attached). Mr. Papillon, Jr. informed the Council that a petition concerning this matter was circulated early last year, and the faculty was not in favor of this movement. Thus, in order for this petition to be taken seriously, Academic Affairs would need to garner at least 2000 signatures.

STUDENT SERVICES

Ms. Aub announced that the first Student Services meeting would take place at 5:00 PM on Friday, June 20, 1997 in WUC 159.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

Ms. Russell stated that the ISS Committee had met yesterday for a planning session. She stated that she had also spoken with Ms. Nancy Hernandez about starting a mentoring program for new International students.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Russell stated that the Communications committee had met prior to the SGC meeting to establish roles and delegate responsibilities (see attached).

HANDBOOK

Ms. Lakisha Holmes informed the Council of the specifics concerning the handbook. The handbook was going to be 12 pages (color); Ms. Holmes would give the Council the scheduled pictures dates at a later time (see attached).

SURVEY

Ms. Holmes spoke of the current survey this committee was working on. She also encouraged the Council members to utilize this committee when compiling information for surveys for their respective school/college (see attached).

REGISTRATION (see Student Services - Camille Aub - Attachment)

BOOKSTORE

Ms. Merkman spoke of her recent meeting with Dr. Paul Gallagher concerning the progress of the convenience store (i.e., expected opening date, location). Mr. Papillon, Jr. explained why the

development of this store was taking so long (see attached).

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COUNCIL

Respect

Mr. Papillon, Jr. cited the discussion of respect for your co-workers as one of the highlights from the University-Wide Council meeting that took place today. He stated that as a body, Student Government Council should set the tone for acceptable behavior. He encouraged the Council members to seek guidance from the proper individuals if necessary.

Student Aid

Ms. Goldman met with Senator Bob Graham's office in Washington, DC concerning student aid. She promises to develop a document concerning student issues in the near future.

Florida Student Association (FSA)

Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that the University-Wide Council was considering its involvement with FSA. Is this something FIU should still participate in?

Credit Union - North Campus

Many students are unaware that there is a credit union on the North Campus. The University is currently debating whether or not students should have access to this department. This would directly affect OPS (Other Personal Services) Workers as they are employed by the school; this includes Council members.

FIU 25th Silver Anniversary

The President spoke of the current plans for the upcoming Silver Anniversary FIU would be celebrating in September. He also mentioned that the North Campus would be responsible for organizing events on this campus. Ms. Burton added that FIU was mentioned in the Local Section of the Miami Herald, concerning this upcoming celebration.

Panther Rage

The President stated that five individuals from the North Campus would have the opportunity to become a part of the Panther Rage Committee. This also provided these individuals with the option to apply for specific positions within this committee.

Recreational Center Proposals

Mr. Papillon, Jr. apologized for leaving the materials relating to this topic upstairs in his office. He invited those Council members that were interested in obtaining further information to come with him to his office, following this meeting.

Housing

Another solution is being considered for the Bay Vista Hall Residence. Ms. Plissner explained that the University was considering fixing up the current housing, which would allow use of the facility for at least another two to three years.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS REVISION APPOINTMENT

Ms. Burton announced that four individuals from the Council would be selected for this project. The purpose of this committee would be to make suggestions for areas in which they felt the Constitution and By-Laws could be improved or revised.

SGC PICTURES

The next scheduled time for SGC pictures was Friday, June 27, 1997 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Mr. Papillon, Jr. asked Council members who were able to attend on this day to please see Ms. Drummond. He also stressed the importance of not wearing paraphernalia from other universities and colleges when taking these pictures.

NEW BUSINESS

OFFICE SPACE

Ms. Burton stated that the Council was currently trying to obtain more office space. She was suggesting the Council utilize the former storage room located next to the Beacon office. However, a minimum of three proposals needed to be given to Mr. Hollis. She stressed the importance of not losing this space as it should be used to benefit students. Lastly, she commended Mr. Kerness for creating a list of pros and cons concerning the use of this space.

SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATIONS MEETING WITH DEAN HEISE

Ms. Russell told the Council of her meeting with Dr. Arthur J. Heise, Dean of School of Journalism and Mass Communications. In this meeting she discussed several concerns voiced by the students as well as by professors (see attached).

HOUSING

Ms. Burton stated that this topic had been discussed with both Dr. Gallagher and President Modesto Madique. As Ms. Plissner had mention, several proposals were being considered at this time. Ms. Burton asked if Dr. Gallagher had mentioned how CITF funds were going to be divided for this project. Ms. Plissner stated that all proceeds would be going towards Housing. Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that he and Ms. Burton were in favor of total restoration. A brief discussion continued.

FITNESS CENTER

Mr. Papillon, Jr. stated that our current facilities were inadequate. He insinuated that the North Campus might have a new fitness center as early as September; however nothing had been confirmed at this time. Presently, Dr. Gallagher was looking into the spacing specifics with Mr. Hollis. Dr. Gallagher wants as much space as possible to produce revenue.

FALL SEMESTER MEETINGS

The President encouraged the Council to look into their Fall schedules from now. He urged members to be aware of the courses that must be taken next semester. Ms. Plissner suggested picking a time during this meeting. Mr. Kerness suggested that Council members bring all pertinent information to the next meeting.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Mr. Papillon, Jr. announced that Ms. Malinda Pearson-Furlong was no longer a part of the Council. Due to family priorities, she found it necessary to resign from the position. He also issued a deadline (July 1, 1997) for those Council members who wanted business cards. Lastly, he informed the Council that it was necessary to reschedule our next meeting and picture date (July 11, 1997), as several Council members would be out of town at a conference.

Hispanic Heritage Committee would be holding a meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 1997 at 11:00 AM in WUC 325. This would be immediately followed by the Black Heritage Committee meeting which would take place at 1:00 PM (same date and location).

Council members will also be assigned to the Tri-Council committee, which would be holding its

SGC BI-MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES RECORDED ON
FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1997

first meeting on Monday, June 16, 1997 at 12:00 PM in WUC 363 (Conference Room).

Ms. Burton mentioned the progress being made with the Internship Committee, which she omitted from her earlier report(s). She informed the Council of their upcoming meeting dates/times, as well as the new objectives this committee intended to implement for Fall 1997 (see attached).

Lastly, the President urged Council members to proofread all documents that were submitted during our meetings, as well as those documents that were distributed throughout the school and university. He stressed the importance of being professional, and invited the Council members to utilize Ms. Plissner, Ms. Levy and Ms. Drummond when they were in the office.

Ms. Goldman made a move to adjourn. Ms. Burton seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanisha N. Drummond

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

Attachments (15)
061397.MIN



Student Government Computer Committee Report

The following is a report on the results of the meetings that were conducted by the members of the computer committee:

COMPUTERS

We have a commitment for a total of ten (10) computers that will be donated by Miran from Computer Services. The members of the computer committee wish to thank Whit Hollis for his determination in securing these computers. This therefore reduces our budget request for the new computer lab by a substantial amount.

MAINTENANCE

Safiya Burton met with Neville from Computer Services who was able to provide the committee with a quote on the cost of maintenance. The following is the quote:

1. *Computers:* For the first year of operation and usage of the computers, the computers would be under warranty, and therefore would not incur costs. However, after this first year, the university, through Serdac, will repair the computers at a labor charge of \$ 35/hour. Therefore, we are looking at a maintenance cost of the computers at approximately \$ 420.00.
2. *Printers:* In terms of the printer, the cost of the cartridge is \$ 80.00 each. Each cartridge, with continuous usage, has a life of 1 1/2 months. Therefore, \$ 80.00 x 8 cartridges \$ 640.00.
3. *Paper Supplies:* The estimated cost / ream of paper is \$ 7. We may need about fifty (50), therefore this cost will be about \$ 350. 00.
4. *Telephones:* Bills will obviously vary, but approximately \$ 60 / month x 12, totaling \$ 720.00 /year.

Therefore, total maintenance cost for the new proposed computer lab will be approximately \$ 2130.

WIRING

The wiring of the computer lab will cost approximately \$ 350 / station, therefore \$ 3500 (\$ 350 x 10 computers). The lab , in order to gain internet access will need to be equipped with Net Internet cards at a cost of \$ 90.00 each. It is uncertain at this time how many cards the lab will require, and as soon as this information is obtained, it will be relayed to all council members.

SCANNERS

Everton Garvis, a member of the computer committee , suggested that we purchase two scanners to further enhance the services. Also, this would allow students to take advantage of faxing services. We thought this was a great idea and so have included it into our budget. The cost of each scanner is \$ 500. 00 each x 2= \$ 1000.00

STAFFING

Wages for a persons who will staff the center will be:

\$6 p/hr. (Lots of \$\$\$\$\$ required !!!!)

FUNDING SOURCES FOR STAFF

1. Whit is willing to donate = \$16,280
Source: person from his present staff.
2. Person will be paid \$ 6/hr
8-10 every day (same as University Center's hours)
SGC is expected to pay = \$10,000 - \$16,000.
3. Third source of funding will come from Art Gloster. In charge of technology fund (millions of \$\$)

OPTIONS OPEN TO SGC VOTE

1. Take money out of our budget.
2. Fund raising by having different functions.
3. Fund raising by soliciting funds from corporate entities.



Florida International University

Student Government Council

MEMORANDUM

June 13, 1997

TO: Student Government Council Members
FIU North Campus

FROM: Tanisha Drummond, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Council
Student Government Council, FIU North Campus



SUBJECT: RECORDED OFFICE HOURS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 6, 1997

The following is a list of the Council members who have submitted office hours for the week of June 2, 1997 through June 6, 1997. Please be reminded that **ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF FIVE HOURS PER WEEK**, as specified in the SGC Constitution and By-laws.

Ms. Camille Aub, Student Services Chair	5.11 Hours
Ms. Safiya Burton, Vice President	19.26 Hours
Ms. Tanisha Drummond, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Council	7.54 Hours
Ms. Mireidy Fernandez, Academic Affairs Chair	5.99 Hours
Ms. Lakisha Holmes, CUPA Representative	4.56 Hours
Ms. Nia Johnson, Lower Division Representative	5.00 Hours
Mr. Daniel Kerness, Representative-At-Large	5.06 Hours
Mr. Gakunga Kihohia, Finance Chair	16.01 Hours
Ms. Giralda Merkmán, Representative-At-Large	5.13 Hours
Ms. Avia Rice, Lower Division Representative	3.53 Hours
Mr. Ian Richards, Representative-At-Large	1.27 Hours
Ms. Donna-Ann Russell, SJMC Representative	7.26 Hours

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

TD:td
APJ005

cc: Ms. Ellen Plissner
Ms. Barbara Levy

Attitude

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company, a church, a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string that we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it. And so it is with you... We are in charge of our attitudes...

By Charles Swindell

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
FOR SGC-NORTH CAMPUS BI-WEEKLY MEETINGS
6/13/97**

I. Monthly Expenditure Reports:

Of all the departments that were supposed to have turned in a expenditure report, the University Center is the only one to have submitted one. We are in the process of contacting each department and advising them of the importance of turning in a expenditure report.

II. Upcoming with Auditor:

On Monday, June 16th, the state auditor will be coming to the North Campus, and will also be paying a visit to the Student Activities office. Ellen Plissner, Arthur Papillon, Safiya Burton, and myself Gakunga Kihohia will be meeting with the Auditor to discuss Student Services office procedures. I will inform the council of the information discussed at this meeting.

III. Loss of money:

The money for all of the merchandise that we had plan for during the retreat in not available. It turned out the we over estimated the amount that would revert to SGC.

However we will still be receiving the three computers that we ordered.

INTEROFFICE MEMO

Date: 06/12/97

To: ALL SGC MEMBERS

ARTHUR PAPILLON JR., SGC PRESIDENT

CC: SAFIYA BURTON, SGC VP

From: MIREIDY FERNANDEZ, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CHAIR

RE: PLANS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for being so accessible to a newcomer like myself. I enjoy working with all of you very much, and look forward to establishing a productive relationship.

As Academic Affairs Chair, there are a couple of matters I am keeping track of with the guidance of Billy Jones, SGC VP for University Park. These are the following:

- Raise the GPA standard and Forgiveness policy at FIU
- Getting teacher evaluation form booklets for Summer Term

As far as the GPA and forgiveness policy are concerned, Billy and I plan to tackle this issue very carefully. We want students to benefit from any changes that may take place, since our forgiveness policy has already been limited to three. Billy is working very closely on this with Academic Affairs which I am thankful for.

The teacher evaluation handbooks were supposed to have been ready by June 1. However, because of setbacks and revisions, it is taking longer. When they are ready we will receive a printout, hard copy, and disk copy of them. David Hall, director of Institutional Research has promised to try and speed the printing of these books.

I will definitely keep on top of these two very important issues. If you have any questions, feel free to ask me.

MF:mf

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: SAFIYA BURTON, VICE PRESIDENT
ARTHUR PAPILLON, PRESIDENT
FROM: CAMILLE AUB, SSC CHAIRPERSON
SUBJECT: REGISTRATION COMMITTEE
DATE: JUNE 12, 1997
CC:

As requested, here are the results of our committee's last meeting.

PHONE REGISTRATION

Problems with blocked lines will be alleviated with the implementation of several additional lines beginning Fall 97.

REGISTRATION OFFICE

Residency forms will be displayed and clearly marked.

An SGC Complaint Box will be placed in the office.

Student satisfaction was high according to the student surveys distributed last semester.

CASHIER'S

Clearly marked signs for the drop box will be posted prior to Fall 97 registration.

Lidia, she runs the office, said in order to shorten the lines these things will happen:

- Only one window will be closed at a time for lunch breaks
- One line is dedicated to Financial Aid Validation
- She has only two full-time people and is awaiting a third OPS Employee to keep all windows open. I will follow up to encourage that this person is trained and ready prior to registration 97'.

Memorandum

To: SGC Members
CC: [[Click here](#) and type name]
From: Camille Aub, SSC Chairperson
Date: June 12, 1997
Re: Cafeteria Committee

It took one week to obtain a copy of the Aramark Contract from Ray Galeno. Now it is stored in the SGC office if anyone cares to take a look at the document. In order to properly scrutinize this agreement I have sought free legal counsel. Next week the cafeteria committee members can choose to accompany me to see FIU's lawyer on UP as well as visiting UM's Law School. I'll keep you posted.

CONFIDENTIAL



Florida International University

Student Government Council

June 13, 1997

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Donna-Ann Russell, Daniel Kerness, Mireidy Fernandez

GOALS

- To integrate the F.I.U student body with the Student Government Council
- To foster communication and a sense of group presence within the Council
- To generate complaints from the student body that need addressing
- To foster more active participation from the student body in student government activities
- To establish a more personal relationship between student government and the F.I.U community.

PROJECTS FOR THIS AND THE UPCOMING SEMESTERS

- Capture designated areas close by department offices for the various schools and put up an SGC bulletin board. (It would be necessary for these bulletin boards to be encased and locked.)
- Accompanying these bulletin boards should be complaint/suggestion boxes. This would enable students to leave their complaints/suggestions and provide a quick way for us to respond to them - while benefitting other students who might also want to know the response to these complaints. (We further suggest that these boxes be made of materials that would allow them to be locked in order to enforce student confidentiality).
- A posting of students rights should be permanently affixed to the bulletin boards.
- Complaint/suggestion boxes should appear outside or inside every possible department or office. Students need to feel our presence. Boxes not accompanied by a bulletin board would be unlocked and dealt with at up-coming meetings. The complaint would then be given to the appropriate officer.
- The drafting of structured complaint forms will be undertaken by the committee. (Our suggestion at the moment: name of student; name of person complaint is being raised against; department or office around which complaint is centered; date of incident;



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complaint; contact phone number - to report back on findings.) These forms will accompany every complaint box.

- Flyers enforcing what SGC stands for in relations to students should be circulated around campus.
- Several posters of the pictures, names and office hours of all SGC officers should be placed in the places most frequented by students.
- Hot-dog/hamburger cook-outs, it is our suggestion, should be held at set points during the semester. This will give students a chance to meet and interact with SGC officers on a social basis. It is hoped that this will make us more approachable for future complaints/problems.
- Brag boards may be displayed at these social events. These boards would display the problems that were brought to the council as well as our corresponding actions to deal with them. (Complaint/concern boxes will also be around at these events.)
- Give-aways, whether at these social events or not, are also a desired activity: Eg. thermoses, T-shirts, squirt bottles etc.



Florida International University

Student Government Council

T h e S u r v e y C o m m i t t e e

Chair: Lakisha Holmes
Members: Nia Johnson Kunga Kihohia

Purpose 1997-98: To create, conduct and administer survey's for the Student government council when necessary. To collect & maintain the research collected for future use. To use this data to assist the representative with any decisions to related information. To help the representatives to gage the students feelings or opinions on any relevant issues.

Goal 1997-98: To have all data and information gathered cataloged for future reference or aid.

To have Student Government Association Survey available in Every orientation packet & graduation packet for the upcoming year.

Meeting dated: 6 June 1997 @ 1:30

Items discussed:

- Vice President Pankowski's Survey
 - Mr. Kihohia brought to the attention of the committee the VP's survey which was conducted on the North Campus over the past year. He met with Ms. Arnetta Davis of the Vice Presidents's office who informed him of their difficulty in recruiting faculty (professor's) help in administering the survey to students. She advised that we ask the Dean's of the School's for assistance in this matter. Ms. Davis also informed us of the difficult process that conducting and administering accurate survey's involved.

- Generating Survey for students older than 25 & students who are parents
 - It was decided that the committee's first survey will be a one that will assess the needs of students who are parent's, 25 or older and those enrolled in evening courses. The majority of

these questions were drawn from the VP's survey. It was decided by the committee that a survey will be drafted and then presented for review to the SGC President & Vice President.

See attached.

- Methods of collecting data
 - ▶ Certain methods of obtaining data for the survey's were recommended. Mr. Kihohia suggested that the Dean's of each school be approached and asked to instruct their professor's to help collect the data. Ms. Holmes & Ms. Johnson disagreed and the committee decided to use the student organizations which are available to the committee to facilitate the survey's.

Next Meeting dated : 16 June 1997 @5:30

Items to be discussed at next meeting:

- Modes of conducting research
 - ▶ Mail, Classes or through Advisors

- Approval of Survey #1 (attached)

Respectfully Submitted By The Survey Committee

Survey #1 Student Government Association

Major: _____ Classification: _____
Enrollment: Full Time Part Time
Name: _____ Number: _____
Optional

1. In general I feel safe when I am at North Campus.
2. I am treated courteously by the staff at Public Safety.
3. Overall I am satisfied with the service I received from Academic Advising at the North Campus.
4. Overall I am satisfied with the course availability provided at the North Campus.
5. I generally find what I am looking for when I go to the library.
6. I am satisfied with quality of teaching I received from my professors at North Campus.
7. I feel that my needs as a older student are adequaely represented.
8. I am a parent.
9. The majority of my courses are in the Evening.
10. I have or will take advantage of the babysitting services for kids, that are available at North Campus.
11. I would like more courses within my major offered in the evening.
12. I prefer to receive my grades by mail.
13. I work for a company that requires a copy of my grades, to receive reimbursement.

Memorandum

From: Giralda Merkman, Bookstore Committee

To: All SGC members

As a student I have a problem with the way students are treated by the bookstore: The books are often not on time; The books aren't available until the end of the semester; The prices of the books are really exorbitant and often their books aren't taken back and if they are the buyback price is too ridiculous to even be considered.

I have read through the bookstore contract in great detail and I have discovered that the above mentioned items with which I have a problem should be taken care of by the bookstore. These things are not supposed to be a problem, but they are. The books are supposed to be on the shelves by the first day of classes, except if the professor in question turned in their book list late. I found out that most of the books are returned to the publisher midway through the semester, whereas they're supposed to be there until the end of the semester. The books should also be bought back at reasonable prices, but I don't feel that they are.

My goals for this semester and the rest of the academic year 1997/98 would be to :

1. Upgrading the level of service currently offered by the North Campus University Bookstore.
2. Keep the prices of the books at a reasonable level, yet they should be competitive with the University Park Bookstore, whose sales triple the North Campus'.
3. The convenience store should be in operation by Spring '98, Fall '97 if possible.
4. More products of superior quality and a larger variety should be offered.

These are a few things that I want to start on by fall 1997.



SJMC REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

May 22, 1997 to June 12, 1997

Summer A Semester

Donna-Ann Russell

I attempted to meet with and introduce myself to as many professors as I could. It would seem that the best days to do so are on Wednesdays - especially professors outside of broadcast and print journalism. On a whole there haven't been that many problems, then again I haven't met with half of the professors teaching in the summer.

Concerns coming from professors

- More computers and computer labs are needed within SJMC as a whole. As is, the computers that are there are heavily monopolized by journalism majors; other disciplines within the school need them too.
- Adjunct professors are not all up to the calibre performance that full time professors are. This poses a problem when students move on to another level. They don't know enough to build on when they get to the next level in their program and have to be re-taught what they should already know instead of learning new things.

During the end of last semester I met, informally, with some SJMC students and got a few complaints along with a few of my own and went to the Dean with them.

Student Complaints

- A fax machine and telephone need to be permanently placed in the Newsroom classroom. If students are expected to work under "real job pressures", then they should be given all the tools that "real" journalists have.
- Nobody really takes print and broadcast journalism students out on assignment seriously. Frankly there's no reason for them to be taken seriously. How is anybody supposed to know if they fell out of a prison cell the day before. It undermines your credibility when you have to run back to school for a signed letter so the interviewee can do a follow up call. Why not give them F.I.U press badges with their picture and a number to call the school for further verification. The I.D office can probably take care of this.
- Why do students who pass the entrance test with scores that exceed the required exit test



Florida International University

Student Government Council

- scores still have to take the exit test to get out of the class.
- Students weren't told enough in advance about the reduction in the number of chances students get to pass all required exit tests.

Dean's Comments : Arthur Heise

Phone # 919-5625/Fax # 919-5203

- He's aware of the necessity of the phone and fax and is currently working on getting them for Fall.
- The press badges are a good idea. He'll bring it up in his next staff meeting.
- Students don't seem to perform as well throughout the middle and end of the semester once they have passed the entrance tests. They get lazy. The exit tests force students not only to keep practicing the grammar but also to improve in their performance - hence the raised pass mark for advanced exit tests.
- Notices were posted around the SJMC department. All syllabuses carried an attachment stating that the test was now limited to three tries. When asked why students weren't mailed some form of explanation at the end of the Fall semester he had no excuse but stated that that was why everyone who didn't pass was encouraged to petition for another chance - all but one petition was granted. The department won't be so lenient next semester; this was just an effort to be fair to those who were stuck during the transition.

New Complaints/Comments

- The broadcast program needs to have some more of a "hands on" feel to it. Students who are unable to get work experience throughout the program are at a complete disadvantage. Theory is fine but practice is better. Can't the school budget make way for a student news broadcast .
- Do internships have to start at the end of the semester? What about making an arrangement with a T.V station/ Radio Station/ News Paper to have students volunteer there once a week throughout the program.
- Why is the Beacon at the South Campus?
- Why is the Radio Station at the South Campus?

The Internship Committee Report

The internship committee is comprised of three members: Nia Johnson, Daniel Kerness, and Avia Rice. The committee's elected chairperson is Avia Rice, who will report directly to Safiya Burton.

At our meeting dated June 10, 1997, we decided to give the internship program a new twist. We wanted to train not only our freshman interns, but also the new members of Student Government. We found that there was a genuine need for the new members to become more educated about the council, the association and the university as a whole. It is also a well-known fact that the new, as well as the old council members have future plans to advance and grow within the council. We felt that there should be a continuous training program in place to deal with such matters. We have therefore, decided to include a tentative schedule for council members who are interested in such a program.

In terms of the intern program, we came up with a tentative schedule for the orientation and subsequent fall semester. During orientation, we plan to have a table set up to recruit the interns. We have made accommodations for twenty interns, as any attempt to train a larger group will result in chaos and ineffectiveness.

The selection of these interns will be done by means of an application process involving a completed application form along with resume. The selection committee will be comprised of the SGC President, Vice President and members of the internship committee.

Throughout the fall semester, the interns will be expected to attend all scheduled sessions, as well as assist individual council members in the planning and execution of their day-to-day duties. Any council member who feels that he /she will be able to use the assistance of one or more of these interns are being asked to submit this request at the end of today's meeting, June 13, 1997.

Any comments, questions and suggestions will be gladly entertained by any of the internship committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

The members of the
Internship Committee

INTERNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

TENATIVE SCHEDULE

FALL SEMESTER

August 29	Internship Program Orientation (Introduction to Council Members and Explanation of Internship Program)
September 5	A task of Student Government - Silver Anniversary Preparation and Participation
September 19	Understanding Your Learning Skills and Team Building
October 3	Understanding Student Government
October 17	Student Government - The Team - Mardi Paw
October 31	Halloween Dinner and Party Cruise
November 21	Ropes Course / Leadership Development Program
December 5	Christmas Dinner and Party w/ speaker

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
BI-MONTHLY S.G.A. COUNCIL MEETING
7/11/97

I. BEGINNING OF NEW FISCAL YEAR

As we all should be aware of, the run of the Student Gov't budgeted fiscal year runs from July 1st through June 30th. As of July 1st, 1997, our budget is now in effect. However we currently cannot realistically spend all or even a large sum of our budgeted funds yet. The process in which money becomes available is lengthy, and here is a short summary of the process. The money is deposited into our SGC accounts at different intervals during the run of the year, and at the end of the year the total number of interval deposits will have accumulated the total amount budgeted.

II. MEETING WITH AUDITOR

As I had mentioned at our last Council meeting, the State Auditor visited our Student Activities office. The auditor conducted an audit of the Student Government Association operations at the North Campus and Broward. The audit went pretty well and we complied with most of the procedures except for some minor recommendations that need to be look over and implemented. I will fill everyone in on the recommendations as soon as possible.

III. BUDGETS

Of the three Councils who we currently fund, and who are required to present to SGC an approved budget, Student Programming Council is the only Council to have submitted one. The Finance Committee is currently waiting to receive approved budget from Student Organizational Council, and Bay Vista Ha. Council. I will keep the SGC council informed as to the progress of these budgets as soon as they become available.

IV. OFFICE HOURS

I would like to commend each and every council member that have been coming into the office and completing their required office hours. For those who haven't you will not be receiving a paycheck until you complete your requirements. So we can now all see how serious it is to complete office hours and PUNCH IN when you come in, it's how you will get paid. Not to mention doing your working. A list with everyone's total number of office hours for the past 4 weeks will be distributed. Please everyone remember to Punch in and out, I know it tedious cause I do forget at times myself, but lets try to remember. For those who complete hours outside of the office, please submit a memo into me with a description of the activity and total number of hours. Also make sure Arthur approves any outside office hours beforehand.

V. LEADERSHAPE CONFERENCE

The Finance Committee approved the travel expense for the Finance Chair to attend an upcoming leadership conference. The leadership conference which is named Leadershape will be conducted from July 22nd through July 27th. It is a week long conference with the schedule similar to the one we had on the retreat with workshops from sun up to sun down. The workshops are geared towards building leadership skills and how to effectively carry out tasks. I believe the students at FIU will benefit from leaders who can effectively lead, this will be a good tool for achieving that. With the approval of the Finance Committee, it is now to be voted on by the SGC council members by a simple majority vote. Unfortunately I am unable to personally present a description of the conference and it's benefits, but someone will on my behalf.