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Meeting Minutes 01.21.98

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Council Minutes

Florida International University • Student Government Council • University Park

January 21, 1998

President Carlos A. Becerra called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM

I ROLL CALL:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Lisa Abate (LT) | Milette Escano (LT) | Max Orezza |
| Brian Abramson | Tony Gomez (AB) | Lety Pradere (AB) |
| Orlando Amorin | Billy Jones | Carlos Ramirez (AB) |
| Lester Ares | Cedric McMinn | Mikey Tendrich |
| Carlos Becerra | Vaughn Nembhard (LT) | Sergio Tigera (LT) |

OTHERS:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Clayton Duhl | Luis Menendez |
| Maggie Sanchez | LaShanda West-Stewart |
| Louise Norris | Zahra Burton |

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Honors Council | Campus Bible Fellowship |
| Caribbean Students Association | Medical Lab Science Club |
| Best Buddies | Accounting Association |

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Item VII of last week's minutes corrected vote tally: Resolution 97-19
2 in favor, 5 opposed, 0 abstentions - Bill Fails
The minutes were approved with this change.

III REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

Carlos A. Becerra, President

Becerra thanked Lety Pradere and Orlando Amorin for their participation in the FSA Meeting last weekend in Ft. Myers. He reported that a good job was done at the meeting held at Florida Gulf Coast University. A draft was put together for statewide registration, and Melissa Tapanes is drafting our own proposal to include an Absentee Ballot Drive.

Finally, he announced that Monday was Chancellor Herbert Adams' first official day as the new Chancellor. We are trying to set up an appointment to see him regarding FIU Law School. The February FSA Meeting is slated to be held in Orlando February 20-21. Becerra mentioned that everyone who can should participate in this meeting.

In addition, Becerra announced that two doctorate degrees have been approved.

Becerra passed a list for those interested in attending the Legislative Breakfast being held this Friday in the GC Ballroom. Everyone is encouraged to attend. After the Legislative Breakfast on Friday, there will be a Traffic and Parking Meeting in PC521. This meeting will address Youth Fair parking, and everyone is encouraged to attend as we will also mention the problems with the Inter-Campus Bus Shuttle

Rep. Escano will provide a copy of the current by-laws so the Elections Code can be updated. Brian Abramson commented on how Inter-Campus Elections will effect the election results.

Becerra announced that the LEBO Art Exhibit was a success and thanked those who attended.

Billy Jones, Vice President

VP Jones thanked everyone who attended the University-Wide Meeting on Saturday

He announced that the SGA Scholarships will be implemented as quickly as possible.

He asked that the Standing Councils see him immediately following this meeting to plan for their next meeting.

He said that it is good the Elections Code is being addressed. He mentioned that next month is when people will announce if they are interested in running for Student Government, and it is important to handle this before then.

Mikey Tendrich, Comptroller

The Budget was worked on for 4 1/2 hrs. at the University-Wide Meeting. A copy of the Budget was distributed. Becerra went over how the monies were going to be disbursed, and how that differed from last year's Budget. It was mentioned that University-Wide budgeting would not include Greek Funding since there is no Greek action taking place on the North Campus. However, Homecoming will come under University-Wide budgeting, as well as the Lecture Series. It was also mentioned that the pool hours should be extended with the funding given. In summary, we have in excess of \$1.3 million with which to work for University Park. This figure will stand, unless vetoed by the President. VP Jones advised that only three state universities finance the Greeks.

IV REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Orlando Amorin, Student Services

The next Student Service Committee Meeting is next Monday at 3:30 PM--place to be determined. Also, the Student Advocate Center is being cleaned up and repaired. Satellite stations will be set up in the interim to help students in need of this service. The Registration Meeting on this Friday will be very important, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Luis Menendez, Student Union Board

The first meeting was held today, with a good turnout. They set goals for the semester, and brainstormed on ways to expand Graham Center Building. The ACUI trip will be in March. Banner/Poster policies are being set. Meetings are every other Wednesday, at 2:00 PM.

LaShanda West-Stewart, Academic Affairs

A meeting is scheduled for January 29 at 3:30 PM GC-312. She introduced her two replacement representatives should she be unable to attend a SGA Council Meetings.

V REPORTS OF THE STANDING COUNCILS

Marjorie Aguero, Honors Council

Their meeting will be held on January 27 at 4:30 PM in GC 150. Among the functions they are supporting are the Dance Marathon and the Legislative Breakfast. They are requesting information on Student Government and how it operates.

Pedro Villorio, Student Organizational Council

It was reported their next meeting is scheduled for February 4, GC140, and they are supporting "Homecoming Hits the Streets".

Max Orezza, Graduate Student Association

GSA had a mixer, and it was a good turnout. He reiterated that GSA will be using GC315. Their next meeting is January 30, 5:30 PM, GC 305.

Zahra Burton, RHA

Meetings will be held on the first Wednesday's of each month. She announced that it is planned to give residence a 20% discount on telephone calls. She asked if hours could be extended for computer lab use. She was informed that hours are expanded prior to exams.

VI OLD BUSINESS

A. Summerlink

Lisa Abate defined the meaning of Summerlink, which is a two-magnet school program, Miami Sr. High and Norland Sr. High. It is sponsored by the College of Education, and this is an opportunity for college students to practice their teaching skills. The Haitian culture is also studied, and field trips are planned for every Friday. Summerlink is asking for \$2,500 this year for this program and is planning to make a presentation at the Finance Meeting next Tuesday.

V NEW BUSINESS

A. Children's Miracle Network

Maggie Sanchez left a packet with Becerra and has asked Student Government to get involved. She explained the 25-hr Dance-A-Thon, and that 100% of the proceeds would go to Miami Children's Hospital. The 25 hours are in line with FIU's 25th Anniversary. She explained different ways of getting involved. Their first meeting is planned for January 22, 7:30 PM, place to be determined. If there are any questions concerning the Dance-A-Thon, please call Maggie on extension 1577, or her office is GC316. Each organization should have a minimum of 3 representatives at a cost of \$300 each plus a \$25 Registration Service Charge. She gave a history of this function and its success. "Canning" is how they have raised funds in the past. After a brief discussion, the Council agreed to support and get involved personally.

Becerra presented Sanchez with a Recognition Award for her Student Leadership and for tireless hours spent on this project.

B. Postponement of Vacancy Elections

Becerra announced the deadline has been extended for the Election Board Chair and School of Engineering Representative to Tuesday, January 27, at 5:00 PM.

C. Representative Allocation for New Schools

Rep. Amorin addressed whether or not the School of Accounting and Computer Sciences will have separate representation on the Council. This was discussed at length since it is felt that even though they are now being represented, they are represented poorly. It was mentioned that the School of Music is being represented poorly as well. Rep. Amorin said he will attend the meetings of the School of Architecture and Honors Council to see if SGA can be of some assistance. Marjorie Aguero, Honors Collegel, feels they are not represented well. They are asking students to support their need to

have separate representation. Rep. Abramson said that concerning the School of Accounting, he will speak with students and report back at the next meeting what their input is regarding representation. A discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of separate representation of these schools.

D. SGA Meeting Times/Schedules

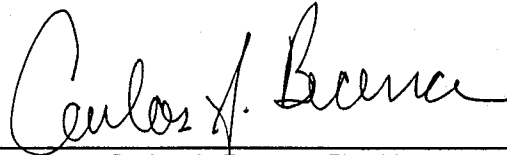
Becerra reminded the Council that school schedules were due December 11, and a grid was created based upon information from these schedules; that is how the best time and dates were established for SGA Council Meetings. Two members had difficulty scheduling meetings based on their classes. Becerra explained how this is of the utmost importance to have included in our by-laws. We must determine once and for all whether or not the Council will enforce the "3 meetings missed" rule, whereby after being absent for three Council Meetings, the representative loses his Council seat. An extensive discussion followed on what are acceptable and unacceptable conditions. Becerra asked all Council members to put in writing their feelings regarding this matter and their recommendations to resolve this problem, short-term and long-term. Per input received, it was decided that these representatives be excused, but that legislation be drafted to set a meeting time in the By-Laws.

VII ANNOUNCEMENTS

Becerra gave reminders of following functions:

- A) Legislative Breakfast, 8:30 AM, GC Ballroom, January 23
- B) Parking & Traffic Meeting, 10:00 AM, January 23
- C) Salsa Night at Basketball Game, 6:00 PM, January 22
- D) Homecoming Hits the Streets, 8:00, January 24
- E) Registration Workshop, 2:00 PM, January 23

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM



Carlos A. Becerra, President