

2-4-1998

Meeting Minutes 02.04.98

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Council Minutes

Florida International University • Student Government Council University Park

February 4, 1998

FEB 17 1998

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

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

I ROLL CALL:

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

OTHERS:

Clayton Duhl (LT)	Michelle Castro	Robert Castellanos
Marisa Rodriguez	Sharon Hart	LaShanda West-Stewart
Louise Norris	Zahra Burton	Maxine Hilton
Lou Conrad	Eric Pfaeffle	Luis Menendez
Cavan Chan		

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES:

Delta Phi Epsilon	Caribbean Student Association
Accounting Association	Dominican Student Association
Student Programming Council	Peruvian Student Association
Student Council for Exception Children	Campus Bible Fellowship
Phi Sigma Sigma	Am. Medical Student Assoc
Society for Environmental Action	College Republicans
Interior Design Association	Alpha Kappa Psi
Academic Affairs	Minority Assoc. of Pre-Health Students
Student Dietetics Association	
Sociology/Anthropology Society	

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Under "Reports of the Standing Councils", the correct name of the Student Programming Council Chair is Lester Garcia.

Under "Open Forum", checking the State Statue on SGA Budgets was suggested by Rep. Brian Abramson. The minutes were approved with these changes.

III. Reports of the Executive Officers

Becerra announced there is a Personal Safety Committee Meeting at 4:00 PM tomorrow in the Graham Center. This meeting deals with safety issues, and if anyone is interested in attending, they are encouraged to do so. Rep. Amorin said he would attend.

The Traffic Appeals Committee also needs a volunteer to review and give recommendations for people receiving traffic citations. Rep. Nembhard volunteered to assist. Becerra will forward his name to Vice President Curry.

IV *REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS*

Carlos A. Becerra, President

Becerra met with Dr. Gallagher regarding the Budget Draft, and Dr. Gallagher took a copy to review. Becerra also had a meeting with Victor Citarella, Director of Facilities Management, regarding the 8th Street Entrance. The entrance will be closed February 16 for approximately one month. Cars are being rerouted through SW 107 Avenue and SW 117 Avenue.

Becerra reported that at the Faculty Senate meeting, the emphasis was on building more classrooms and that this project was critical.

There is a meeting tomorrow at 2:00 PM with the Associate Deans concerning class scheduling. Various options will be considered. Rep. Desir and Rep. West-Stewart volunteered to attend.

Becerra announced there is an FSA Meeting in Orlando February 20-21, and needs volunteers to attend. Rep. Nembhard volunteered to attend. Becerra is asking for additional volunteers, but Becerra must know of any interest by the end of this week.

Billy Jones, Vice President

VP Jones introduced Mohammed Al-Bedaiwi, former Representative from the School of Engineering, who is leaving tomorrow for his new career in Texas. Former Rep. Al-Bedaiwi shook hands with the Council members and wished them well.

Mikey Tendrich, Comptroller

He announced that the next Budget Meeting is February 10 in GC305.

V *REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES*

Luis Menendez, Student Union Board

Rep. Menéndez announced there was a SUB meeting today at 2:00 PM. He announced that GC140 will be renamed for Margaret Anliker, and there will be a dedication ceremony on March 4. Becerra asked that the Margaret Anliker project be presented in the form of a Resolution.

SUB is not getting the space in GC243 as previously promised. He believes this is a permanent decision; Becerra thought it was temporary. Rep. Menendez will check if this project has been cancelled permanently or not.

He also reported that there has been a delay with the Health Food Shops and Edy's in the GC Food Court. He will push for these shops to open as soon as possible. There is an ACUY Conference trip scheduled for March 29-April 1.

Orlando Amorin, Student Services

He announced there are two Resolutions on the table: the Shuttle Bus System Route and the two potential new Council Seats. The next Student Services meeting is February 16, 3:30 in GC312.

La-Shanda West-Stewart, Academic Affairs

There was a meeting on January 29, and the Resolution for Teachers' Evaluation was addressed. There will be a publication for this evaluation on March 23.

There will be a Cram Jam on April 18.

The next Academic Affairs Meeting is scheduled for February 12.

VI REPORTS OF THE STANDING COUNCILS

Lester Garcia, Student Programming Council

Dr. Nikki Giovanni will give a lecture tomorrow night in the GC Ballroom at 8:00 PM. There is a Comedy Show next Wednesday at 10:00.

Robert Castellanos, Honors Council

The next meeting is Tuesday, February 10, 4:00 PM.

Zahra Burton, RHA

She announced they are moving into new offices immediately. There is a meeting tonight at 9:00 PM. It was announced that an RHA Representative is running for the Florida State Board. The bus service is still on their agenda. There is a meeting on February 13 regarding SGA funding to RHA.

Brian Abramson, Graduate Student Association

Rep. Abramson announced GSA has not moved into their new space; there appears to be a problem with the telephone lines.

VII NEW BUSINESS

A. Graduation Task Force Volunteers:

Environmental Health and Safety will be addressed at next week's meeting. Volunteers are needed. Rep. Desir and Rep. West-Stewart both volunteered. Becerra asked for volunteers to serve on a Graduate Task Force of the Faculty Senate. The following people volunteered:

Zahra Burton,
Marjorie Aguero
Nicola Murray
Lisa Abate

B. Elections Code Draft

The by-laws from last fall were distributed. Changes should be made at next week's meeting. Please see Pfaeffle with any suggestions. Campaigning will take place March 23-30. A debate will be held March 25. Elections will be held March 31-April 1. The runoff election will be April 7. In addition, Pfaeffle is asking for six people to volunteer for the Elections Board. He is planning on meeting with Rod Lipscomb regarding posting policies. In addition, he is suggesting expenditure caps. Discussion followed concerning pros and cons of these caps.

C. 1998-1999 Budget Draft

The Finance Committee met yesterday. Tendrich distributed an updated Budget Guidelines draft. Discussions followed pertaining to how, to whom and how much monies have been divided to various organizations.

D. RES 97-23 Shuttle System Route

The importance of setting routes and times for the shuttle service and then ascertaining that these routes are put in conspicuous locations was discussed. Rep. Escano recommended that schedules be made and distributed,

E. RES 97-2 New Council Seats/Representatives

Rep. Amorin reported that Dr. Mau, Provost, said addressing the issue of new Representative Seats has to be done. Rep. Abramson distributed a report detailing his findings with the School of Computer Sciences and the School of Accounting, along with his recommendations. Discussion followed. He reported there are three at-large seats, and a total of 15 seats on the Council. It is his recommendation that the Council seats be increased to 18. He stated it appears the School of Computer Sciences should, in fact, have its own seat; however, due to the close connections the School of Accounting has with the School of Business, they should not get a separate seat. Therefore, Abramson recommended the at-large seats would increase from 3 to 5, and with the addition of a seat for Computer Sciences, the total Council seats would be 18.

F. RES 97-3 Setting Council Meeting Times

It was recommended that starting with next semester, the Council Meetings would be held on Wednesday's at 5:00 PM. Those required to be at the meetings would be the President, Vice President, Council and Committee Chairs, and the Representatives. Starting with next semester, the policy of missing three meetings will necessitate impeachment being enforced.

G. Other

The University is considering commencement alternatives. Dr. Toni Bilbao, College of Education, addressed the Council, and solicited commencement ideas. Discussions ensued on the importance of the commencements themselves, and the pros and cons of splitting the commencement by colleges or having three separate commencements, etc. A proposal was distributed showing commencement suggestions. Dr. Bilbao will entertain any suggestions brought to her attention. Becerra told her a Council vote could be taken to be certain we have a commencement which has been officially endorsed by the Council.

VIII OPEN FORUM

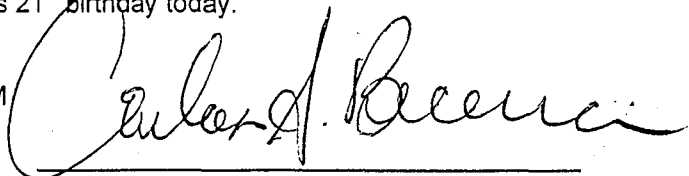
Zahra Burton recommended that a maximum length of time of two hours be set for Council Meetings to prevent loss of quorum which delays voting and is time consuming. Discussion followed.

IX ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. FIU's first softball game is Monday, February 9, 3:00 PM
- B. There will be a Public Hearing on the Budget, Tuesday, February 10, 2:00 PM
- C. Rep. Abramson announced the graduate assistants are unionizing.
- D. Rep. Amorin is celebrating his 21st birthday today.

X ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:03 PM



Carlos A. Becerra, President