

8-5-1998

Meeting Minutes 08.05.98

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council

BI-MONTHLY MEETING

**AUGUST 5, 1998
5:00 PM**

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Duayne Bernal, Executive Assistant to the Vice President
Ms. Nia Johnson, Representative-At-Large
Mr. William Stafford III, School of Nursing Representative
Ms. Lakisha Holmes, Graduate Representative
Ms. Nicole Perkins, College of Urban and Public Affairs Representative
Ms. Giralda Merkman, Representative-At-Large
Ms. Mahasin Salahuddin, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Kervins Laurent, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Gakunga Kihohia, Finance Chair
Ms. Safiya Burton, President
Ms. Avia Rice, Representative-At-Large
Mr. Fadi Hatem, Chief of Staff
Mrs. Helen Ellison, Advisor
Ms. Heidi Mark, Administrative Assistant/ Clerk of Council
Mrs. Jasmine Michel-Yacinthe, Graduate Representative
Ms. Mireidy Fernandez, Academic Affairs Chair
Mr. Plinio Sanchez, Director of University Relations
Ms. Christina Sorondo, School of Journalism and Mass Communications Rep.
Ms. Erin O'Brien, Broward Representative
Mr. Mitch Saintilmon, Panther Pride / Athletics Coordinator

ABSENT

Mr. Delano Greene, School of Hospitality Representative (excused)
Ms. Veronica Arcila, Student Services Chair (excused)
Mr. Arthur Papillon Jr., Director of Student Lobbying
Ms. Dannielle Boyer, Representative-At-Large
Ms. Liana Perez, Director of Community Relations

GUESTS

Lorena Abril
Willette Young
Solange Alonso
Keler Gilet
Nick Antilus
Paola Juspa, The Beacon
Ian J. Richards

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by President Safiya Burton.

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Approval of minutes

Ms. Burton requested that the Council read through the minutes from the previous meeting. There was a friendly amendment to correct the dates for the approval of DJ's to 4-5 dates and not 45 dates. Ms. Nicole Perkins made a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. Christina Sorondo seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Ms. Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting
- First on her report was the resignation of Mr. Ian Richards as SGC Vice-President. Mr. Richards resigned on Monday August 3. It was felt that his job performance was lacking and President Burton was not being given the support that she needed from a Vice-President. Mr. Richards and Ms. Burton both stressed that the decision was a professional one and nothing personal was involved as they are good friends.
- E-board members were reminded of the E-board meetings on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Please be advised that you should be on time.
- With the resignation of Mr. Ian Richards, the E-board decided that an interim Vice-President should be appointed for the remainder of the summer semester and then appoint someone at the beginning of the Fall semester. All Council members can apply for the position and Ms. Burton has identified Ms. Liana Gomez as a potential candidate. Nominations for the interim position were Ms. Mireidy Fernandez and Ms. Lakisha Holmes. There was some discussion after which the Council voted by secret ballot. The result was Ms. Lakisha Holmes being appointed as the interim Vice-President.
- Another open position on the Council was that of Panther Pride / Athletics Coordinator. There were a number of candidates for the position. They were Alberto (Chino), Jones Pierre, Nick Antilus, Keler Gilet and Mitch Saintilmon. Mr. Mitch Saintilmon was appointed by unanimous vote as the new Panther Pride / Athletics Coordinator.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Ms. Ellen Plissner has accepted a position to serve as Director of Orientation on the University Park Campus. She assumes this position on Monday August 10, 1998. Mrs. Helen Ellison, Associate Vice-President of Student Affairs will be the new advisor to the Student Government Council. Mrs. Ellison introduced herself to the Council and informed us that Mr. Raphael Zapata, II will be acting on her behalf whenever she is unable to attend meetings. She thanked Ms. Plissner for her years of service to the Council and to the North Campus. Ms. Burton on behalf of the Council, wished Ms. Plissner all the best in her new position.

CHIEF OF STAFF

Mr. Hatem stressed that Council members should remember to punch in and out on the

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time clock in order for their office hours to be recorded. He informed the Council that a new approach will be taken in the future to remind members that they need to punch in and out. If members do not start recording their hours, they will not be paid.

Old Business

- All Council members who have not signed of for an e-mail session with Mr. Bernal need to do so soon.
- Mr. Stafford presented the proposal for SGC Booth and the cost to the Council. After extensive research, he came up with a cost of \$2,490 to construct this booth. Ms. Erin O'Brien moved that the Council approve \$2,500 from the dissolved Student union Board budget to be used for the construction of the SGC booth. Ms. Mahasin Salahuddin seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.
- Ms. Salahuddin informed the Council that a date and time needs to be set for photographs of the Council to be taken for posting on the SGC Website. It was decided that those pictures should be taken come Fall semester when all members are back at school.

New Business

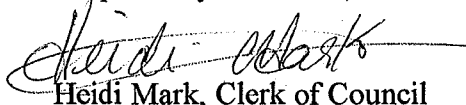
- Committees should be meeting to work on assignments that were given to them.
- Ms. Burton put forward to the Council that we should meet every week until we have our work under control. On alternate weeks we shall end the general meeting earlier and break up into committees to work on our assignments.
- Next week all member need to be present because we shall be deciding on when the Council shall hold meetings for the Fall semester

Community Comments

- Ms. Willette Young and Ms. Lorena Abril brought up the issue of Housing and the role that Student Government plays. In particular, there was an issue of broken washers and dryers in the residence hall. Mrs. Ellison informed us that the matter has been submitted to legal counsel. The option that is being looked at right now is to buy out the rest of the contract and bring in a new vendor. She admitted that it is a very terrible and horrendous situation, but that administration is trying its best to deal with it. Mr. Stafford reassured both ladies that SGC is committed to providing a better facility and it will do everything possible to achieve this.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi Mark, Clerk of Council
Student Government Council, North Campus