

10-1-1998

Meeting Minutes 10.01.98

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council

**SGC MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 1998**

6:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Dannielle Boyer, Representative-At-Large
Ms. Safiya Burton, President
Mrs. Helen Ellison, Advisor
Mr. Delano Greene, School of Hospitality Representative
Ms. Lakisha Holmes, Vice President
Mr. Gakunga Kihohia, Finance Chair
Mr. Kervins Laurent, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Mitchel Saintilmon, Panther Power/ Athletics Coordinator
Mr. Plinio Sanchez, Director of University Relations
Ms. Heidi Mark, Administrative Assistant/ Clerk of Council
Mr. William Stafford III, School of Nursing Representative
Ms. Avia Rice, Representative-At-Large
Ms. Christina Sorondo, School of Journalism and Mass Communications Representative
Ms. Liana Perez, Director of Community Relations
Ms. Mahasin Salahuddin, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Mervin Robinson, Representative-At-Large
Ms. Nicole Perkins, College of Urban And Public Affairs Representative
Ms. Jacqueline Sconiers, Bay Vista Hall Council Representative

ABSENT

Ms. Veronica Arcila, Student Services Chair (excused)
Ms. Mireidy Fernandez, Academic Affairs Chair
Mr. Fadi Hatem, Chief of Staff
Ms. Giralda Merkman, Representative-At-Large (excused)
Mr. Rafael Zapata, Campus Activities/ Advisor (excused)

GUESTS

Ms. Christina Fisher
Mr. Joshua Smith, Finance Committee Member
Ms. Paola Juspa, Beacon
Ms. Knickeita Vassell, Honors Council

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by President Safiya Burton. Ms. Burton requested that members read through the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. William Stafford moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Ms. Dannielle Boyer seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Ms. Burton informed Council members that the Fee Committee had met the previous day, Wednesday September 30. The committee is proposing to increase the Athletic and Health fees. These fees have not been increased in about 4 or 5 years. More information on these meetings will be made available to the Council so that members can voice their concerns on this very important issue.
- Executive board meetings will resume next Tuesday October 6 at 9:00 in President Burton's office. All members who are on the executive board please make an effort to be there on time please.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Ms. Holmes thanked all those members who helped out with the Voter Registration Drive. The drive attracted 120 new registered voters. There were also 280 persons who had signed up but who could not be registered because they were not American citizens.
- The Tier System forum has been cancelled. No information has been provided on when another one will be scheduled.
- Chancellor Herbert will be inducted tomorrow at a ceremony to be held in the Graham Center Ballroom at 6:30 p.m. All Council members are invited to attend.
- Ms. Holmes prepared a basic outline of what areas need to be covered when members do their visitation of classes. This outline was passed out to all members. A report of what classes were visited needs to be handed in to Ms. Holmes on a weekly basis.
- The United Way kick-off takes place next Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. Council members need to make an effort to attend this very important event. Anyone who can make it early to help set-up please try to do so. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Mrs. Helen Ellison reported that the University lawyers had completed compiling their case against Salon, the company that University Housing has their laundry contract with. The lawyers are now ready to submit a proposal to the company that includes a settlement offer for the remainder of the contract, which officially ends at the end of the year.
- The schematics for the new housing project at North Campus is almost completed. The project is going forward quite nicely. The only small problem is that the project

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may exceed the \$8 million budget. However, university administration is looking into this problem.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

- Mr. Kihohia advised all members to please adhere to all guidelines that are in place now when doing file for funds and other accounting matters.

- 1st on the agenda was approval of \$1,400 for the United Way fundraising Blitz. This money will go toward providing breakfast for about 40 people, and 10 consolation prizes of \$50 coupons to Barnes and Nobles. Ms. Mahasin Salahuddin moved to approve the \$1,400 from the general account for he Blitz. Ms. Christina Sorondo seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

- Next was the approval of \$1,500 requested by the Invitational Scholars Club to send 2 students to Atlanta, Georgia to attend the Grants Winning Workshop and National Education Conference of Color conference. Mr. Kervins Laurent moved not to approve the \$1,500. Ms. Holmes seconded the motion. VOTE: 2 in favor, none against, 6 abstentions. The motion failed. Ms. Avia Rice moved to table discussion on this issue until next week when more information could be had from the Invitational Scholars Club. Ms. Dannielle Boyer seconded the motion. VOTE: 7 in favor, 1 opposed. Motion passes.

- Karaoke Tuesday was a big success and Mr. Kihohia thanked all those who were involved in any way.

- The Finance Committee is in the process of putting together an expenditure brochure that explains how Student Government spends its money etc. This brochure will be made available to the FIU community so that students can see exactly what their money is being spent on.

STUDENT SERVICES

- Mr. Stafford, Vice Chair reported that the committee would provide a proposal at the next meeting that will decide the fate of the SGC booth.

- The committee is trying to put together a brochure that explains in-depth the reasons for having the transportation fee and what the funds are spent on. This is in response to complaints from a number of students about why they have to pay this fee.

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APPOINTEES' REPORTS

DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

- On Monday October 5, 1998, shooting will resume for the SGC documentary. Also the Newsletter is going forward and a committee has been set up to handle this project.
- With regard to the upcoming fundraising Blitz on October 9, Mr. Sanchez stressed that the Council needs to participate fully in this venture. The members of the Council need to lead by example so that other students will be motivated to follow.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Ms. Perez thanked those members who supported the Partnership for the Homeless event on Sunday September 20. Although about 10 persons signed up, only 4 actually showed up for the event. The next project is Habitat for Humanity which will be on October 10. Please come out and help for this volunteer activity.
- Members need to keep in mind United Way weeks which are October 12-23.

PANTHER POWER

- The Panther Power Logo will be ready on October 7. Mr. Saintilmon will have it to show to the Council at next week's meeting.
- Friday October 16 starts Midnight Madness. Mr. Saintilmon plans to have buses taking North Campus students down to South Campus for this event. There will be a tailgate party and lots of fun. Please keep this in mind.
- November 9 is the date of the Softball game between North Campus SGC and SGC UP. There will be a Barbecue and the Cheerleaders will be present.
- Other events to keep in mind are the Basketball game between Michigan and FIU, and the Basketball tournament on December 6.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ms Mahasin Salahuddin reminded members of the Internship Orientation which was rescheduled to Saturday October 3 at 10:30 a.m. in the Faculty Club. Members are required to present a two-minute speech on their position. If anyone cannot make it please give your speech to someone else so that the interns can hear about your position and decide if they would like to be an intern for that position.
- Ms. Burton reminded members about the United Way Small Business Blitz which was rescheduled for Friday October 9. We meet in the Faculty Club at 8:30 a.m. and

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have breakfast. A Video on the United Way campaign will be shown and then Mrs. Mary Pankowski will officially launch the Blitz. Please be there!!!

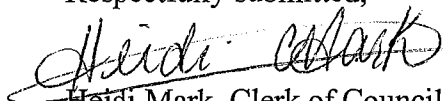
- Ms. Nia Johnson has resigned from her position as Representative-At-Large effective October 1, 1998. Mr. Mervin Robinson expressed interest in filling this position. He explained that he was very interested in Student Government and helping students in whatever way that he could. Mr. Delano Greene moved to vote Mr. Robinson into the Representative-At- Large position. Ms. Nicole Perkins seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- There will be a Homecoming meeting tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. in GC 241. Members please try to attend if you can.
- The Night of Cultural Expressions has been rescheduled to October 23. This program is being sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services.
- On November 21, there will be an event called Burgers and Bobby Socks - a 50's revival, at the Kovens Conference Center. This event is in celebration of Aventura's 10th Anniversary. It is also aimed at raising scholarship money for FIU. Tickets are \$75 per person.

With no further business or comments the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


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