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Meeting Minutes 05.06.99

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council

MEETING
MAY 6, 1999

IN ATTENDANCE
Mr. Kunga Kihohia, President
Mr. Tito Omaghomi, Vice President
Mr. David Cole, Advisor
Ms. Katrina Davey, Lower Division Representative
Ms. Gloria Bryan, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Angel Garcia, Representative-at-Large
Ms. Melissa Tapanes, Director of Community Relations/Lobbying
Mr. David Dajani, School of Hospitality Representative
Ms. Florence Carranza, Graduate Representative
Ms. Nicole Perkins, Clerk of Council/Secretary
Ms. Veneisha Scott, Panther Power Coordinator
Mr. Rafael Zapata, Advisor

ABSENT
Ms. Avia Rice, Representative-at-Large
Ms. Dannielle Boyer, Representative-at-Large
Mr. Peter Gallego, Representative-at-Large
Ms. Ula Zucker, Journalism and Mass Communications Representative

GUESTS
Ms. Linda Lubin, President of Student Programming Council

CALL TO ORDER
President Kunga Kihohia called the meeting to order at 12:55 p.m. Mr. Kihohia welcomed the Council to the first budget meeting of the year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Mr. Kihohia presented the first item on the agenda, which was the mentoring program. He proposed that the mentoring program and the Junior Panther Dayz to be joined. Ms. Katrina Davey moved to approve the merging of the mentoring program and the Junior Panther Dayz accounts. Ms. Gloria Davey seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Kihohia explained what the Tri-Council was to all of the new members. He defined the Tri-Council further which consists of Student Programming Council, Student Government Council, and Student Organizations Council. Mr. Kihohia added that an amount of $2,000.00 was allocated towards the Tri-Council banquet held at the end of the spring semester.

Mr. Kihohia proposed that $500.00 will be taken from the Discretionary fund, which will make its balance $6,500.00 and from the Mentoring program, which will make its balance to $1,500.00. VOTE: Unanimous.

Ms. Katrina Davey moved to approve the entire Student Government Association - North Campus budget for the 1999-2000 year. Mr. Angel Garcia seconded it. VOTE: Unanimous.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Mr. Omaghomi informed the Council that the Student Government Retreat would be held on June 4, 5, and 6 at Marco Island in Naples, Florida. He passed around a sign-in sheet for all members to sign if they were attending. He reminded the Council that the retreat was mandatory. If Council members did not attend, their position on the Council will become vacant. Mr. Omaghomi added that the retreat will be a knowledgeable experience and should be an exciting one as well. He provided the council with questions about their position and needed the answers submitted in his mailbox by May 10, 1999 at 5:00 p.m.
Mr. Omaghomi informed the council that office hours needed to be submitted by May 10, 1999, also.

**ADVISOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Zapata welcomed all of the members to the Council and invited those who did not know him to sit and talk with him one-on-one.

Mr. Cole did the same and assured the Council that he was there to assist all Council members with their mission and duties.

**APPOINTMENTS**

*Academic Affairs Committee Chair:*
Ms. Florence Carranza sought the position of AA Chair. She made a few remarks pertaining to the determination she would contribute to the committee. Mr. Omaghomi made a motion to appoint Ms. Carranza to the position of Academic Affairs Chair. Ms. Davey seconded it. **DISCUSSION:** Ms. Perkins expressed her wariness to Ms. Carranza holding two positions on the Council. She added that Student Government should have many different opinions and to allow Ms. Carranza to hold two positions would inhibit other students in getting involved. Ms. Linda Lubin agreed to that point. **VOTE:** 2 in favor, 1 against, and 2 abstentions. Vote fails.

*Student Services Committee Chair:*
Monica LaFrance sought appointment into the position as Student Services Chair. She formerly held this position and would like to continue to produce success. Mr. Garcia contributed a few words to her reliability and her motivated spirit. Mr. Garcia made a motion to appoint Ms. LaFrance as the Student Services Chair. Mr. Omaghomi seconded. **VOTE:** 5 in favor, none against, and 1 abstention. Vote carries.

*Panther Power Coordinator:*
Ms. Veneisha Scott was nominated for the position as Panther Power Chair. She formerly held this position and was applauded for her major success. She has plans to enlarge the Panther Power Squad and have numerous pep rallies. She plans to incorporate a Student Appreciation Week to make the students feel special. Mr. Omaghomi made a motion to accept the nomination of Veneisha Scott to the Panther Power Chair position. Ms. Gloria Bryan seconds it. **VOTE:** Unanimous.

*Director of Community Relation/Lobbyist:*
Ms. Melissa Tapanes was nominated to become the Council's Director of Community Relation/Lobbyist. She served on the Student Government Council at University Park in the same fashion. She will only serve on the Council for a period of 3 ½ months, a trial period.

Mr. Garcia made a motion to appoint Ms. Tapanes to the position as Director of Community Relation/Lobbyist. Mr. Omaghomi seconds the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

*Chief of Staff/Executive Director:*
Ms. Jenee Fernandez Jones was nominated to serve as the Council's Chief of Staff/Executive Director. She is coming from Miami Dade Community College and has a very impressive resume. Unfortunately, Ms Fernandez Jones was unable to be voted into this position due to her status in the University. She is currently not a student of FIU. She will not become a student of FIU until the fall semester. Ms. Fernandez Jones will seek appointment at a later date.

*Clerk of Council/Secretary:*
Ms. Nicole Perkins asked the Council to appoint her as the Clerk of Council. Ms. Perkins was formerly a SGC intern and College of Urban and Public Affairs Representative. She informed the Council of the changes she would make if she were appointed. Mr. Omaghomi moved to appoint Ms. Perkins as the Clerk of Council/Secretary. Mr. Angel Garcia seconded. **VOTE:** Unanimous.

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS:**

Mr. Zapata urged the Council to think about their fall semester classes. He informed the Council that they have priority registration and they should schedule their classes around Student Government meetings and not vice-versa.

With no further comments, Mr. Kihohia thanked everyone who attended.
ADJOURNMENT:
The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Perkins, Clerk of Council
Student Government Council, North Campus