

2-19-2003

Minutes 02.19.03

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/sgabbc-archive>

Recommended Citation

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University, "Minutes 02.19.03" (2003). *SGA BBC Document Archive*. 571.
<https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/sgabbc-archive/571>

This work is brought to you for free and open access by FIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in SGA BBC Document Archive by an authorized administrator of FIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact dcc@fiu.edu.



Council Minutes

Florida International University • Student Government Council • University Park

February 19, 2003

Jessica called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Roll Call

Governing Council

Salman Azhar
Stefanie Cabrera
Derek Capo
Omar Castillo
Damion Dunn
Huguette Esquivel

Luis Martinez (LT)
Jessica Morffi
Collette Papa
Jag Ramasamy
Maite Reimundo
Jorge Rosario, Jr.

Kimberly Skiffington (LT)
Clayton Solomon
Jacqueline Sosa
Bill Wilson (LT)

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Alejandra Cordovez (AB)
Cindy Fraga (LT)
Roxy Fuentes (AB)
Maria Garcia
Patrice Hernandez (AB)
Samir Qureshi
Tania Varela

Standing Council Chairpersons

Panther Rage- Sean Alcindor
Honors Council- Wendy Fernandez
GSA- Vicky Salazar
RHA- Monica Texidor
SOC- Samir Qureshi
SPC- Alina Garcia

Advisor

Vicky Owles

Minutes were passed with no corrections.

Reports of Executive Board

President Jessica Morffi

Jessica began by saying that the meeting today would be rather short because there is no new business and the last couple have been long. With regards to Bright Futures, Jessica reported that all of the efforts everyone put forth turned out to be a great success. FIU UP Campus took up about 60 students to the rally. She thanked the staff who put on the events because everyone was impressed with our organization. Jessica did reassure however, that this is just the beginning and that everyone needs to ensure that there is no time lost. There were over 5,800 petitions signed and sent to Tallahassee and that there are at least 100 more in the office which will be taken to FSA this weekend coming up. Jessica then reported that there will be point to point transportation once the construction starts and that the sidewalk Alejandra and the Student Services committee lobbied for between the Business building and Housing would be completed

by April. Finally, Jessica reported that there would be an American Cancer Society meeting today for anyone who is interested in participating.

Vice-President

Omar Castillo

Omar began by thanking all of the council members that participated in the rally in Tally. He said that he appreciated the efforts and the support. The rally was a success and FIU was well represented. Omar then reported that yesterday, and last week Tuesday, he had a meeting with the Vice Presidents of all the other councils (Honors, SPC, GSA, and SOC). The purpose of these meetings is to come up with new and innovative ideas on how to market events. Finally, Omar reported that next Wednesday will be the STAC meeting and that if anyone has anything to add, to please let him or Peter Horst (Vice President of GSA and STAC chair) for more information.

Comptroller

Samir Qureshi

Samir reported that there would be a finance committee meeting today after the council meeting. Also, Samir said he met with Dr. Bonnano about the finance hearings. The University-Wide hearing will be on March 14th from 1:00-5:00PM and the other half of the hearing and the Biscayne Bay hearing will be on March 28th. Samir reported that February 20th is the deadline to turn in all budget proposals and that if anyone had anything important to add, to please let him know. Finally, Samir said he has been working on his transition binder for the next comptroller and that everyone should be doing the same.

Chief of Cabinet

Malik Wilkes

Malik reported that time cards would be due tomorrow at 1:30PM.

Reports of Standing Committees

Academic Affairs

Tania Varela

Tania reported that they had a very successful ARA application process and that there were 10 student advisors selected at the beginning of the week. Their training is scheduled for the second week in March. Tania then reported that her intern met with Dr. Laurence Miller, Director of the Libraries, regarding certain issues: laptop usage and journal usage. With regards to laptop usage, the committee asked the library to extend the checkout time of laptops for graduate students from 3 hours to 3-5 days. Dr. Miller explained that this request is not possible because the way the system works now is precisely set up so that many more students will have access to the laptops. In addition, the committee asked to see if it was possible for the law students to take the laptops to the first floor because that is where their classrooms are, but Dr. Miller noted that would not be possible because the alarms in the building are configured so that laptops cannot go below the second floor and that law students are encouraged to buy their own laptop. With regards to the second issue of journal usage, Tania and Heather made the library aware that some graduate students are being assigned journals that FIU is not currently subscribed to. Tania reported that Dr. Miller was not aware of this, so he would be glad to get a list of journals and order them. Tania then said that she would be contacting the Chairs of each department to ask them what journals they assign their students, and then pass that list on to Dr. Miller. Tania then reported that she had already ordered blue books for the SGA office so they should be in within the next couple of days. Finally, Tania asked to see her committee directly after the meeting.

Elections

Cindy Fraga

Cindy thanked the council for their patience in last week's meeting with the Elections Code revisions. She gave a special thanks to Omar and Kimberly for doing a great job on writing and presenting the bill. Finally, Cindy reported that applications for elections are out today and that they would be due on March 5th.

Student Services

Luis Martinez

Luis Martinez reported for Alejandra because she was unable to attend the meeting. Luis said that Alejandra and Jessica attended the Parking and Traffic meeting last Friday where they

brought up the proposition for the building of the sidewalk by the Business Administration building. The committee approved the sidewalk and Paul Gallagher said that the construction would begin as soon as possible. Next, Luis reported that the committee has compiled all of the information that will be put in the "Did You Know?" pamphlet and that Alejandra will be taking it to publications next week for printing. Finally, Luis reported that the student services award surveys are still in progress and that some of the surveys will be conducted over the phone. Any interns who are interested in helping out with this project, Luis asked to please contact Alejandra and that she can then inform you about the procedures.

Reports of Representatives

- A) Collette Papa
- B) Kimberly Skiffington
- C) Clayton Solomon

Reports of Standing Council

Panther Rage Malik Wilkes

Malik reported that Panther Rage's last meeting for the semester was on Monday. Also, Malik said that there are a few basketball games left for the semester. Finally, he reported that Panther Rage would be involved in Dance Marathon's lip sync tonight.

GSA Peter Horst

Peter reported that Vicky Salazar, GSA President, is currently in Washington DC representing FIU in the National Graduate Lobby Days at Capitol Hill and that he would represent FIU in Tampa this weekend at the Statewide Graduate Students Organization Conference. Peter then reported that GSA had a Competitive Edge Seminar on Grad Tax Compliance on February 6th from noon until 1:00PM in WC 130. The speaker was Eric Davidson from the Controller's Tax Compliance Office. GSA served pizza and refreshments at the event. They are organizing a second session on Tax Compliance on February 27th. Peter reported that GSA's pre-Valentine's Gradskeller on February 7th was well attended. During the Gradskeller, GSA passed out a survey dealing with the Graduate Catalog Revisions. Participants received a free T-shirt and based on availability, an extra beer ticket. Peter reported that these were perfect incentives because they received 38 responses. The Gradskeller committee is working on innovative ideas towards this event. So far, GSA has decided to pursue two other Gradskellers: a Pre-St. Patrick's Evening this Friday and a Marti Gras evening in two weeks. GSA held a second mini-retreat session for all GSA officers on Saturday, February 15th in HLS 216 from 3:00-7:00PM. The aim of the session was to identify the team's strengths and weaknesses and use this information to revise their goals and finalize the planning of all their events for the semester. Peter then reported that GSA had an E-board meeting on February 8th in HLS 216 from 3:00-5:00PM and another one on February 18th in GC 350 from 3:00-5:00PM. There was a general meeting on Tuesday, February 11th in CP 153 from 3:00-5:00PM. Upcoming events for GSA include the pre-St. Patrick's Gradskeller this Friday, the next general meeting on February 25th in GC 305 from 3:00-5:00PM, and the second CES workshop on Tax Compliance on February 27th in PC 432 from noon-1:00PM. Finally, Peter thanked Omar for the idea of the Vice Presidents council meetings and asked anyone that may be interested in STAC to please email him at Phors002@fiu.edu

SOC Samir Qureshi

Samir reported that Bryan, the chair of SOC, is not at the meeting today because he is ill. Samir reported that SOC has 15 new clubs and that they are trying to strengthen them. Finally, Samir reported that there are new E-board members in SOC because the old ones had to leave for personal reasons.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Announcements

None

The meeting was adjourned at 4:37PM.

Student Government Council – UP

Representatives Report Form

Name: Collette D. Papa

Position: College of Law Representative

Date of report: Wednesday, February 19, 2002

I. Committees Assigned:

1. Academic Affairs – Chair: Tania Varela
2. Student Services – Chair: Alejandra

Academic Affairs meets consistently on Mondays. We have chosen the 10 ARA's (2 law students applied) and I have been working with Tania to help Arts and Sciences form new honor societies – we are in contact with the Pre-Med society to do this. I have been in contact with Dr. Beesting about a fundraiser we want to do for scholarships – we are discussing the details presently.

Student Services Committee meetings take place on Mondays – we are planning for this semester to implement a “Student Services” Award program to recognize good service in PC. Surveys have been distributed. This is to encourage better service for our students. I have contacted the Parking and Traffic Committee to undergo training to be an appeals officer but I have not heard back from them yet. We are currently working on a “Did You Know?” pamphlet to inform students of services offered on campus that are not taken advantage of widely.

II. Goals and Plans for the Semester

My continuing goals include establishing a strong relationship between the College of Law students, the Student Bar Association, and the Student Government Association. I want to increase awareness of SGA in the College of Law and to continue this tradition. Methods to accomplish this include conducting surveys to meet the needs of the COL students and implementing a suggestion box program in the College of Law.

III. Current Projects (Be Specific)

1. College of Law Qualifications Bill: this was presented and passed by a majority through the council. It will be voted on through a University wide vote in the upcoming elections.
2. COL survey: my survey is completed. The dean asked that I wait until after midterms to distribute it – I will be sending it to duplicating this week and should have it out within the next two weeks
3. COL suggestion box: I obtained approval to implement a suggestion box in the College of Law – I researched boxes online and found one suitable – I will submit a request to the Finance committee before the week is through.
4. Other: I have been in good contact with the COL students – they signed petitions for Bright Futures, and showed interest in ARA – I keep them updated on all SGA happenings in the hopes that they may become more involved.

Kimberly Skiffington
Housing Representative

Goals and Projects

Past Projects:

- RHA Mr. and Ms. Housing
- RHA Retreat
- Bill for Election's Code
- Rally in Tally

Current Projects:

- I'm working on a sort of 'news letters' to be posted in the public bathrooms of each residence hall.
- Unity

International Students

- Cricket match
- Banquet

Student Services

- Did You Know.... ? Pamphlet
- Bus Tickets Survey
- Awards for customer service

Student Government Association
2nd Semester Report
Representative Clayton Solomon

Project and Goal Update:

HB 353 Codification: All changes and a draft are complete. Will be meeting within the week with BBC to discuss implementation.

ARA/JRA Implementation: After holding a final meeting between Dr. Ken Johnson and Tania things have been finalized. The program is currently underway thanks to the hard work and efforts of Tania and the Committee.

FSA Workshop: Held successfully last month, and may possibly be presented to SGC BBC as well.

Since my last report I have been actively participating in the efforts to save the Florida Bright Futures program by helping to draft the official resolution, getting petitions signed in housing and in GC, and the Rally to Tally.

In the meeting with Dr. Johnson I also discussed the feasibility of distributing the surveys to the classrooms along with teacher evaluations. He is currently looking into it as I have completed a final and shorter draft.

Earlier this month I also participated in my second Academic Grievance Hearing, as well as assisted the elections committee with the changes to the code.

Academic Dishonesty Survey

This survey, compiled by the Student Government Association, will serve to better understand the needs and concerns of the student body in regards to academic honesty.

1. Do you know students that cheat?

Yes No

2. If so, how often?

Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

3. Do you know students that plagiarize?

Yes No

4. Is it easy to plagiarize research material?

Yes No

5. Do you believe that cheating occurs the most on multiple choice, true/false, or free answer tests?

Multiple-choice True/false Free Answer

6. Do you study before quizzes?

Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

7. Do you study before exams?

Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

8. Does a lack of studying prior to a test make you more inclined to cheat?

Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

9. Do you believe that students who plagiarize or cheat are adequately punished for their actions?

Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

10. Are you aware of the consequences of cheating or plagiarism?

Yes No

11. Do you believe that most of the students are aware of the consequences of cheating or plagiarism?

Yes No

12. Do you believe an SGA awareness program regarding the consequences of academic dishonesty (cheating plagiarism) will prevent future occurrences?

Yes No

13. Is cheating or plagiarism easy for professors to detect?

Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

14. Do your professors make appropriate measures to prevent cheating?

Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

15. Do you feel that cheating is wrong?

Yes No

16. Do you feel that plagiarism is wrong?

Yes No