

6-8-2005

Meeting Minutes 06.08.05

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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June 8, 2005

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

Roll Call

Governing Council

Tony Delgado
Carlos Velazco (AB)
Chereen de Boehmler
Bill Buchanan
Alfonso Leon
Mari Cabrera
Marbely Hernández
Hilda Rose-Bernard

AJ Meyer (EX)
Cesar Quinzada (LT)
Santiago Bermúdez
Nidia Cruz
Kimberly Castillo
Armando Aragón
Darius Ahrabi-Asly (AB)

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Charles Blake (AB)
Kenny Gelok
Kenny Alce (AB)
Nancy Cadavid
Andrea Arteaga (AB)
Providence E. Olcoye (AB)
Raynard Morgan
Christopher Fraga

Standing Council Chairpersons

Panther Rage- Jonelle Graham
SPC- Raj Maharaj (AB)
Homecoming- Brian Swensen (LT)

Governing Council Chairpersons

Honors Council- Dianne Cordova
GSA- Travis Gabriel
RHA- Natalie Jaramillo
SOC- Larissa Locket

Advisor

Charlie Andrews

Minutes were passed with corrections.

Reports of Executive Board

President

Alex Prado

Prado welcomes everyone. The retreat went very well. It was very productive. Here are the goals we came up with.

1. Technology

- Create Tech committee to research the feasibility/necessity of technology fee that will benefit:
 - Hybrid/Online Fee
 - My FIU Portal
 - Better email system
 - Lab fees
 - Wireless Expansion

2. Legislative issues

- Lobby for our fiscal year issues.
- Create a Governmental Relations website link on the SGA website.

3. Academic Affairs

- Secure the 4th Floor of the library for Graduate Students.
- Research the feasibility of increasing the amount of research catalogues, scholarships and grants for Graduate Students.
- Extend computer lab hours throughout campus (Internet Cafe).
- Implement Golden Panther Services to all students.
- Research and implement what is best for students regarding the (+/-) grade scale (UW).
- Bind Student Grievance (UW).
- Research the feasibility/necessity of night classes (UW).

4. Student service

- Implement Live Customer Service call center and My FIU Portal (UW).
- Implement Panther Card Expansion & Off Campus Meal Plan (UW).
- Expand Food Services & Indoor Recreation (game room) (UW)
 - and ATM capabilities at the engineering campus (Credit cards).
- Research for better health insurance plans for students (UW).
- Research and secure a company and insurance plan for the Greater Miami Shuttle Bus.
- Research and locate a company to provide free online music downloads to students.
- Create a partnership with University Health Services and a neighboring Hospital.

5. Marketing/Community/PR

- Hold SGA accountable through - outreach program & meeting visibility.
- Expand visibility to surrounding areas.
- Host one alumni reception along with Career Services and SAA.
- Participate/Facilitate at least two Community awareness projects per semester (UW).
- Pine Center Awareness (UW).

6. Fiscal

- Hold an open forum for A&S and student organizations.
- Create an off campus bank account policy.
- Create a uniform fiscal process for campus organizations (UW).
- Research the overhead fee in regards to budget deliberations (UW).

7. Athletics

- Increase communication with SAAC (Student Athletic Advisory Council).
- Research and implement where student services fee will go for the recreation center.
- Implement spirit point incentive program through Panther Rage.
- Increase student attendance at games.

8. Campus Publications

- Increase communication between The Beacon and SGA (UW).

9. Campus life and programming

- Hold the administration accountable for pit availability.

10. Multicultural affairs

- Implement an all faith room.
- Research and develop a group to facilitate multicultural issues.
- Conduct a focus group regarding the optional international housing wing.
- Promote diversity awareness (UW).

11. Other

- Have UP & BBC collaborate more often (UW).

Welcome week – Prado will be meeting with the orientation office next week. They are striving to have a bigger and better welcome week. They want to reach out to the community and not just FIU students that come around already. As for the new goals, Prado wants to have a check off list at every meeting, so that we can check off the goals we have accomplished and so that we keep on the right track.

Vice President

Christine Denton

*Retreat- We had a great retreat, it was productive and we set many great goals. Let's hold ourselves accountable. I will be attending all committee and house meetings to make sure that we are following up on these goals.

*Orientation- We have had 2 orientations so far! We have been given many praises as to our presentation! We have had many potential interns come by to the office and to pick up application! If they come by to the office, give them one of Roberts's business cards. Our goal is to have many interns apply, and so far we are off to a good start! We are waiting for Ronnie to finish the applications to put them online and put them in the office. For now just direct them to our website and tell them applications will be up soon!

*Polo's/name tags- unfortunately our polo's and name tags were not ready by the retreat due to some complications! They should be in soon.

*Miss FIU send off- Prado and I will be attending the Miss FIU Send Off (Sat. at 7pm in homestead) she will be participating in the Miss Florida pageant. We are already making contacts for next years miss FIU pageant.

*Prado and I have completed the Committee Selection sheets. I will be distributing the committee selection sheets now. Obviously it is very difficult to assign these committees when everyone wants certain committees

*Committee Meetings – I sent an email to all committee chairs b/c we need to set a meeting date that is good for everyone. Please meet with me after the meeting to set a time that is good for you all.

*Freshmen Convocation: I need the designs for the shirts due Friday.

*T-shirt ideas are due, so please turn them in.

Comptroller

Nancy Cadavid

*Had a transition meeting with Dr. Bonanno and Marisa (SGA Accountant). They informed me of a new CFO (Chief Financial Officer) that will be handling the university budgets. I'll probably have a meeting with her this month.

*The budget is in the process of being signed by President Maidique and should be in effect by the end of this month.

*I set up a meeting with Rick Mellow (Athletics Director) to discuss the funding of the Marching Band/ Dazzlers for next year. Alex and I will be meeting with next Friday.

*I spoke to Rob Frye to see how much it cost for the gym classes/intramurals for the year - \$25,000. To open the gym 1 hour later Mon. – Sat. is \$26,000 (\$16,600 for student staff/ \$10,000 utilities). We need surveys to see what the students rather have.

*I'm still in the process of finding out how much money will be left over from last year to roll over into this year's budget since there are still many expenses pending.

*Over the retreat, I communicated a lot with the BBC Comptroller and we will definitely be in contact throughout the year because they need a lot of help with their budget.

*I just got my first proposal so I need the Finance Committee to stay a few minutes after the council meeting to set up a convenient time for us to meet. THANK YOU! :)

Chief of Cabinet

Brittany M. Juliachs

Greetings to new Council and Congratulations to the new committee chairs on their elections. Brittany is excited to be back in SGA and to start working on the goals that were brought up during this past weekend's retreat. By next week the cabinet will be holding their first meeting all together in which they will begin discussing plans for upcoming projects for the Fall Semester that coincide with the new Council's goals for this year. For now, the main efforts will be directed towards ensuring that we deliver a good SGA presentation during Freshman Orientation. Brittany asks that if any representatives are free during those sessions to please speak to Franchi, our marketing coordinator, to find out how you can help out during that time. She is in need of more volunteers.

Speaker of the House

Alfonso Leon

We had a good treat, a lot of good work and goal setting took place. The House will be taking this Summer as an opportunity to work on Reviewing the SGA Constitution and the Bylaws. The House has set goal for this year on top of our University wide goals and UP goals, which are more college specific but, will be working on with the help of all the Reps. For example; Study areas throughout campus, and job fairs. Furthermore, the House will have a survey coming out in summer B that will be done in collaboration with the Campus Life committee, dealing with SGA visibility and campus life member recruitment. The House has created an online e-group to better communicate information with each other. Finally, at our next House meeting we will be finalizing our meeting structure and semester report structure for the summer. Also, we will be setting up individual meetings for the semester.

Reports of Standing Committees

Academic Affairs

Andrea Arteaga

No Report

Campus Life

Chris Fraga

Chris has a lot of great ideas, he has been working with the last campus life chair. He got a list of all the freshman experience classes so he will be going to talk to them about SGA and campus life once summer B starts. Chris is collaborating with Alfie on the survey. He is working to get the housing and commuter students more involved.

International Students

Providence E. Olcoye

Newsletter – Got prices from Ronnie Mittleman, Campus Life Publications \$495 for 500 copies and \$645 for 100 copies. Will determine how many copies after putting in a budget proposal. (Will speak with Nancy about it.) She is looking to work with International Students Office and the Alumni Association to contact and stay in touch with Alumni who are International Students. Cannot rely sole on word of mouth, we need to have these people in different countries to bear the Torch. Also, with Int. Students Office and Office of Administrations, try to create a program Int. Student Ambassador. This would enable interested students from other countries contact someone from their country to tell more about their school of choice, FIU.

Student Services

Kenny Gelok

*I had a meeting with the food services committee regarding the expansion of food services within the university community. The meeting narrowed down the companies being discussed from 3 down to 2 with Aramark right now being the favorite to continue on as our food service vendor at FIU.

*The contract that will be awarded to either SodexHo or Aramark will become effective on July 1, 2005 for a span of 10 years. In the meeting some of the concerns that were discussed by both myself and the other members of the committee were:

- Management of Aramark and how it can be changed if they are to continue at FIU.
- Renovation of Gracie's grill, but keeping the Gracie's grill name intact.
- Ability of either provider to adapt to consumers needs within the 10 year contract time.
- Pricing as compared to vendors outside of the University.
- Panther card expansion as it relates to both the food services contract, as well as expansion outside of the University, and how more vendors on campus will put pressure on outside vendors to work with FIU to accept Panther card in the near future.

Student Union

Ray Morgan

*I am currently working collaboration with Dr McIntire Chair of the English Department about getting space for a writing lab in GC. The environment under which the writing lab operates is not conducive to learning and because of its small size the lab is not equipped to the meet the tutoring needs of the campus.

*I have also met with Vicky Owles and Manny Rosa about drafting the proposal to lift the noise ban in the Betty Chapman Plaza and possibly the area behind the Atrium and also the fountain.

*Some of the issues discussed were;

- establishing a noise decibel level
- lifting the ban between 12 – 2
- lifting the ban only on Tuesdays and Thursdays

*Plans are also underway to add another recreational program to the other ones offered in GC. Currently we have Salsa and Ballroom dancing among others. I will be working with Pam (Associate Director of GC) to distribute surveys about what other programs student would like to see offered.

Reports of Boards

Elections Board

Kenny Alce

None

Judicial Board

Charles Blake

None

Reports of Standing Council

Panther Rage

Jonelle Graham

BBQ July 5th at the Housing Quad (7pm). Shorties will be provided. Their first meeting will be July 11th at GC 140 at 4pm. E-board liked the points system idea, but they want to tweak it a bit. (Raffle system) Games of the week flyer will be coming soon!

SPC

Raj Maharaj

No report

Homecoming

Brian Swensen

Good Day friends! The homecoming theme has been picked. It is "Evolution of the Panther" Each event will have a different genera theme. For example, Moonlight madness will be 70's, Lyp Sync will be 80's. They are looking to have an awards ceremony on that Sunday.

Reports of Governing Council

Honors Council

Dianne Cordova

They are revising the points system, and planning for their information fair in the Fall.

GSA

Travis Gabriel

Travis thanks the council members because he has a wonderful time on the retreat. He wants to especially thank Hilda, Jonelle, Andrea and all his peeps. He looks forward to working with the council on a number of projects. GSA had their first E-board meeting last week. They discuss their budget issues and their plans for the new year. They are in the process of making changes in their constitution. Thank You!

RHA

Natalie Jaramillo

No report

SOC

Larissa Locket

SOC retreat will be on June 10th -12th in Marco Island. They will be transitioning, implementing new systems, Budget proposal (SOC and SGA working closely with Nancy) and revamping of the Constitution and SOC handbook. The annual officer registration forms are due July 25th by 5:00pm. They are currently in the process of doing audits of all organizations. New registration packets are due September 2nd by 5pm. Finally, giveaways for SOC have come in.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Announcements

- A) Committee chair meeting with Denton after meeting
- B) Cabinet meet with Britney after to pick meeting time
- C) Marbely wants to know "How do you feel...?"

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54PM