

7-6-2005

Meeting Minutes 07.06.05

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council
Office of the President

Minutes
Student Government Council General Meeting
07/06/05

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Natkisha Jean-Baptiste, President
Mr. Lemar Linton, Vice-President
Mr. Zach Trautenberg, Finance Chair
Ms. Brittany Williams, Chief of Staff
Mr. Micheal Santiago, Director of Student Lobbying
Mr. Rogell Levers, Director of Alumni Affairs
Ms. Franchine Daley, Director of Special Events
Ms. Vanessa Robinson, Director of Public Relations
Ms. Sophonie Morno, Intern Director
Mr. Errol Jones, Athletics Director
Mr. Jayesh D'souza, International Student Services Chair
Ms. Ekaterina Samborskaya, Student Union Board Chair
Ms. Alina Balean, Journalism and Mass Comm. Representative
Mr. Stratos Papatriantafyllou, Representative at Large
Ms. Pamela St. Fleur, Representative at Large
Mr. Camilo Silva, Lower Division Representative

ABSENT:

Mr. Lemen McCray, Business Representative
Mr. Daryl Hall, Broward Representative

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Mr. Andre Brathwaite, Hospitality Management Representative
Ms. Evelyn Suarez, Student Services Chair

GUESTS:

Ms. Maxi Bakst
Ms. Irmine Michelle
Mr. Steven Ramirez
Mr. Chester Robards
Mr. Rodney Pierre
Mr. Raphael Zapata, Assistant Director of Campus Life & Orientation

A General Meeting of the Student Government Council was held on July 6, 2005. President Natkisha Jean-Baptiste was present and the meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes were approved as corrected from the two previous meetings.

APPOINTMENTS:

There was one candidate who presented for appointment to The Council:

- **Maxi Bakst** presented for appointment to the position of Director of Internal/ External Affairs. She was appointed on approval of the Council.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- President Jean-Baptiste reminded the Council about the Advising sessions. President Jean-Baptiste will conduct the advising sessions Vice-President Linton has completed the appraisals. She distributed a sign up sheet for persons who need to schedule a time to meet with her.
- President Jean-Baptiste reminded the Council to properly label all correspondence before placing it in her mail box.
- President Jean-Baptiste reminded the Council that each Council member has an obligation to attend S.G.A. events. Everyone must sign-up to assist during a designated time period at these events. If a council member is unable to attend, they must submit an excused absence form to President Jean-Baptiste informing her of why they cannot attend.
- President –Jean Baptiste reminded the Council that the next S.G.A. General Meeting will be held at the Pines Center on July 13, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. Transportation to the meeting will be provided through car pooling. If any council member is unable to attend, they must submit a leave of absence form to President Jean-Baptiste. Because there is no Broward representative or Graduate Representative, the Council must make a presence at the Pines center and show their support.

FINANCE REPORT:

- Finance Chair Trautenberg gave an explanation of the financial status of the Student Government Council. On the first sheet, the left column summarizes the completed Student Government Council budget which was approved by University Administrators. The second sheet summarizes the internal budget for Student Government Council. The funding listed for Public Relations, Elections, Special Events, etc. are designated to those chairpersons.
- Finance Chair Trautenberg extended an invitation to S.G.A. members who are interested in being on the Finance Committee. Finance Chair Trautenberg distributed a sign-up sheet asking their names and availability. He also requested that interested representatives notify him if they are on any other committees.

HOUSE REPORT:

- The House of Representatives met last Wednesday June 29, 2005 after the general meeting. The House will meet again on July 13, 2005 immediately following the general meeting at the Pines Center. Vice President Linton welcomed new representatives. There have been no votes on any issues yet. Other Council members may attend the House meetings. They cannot vote on issues but contributions to discussions are welcomed.
- As per the constitution, Vice President Linton will serve as the Speaker of the House until a new Speaker of the House is elected during in the Fall semester.



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VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Vice President Linton discussed the cabinet reports. Reports are due on Friday July 8, 2005 and on Fridays bi-weekly. If Cabinet members do not submit their reports, their stipend will be affected. Vice President Linton will no longer send e-mails reminding members about reports. It is each member's responsibility to submit reports on time.
- Vice President Linton informed the Council about the implementation of the Council member of the month program. The program will begin in the Fall semester.
- Vice President Linton informed the Council that both President Jean-Baptist and Vice President Linton will be out of the office from July 17, 2005- July 21, 2005. The President and Vice President will be at the F.S.A. retreat at the PGA Golf Resort and Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. President Jean-Baptiste and Vice President Linton will be available by cellular phone. There will be no S.G.A. General Meeting on that Wednesday July 20, 2005.
- Vice President Linton informed the Council that all Standing Committee Chairpersons must determine when their committees will be meeting. The President and Vice President must know when the meetings will be and where the meeting will be held. This information should also be placed in the Chief of Staff's mailbox.
- The President and Vice President will be holding office hours at the Pines Center effective Fall semester. Presently, we have no Pines Center representative and more presence is needed until a new representative is appointed. Council members are encouraged to hold office hours at the Pines center, when it is possible, to show support.
- Vice President Linton informed all Council members that all communications with S.G.A. will only be done through their F.I.U. e-mail account effective immediately. All Council members who have not submitted their F.I.U. e-mails have 14 days to comply with this policy.
- Vice President Linton discussed the progression of the S.G.A. web site. The site can be accessed via wuc.fiu.edu. Council members can use the site to promote campus and community events. Council members interested in monitoring a specific section of the web site should notify Vice President Linton.
- Vice President Linton informed representatives that they will present their reports at next week's S.G.A. General meeting which will be held at the Pines Center.
- Vice President Linton informed the Council of the Student Programming Council moving project. Two potential spaces have been proposed for Student Programming to occupy. SPC will either share the space that currently houses The Beacon or they will occupy one of the storage areas. Dr.Hanes assures that Student Programming will have a new space by the Fall semester.
- Vice President Linton informed the Council that S.G.A. members need to come out and support the SLS 1501 presentations. All members are required to sign up to present.
- Vice President Linton reminded the Council that when Council members are meeting with university administrators or officials, President Jean Baptiste and Vice President Linton must be notified by completing the appropriate paperwork. Vice President Linton asked that Council members contact the Chief of Staff for the appropriate paperwork.

- Vice President Linton informed the Council that beginning in the Fall semester, Robert's Rules of Order will be strictly enforced during S.G.A. General Meetings. President Jean Baptiste and Vice President Linton will hold a workshop during Summer semester for members interested in becoming more accustomed with the protocol.

COMMITTEE/ CHAIR REPORTS:

- **Clerk of Council Report:** Clerk of Council Hamilton has completed the minutes from the 6/15/05 and 6/29/05 meetings. She has placed the order for Robert's Rules of Order hand books.
- **Chief of staff Report:** Chief of Staff Williams is working on a more efficient system for time cards. Chief of Staff Williams will be meeting with the Chief of Staff at the University Park Campus next week to develop and implement a more efficient system to record the time. She is also helping council members with events and will take over new member orientation, effective immediately.
- **Special Events Chair Report:** Special Events Chair Daley is currently organizing the Let's Chill Study and Relaxation Fair. The event will be held on July 20, 2005 in Panther Square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Special Events Chair Daley will be collaborating with the Health and Wellness Center, MPAS, and the Learning Center. The event will inform students of programming, stress relief techniques, and effective study skills.
- Part-Time Volunteer & Internship fair will be held on September 20, 2005 in Panther Square from 10:30a.m.-2:30p.m. This event is in the planning stages and is geared towards freshman and sophomores.
- S.G.A. Inaugural Town hall Meeting will be held on September 20, 2005 in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theatre from 2p.m.-4p.m. This event will host a platform for President Jean-Baptiste to give her inaugural speech before the student body and university officials. The event is in the planning stages and Special Events Chair Daley is working with the Clerk of Council to draft the invitations. Special Events Chair Daley will be working with Hospitality Management to cater the event for administrators and officials.
- **Intern Director Report:** Intern Director Morno reported that recruitment for the intern program is going well. The selection process for the intern program is nearly complete. 10 qualified interns are being selected.
- She is speaking with the SLS 1501 classes to promote S.G.A.
- The Intern Program Promotional Event will be held on Wednesday July 13, 2005 from 1:30p.m.-3:00p.m.
- The Welcome Ceremony for Interns is in the planning stages.
- Guest speakers for Intern workshops have been confirmed. The Intern retreat is in the planning stages.



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- **Director of Student Lobbying Report:** Student Lobbying Director Santiago is currently working on the Panther Card Expansion Program. A timeline has been established for completion of the project. Vice-President Linton has a copy of the plan in his possession. More than 150 Biscayne Bay Campus surveys were completed during the Got Questions event to correlate with the surveys completed at University Park.
- The pilot program was proposed to be launched at the Publix location across from the University Park Campus due to low initial response from the Biscayne Bay Campus. Student Lobbying Director Santiago is lobbying to have the pilot program launched from the Biscayne Bay Campus because there is a significant need for the service to persons living in housing and to the other students. Members at the University Park seem uninterested in having the program launched at the Biscayne Bay Campus. The initiative for the program has been presented to Publix but University Administration must approve the initiative. The project is at a stand still until administration approaches Publix.
- Student Lobbying Director Santiago met with Mr. Luis Meunch to implement a section on the SGA website where students can request classes that are not offered at the Biscayne Bay Campus.
- Student Lobbying Director Santiago spoke with the National Republican Party and the National Democratic Party. Both want to conduct a campus wide voter registration drive.
- Student Lobbying Director Santiago is planning a human resources seminar in conjunction with alumni relations and the human resources program at the Biscayne Bay campus

- **Director of Public Relations Report:** Public Relations Director Robinson is working on the S.G.A. brochure which will inform students about the purpose and functions of S.G.A. She met with Moncarz last Monday and he proposed that she compose a brochure on the Biscayne Bay Campus that enlightens the community about the Biscayne Bay Campus. Dr. Moncarz also proposed that S.G.A. monitor and update the community service section of the website. S.G.A. can post events and community events.
- Public Relations Director Robinson proposed creating a small video about the Biscayne Bay Campus and campus activities. Robinson respectfully asked to pursue the video initiative and she set a meeting with administration at the University Park Campus about doing a Biscayne Bay Campus version of the admissions video, using S.G.A. members as spokespersons.
- Public Relations Director Robinson is working on the Tri- Council meeting flyers and will have them completed as soon as possible.

- **Director of Alumni Affairs Report:** Alumni Affairs Director Levers is extending Student Alumni Association membership to interns and present S.G.A. members.
- Alumni Affairs Director Levers is planning an event for seniors and summer graduates [Senior Appreciation Day]
- Alumni Affairs Director Levers is planning to work in conjunction with Special Events Chair Daley for the Part Time Volunteer & Internship Fair.
- Alumni Affairs Director Levers will conduct the first Biscayne Bay Campus Student Alumni Association Meeting on July 18, 2005 at 5 pm in WUC 159.

- Alumni Affairs Director Levers is working to establish Panther Perks geared towards the Biscayne Bay Campus.
- **International Student Services Chair Report:** International Student Services Chair D' Souza met with a group of International students to share his goals and all that the University has to offer.
- **Athletics Director Report:** Athletics Director Jones is currently working with the President of Panther Power, Ms. Lorna Sylvestre, to bring a larger athletics presence to the Biscayne Bay Campus. Several attempts have been made to collaborate with Panther Rage at University Park to obtain posters and other materials but little feedback was given from University Park.
- **Student Union Board Chair Report:** Student Union Board Chair Samborskaya had no report.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

- Chief of Staff Williams informed the Council of the proper procedure to inform President Jean-Baptiste and Vice President Linton when meeting with University administration and officials. A memo must be submitted by the Sunday of that week stating when and with whom the Council member will be meeting. The memo can be e-mailed or placed in the Chief of Staff's mailbox.
- Vice President Linton informed the Council of the Florida Student Association tele-conference. A bill proposing the implementation of state tuition for excess credit hours was not passed. A bill proposing that the Board of Trustees control the increases of tuition was not passed.
- Vice President Linton informed the Council that the official letters of veto from the Florida Student Association meeting are available in his office.
- President Jean Baptiste met with Mr. Gregory Olsen about another display board for S.G.A. The request for the display board has been approved.
- President Jean-Baptiste informed the Council that the next S.G.A. Meeting will be held at the Broward Pines Center on July 13, 2005 at 3:30p.m.
- The next SLS 1501 presentation will be held on July 13, 2005 at 12:30p.m. in AC1 223
- The Let's Chill Study and Relaxation fair will be held on July 20, 2005 from 11-2p.m. in Panther Square.
- The next open Tri-Council Meeting will be held in WUC 159 at 12 noon on July 28, 2005.
- The Customer Service Session will be held on August 17, 2005.
- The Relay for Life event will be held at North Miami Stadium on August 19, 2005 and August 20, 2005.
- The Freshman Luau will be held on September 1, 2005 in front of AC .1

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting adjourned at 4:51p.m.