

10-5-2005

Meeting Minutes 10.05.05

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council

AGENDA **SGC GENERAL MEETING** **October 5, 2005** **3:30 PM**

- I. Call to Order/Sign In..... *President Jean-Baptiste*
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Judicial Appointments
- IV. President's Report..... *President Jean-Baptiste*
- V. Vice President's Report..... *VP Linton*
- VI. Finance Report..... *Zachary Trautenberg*
- VII. House Report..... *Speaker Pamela St.Fleur*
- VIII. Community Comments
 - A. **Important Dates**
 - 1. 10/6/05 BSU Conference
 - 2. 10/8/05 BBC Open House
 - 3. 10/11/05 Breast Cancer Awareness Day
 - 4. 10/14/05 Latin Explosion Concert 9pm
 - 5. 10/15/05 FIU v. Texas 6pm
 - 6. 10/20-10/29 Homecoming Week
 - 7. 10/20/05 Diversity Day
 - 8. 10/21/05 Homecoming Step Show 7pm
 - 9. 10/25/05 Town Hall Meeting 3-5pm
 - 10. 10/26/05 SOC Halloween Bash 11-2pm
 - 11. 10/27/05 Homecoming Dance
 - 12. 10/28/05 Variety Show
 - 13. 10/29/05 FIU v. Middle Tennessee
- IX. Adjournment



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Minutes SGC General Meeting 10/05/2005

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Natkisha Jean-Baptiste
Mr. Lemar Linton, Vice President
Mr. Zach Trautenberg, Finance Chair
Ms. Kenasha Paul, Clerk of Council
Mr. Brent Maximin, Student Lobbying Director
Mr. Rogell Levers, Director of Alumni Affairs
Ms. Franchine Daley, Director of Special Events
Ms. Sophonie Morno, Intern Director
Mr. Jayesh D'Souza, International Students Services Chair
Mr. Sean McNary, Director of Technical Advancement
Ms. Abah Hamilton, Director of Internal/External Affairs
Ms. Vanessa Robinson, Panther Power Director
Ms. Sheree Williams, Elections Commissioner
Ms. Victoria Roman, Academic Affairs Chair
Ms. Maxi Bakst, Judicial Board Chair
Mr. Charles Blake, Parliamentarian
Ms. Aviole Ambroise, Campus Life Board Chair
Ms. Janet Ellison, Arts and Science Representative
Ms. Pamela St. Fleur, Speaker of the House
Ms. Stacy-Ann Samuels, Director of Public Relations
Ms. Anna Chowanec, Broward/Pines Representative
Ms. Ytaelena Lopez, Graduate Representative
Mr. Andre Brathwaite, Hospitality Management Representative
Ms. Lenneice Drew, Journalism & Mass Communication Representative
Mr.. Camilo Silva, Lower Division Representative

ABSENT

Mr. Stratos Papatriantafyllou, Representative-at-large
Ms. Rachel Caines, Executive Assistant
Ms. Brittany Williams, Chief of Staff

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Ms. Evelin Suarez, Student Services Chair

GUEST

Dominic Smith
Francheska Desravines



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Fabiola LaPorte
Joshua Luke

A general meeting of the Student Government Council was held September 28th, 2005. The meeting was called to order at 3:35 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- The minutes were approved as corrected.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- Maxi Bakst, Judicial Board Chair presented five members to be appointed to the judicial committee. The five candidates were approved by the voting members present.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Jean-Baptiste informed the council about her FSA trip to Washington to lobby for an improvement in the Higher Education Act, such as consolidating loans.
- President Jean-Baptiste informed the council of the action towards college textbooks. Publishing companies produce new editions at alarming rates which causes students to not get the best deal out of the situation. She informed the council of the inquiry to make textbooks tax deductible or to have publishing companies slow down the rate they issue new textbooks.
- President Jean-Baptiste informed the council of the support that was obtained by an Ohio Congressman, who has made it his mission to collaborate with FSA in getting the issues of the students addressed on a national level.
- President Jean-Baptiste informed the council of the Intern program and the changes that will be made to it. She reminded the council that the intern program is not there to have the interns do their mentor's work. They are present to shadow their mentors, so that one day, they can fill the position and do so in a successful manner. From now on interns will do mentor reports, and that they will be analyzing and documenting their mentor's performance.
- President Jean-Baptiste yielded the floor to Vanessa Robinson, Panther Power Director who discussed the FIU Open House that will take place on Saturday, October 8th, 2005. She asked that all SGA members that signed up to attend please come in at 8:00 am. Ms. Robinson will give assignments as to what each individual will be asked to do.



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VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Vice President Linton did not present a report.

TREASURE'S REPORT

- Zach Trautenberg distributed updated; informing the council of chair and committee account balances. He explained that 4% of their funds are taken out by the University as overhead charges.

HOUSE REPORT

- Pamela St. Fleur, Speaker of the House, informed the council of the goals that they are setting for the remainder of the year. With a nearly full house of representatives, they are making plans to get the campus aware of their representatives and with the new slogan coined by Janet Ellison, Arts & Science Representative, they are making moves to improve the relationship between the student body and themselves.
- Ms. St. Fleur also informed the council that workshops on writing resolutions, bills and any other legislative forms of documentation will take place as soon as time allows.

**President Jean-Baptiste proposed a motion to amend the agenda to add new business. Edgard Izaguirre, Lower Division Representative made a motion to add new business to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Vice-President Lemar Linton. Voting members approved the motion (6-0-2).

NEW BUSINESS

- President Jean-Baptiste informed the council of the Readership Program. This program will offer student's subscriptions to New York Times and newspapers to the BBC student community. Petra will be asked to come to next weeks meeting and discuss all the details of this program.
- President Jean-Baptiste yielded the floor to, Director of Technological Advancement, Sean McNary. Mr. McNary informed the council of the changes that will be made to the website and asked the council if anyone felt that they needed their own section on the website. It was discussed with President Jean-Baptiste that it would be useful for council members to have access to the website and make changes on their sites and that he will host a workshop to teach interested council members how to use and navigate the website.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- Sheree Williams, Elections Commissioner, informed the council that applications for special elections will be put in the Campus Life office one



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week prior to schedule. She advised the representatives that were appointed that they would have to fill out these applications and go through the election process to keep their seat within the House. The dates of the special elections were presented to the council as followed:

- October 28th, 2005: Applications will be available
 - October 23rd and 24th: Mandatory Candidate Meetings
 - November 7th-14th: Campaigning Week
 - November 16th-17th: Voting
- A motion was made by Vice-President Linton for approval of the new form. The motion was seconded by Lower Division Representative, Edgard Izaguirre. Voting members present approved the new form (8-0-0).
 - Franchine Daley, Special Events Coordinator reminded the council of the Town Hall Meeting that was to be taken place on September 20th was postponed due to the Hurricane and the new date for the event is October 25th, 2005 at 3-5 pm. All council members must make plans to attend this meeting, it is important for the community to be aware of the SGA members that work for them.
 - Vice President Lemar Linton was asked by Pamela St. Fleur for the dates of the SGA pageant. He informed the council that October 31st-November 4th will be Pageant week, and the pageant itself is on November 4th at 8:00 pm in the ballroom.
 - Stacy-Ann Samuels, Public Relations Director asked the council to have at least one meeting a month in Panther Square. President Jean-Baptiste agreed and informed the Public Relations Director that when she found a date that was convenient to go ahead with the plans to have a meeting in Panther Square sometime in October.

****A motion was made to return to new business by Vanessa Robinson and was seconded by Vice-President Lemar Linton. Vanessa Robinson, Panther Power Director wanted to inform the council that she would like to see the removal of SGA's Chief of Staff, Brittany Williams. Vanessa Robinson was allegedly mistreated by the Chief of Staff and felt that her presence on the council was a detrimental association and that her removal should be taken into consideration. The House decided that consideration for her removal will be moved to next week's meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.