

8-3-2011

General Meeting Minutes 08.03.11

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council – Biscayne Bay Campus & Pines Center

MINUTES
SGC-BBC General Meeting
August 3, 2011

IN ATTENDANCE

Denise Halpin, President
Emilio Collyer, Vice President
Kevin Gonzalez, Comptroller
Suyen Fernandez, Chief of Staff
Julie Goncalves, Intern Coordinator
Simbisai Anglene Mubau, Academic Affairs Coordinator, **3:37pm**
Xinyu “Allen” Tian, International Student Services Coordinator
Jing Dong, Marketing Coordinator
Daniel Usma, Arts & Science Senator
Jorge Nonell Jr., Arts & Science Senator
Pablo Haspel, Honors College Senator
Alix Sanchez, Hospitality Management Senator
Emmanuel Okwor, Broward Pines Center Senator
Diana Deonanan, Lower Division Senator
Oluwatamilore Odimayo, Senator At-Large,
Oluwatobi Adekoya, Senator At-Large
Melissa Khan, Senator At-Large
Patrick Milord, Justice
Micaela Cohen, Justice
Rafael Zapata, Advisor
Larissa Adames, SGA Clerk

Absent

Michael Cabrera, Athletic Campaign Manager, **excused**
Farah Yamini, Arts & Science Senator, **excused**
Sagine Delly, Graduate Senator, **excused**
Christopher Lawton, Chief Justice, **excused**

GUEST

Jonathan Szydł, Beacon, BBC Editor
Grace Ingabire, Student
Afiewa Attawia, Student
Catherine Vega, SPC President

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on August 3, 2011, WUC 155. The meeting was called to order at **3:34pm**, approximately, by President Halpin who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

Approval of Minutes

Senator Haspel motioned to table the approval of the July 20th general meeting minutes, Senator Sanchez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Halpin began her report that there were some rough times during the USSA conference. Every school fought for there needs to be considered on the agenda. We were able to get the Pell Grant initiate on the Action Agenda, which means it will be a yearlong initiative that USSA will be working on.

Ms. Halpin informed the council about the meeting she had with President Rosenberg and spoke to him on what are the chances of having a "real" panther on campus. Since the panthers are an endangered species and there are 160 left in wild, it might be difficult getting one. Ms. Halpin considered the fact of adopting one or co-sponsoring one with Zoo Miami, but they do not have a panther. Closest one lives in Tampa, FL. Another option would be for Zoo Miami to adopt one for us, but we would have to look into the process of doing so.

Ms. Halpin mentioned that budget deliberations were held last Saturday, Jul 30th. The university wide budget committee was able to allocate \$109,000 to the Wolfe Center for the theatre renovations. _____went back to the ACB. On Monday the Senate will be voting on the budget.

Ms. Halpin reminded the council that Freshman Convocation will be August 21st and she expects everyone to be there. SGA will be sitting in the front rows. Patrick O'Keeffe and she will be a part of the ceremony. After convocation, there will be a reception at President's Rosenberg's house, on the lawn. There will be a shuttle at BBC to transport students to convocation. The shuttle will return to BBC by 6pm and there will only be one shuttle returning.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Collyer began his report by stating that he meet with Eric Feldman from the 9/11 task force regarding hosting some of the 9/11 programs at BBC.SGA BBC will be co-sponsoring a lecture with the task force that will be September 7th in WUC 155. He hopes to see the council there.

Mr. Collyer mentioned that there was a Councils with a Cause meeting yesterday. Each council needs to pick a team captain and raise \$30 before next Tuesday. The theme that Council for a Cause chose is Disney; SGA has chosen Aladdin as their theme. There will be an envelope in the office for the council members who would like to contribute the \$30 goal.

Mr. Collyer announced that SGA Day is the second week of school on August 31st, this when we will present ourselves to the student body. We will attempt to have a general meeting during

SGA Day at Panther Square at an earlier time than usual. Please email him your Wednesday schedule to figure out the earlier meeting time.

Mr. Collyer updated the council on one of the possible changes for the Pell Grant; Graduate students will have to pay their loans while in grad school instead of six months after they graduate.

COMPTROLLER REPORT

Mr. Gonzalez reiterated that these past Saturday budget deliberations were held because of the increase of enrollment figures. There was \$547,000 of Activities & Services fees that need to be allocated. After MMC had allocated their campus specific request, they had a surplus of \$ 50,000, which was allocated to the Wolfe University Center for renovations. There were some organizations that received an increase in funds. As mentioned before, the senate has to approve the budget before it is presented to Dr. Jones for final approval.

Mr. Gonzalez informed that council that he will be working on the B.Y.O.B (Bring Your Own Books) event. He emailed the council members who were interested in this event about meeting after the general meeting to plan for it.

SENATE REPORT

Mr. Haspel reported that the finance committee members have been finalized. Senator Odimayo is the Finance Chair, Senator Haspel, Senator Usma, Senator, Adekoya, Senator Deonanan and Senator Delly are the committee members. The Finance Committee will meet every Friday at 3:30pm.

Mr. Haspel informed that council that he will email the senate the budget so that they look over it and vote on it during Monday's Senate meeting.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Mr. Zapata asked that for the council members who did not attend the retreat, to please see him. He has "goodies" for you to pick up.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointments

Grace Ingabire presented herself to the council as the candidate for the Lower Division Senate position. She is biology major. She wants to join SGA because as a lower division student, she does not see much of the freshman and sophomore getting involved and she hopes to change that.

Senator Haspel motioned to open the floor for discussion, Senator Khan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Senator Haspel clarified that Freshman are eligible to able for the intern program once they start the Fall semester

Mr. Collyer informed the council that a lower division senator can later reapply for the senator at large position, Arts & Science position or any cabinet position.

Senator Sanchez motioned to close discussion, Senator Odimayo seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.

Senator Uma motioned to appointed Grace Ingabire as Lower Division Senator, Senator Odimayo seconded. Senator Usma: **Nay**, Senator Nonell: **Yay**, Senator Haspel: **Nay**, Senator Sanchez: **Yay**, Senator Okwor: **Yay**, Senator Deonanan: **Yay**, Senator Odimayo: **Yay**, Senator Adekoya: **yay**, Senator Khan: **Nay**. By a 6-3 vote, Grace Ingabire is the new Lower Division Senator.

Senator Odimayo motioned to appoint Jing Dong as marketing coordinator, Senator Khan seconded. Senator Usma: **Nay**, Senator Nonell: **Yay**, Senator Haspel: **Nay**, Senator Sanchez: **yay**, Senator Okwor: **Yay**, Senator: Deonanan: **yay**, Senator Odimayo: **yay**, Senator Adekoya: **Yay**, Senator Khan: **Nay**. By a 6-3 vote, Jing Dong is the new marketing coordinator.

Afiewia Attawia presented herself to the council as a candidate for one of the justices' positions. She is a graduate student currently enrolled the Hospitality Management master's program. She received her Bachelors in Political sciences and has worked for a lawyer.

Senator Haspel motioned to appoint Afiewa Attawia as a Justice, Senator Odimayo seconded. Senator Usma: **Yay** Senator Nonell: **Yay**, Senator Haspel: **Yay**, Senator Sanchez: **yay**, Senator Okwor: **Yay**, Senator: Deonanan: **yay**, Senator Odimayo: **yay**, Senator Adekoya: **Yay**, Senator Khan: **Yay**. By unanimous vote, Afiewia Attawia is the new Justice.

ANOUNCEMENTS

- A. August 5, 2011 – Laser tag, 3-5pm
- B. August 12, 2011 – Amateur Swim Meet, 1-3pm, Aquatic Centre
- C. August 15, 2011- Fall Transfer Orientation
- D. August 16-17, 2011- Fall Freshman Orientation
- E. August 19, 2011, Dorm Move-in Tabling
- F. August 21- Freshman Convocation
- G. August 22, 2011 – FALL CLASSES BEGIN
- H. August 31, 2011- SGA Day, 11am-2pm, Panther Square
- I. September 13, 2011, Pines Center Meet & Greet
- J. September 28, 2011, SGA Alumni Reception, 6pm-8pm, TBA

The meeting was dismissed by President Halpin at **4:12pm**.