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Senate Minutes 01.11.10

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m. by Speaker of the Senate.

Present: Maria Pacheco, Andrea Cruz, Gregory Baptiste, Joshua Numa (3:32), Victoria Aguila, Zahra Arbabi Aski, Nick Chickishev, Latreace Gachette (3:39), Christin Battle (3:37)

Absent: Robert Tassy, Emanuel Osemoto, Bin Hao, Claudia Ruby

Vice President's Report

1. The Vice President talked about the upcoming University-Wide meeting and the deliberations coming up.
2. FIU Day – March 3, which is a Wednesday in Tallahassee, FL. This will encompass SGA's from all over Florida and will present FIU's position. There will be a bus.
3. President Rosenberg's townhall meeting on February 9. Questions are needed from the senators beforehand so he will know how to respond to the issues. 3-5 questions. Turn in within 2 weeks.
4. Schedules – school and office hour schedules – get those in to Larissa
5. Attendance in general meetings. There are 6 open senate positions. Nick expressed that he wants to see the transcripts of people interested in becoming senators because he doesn't want anyone to just come in. Cici suggested we have a discussion about changing the steps to becoming a senator because it is against the policy to review someone's transcript.
6. Election codes, and she has emailed Meka in reference to the joint senate meeting.
7. There are tickets for everyone to attend the MLK breakfast
8. There are 5 people in the budget for LegCon but she wants more senators to attend this year, and 2 slots are already taken, herself and Shalom.

New Business

1. Committee Reports – The Communications committee will be having a short meeting after the meeting to discuss initiatives for 2010 and set a time for the meeting. The Finance Committee met today prior to the Senate meeting and had 2 proposals and 1 appropriation. It was a good week. Maria reported on the Operational Review Committee – they are working on a new schedule and she needs to talk to the members.
2. Andrea spoke to the Senate about the Honors College and the fact that most SGA members are eligible to join, they probably don't know the criteria. She spoke about the requirements and benefits of belonging to the Honors college, and gave an appeal to the Senate for eligible members to consider joining. You have to have a 3.3 GPA and 2 more years left at FIU. The priority deadline to apply is Feb. 15, with the general deadline being March 1. You can turn in your application directly to her as well.

Old Business

1. Christin nominated Nick as the new Speaker Pro-Tempore. Joshua Numa seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous.
2. Absences and removals. There was a discussion on Senators not communicating and who should be removed. There was brief discussion of postponing this vote. Christin advised the Senate that it was time to remove Senators that were getting paid and not participating fully in the Senate. Bin Hao – Vicki informed everyone that Bin was having scheduling issues, but as of the date of

the meeting, had not responded to e-mails, or informed the Senate what was happening. Nick motioned to remove Bin Hao, Latreace seconded that motion. The vote was unanimous to remove Bin. Claudia Ruby – there has been no communication from Claudia as of this meeting via email or via phone. The Senate discussed the fact that although she hasn't driven, she should call in. Joshua motioned to remove Claudia Ruby as Broward Pines Senator and the motion was seconded by Nick. The vote was unanimous to remove Claudia. There was a discussion on Emanuel Osemoto – Emanuel advised the Senate that although he could not make the Senate meetings, he would make the Wednesday meetings and still complete his duties as a Senator. Discussion was had and it was decided that the Senate needs to have a conversation with Emanuel as a whole to decide our course of direction. The vote on removing him was postponed by a unanimous vote.

Announcements

1. U-Wide Meeting on Wednesday at MMC – no jeans, business attire.
2. Volunteering Saturday at an elementary school – for more info contact Joshua Numa.
3. Brain Bowl next Saturday from 8-6
4. IOTA probate tonight at 7 in the South Campus ballroom

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m.