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## Senate Meeting Minutes 07.18.11

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### Florida International University

Student Government Council - Biscayne Bay Campus & Pines Center

# MINUTES SGC-BBC Senate Meeting July 18, 2011

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Pablo Haspel, Honors College Senator, Speaker Daniel Usma, Arts & Science Senator, Speaker Pro Farah Yamini, Arts & Science Senator, Jorge Nonell Jr. Arts & Science Senator Diana Deonanan, Lower Division Senator Oluwatamilore Odimayo, Senator At-Large Oluwatobi Adekoya, Senator At-Large Melissa Khan, Senator At-Large Sagine Delly, Graduate Senator Emilio Collyer, Vice President Kevin Gonzalez, Comptroller Rafael Zapata, Advisor

#### Guest

Maria Renata Katherine Vega Leandro Vinamur Andrea Azalia

#### Absent

Xin Zheng, Hospitality Management Senator, Christian Williams, SJMC Senator, Emmanuel Okwor, Pembroke Pines Senator (Excused) Alix Sanchez, Hospitality Management Senator (Excused) Christopher Lawton, Chief Justice (Excused)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Student Government Association [BBC] held a Senate meeting on July 18, 2011. – Locale WUC 301 The meeting was called to order at 3:44 pm, approximately, by Speaker Haspel, who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Senator Yamini motioned to table the July 11<sup>th</sup> senate meeting minutes, Senator Khan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Speaker of the Senate Report**

Speaker Haspel explained that we appointed a graduate student senator but we committed an error because there was another candidate who was not advised, therefore we needed to have a vote again with the two candidates present, or at least well informed. Also be ready for the guiz on our constitution.

#### Speaker Pro tempore of the Senate Report

Speaker Pro Tempore Usma informed the Senate about keeping reports and time cards up to date and turning them in into his mailbox for proper storage.

#### **Finance Chair Report**

Senator Odimayo explained that only one of 3 people that file for funds has responded that we are waiting for them.

#### **Student Advocacy Chair Report**

No report.

#### **Old Business**

#### A. New Resolutions.

- **a.** Senator Yamini asked about the things that were worked on the retreat and if they could all be possible resolutions, Speaker Haspel explained that yes the goals can be possible resolutions and that we should start working towards them.
- **b.** Senator Nonell gave the idea of working towards improving the soccer field by adding new grass and removing rocks
- **c.** Speaker Pro Usma talks about making a resolution to give a better warning sign in the turn from Biscayne Bay into 151st so that motorist can be aware that the intersection is monitored by cameras and that a ticket would be issued if a full stop is not performed.
- **d.** Senator Yamini talked about wanting to be part of the "second entrance resolution", Speaker Haspel explained that is President Halpin and Vice President Collyer's job.

#### **New Business**

#### A. Senate Appointments

- **a.** Senator Yamini moves to reappoint our Graduate Student Senator to be done after taking the quiz. Senator Khan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- **b.** Senator Yamini moves to open the floor for discussion, Senator Nonell seconded, motion passed unanimously

#### B. Nominations.

**a.** Senator Odimayo motions to move nominations after appointments, Senator Deonanan seconded, motion passed unanimously.

#### C. Office Hours

- a. Speaker Haspel explained to the council that they need to do 10 office hours in total which 5 of them must be in office, and the other 5 can be either in the office or out of the office. Council meetings, committee meetings among others do not count towards office hours.
- **b.** Senator Deonanan asked about what combination, Speaker Haspel answer "Any."

- c. Senator Nonell brings to attention that some council members count office hours even if they are in the office not doing SGA related business, he points out that atmosphere is sometimes distracting and that there should be more accountability.
- d. Rafael Zapata interrupts discussion and explains that if all the SGA related work is done it is appropriate for council members to work on other stuff and be counted as office hours, reason being is the in office business hours are there for the students to visit their senators, so technically just waiting in the office for someone to come is considered office hours.
- **e.** Senator Odimayo asks if we the Senate have to power to reduce or increase office hours, and he was answered that yes, we technically could.

#### D. Senate Meetings time for the fall

- **a.** Senator Yamini moves to begin discussion about the topic, Senator Khan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- **b.** Speaker Haspel recommends the council keep the meeting times the same, Mondays at 3:30 PM.
- **c.** Senator Yamini ask the entire council for their opinion.
- **d.** Senator Odimayo and Speaker Pro recommend only having one meeting a week modeling SGC-MMC where Senate meets Monday, and cabinet meets only Wednesdays.
- **e.** Senator Yamini offers starting Senate meetings at 4:00 pm, Speaker Haspel explains that many classes start at 5:00pm and that others at 5:15pm making in it a hassle to begin meetings so late as it may interrupt with classes.

#### E. Quiz

**a.** All senators took their quiz, results to be discussed during next senate meeting.

#### F. Senate Appointments

- **a.** Senator Yamini moves to open the floor for discussion, Senator Odimayo seconded, motion passed unanimously.
  - i. Speaker Haspel explained that the other suitor for the Graduate Senator position had be emailed and called to be present in today's meeting but did not showed up, he also explained that the reason we moved the appointments to be done for after the quiz was to give some time for this person to show up but she didn't, then he advises the council to continue appointments without this person.
- **b.** Senator Odimayo makes a motion to move to vote for the appointment of Sagine Delly as the new Graduate Senator, Senator Khan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
  - i. Roll call vote
    - a. Speaker Haspel yes
    - b. Speaker Pro Usma yes
    - c. Senator Yamini yes
    - d. Senator Nonell yes
    - e. Senator Khan yes
    - f. Senator Adekova ves
    - g. Senator Odimayo yes
    - h. Senator Deonanan yes
  - ii. Passed by a vote of 8/0/0 Sagine Delly is the new Graduate Senator.

#### G. Nominations

- **a.** Senator Khan moves to open nominations for the Rules and Legislations chair position, Senator Nonell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Speaker Haspel nominates Senator Delly, Senator Yamini seconded. Senator Delly accepts nomination
  - ii. Senator Yamini nominates Senator Deonanan, Senator Khan seconded. Senator Deonanan accepts.
  - iii. Senator Yamini moves to suspend week period, Senator Odimayo seconded.
  - iv. Roll call vote
    - a. Speaker Haspel yes
    - b. Speaker Pro Usma no
    - c. Senator Yamini yes
    - d. Senator Nonell yes
    - e. Senator Khan no
    - f. Senator Adekoya no
    - g. Senator Odimayo yes
    - **h.** Senator Deonanan no
    - i. Senator Delly no
    - 2. By a vote of 4/5/0 motion fails.
- **b.** Speaker Haspel explains that the Finance committee needs a few members, he explains that one senator at large, one graduate senator and one lower division senator must be part of the committee at all time.
  - Speaker Haspel nominates Senator Deonanan, Senator Yamini nominates Senator Adekoya, Senator Odimayo nominates Senator Khan, Senator Delly nominates Speaker Pro Usma, Speaker Pro Usma nominates Speaker Haspel, Speaker Haspel nominates Senator Yamini, Speaker Pro Usma nominates Senator Sanchez, Senator Nonell, nominates Senator Okwor.
  - ii. Everyone accepts their nominations except for Speaker Pro Usma, and Senator Yamini who respectfully declined.

#### Announcements

- A. Speaker Haspel continuew recruiting
- B. Senator Yamini would be taking a Leave of Absence due to her LSAT,
- C. Comptroller Gonzales informs about Pepsi Project for the Honors College.

The meeting was adjourned by Speaker Haspel at 5:07pm.