

9-6-2013

## Senate Minutes 09.16.13

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/sgabbc-archive>

---

### Recommended Citation

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University, "Senate Minutes 09.16.13" (2013). *SGA BBC Document Archive*. 874.

<https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/sgabbc-archive/874>

This work is brought to you for free and open access by FIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in SGA BBC Document Archive by an authorized administrator of FIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [dcc@fiu.edu](mailto:dcc@fiu.edu).



# Florida International University

*Student Government Council – Biscayne Bay Campus & Pines Center*

**MINUTES**  
**SGC-BBC Senate Meeting**  
**September 16, 2013**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Richard Azimov- Vice President  
Kerline Honore- Senator at Large/ Speaker of the Senate  
Sola Adedodun- Senator at Large/ Speaker Pro-Temp  
Rafael Zapata, SGA Advisor  
Ismail Hassan- Arts and Sciences Senator  
Zico Fremont- Arts & Sciences Senator  
Yanfei Zhang- Hospitality Management Senator  
Dulanga Abeyirigunawardena- Hospitality Management  
Lu Zhang- Graduate Senator  
Olivia Dehaarte- Senator at Large  
Emerald Nesbitt-Housing Senator

**ABSENT**

Jazmin Felix- Nursing and Health Sciences Senator

**GUESTS**

Brianna Boone- applicant for Lower Division Senate  
Allhan Mejia- applicant for Lower Division Senate  
Michema Lafontant- applicant for Lower Division Senate  
Karen-Michelle Sepulvede- applicant for Business Administration Senator

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Monday, September 16, 2013 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at **3:38pm** by Kerline Honore Speaker of the Senate who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

**SPEAKER REPORT**

- Speaker Honore began her report by stating that four more Senators will be appointed today, calling for more members for committees.
- In addition, Speaker Honore said that the South campus is appointing an Education Senator today.
- Finally, Speaker Honore mentioned that there are still five more positions left for the Senate: one Lower Division Senator, two Journalism Senators, one Honors college Senator and one Education Senator.

### **SPEAKER PRO REPORT**

- Speaker Adebodun reminded members that weekly reports and timecards need to be put in her mailbox every Friday at 5 p.m.

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Vice-President Azimov emphasized that the reports and timecards need to be turned in weekly. He added that if there are any problems turning the reports and timecards in on time, to communicate the issue to Speaker Adebodun.
- In addition, Vice-President Azimov said that he met with Mayor Lucie Tondreau about inviting a group of FIU students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at a North Miami city council meeting in the near future.
- Finally, Vice-President Azimov asked the Senate to start commencing committee meetings this week. Vice-President Azimov asked to meet with the committee chairs at the end of today's Senate meeting.

### **ADVISOR'S REPORT**

- Mr. Zapata mentioned that FIU is celebrating the opening of the world's first underwater research facility in Islamorada Wednesday September 18, 2013. The Today show will be there to showcase the event.
- In addition, Mr. Zapata encouraged Senate and Student Government members to attend the Samuel Friedman lecture that is going to be co-sponsored by Student Government and the Society of Professional Journalists at 7:30 p.m. September 18, 2013.

### **FINANCE CHAIR REPORT**

- Senator Dehaarte said that the Finance committee had their first meeting at 4 p.m. on September 12, 2013. Future meetings will be held at the same time.
- In addition, Senator Dehaarte said that there is around \$11,800 in leftover funds.

### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW CHAIR REPORT**

- Senator Hassan stated that his committee met for the first time Tuesday September 10, 2013. Senator Hassan also said that he is looking for more people to join his committee.

### **INTERNAL AFFAIR CHAIR REPORT**

- Senator Zhang said that her committee is currently holding meetings with two members at a time, because it is difficult to coordinate a meeting time that works for all group members.
- Senator Honore suggested that when half of the committee is holding their meeting, the other committee members could participate via Skype.
- Vice-President Azimov interjected that it is pertinent to have one unified meeting. In addition, he added that he feels Skype meetings are not the best alternative.

### **STUDENT ADVOCACY CHAIR REPORT**

- Senator Abeysirigunawardena said that her committee will meet every Wednesday at 2 p.m. and that their first meeting is going to be September 18, 2013.
- In addition, Senator Abeysirigunawardena stated that the committee has completed some surveys.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Senator Hassan motioned to approve the last three Senate meetings. Senator Dehaarte seconded the motion and the meetings were approved.
- Senator Honore stated that there were three Lower Division senators and one Business Administration senator to appoint today.

### **Appointments**

- **Lower Division Senator**

- Applicant Brianna Boone stated that she has always been interested in leadership activities and wants to be a voice for FIU.

- Boone also stated that she was a Miami Herald Silver Knight recipient for Journalism in high school.

- When asked by Senator Adebodun about how she heard about SGA, Boone said she learned about it from Organization Day tabling.

- Vice-President Azimov commends Boone for being a Silver Knight recipient. In addition, he asked Boone what she would want to change about FIU BBC. Boone said she would like to see a bigger FIU Welcome banner, in addition to new paint jobs on Academic One and Academic Two buildings.

- **Lower Division Senator**

- Applicant Allhan Mejia stated that he is marketing major and that he enjoys spending time in clubs and organizations. He also said that he wants to make a difference at FIU.

- Senator Fremont said that it would benefit SGA to have a marketing major as part of the senate.

- **Lower Division Senator**

- Applicant Michema Lafontant stated that she is a freshman and a communications major planning to get a minor in business and planning to also join either SPC or SOC. Lafontant also stated that she was Vice president of the DFY-IT (Drug Free Youth) club at her high school.

Senator Adebodum motioned to appoint all three Lower Division senators into the senate. Senator Deharte seconded the motion.

By a unanimous vote, Boone, Mejia and Lafontant were all appointed as new Lower Division senators.

- **Business Administration Senator**

-Applicant Karen Michelle Sepulveda stated that she is a marketing and advertising major that transferred from USF. She also mentioned that she was involved in leadership activities in high school.

Senator Hassan motioned to appoint Sepulveda as the Business Administration senator. Senator Fremont seconded the motion.

By a unanimous vote, Sepulveda was appointed the new Business Administration senator.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Senator Abeysirigunawardena promoted the Mid-Autumn Festival which will be serving Chinese food and moon cakes at 2 p.m. September 19, 2013 in Academic One.
2. Mr. Zapata reminded senate members to try and attend the NY Times lecture series with Samuel Friedman on September 18, 2013, since SGA is co-sponsoring the event.

The meeting was adjourned by Speaker Honore at **4:24pm**.