

9-30-2013

## Senate Minutes 09.30.13

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 Senate Meeting**  
**September 30, 2013**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Fu Zhou Wu- President **4:04**

Richard Azimov- Vice President

Kerline Honore- Senator at Large/ Speaker of the Senate

Sola Adebodun- Senator at Large/ Speaker Pro-Temp

Rafael Zapata, SGA Advisor

Ismail Hassan- Arts and Sciences Senator

Yanfei Zhang- Hospitality Management Senator

Dulanga Abeysirigunawardena- Hospitality Management

Karen-Michelle Sepulveda- Business Administration Senator

Lu Zhang- Graduate Senator

Olivia Dehaarte- Senator at Large

Emerald Nesbitt-Housing Senator

Briana Boone- Lower Division Senate

Allhan Mejia- Lower Division Senate

Michema Lafontant- Lower Division Senate

Elianis Nieves, Lower Division Senator

**ABSENT**

Zico Fremont- Arts & Sciences Senator (excused)

Jazmin Felix- Nursing and Health Sciences Senator

**GUESTS**

Christopher Morisset, Comptroller

Natasha Russo, appointment for Director of Environmental Affairs

Junguen Kim- appointment for Senator of Honors College

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Monday, September 30, 2013 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at **3:38p.m.** by Kerline Honore Speaker of the Senate who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

### **SPEAKER REPORT**

- Speaker Honore stated that all SGA members should be present at the Meet Your Dean event, unless there is an emergency. She also said to dress in formal attire.
- Speaker Honore said that she emailed the statutes to the Senate members so that they can prepare for a Robert's Rule/ statutes quiz in two weeks. Studying for this quiz will help the senate members to learn their duties and know how to conduct themselves during meetings.

### **SPEAKER PRO REPORT**

- Speaker Adebodun began her report by stating that the North Miami Budget meeting last Wednesday was a good experience to be able to interact with the mayor and other council members.
- Speaker Adebodun also said that senate members should be punching out on their time cards before heading over to the weekly senate meetings held on Monday's. This is because the senate meetings do not count towards office hours.

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

- To begin his report, Vice-President Azimov asked which members still need SGA/ Senate binders. Senators Mejia, Sepulveda, Boone, Nieves and Lafontant said they still needed binders.
- Vice-President Azimov expressed gratitude toward Senators Fremont and Adebodun, Chief of Staff Salvant and Kathleen Devaney for attending the North Miami Budget meeting last week.

### **ADVISOR'S REPORT**

- Mr. Zapata stated that it is imperative for members to attend the Meet the Dean event, Wednesday Oct. 2.
- Mr. Zapata also said that the SGA kickoff event for Homecoming week will be next Monday, Oct. 7. If members have any questions, Mr. Zapata will be out of town and will be returning that Wednesday Oct. 9.

### **COMPTROLLER REPORT**

- Comptroller Morisset said that there is \$15,000 left in the Finance funds and there is \$11,950 leftover in the graduate funds. Therefore, \$2,000 has been spent from the Finance funds and \$950 has been spent from the graduate funds.

### **FINANCE CHAIR REPORT**

- Senator Dehaarte said that the committee held a meeting Thursday, September 26. At the meeting, two requests were rejected due to deadline technicalities.

### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW REPORT**

- Senator Hassan stated his committee reviewed the Broward SGA event audit, Vista Hall event audit and International Student Scholar Services event audit reports.
- Senator Hassan said that he spoke to Ivy Siegel Mack from Campus Life about not receiving invoices, and that she is going to speak to the president of SOC.
- Vice-President Azimov asked Comptroller Morisset, what the policy is when organizations do not attach invoices to event audit reports. Comptroller Morisset stated that SGA has to freeze their accounts after waiting a months' time.

### **INTERNAL AFFAIR REPORT**

- Senator Zhang stated that there will be a committee meeting next Monday, October 7. At the meeting, the committee will count the time cards.
- Senator Zhang also said that the committee has to vote for a vice-chair.
- Senator Zhang thanked members who volunteered to administer food surveys earlier today in the cafeteria.

### **STUDENT ADVOCACY REPORT**

- Senator Abeyvirigunawardena stated that the committee's last meeting was held on September 18. She also said that the Advocacy committee will instead meet at 1 p.m. on Wednesday October 2, before the Meet the Dean event.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Senator Nieves motioned to approve last week's minutes. Senator Hassan seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by a unanimous decision.

### **Appointments**

- **Honors College Senator**

- Applicant Junguen Kim stated that she is a hospitality major who previously served as an SGA justice in 2012. She said since she attended senate meetings, she feels that she has experience to be qualified to run for the senate.

-Kim said she wants to bring more activities to the honors college and build more leadership skills for the students.

Senator Lafontant motioned to appoint Kim for the position of Honors College senator. Senator Zhang seconded the motion.

By a unanimous acclamation, Junguen Kim became the new Honors College senator

- **Director of Environmental Affairs**

-Applicant Natasha Russo stated that she is a senior studying Hospitality.

-The applicant said she works with the sustainability office on campus and is making it an initiative to have a zero-waste campus. She thinks that by holding the position of the Director of Environmental Affairs, she could create a good partnership with SGA to spread awareness about being environmentally friendly.

Senator Adebodun motioned to appoint Russo for the position of Director of Environmental Affairs. Senator Hassan seconded the motion.

By a unanimous acclamation, Natasha Russo became the new Director of Environmental Affairs.

- **Justice**

-Applicant Whitney Saint-Fleur was not present at the meeting; however senate members know who she is because she was previously an Arts and Sciences senator.

-The new members of the senate, including Senators Mejia, Lafontant, Nieves, Sepulveda and Boone, were ambivalent to vote for Saint-Fleur because they were not acquainted with her.

- Mr. Zapata said that those members could not abstain from voting however, because abstaining to vote is usually only for members who do not want to vote because of personal reasons. Mr. Zapata said those members could feel free to vote “nay,” if that would make them more comfortable.

Senator Sepulveda motioned to appoint all Whitney Saint-Fleur as a Justice. Senator Adebodun seconded the motion.

Vote:

Senator Abeysirigunawardena	Yay
Senator Zhang	Yay
Senator Nesbitt	Yay
Senator Lu Zhang	Yay
Senator Hassan	Yay
Senator Dehaarte	Yay
Senator Lafontant	Yay
Senator Boone	Yay
Senator Mejia	Yay
Senator Sepulveda	Yay
Senator Nieves	Yay
Speaker Adebodun	Yay
Speaker Honore	Yay

By a unanimous acclamation, Whitney Saint-Fleur became the new justice.

**Approval of Funding for the Meet Your Dean Event**

- Speaker Honore said that there is currently \$2500 in the senate fund, and the Meet Your Dean event requires \$955 to be taken out of the fund.

Speaker Adebodun motioned to approve the \$955 to be taken out of the senate fund for the Meet Your Dean event. Senator Sepulveda seconded the motion.

The motion was carried by a unanimous acclamation, and the \$955 to be allotted for the Meet Your Dean event was approved.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Vice-President Azimov also reminded members about the career fair from 11-3 p.m. on October 3 in the Ballrooms.
2. Vice-President Azimov told members that Director of Governmental Relations Campbell will be tabling October 1 in Academic One building, to raise awareness about the second road access. Campbell will have a petition. Mr. Zapata announced that the new members can get their photos taken after the meeting.
3. Senator Nieves asked for a point of clarification to find out more info about the SGA BBC float. Vice-President Azimov said everyone will need to help decorate the float.
4. President Wu said it is mandatory for all SGA members to be present at the Homecoming parade/game.
5. Vice-President Azimov stated that the Meet Your Dean event starts at 2 p.m. on October 2, but that members of SGA are expected to meet their deans at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by Speaker Honore at **4:27 p.m.**