

11-18-2013

Senate Minutes 11.18.13

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
November 18, 2013

IN ATTENDANCE

Ismail Hassan- Arts and Sciences Senator
Zico Fremont- Arts & Sciences Senator
Jungeun Kim- Honors College
Yanfei Zhang- Hospitality Management Senator
Jazmin Felix- Nursing and Health Sciences Senator **3:37**
Emerald Nesbitt-Housing Senator
Allhan Mejia- Lower Division Senate
Briana Boone- Lower Division Senate
Michema Lafontant- Lower Division Senate
Elianis Nieves- Lower Division Senator **3:36**
Sola Adebodun- Senator at Large/ Speaker Pro-Temp
Olivia Dehaarte- Senator at Large **3:37**
Kerline Honore- Senator at Large/ Speaker of the Senate
Lu Zhang- Graduate Senator
Richard Azimov- Vice President
Mr. Rafael Zapata- Advisor

GUESTS

Hui Wang – Freshman Intern
Maria Polido – Freshman Intern
Elliot Cunningham – Freshman Intern
Christopher Morisset – Comptroller

ABSENT

Karen-Michelle Sepulveda- Business Administration Senator
Dulanga Abeyirigunawardena- Hospitality Management

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Monday, November 18, 2013 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at **3:35p.m.** by Kerline Honore Speaker of the Senate who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

SPEAKER REPORT

- Speaker Honore stated that the SGA team building ropes course/ kayaking event was a lot of fun for those that attended.
- Speaker Honore announced that there will most likely be a Thanksgiving Potluck. A list will be sent out so that council members can sign up for what food they will bring.

SPEAKER PRO REPORT

- Speaker Adebodun thought that the teambuilding event was a good experience. Speaker Adebodun thinks teambuilding events are important, because the council needs more bonding activities.

VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT

- Vice-President Azimov said that the attendance for the recent Day on the Bay event was disappointing. He explained that if transportation was an issue, members could carpool. Vice-President Azimov went on to say that only four out of 24 senators attended the event, and he thanked those members for their participation and support.
- Vice-President Azimov stated that there have been meetings between himself, President Zhou-Wu and Felicia Thomson from Business Services. Together, they are working on issues concerning improving food services and seeking to add a panther one-card recharge kiosk near the shuttle stop. Vice-President Azimov said that hopefully a Starbucks will be coming to the library and a Subway to the food court in the near future.
- Senator Fremont expressed how he would like to see a One Card kiosk out by the shuttle stop, so that students who need to load money on to their cards early in the morning can do so. He explained that the WUC building isn't open early in the mornings when some students need to load money onto their cards.

ADVISOR REPORT

- Mr. Zapata asked if anyone is interested in going to the football game this upcoming Saturday, because SGA has tickets. Senators Lafontant and Boone expressed that they would be interested in attending.
- Mr. Zapata announced that the Town Hall meeting for Spring Semester will be held on February 10, and that attendance is mandatory
- Finally, Mr. Zapata said that the first Lecture on next semester will speak on February 5, and that more information will be available at a later time

FINANCE REPORT

- Senator Dehaarte stated that there is \$11,950 in grant funds and \$15,444 in finance funds.

RLJ Report

- Senator Felix stated that there will be an RLJ meeting after the Senate meeting, and that committee members will be reviewing finance codes, statutes and Senator Mejia's resolution about the one card kiosk.

OPERATIONAL REVIEW REPORT

- Senator Hassan stated that there will be a committee meeting tomorrow at 4 p.m.

INTERNAL AFFAIR REPORT

- Senator Zhang stated that she had no report.

NEW BUSINESS

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

B. WUC Construction Progress by Jim Wassenaar with Scott Jones

- Housing ITN- There is a need for new student housing on campus because of partnership with Royal Caribbean, who will be housing their trainees in the current housing.
 - Housing will be closed as of Summer and Fall 2014. The goal is to have 300 new beds in buildings and 150 parking spaces by Fall 2015. Therefore, there is only a one year period to figure out a new housing solution.
 - As of now, there are two options for the new housing locations:
 1. Option A: A location with proximity to the tennis courts, library, panther statue and academic buildings. This option is set in a more social atmosphere and has partially obstructed waterfront views.
 2. Option B: A location with a waterfront view that is closer to the Koven's Center and the Marine Science building.

Vote to show opinion of the two housing options:

Ismail Hassan- Option B
 Zico Fremont- A
 Jungeun Kim- B
 Yanfei Zhang- B
 Jazmin Felix- B
 Emerald Nesbitt- B
 Allhan Mejia- B
 Briana Boone- B
 Michema Lafontant- B
 Elianis Nieves- B
 Sola Adebodun- B
 Olivia Dehaarte- B
 Kerline Honore- B

Lu Zhang- B

- Panther Square: A project that has a budget of \$180,000 to place the new panther statue on a base with added lighting. Additionally, to improve walkways nearby and relocate the current butterfly garden.
- The completion of the new Wolfe Center Renovations and Panther Square installment are projected to be finished by March 31, 2014. This day will annually be known as Wolfe Day.
- The Wolfe Center Renovations will include:
 - Outdoor Sundeck
 - More open space
 - Glass railings throughout
 - Terrazzo flooring
 - A video wall with 6-8 55 inch TVs
 - Balconies
 - LED fixtures
 - All new AC
 - An assortment of different types of seating
 - New carpeting
- Additionally, there are active discussions about redoing the bookstore storefront.

C. ISSS Appropriation

Senator Nieves motioned to table the appropriation until next meeting. Senator Lafontant seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous decision.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Senator Felix announced that the RLJ meeting will still be meeting after today's Senate meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Speaker Honore at **4:51p.m.**