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Senate Minutes 01.26.15

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
January 26, 2015

IN ATTENDANCE

Maria Pulido-Velosa, Arts and Sciences
Bendjy Calixte, Arts and Sciences
Akheim Paisley, Arts and Sciences
Allhan Mejia, Business Administration
Rebecca Merek, Hospitality Management
Yumeng Zhang, Hospitality Management
Ana Correa, SJMC
Lauren Peterson, Lower Division
Kenley Jean-Louis, At-Large
Christopher Morisset, At-Large
Kai Chen, Graduate
Camille Williams, Vice-President
Larissa Adames, Advisor

ABSENT

Bryan Corcoran, Lower Division

GUESTS

Henry Dubè – Senator At Large Candidate
Meredith Marseille – Lower Division Senator Candidate
Adam Azzaoui – Justice Candidate

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Monday, January 26, 2015 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at **3:31 p.m.** by Allhan Mejia, Speaker of the Senate, who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

SPEAKER REPORT

- Speaker Mejia began his report by saying that he is going to sit down and review the elections code.
- Speaker Mejia said that he has been attending the budget hearings with President Felix and Vice-President Williams. He advises that the senators attend these meetings. He suggests that senators emails him prior to the hearings if they are interested in attending.

SPEAKER-PRO REPORT

- Senator Pulido said that she had no report.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Vice-President Williams said that she's been in contact with Governmental Relations to talk about the Second Road.
- Vice-President Williams reminded members that the Ropes Course will be this Saturday. She also said that the Jose Marti breakfast will be on Wednesday morning. Senators need to RSVP if they are attending.

ADVISOR REORT

- Ms. Adames said that council members need to let her or Marcy know if they will be attending the Ropes Course.
- Ms. Adames asked senators to help promote the upcoming Town Hall Meeting.
- Ms. Adames announced that the next lecturer will be Soledad O'Brien. Council members need to attend the lecture and help promote the event.
- Ms. Adames said that council applications for the upcoming academic year will be available Monday, Feb. 2.
- Ms. Adames said that there will be a budget hearing at BBC tomorrow from 9am-3pm.

FINANCE REPORT

- Senator Morisset said that the finance committee will hold their meetings every Monday at 2:35 p.m.

A. Finance Committee Member Appointment

Senator Morisset nominated Senator Paisley as a Finance Committee Member. Senator Paisley accepted.

Senator Paisley moved to discuss his nomination.

Senator Correa seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by a unanimous decision.

Senator Paisley asked if he will have to do a lot of reading during the meetings.

Who? stated that, yes it will mean that Senator Paisley will have to read some documents.

Senator Paisley moved to end the discussion.
Senator Merek seconded the motion.
The motion was approved by a unanimous decision.

Senator Correa moved to appoint Senator Paisley as a Finance Committee Member.
Senator Calixte seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Calixte – Yay
Senator Paisley – Yay
Senator Merek – Yay
Senator Zhang – Yay
Senator Correa – Yay
Senator Peterson – Yay
Senator Jean-Louis – Yay
Senator Morisset – Yay
Senator Chen – Yay
Senator Pulido-Velosa – Yay
Senator Mejia – Yay

By a vote of 11/0/0 Senator Paisley was appointed as a Finance Committee Member.

RLJ REPORT

- Senator Merek said that the committee reviewed the Finance Code twice.

OPERATIONAL REVIEW REPORT

- Senator Peterson said that she had no report.

STUDENT ADVOCACY REPORT

- Senator Correa said that the committee meetings will be held on Tuesday's from 9:30-10 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Minutes Approval

Senator Morisset moved to table the approval of the minutes from the three previous meetings.

Senator Calixte seconded the motion.

By a unanimous decision, the motion passed and the minutes were tabled.

B. Arts & Sciences Transfer Appointment

Senator Calixte presented himself to make a transition from Senator At-Large to Arts & Sciences Senator.

Senator Calixte has been a responsible member of the Rules, Legislation, and Judiciary Committee, where he takes the minutes.

Senator Paisley moved to appoint Senator Calixte as Arts & Sciences Senator.

Senator Correa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Calixte – Yay
Senator Paisley – Yay
Senator Merek – Yay
Senator Zhang – Yay
Senator Correa – Yay
Senator Peterson – Yay
Senator Jean-Louis – Yay
Senator Morisset – Yay
Senator Chen – Yay
Senator Pulido-Velosa – Yay
Senator Mejia – Yay

By a vote of 11/0/0 Senator Calixte was appointed as Arts & Sciences Senator.

C. At-Large Appointment - Henry Dubè

Henry Dubè said that he wants to join SGA because he feels that he can make a difference on this campus.

Chief of Staff Sibony asked what kind of changes he wants to make. Mr. Dubè said that we need a new access road from Biscayne.

Senator Correa asked what he is studying. Mr. Dubè stated that he is a business major.

Senator Morisset asked if Mr. Dubè will be able to attend Senate Meetings on Mondays at 3:30pm. Mr. Dubè stated yes, he will be able to attend.

Senator Morisset moved to appoint Mr. Dubè as Senator At-Large.
Senator Calixte seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Calixte – Yay
Senator Paisley – Yay
Senator Merek – Yay
Senator Zhang – Yay
Senator Correa – Yay
Senator Peterson – Yay
Senator Jean-Louis – Yay
Senator Morisset – Yay
Senator Chen – Yay
Senator Pulido-Velosa – Yay
Senator Mejia – Abstain

By a vote of 10/0/1 Henry Dubè was appointed as Arts & Sciences Senator.

D. Lower Division Appointment - Meredith Marseille

Meredith Marseille stated that she would like to help the FIU Community and represent the student body.

Senator Merek asked Ms. Marseille if she would be able to attend senate meeting and general meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays, respectively. Ms. Marseille stated that she can attend Monday Senate Meetings, but could not attend Wednesday General Meetings.

Senator Merek moved to table the decision until Wednesday, January 28, 2015 General Meeting.

Senator Chen seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by a unanimous decision.

E. Internal Affairs Committee Chair Appointment

Senator Calixte moved to open floor for discussion.

Senator Merek seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by a unanimous decision.

Senator Correa asked for a description of the Internal Affairs Chair's duties.

Senator Mejia explained that the Internal Affairs Chair is responsible for checking council member time cards and running the Internal Affairs Committee meetings.

Senator Merek moved to end the discussion.

Senator Calixte seconded the motion.

Senator Morisset nominated Senator Paisley. Senator Paisley accepted.
Senator Morisset nominated Senator Jean-Louis. Senator Jean-Louis Accepted.
Senator Paisley resented his nomination.
Senator Mejia nominated Senator Paisley. Senator Paisley accepted.

Senator Jean-Louis stated that this position resembles the position he used to hold last year in Student Government.

Senator Paisley stated that it can be difficult for council members to achieve the weekly required 7 hours and that it is important that there is someone whom senators can communicate with about their office hours. Senator Paisley believes that he is the right person to do this.

Senator Merek moved to appoint chair.
Senator Calixte seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Calixte – Senator Paisley
Senator Paisley – Senator Paisley
Senator Merek – Senator Paisley
Senator Zhang – Senator Paisley
Senator Correa – Senator Jean-Louis
Senator Peterson – Senator Paisley
Senator Jean-Louis – Senator Jean-Louis
Senator Morisset – Senator Jean-Louis
Senator Chen – Senator Paisley
Senator Pulido-Velosa – Senator Paisley
Senator Mejia – Senator Paisley

By a vote of 8/3/0 Senator Paisley was appointed as Internal Affairs Committee Chair.

F. Chief of Staff Transfer Appointment – Elina Sibony

Director of Environmental Affairs Sibony spoke about her position as Director of Environmental Affairs and her Picnic with the Bay events.

Director of Environmental Affairs Sibony stated that she holds a lot of leadership positions and is very organized.

Senator Merek moved to appoint Director of Environmental Affairs Sibony as Chief of Staff.
Senator Paisley seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Calixte – Yay
Senator Paisley – Yay
Senator Merek – Yay
Senator Zhang – Yay
Senator Correa – Yay
Senator Peterson – Yay
Senator Jean-Louis – Yay
Senator Morisset – Yay
Senator Chen – Yay
Senator Pulido-Velosa – Yay
Senator Mejia – Yay

By a vote of 11/0/0 Director of Environmental Affairs Sibony was appointed as Chief of Staff.

G. Justice Appointment – Adam Azzaoui

Adam Azzaoui would like to join SGA because he will be going into law, so he feels that this position will help him.

Senator Merek moved to appoint Mr. Azzaoui as Justice.
Senator Morisset seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senator Calixte – Yay
Senator Paisley – Yay
Senator Merek – Yay
Senator Zhang – Yay
Senator Correa – Yay
Senator Peterson – Yay
Senator Jean-Louis – Yay
Senator Morisset – Yay
Senator Chen – Yay
Senator Pulido-Velosa – Yay
Senator Mejia – Yay

By a vote of 11/0/0 Adam Azzaoui is now a Justice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Senator Mejia stated that SGA is currently trying to have an event at FIU @ I-75.

The meeting was dismissed by Speaker of the Senate Allhan Mejia at **4:20 pm**.