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Senate Minutes 09.15.14

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 15, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE

Faedrah Mahotiere, Arts and Sciences
Maria Pulido-Velos, Arts and Sciences
Allhan Mejia, Business Administration
Rebecca Merek, Hospitality Management
Yumeng Zhang, Hospitality Management
Ana Correa, SJMC
Eli Jean-Mary, Lower Division
Christopher Morisset, At-Large
Camille Williams, Vice-President
Jazmin Felix, President
Larissa Adames, Advisor

GUESTS

Christian Clarsen
Alexi Cardona

ABSENT

Paige Butler, Lower Division

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Monday, September 15, 2014 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at **3:39p.m.** by Allhan Mejia, Speaker of the Senate, who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

Senator Jean-Mary motioned to approve the past two previous meeting minutes. Senator Correa seconded the motion. By a unanimous decision, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.

SPEAKER REPORT

- Speaker Mejia began his report by asking that the finance committee meet this week, so that they can review six pending finance requests.
- Speaker Mejia said that the committees need to send him the times that they will be meeting weekly.
- Speaker Mejia reminded members that attending the general and senate meetings does not count toward office hours. He also said that time cards should not have any hand-written times on them.

SPEAKER-PRO REPORT

- Senator Pulido said that members need to submit their weekly reports at the end of each week. She added that members should not grade themselves.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

- President Felix began her report by thanking the members who helped make SGA Day a success.
- President Felix said that volunteers will be needed for the four “Know Your Vote” tabling dates.

VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT

- Vice-President Williams thanked everyone for making SGA Day a success.
- Vice-President Williams said that she went to a meeting last Wednesday concerning BBC housing. Construction will begin in November and the dorms should be available in fall 2016.

ADVISOR REORT

- Ms. Adames said that she will be setting up the one-on-one meetings with council members over the next couple weeks.
- Ms. Adames said that if anyone is interested in FIU football tickets for this Saturday’s game against Louisville, they should contact her.
- Ms. Adames is still looking for students to sit on the student panel regarding their majors. The event will be held on Sept. 25.
- Ms. Adames said that she has entered the SGA into a homecoming office decorating contest. Pictures of the decorated office are due Sept. 26.
- Finally, Ms. Adames said that SGA-BBC has a float for homecoming. Council members should contact her if they are interested in participating.

FINANCE REPORT

- Senator Morisset said that the committee has five pending requests. He wants to meet with the members after the meeting to set weekly meeting times.

OPERATIONAL REVIEW REPORT

- Senator Jean-Mary said that the committee has reserved the SGA conference room from 3:20-3:50pm on a weekly basis for their meeting time.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORT

- Senator Mahotiere said that there are still two open positions available on the committee.

STUDENT ADVOCACY REPORT

- Senator Correa said that there is still one open position available on the committee. She will email meeting times and dates to the committee members.

OLD BUSINESS

A. RLJ Chair Appointment

Senator Morisset nominated Senator Merek to become the new RLJ Chair. Senator Merek accepted the nomination.

Senator Mahotiere nominated Senator Zhang to become the new RLJ Chair. Senator Zhang declined the nomination.

Senator Pulido motioned to appoint Senator Merek as the new RLJ chair. Senator Correa seconded the motion.

Vote

Faedrah Mahotiere- yes
Ana Correa-yes
Eli Jean-Mary-yes
Christopher Morisset-yes
Rebecca Merek-yes
Yumeng Zhang-yes
Maria Pulido-Velos-yes
Allhan Mejia-yes

By a unanimous decision, Senator Merek became the new RLJ committee chair.

B. Arts & Sciences Appointment

Speaker Mejia explained that Pierre Lahoud, who had expressed interest in running for the position of Arts & Sciences senator, cannot qualify because his credits from Miami Dade College have not transferred over at this time. He can however apply for a Lower Division seat.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Meet Your Dean – Oct. 22

B. Know Your Vote - Sept. 22, 24, 29 and Oct. 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Alexi Cardona expressed that she is interested in writing a series called “You’re your Senators” for the Beacon. She said she will stop by Wednesday to coordinate meeting times with the senators who are interested in being written about.
2. Christian Clarsen said that he wanted to know more about how to get international students involved in programs. Speaker Mejia said that he should speak about his concerns to the council members after the meeting.
3. Senator Merek said that she attended the Wolfe Day committee meeting with Larissa. They do not have a large budget, and will most likely be coming to SGA to help sponsor the event.
4. Speaker Mejia reminded members to do their SGA hw, by bringing three people to the SGA office for a tour, as well as recruiting people to become council members.
5. Alexi Cardona asked if there is any information available about the lecture series. Ms. Adames responded that Robert Edsel will be presenting a lecture on Nov. 6 at both campuses.

The meeting was adjourned by Speaker Mejia at **4:03p.m.**