



Florida International University

Student Government Council – Biscayne Bay Campus & Pines Center

MINUTES
General Meeting
February 24, 2016

IN ATTENDANCE

Allhan Mejia, President
Kenley Jean-Louis, Vice-President
Maria Pulido-Velosa, Comptroller
Jayda Hall, Press Secretary
Marquele Brown, Intern Coordinator
Yunfan Zhang, International Student Services Coordinator
Raiesha Ali, Director of Governmental Relations
Anastasiya Sizova, Elections Commissioner
Gabrielle Mutti, Marketing/PR Planner
Juan Esquivel, Marketing/PR Planner
Lauren Peterson, Honors Senator/Speaker
Tonie Jean, Arts & Sciences Senator/Speaker Pro
Luc Pierre-Louis, Arts & Sciences Senator
Sudyen Navarrete, Journalism Senator
Seneka Jean-Jacques, Lower Division Senator
Meredith Marseille, Lower Division Senator
Bendjy Calixte, At Large Senator
Akheim Paisley, Chief Justice
Adam Azzaoui, Justice
Wenxi Huang, Justice
Xiaolu Zhu, Court Clerk
Yunuo Wang, Court Clerk
Kerrie Montgomery, Advisor
Larissa Adames, SGA Coordinator

GUEST

Sabrina Deus, Appointee for Executive Assistant

ABSENT

Christopher Morisset, Chief of Staff
Jamie Adelson, Director of Lectures
Kristen King, Director of Internal Relations
Anne Dorcius, Director of Environmental Affairs **excused**
Dionne Bryant, Hospitality Senator
Micaela Suarez, Business Administration Senator
Patrick Alcee, Hospitality Management Senator **excused**
Natalie Vizarraga, At Large Senator **excused**
Tong Li, Justice
Tayla Van Embden, Justice

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a General meeting on February 24, 2016 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at 3:38 p.m. by President Mejia, who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Mejia said the BBC-specific budget deliberations, which will be held next Wednesday, is when it will be decided how much money gets allocated to each department.
- Additionally, he said that the exec board is discussing the details of projects that need to be completed before the end of this term. Those projects will be presented to the council soon.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Vice-President Jean-Louis said the PS4 and Xbox's in the gameroom have been fixed, however, now some of the controllers have been stolen.
- He also said the fusion of CARTA and SJMC will be completed by July 30. A new curriculum will be available one year later.
- Finally, he said class surveys will be sent out next week.

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

- Comptroller Pulido-Velosa encouraged council members to attend next week's budget deliberations, as it is essential to understand the process.
- She also talked about Relay for Life, FIU's biggest philanthropy project, which will be held next Friday from 6am-6pm at MMC. SGA's team is the only team from BBC and there are currently about 20 people signed up. Ms. Brown added the theme of the event is Mulan, SGA's team will have archery, snow cones and Chinese deserts. Currently, the team has raised about \$400, but the goal is \$1,000.

SPEAKER OF THE SENATE'S REPORT

- Speaker Peterson said the SJMC senator, Zainab Osazin, has resigned.
- She also said the finance committee is up and running. So far, three appropriations were approved at this week's meeting.
- Additionally, Natalie Vizarraga has been appointed as the new RLJ chair.

CHIEF OF STAFF'S REPORT

- Anastaysia Sizoza spoke on Chief of Staff Morisset's behalf, since he was absent. She said there will be watch parties for the Republican debates on Feb. 25 and the Democratic debates on March 9.
- She said that Panther Earth Hour will be on March 8, in which certain buildings on campus will participate by turning their lights off for an hour to conserve energy.
- She also said the forum with the vice mayor of North Miami will be on March 10 from 2-4 pm.
- Finally, she said Panther earth Day will be held from 11am-3pm on April 19. The details for that event are still being worked out.
- Raiesha Ali explained SGA and the City of North Miami are trying to set up a shadowing program, in which SGA council members and high school students can learn more about the workings of city government. Additionally, students can participate in "mock elections," to compete against each other to win positions of "mayor," "vice mayor," and more.

CHIEF JUSTICE'S REPORT

- Chief Justice Paisley said he will be meeting with his justices and clerks briefly after this meeting.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

- Ms. Adames said the Damien Cave lecture will be held the same day as the budget deliberations on March 2. A reception will be held directly after the lecture. Mr. Cave is looking to speak to communications clubs on that day. If anyone has any suggestions of groups for him to speak to, please let her know.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Ms. Montgomery stated she had no report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Sabrina Deus – Appointment for Executive Assistant

- Ms. Deus said she is a freshman psychology major who loves this campus and takes all of her classes here.
- Speaker Pro Jean asked a point of information: Is the executive assistant position for her to be Allhan's secretary? President Mejia said he and Mr. Morisset have been intending to change the position so that the duties are aimed more toward assisting the cabinet instead.

Speaker Pro Jean moved to appoint Ms. Deus as the executive assistant. Speaker Peterson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Luc Pierre-Louis, yes
Sudyen Navarrete, yes
Seneka Jean-Jacques, yes
Meredith Marseille, yes
Bendjy Calixte, yes
Tonie Jean, yes
Lauren Peterson, yes

Ms. Deus became the new executive assistant by a unanimous decision.

Point of personal privilege granted to Ms. Jean-Jacques at 4:09 pm.

ANOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Montgomery said there will be a "Gospel Explosion" event this Sunday at 6 pm.
- Speaker Pro Jean said she and Speaker Peterson are going to Nicaragua for Alternative Breaks. Council members can help support their endeavor by collecting medical supplies from hospitals and donating it to their AB team.
- Senator Pierre-Louis said there will be a Mango Hacks 36-hr event at MMC from March 4-6, in which college age students can learn the basics of coding. The registration date is Feb. 26.
- Senator Pierre-Louis also said there will be a Shakespeare First Folio event tomorrow from 7-8 pm in the theatre.

The meeting was adjourned by President Mejia at **4:14 p.m.**