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Florida International University

Student Government Council – Biscayne Bay Campus & Pines Center

MINUTES
SGC-BBC Senate Meeting
March 8, 2010

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Nikolay Chikishev, Senate Speaker, Lower Division Senator

Ms. Victoria Aguila, Arts & Science Senator

Ms. Maria Pacheco, Lower Division Senator

Mr. Gregory Jean-Baptiste, Art & Science Senator, 3:58 p.m.

Ms. Andrea Cruz, Honors College Senator

Mr. Robert Tassy III, Journalism & Mass Communication Senator

Ms. Zahra Arbabi Aski, Lower Division Senator

Mr. Dametrius Vincent, Graduate Senator

Mr. Rafael Zapata, SGA Advisor

EXCUSED

Ms. Christin Battle, Vice President

ABSENT

n/a

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate of the Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on March 1, 2010 – Locale WUC 308. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Nikolay Chikishev, Senate Speaker, who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

OLD BUSINESS

Zahra Arbabi Aski made a motion to move to Old Business. It was seconded by Victoria Aguila and passed unanimously.

A. An old appropriation was brought to the table to fund Honors Students Literacy Conference Appropriation in the amount of \$1,950 (fix the exact amount). The conference has already taken place, and Antonio Luis, the presenter of the request and one of the members who attended the conference, requested SGA to fund the ticket expense.

- 1) Robert Tassy abstained from voting because he was one of the members who went to the conference, due to a potential conflict of interest.
- 2) The motion was made by Zahra Arbabi Aski and seconded by Emmanuel Osemota. The motion passed 8-0 in favor of funding the request

NEW BUSINESS

A. Constitution Discussion

A general discussion of the current SGA Constitution was conducted, as well as the revised constitution proposed by the MMC Judiciary Branch.

- 1) Andrea Cruz proposed adding seniority title to senator's position for the purpose of distinguishing their service in SGA; thus, senators who serving for their second year would carry a title of Sr. Senator.
- 2) Nikolay Chikishev agreed with seniority title and additionally proposed
 - a) Remuneration increase of \$100 per year, as seniority raise, to senators who serve the second year.
 - b) Automatic remuneration increase of \$100 per year to base remuneration amount (currently \$1,100), for interns who completed a full year in the SGA Internship program.
- 3) A consensus among senators was reached that the ideas, above mentioned, were legitimate solutions to improve senate retention and recruitment of members, as well as to boost morale of the returning members.

B. File for Funds for Haiti Relief Effort Acknowledgement

1) Mr. Mawou Francois, Chief of Staff, brought to table a file for funds request to fund pins for people who donated to Haiti Relief program; the amount requested was \$375.15

2) The motion to fund the pins for donators to Haiti Relief program was passed unanimously.

ANOUNCEMENTS

- A. Senate Speaker announced that Campus Specific Budget Deliberations will take place March 22, 2010, and after will go immediately to the Senate for approval.
- B. Senators were also reminded of election deadline of March 9, 2009
- C. Zahra Arbabi Aski announced that Dan Rather Event was being held March 9, 2009 in WUC Ballroom

The meeting was dismissed by the Senate Speaker at 4:09 pm.