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Florida International University

Student Government Council

BI-MONTHLY MEETING

JULY 1, 1998
5:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Mireidy Fernandez, Academic Affairs Chair
Mr. Duayne Bernal, Executive assistant to the Vice President
Ms. Nia Johnson, Representative-At-Large
Mr. William Stafford III, School of Nursing Representative
Ms. Erin O'Brien, Broward Representative
Ms. Lakisha Holmes, Graduate Representative
Mr. Plinio Sanchez, Director of University Relations
Mr. Arthur Papillon Jr., Director of Student Lobbying
Ms. Nicole Perkins, College of Urban and Public Affairs Representative
Ms. Dannielle Boyer, Representative-At-Large
Ms. Christina Sorondo, School of Journalism and Mass Communications Representative
Ms. Giralda Merkman, Representative-At-Large
Ms. Liana Perez, Director of Community Relations
Ms. Mahasin Salahuddin, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Kervins Laurent, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Gakunga Kihohia, Finance Chair
Mr. Ian Richards, Vice President
Ms. Safiya Burton, President
Ms. Avia Rice, Representative-At-Large
Mr. Fadi Hatem, Chief of Staff
Ms. Ellen Plissner, Advisor

ABSENT

Mr. Delano Greene, School of Hospitality Representative
Ms. Veronica Arcila, Student Services Chair
Ms. Heidi Mark, Administrative Assistant/ Clerk of Council
Mrs. Jasmine Michel-Yacinthe, Graduate Representative

GUESTS

Michelle Checa

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Vice President Ian Richards. Mr. Richards requested that the Council read through the minutes from the previous meeting. Ms. Erin O'Brien made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Duayne Bernal seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

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MINUTES RECORDED ON
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VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Burton did the Vice President's report. Ms. Burton began by welcoming us into the new fiscal year. As of July 1, the two OPS positions on the Council are official. Those positions are Chief of Staff and Executive Assistant to the Vice President. Ms. Burton also welcomed officially to the Council Ms. Liana Perez, candidate for Director of Community Relations. Ms. Perez has shown lots of interest in this position, and she even attended the SGC Retreat. With regard to absenteeism, some members are technically off the Council because they have missed a number of Council and Committee meetings. This issue will be discussed further at our next Council meeting. Ms. Burton informed the Council that there would be a Council meeting next week and not a Committee meeting. Please be advised of this.

- Mr. Richards praised Ms. Mahasin Salahuddin for the hard work that she had put into the Internship Program. Approximately 122 people had signed up for the program so far. He also thanked everyone who attended the Orientation Club Fairs on behalf of SGC. Council members were reminded that they need to punch in and out on the computer in the office. This needs to be done in order for an accurate record can be kept of office hours. Members also need to remember to turn in their weekly reports.
- At this point, Ms. Liana Perez presented her platform for election to the position of Community Relations Chair. Ms. Perez stated that her major goal is to increase FIU's visibility in the community. In order to do this Ms. Perez has several projects in mind. These projects are: the implementation of a certificate program to recognize and honor those students who have participated in community service; a group project with the Volunteer Action Center; starting a WISH program and working closely with Habitat for Humanity. Ms. Perez plans to start networking with clubs that are involved in community service and volunteering and also with the media.
VOTE: Unanimous.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Ms. Plissner reported that orientation had gone really well so far. On July 15 and 16, some students will be staying the night at the residence hall. Ms. Plissner urged SGC to get involved in Welcome Week activities for housing, and also to start putting together plans for North Campus Welcome Week. The calendar is being put together for the fall semester. It would be best for SGC to have its plans in early and get requisitions in early even though no deadline has been set for submissions to the calendar.

STANDING COMMITTEES
FINANCE CHAIR

Mr. Kihohia stated that July 1st began the new fiscal year 1998/99. He proposed that his

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Finance committee be comprised of 4 Council members. There would also be an ad hoc committee set up to deal with issues not directly addressed by the main finance committee. A simple vote by the Council was all that was required. Mr. Kihohia made a motion to vote for members. Duayne seconded the motion.

NOMINATION	VOTE
Jasmine Michel-Yacinthe	Unanimous
Lakisha Holmes	10 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention
Duayne Bernal	Unanimous
Erin O'Brien	Unanimous

Mr. Kihohia stated that the Finance Committee would have a great year.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CHAIR

Ms. Fernandez informed the Council that the Editor in Chief of the Beacon has been suspended. She reminded the council that the Registrar's office would need our help on August 10th and August 17th to deal with long lines, control cards, student records etc. Please lend any assistance that you can give. The SGC documentary shoot is now in progress. 'Get Ready For Take 1.'

STUDENT SERVICES CHAIR

Mr. Stafford advised members to get his written report from their boxes. The student services booth is now under design. He is also working on having a student nurse available at the Health and Wellness Center for students to visit after hours. Also, graduate students are soon to have some type of new fee.

APPOINTED POSITIONS

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT LOBBYING

Mr. Papillon informed the Council that Nancy Bostic had died. She was the Bookstore manager at one time on the North Campus. Last year SGC had raised funds to buy her a wheel chair after she had been in an accident. There will be a memorial service in her memory on Thursday @ noon in WUC 159. SGC members should please try to attend this service. FSA officers will be here tomorrow. There will be a breakfast @ 8:00 a.m. Any member who is interested in attending this breakfast should see Ian after the meeting. Members were reminded of the trip to Tallahassee on July 15th to rally for the Law School at F.I.U. Mention was made of the FSA Retreat, which is to be held July 23-26 in Tampa.

UNIVERSITY WIDE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Council members who have not attended any of these University Wide meetings must attend a meeting so as not to be thrown off the Council. Ms. Burton stated that it is pathetic to be removed from the Council because of absenteeism. Mr. Richards produced a list of all the Committees that Council members can be a part of. All you have to do is call the 4-digit number of the chairperson and ask when the next meeting will be.

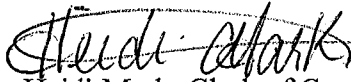
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Mr. Richards spoke about the freshman orientation dates that were proposed on the agenda. Council members who can attend on these dates to promote SGC, please sign up.

Mr. Bernal informed the Council of a training session that he has set up on July 17. Please read the handout titled 'Proposal' for further details.

With no further comments or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi Mark, Clerk of Council (via Ms. Mireidy Fernandez, Academic Affairs Chair)
Student Government Council, North Campus