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Florida International University

Student Government Council

SGC Meeting
March 10, 1999

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Dannielle Boyer, Representative-at-Large
Ms. Safiya Burton, President
Ms. Mahasin Salahuddin, Academic Affairs Chair
Mr. Tito Omaghomi
Mr. Angel Garcia, Representative-at-Large
Mr. Gakunga Kihohia, Finance Chair
Ms. Violeine St. Hilaire, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Counsel
Ms. Nicole Perkins, College of Urban and Public Affairs Representative
Ms. Avia Rice, Representative-at-Large
Ms. Veneisha Scott, Panther Power Coordinator
Ms. Katrina Davey, Lower Division Representative
Ms. Cristina Sorondo, Journalism and Mass Communication Representative
Mr. Rafael Zapata, Campus Activities/Advisor

GUEST

Dr. Correnti
Ms. Donna Yff, Student Activities Coordinator-Broward
Mr. David Cole
Mr. Brian Abrasmson
Ms. Lily Muya
Ms. Latoya Christain
Ms. Kandy Baker

ABSENT

Ms. Monica LaFrance, Student Services Chair (excused)
Mr. Delano Greene, School of Hospitality Representative
Mr. Fadi Hatem, Chief of Staff (excused)
Mr. Ronald Charles, Lower Division Representative
Mr. Sean Edwards, Representative-at-Large
Ms. Liana Perez, Director of Community Relation
Mr. Mitchel Saintelmon, Athletic Coordinator
Mr. Aileen Abella, Director of University Relations
Mr. William Stafford III, School of Nursing Representative

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Safiya Burton at 4:13 p.m. Immediately following, a motion was made by Ms. Sorondo to accept the minutes that motion was second by Ms. Boyer. The motion was accepted unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After minutes of discussion the committee of the University Council Meeting settled with having three Scholarships awarded by SGC. There will be an Academic Merit Scholarship, a Minority Student Leader Scholarship, and an International Student Academic Scholarship.

There will be a University Council Meeting taking place in the University Park Campus in GC 350, on Saturday March 13, 1999 from 11:30 to 6:30.

RECEIVED
MAR 17 1999

F.I.U. - N.C.
STUDENT GOVT. ACCOUNTING

The council members were advised that every member must attend a meeting on the Tri-Council Awards Banquet that will be taking place on April 15, 1999.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Omaghoni advised the committee that each person needs to fill out a weekly report every week. Ms. Rice informs the Mr. Omaghoni the more reports was needed. Furthermore, the committee was also advised that the bus trip is in planning, it is set for April 9th through 11th.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Mr. Zapata informs the council of the election committee meetings that has been taking place, apparently, meetings has been taking place for the last couple of weeks.

The applications of applicants running for office are due on March 19, 1999. Also, Ms. Perkins was elected to sit on the Election Chair Committee.

The Student Life Award Banquet is schedule for April 22, 1999.

Moreover, Ms. Burton added that the Maya Angelou lecture has been pushed back to March 15, 1999.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

FINANCE

Mr. Kihohia advised the council that another \$1800 is needed for the Award Ceremony taking place on April 15, 1999.

Ms. Perkins made a motion that the funds are taken out from the furniture upgrading account, Ms. Boyer second the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously by the council.

The Council was further advised of the \$15,000 budget cut, the \$15,000 is coming out of the operating account.

Mr. Kihohia advised the Council of the University Wide meeting-taking place in the University Park Campus, on March 13, 1999 in GC 350.

Lastly, Mr. Kihohia mentioned the complaints made about the office hours. A complaint was made in reference to the amount of people in the office. Mr. Kihohia advised the committee the Mr. Omaghoni and himself would be observing closely, to make sure that everyone is doing what they are supposed to be doing.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Ms. Salahuddin advised the committee of a forum that will be taking place on March 11, 1999 entitled Buying Your First Home. There will be another forum schedule for March 18, 1999 at 8:00 a.m., entitled How to Quit Smoking in AC215.

STUDENT SERVICES

Ms. LaFrance was not in attendance; Ms. Veneisha Scott was kind enough to go over the outline provided by Ms. LaFrance with the members of the Council.

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Ms. Sorondo informed the Council that the newsletters were out, furthermore, assistant was needed in folding them.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Ms. Sorondo advised the committee of the event taking place in March, efforts are being made to get together a community service project, however, it is still not clear if the event will take place. Ms. Sorondo further advised the committee of the up and coming event taking place in April, members of the council will get together to take two hundred minority students to Metro Zoo.

THE POWER

Ms. Scott briefly reminded the committee of the Blast Off occurring on Tuesday, March 16, 1999. She enlightened the council that they will need to wear the T-shirts given to them on Tuesday. There will be free food, free paraphernalia, dance competitions, and singing competition.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Burton spoke abbreviated on the new amendments that are being proposed. Ms. Burton than spoke on the pros and cons of having restrictions on the President as well as the Vice President's positions.

Ms. Sorondo made a motion to remove the stipulation of President in SGC, that motion was second by the Vice President, Mr. Omaghoni. The motion failed.

A discussion about the matter was than opened where Ms. Sorondo, Ms. Boyer, and Mr. Kihohia expressed their strong opinions on the matter. Ms. Sorondo suggests training from the president for applicants running for president.

Ms. Boyer feels that a person at such a position should indeed have experience.

Mr. Kihohia states that he can understand where both Ms. Sorondo and Ms. Boyer are coming from, however, he agrees with Ms. Boyer a person in that high of a position should have prior experience.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Ms. Perkins needs people to sign up for the SGC booth (only those that is not running). There will be a Bar B.Q in the Panther Square on April 1, 1999, starting at 12:00p.m to 3:00p.m.

Ms. Perkins informs the council that applications were now being accepted for College Leadership Florida.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Burton abruptly closed all discussions, and introduces Mr. Brain Abramson the former SGC President. Mr. Abramson is a representative of Americorp Florida State Park. Americorp is a volunteer organization that cleans up the Florida State Parks. They try to restore to the parks to their original forms. After a transient demonstration of what he does At work he ask that the Council move a motion for F.I.U. to adopt Oletta States Park?

Ms. Burton than introduced Dr. Correnti, who expressed his thanks to Mr. Abramson for the good work that he is doing initiating care for our parks, as well as our campus. He then expressed how please he was with the way in which the Council conducted the meeting.

Mr. Correnti educated the committee as to what was taking place in F.I.U.: there are changes taking place in F.I.U. enrollment system, to accommodate the increase in students enrolling at F.I.U. Freshman applications have gone up thirty-eight percent. Correspondingly, Scholarships are going out earlier. Dr. Correnti then passed out some publications on the material that he was going over. Dr. Correnti feels that the North Campus lacks in Campus Life activities. Dr. Correnti thinks that the North Campus needs more full time students as well as more Faculties. Lastly, the North Campus needs more and better recreation space. Ultimately, Dr. Correnti then closed his presentation.

ADJOURMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50p.m.

Thank you,


Violeine St. Hilaire, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Counsel



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