



**71st Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
April 16, 2019 in SSB 221 and Thagard 401**

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Members Present: Baxter, Durham, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Villacorta,

Members Tardy: Alvarez (7:19pm), Sandoval (8:06pm)

Members Absent: Deliz-Unexcused, Latham-Excused

Guests: Uddin, Harmon

Announcements:

- Highs and Lows

Committee Business:

There are 7 candidates for interview:

- Pride Student Union – Ashley Rosado – Director
- Pride Student Union – Christina Portuallo – Assistant Director
- Veteran Student Union – Sean Williams – Director
- Sophomore Class Council – Abigail Watford - President
- Sophomore Class Council – Hannah Llende – Vice President
- Junior Class Council – Lexi Boynes – President
- Junior Class Council – Alexandra Sexton – Vice President

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **Interview One:** Veteran Student Union – Sean Williams – Director
 - **Opening Notes: Graduating in Fall 6 years in the Air Force, current CFO first time there was a full board, continue the work of VSU and integrate with the other agency.**
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - Baxter: When are you graduating?
 - December
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Mella: What events or activities do you want to implement or continue?
 - Wants to have a formal dinner as an end of the year event where veteran students can bring their families and wants to integrate the other agencies. Wants to network with Billy Francis to reach out to new veteran students on campus to increase recruitment
 - Rios: How do you see yourself working with other agencies?
 - We fit in every agency, the military is comprised of all of these identities, we could have multiple events with other agencies
 - Villacorta: What is the biggest problem facing VSU?
 - Hard to get them engaged, they are use to routine and its hard to get them get involved with the rest of the student body.
 - Baxter: How has your experience in the medical field prepared you for this position?



- I have learned to be personable and ask what the problem is and then figure out how to solve it. I feel like I can talk to anyone.
 - Durham: How would you execute the event at the end of the year if you are graduating?
 - I have a board and we are currently planning the event so it can be implemented. I will work closely with the VSU AD so that they can take over and carry out the event.
 - **Questions of Character:**
 - Villacorta: What is your current relationship with the board of VSU?
 - We are all very close because we would have weekly meetings and bond outside of those meetings. I have reached out to have one on one meetings so I can hear their concerns and their goals. I want to bring them in the loop because I believe in delegation.
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Other Questions:** None
 - **Closing Notes:** I plan to plan a really fun year and I can't wait to flood you guys with notices of our events.
 - **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question – Rios , Second - Baxter
 - **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (6)** Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (1)** Alvarez
- **Interview Two:** Junior Class Council – Lexi Boynes – President
 - **Opening Notes:** Sophomore, involved in Service Scholars Program, sophomore class president, resident assistant, blockbuster chair, thinks the class councils lack support and structure like monthly newsletter, wants to use strength as a PR major to improve it.
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: What has been the expansion of sophomore class council?
 - I believe we could have done better but we definitely saw growth by utilizing facebook and social media. I want the class councils to be on the same page with flyers and social media so the brand is more easily identifiable.
 - Mella: How has your experience as sophomore class council president has prepared you for this role?
 - I feel like I don't have to adjust to the work required to be a part of class council because I have had the experience so I can hit the ground running.
 - Villacorta: How do you plan to support and recruit transfer students?
 - I plan to increase our presence at involvement fairs and increase career development.



- Alvarez: What are your ideas for events without co-sponsor?
 - I think we should have a theme for the year like “Career Development” like having a free headshot event and use student photographers on campus.
- Baxter: What are the biggest problems you faced as sophomore class council president?
 - We had a problem with retention within the council itself because we do not have the same credibility as some of the agencies and then not having them uphold their job
- Villacorta: Moves to extend for one question Mella: Second Villacorta: Outside of academics do you have ideas to enhance the social life for students?
 - Yes we had a “halfway there” event, expand mental health services, and we have also hosted trivia nights
- **Questions of Character:**
 - Alvarez: How will you time manage?
 - I have been able to maintain a balance, at the beginning of the semester I make a schedule with when my free time, study time, and extra-curricular activities are.
 - Glanton: How do you handle confrontation?
 - I am more of a social leader I try to talk it out rationally.
 - Baxter: How does your commitment to service play a role in your identity?
 - It is really important to me that I get to know the people outside of FSU, I also want to incorporate service into Junior Class Council.
- **Other Questions:** N/A
- **Closing Notes:** Thank you
- **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question- Rios, Second- Baxter
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (7)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (0)**
- **Interview Three:** Sophomore Class Council – Abigail Watford - President
 - **Opening Notes:** Media Communications major, aspires to go to NYU for Broadcasting, secretary for Sally Hall Council, Orientation leader, wants to help the sophomore class have pride and get involved on campus.
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: What are some goals you have for the next year?
 - I want to plan events, wants to throw watch parties for away games or host pizza nights
 - Sandoval: How do you plan to increase involvement?



- I think we should host a meet and greet in the beginning of the semesters with food to bring people out.
 - Villacorta: How do you plan to forward diversity and inclusion?
 - I want to be able to engage people who do not look like me because that is not something I am used to.
 - Alvarez: Have you ever been a part of a project in which you had to take the lead?
 - I had to make a PowerPoint and public speak for Hall council because no one else wanted to.
 - Villacorta: How has your past experiences prepared you?
 - I have learned to take notes and improve communication. I also learned how to resolve conflict
 - **Questions of Character:**
 - Baxter: Why did you apply for this position?
 - I grew up in a town that had predominately only male leaders and I really wanted to change that for myself and others.
 - Alvarez: Can you tell us about a hardship you have had to overcome?
 - When I was 7 my parents got a divorce and then my dad stop reaching out when I was in high school. I was able to have supportive relationships from friends and family and especially my roommates and other members of the hall council.
 - N/A
 - **Other Questions:** N/A
 - **Closing Notes:** I hope you will consider me for the position.
 - **Deliberations:**
 - **Roundtable**
 - Call to Question- Glanton, Second- Alvarez
 - **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (5)** Baxter, Glanton, Mella, Rios, Sandoval
 - Nay: (1)** Alvarez
 - ABS: (2)** Gurau, Villacorta
- **Interview Four:** Sophomore Class Council – Hannah Llende – Vice President
 - **Opening Notes:** Rising sophomore, excited to be involved in SCC, believes in community and wants to cultivate community for sophomore. My goal is to make FSU feel like a smaller school.
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - Villacorta: Did you start your organization?
 - Yes
 - Gurau: Your resume says you're a junior?
 - By credits, I graduate in 3 years
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: What goals do you have for this position?
 - I want to have professional workshops and increase diversity by encouraging people of other backgrounds to have conversations
 - Gurau: Do you have plans for mental health events?
 - I hope to promote self care through class council and implement them in events.



- Villacorta: What is your connection to diversity and inclusion?
 - I understand the importance of allowing others to talk. I am from Miami which is very diverse and I myself am queer and Latina.
- Alvarez: How do you plan to work with the class council?
 - I plan to just support them as best as I came.
- N/A
- **Questions of Character:**
 - Baxter: Could you tell us about your time here at FSU?
 - I knew I wanted to be apart of a small community, I got involved in the social justice and I have learned how to have meaningful conversations
 - Villacorta: How did your mental Health Community organization start?
 - I saw a lack of togetherness in Wildwood and I just wanted to facilitate conversations about being a first year student and all the resources on campus.
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- **Other Questions:** N/A
- **Closing Notes:** I am really dedicated to my class and I really would love to build up this community.
- **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question - Baxter, Second- Sandoval
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (7)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Mella, Rios, Sandoval, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (1)** Gurau
- **Interview Five:** Junior Class Council – Alexandra Sexton – Vice President
 - **Opening Notes:** From Ireland, rising junior, excited to be apart of student government, involved in mock law, pre-law and medical shadowing. Wants to create more opportunities to network for careers and professional development. Close relationship with Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap and wants to improve student and donor relationships.
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - Baxter: Are the Dunlaps the donors for the center and stadium?
 - Yes
 - Alvarez: Have you spoke to the previous junior class council?
 - No
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: What goals do you have in terms of cosponsor ships and events?
 - I was able to work with a RSO on campus and was able to give out EKGs. I want to continue to provide EKGs to students so I want to cosponsor with different medical clubs.
 - Alvarez: What are some ways you will support the president?
 - Everyone plays their part and we are all one unit. We want to connect the community so I hope to do that regardless of what my



position is or who I am working with. I am very determined so I know whatever task is given to me I will complete.

- Villacorta: What areas do you want to address in your position?
 - I want to focus on Student Wellness like with Health Day and furthering professional development with an emphasis on graduate programs by connecting with the community.
- N/A
- N/A
- **Questions of Character:**
 - Sandoval: What qualities do you have that make you an ideal candidate?
 - I love people and I am very personable. I am outgoing and bubbly. I am really big on inclusion and making sure everyone feels involved. It is free to be nice. I am very determined as well.
 - Glanton: How do you handle confrontation?
 - I do not take critique personally and I try to hear it and internalize it so I can improve. I handle negative confrontation by speaking with the party in private calmly to address the issue and how I can support them.
 - N/A
- **Other Questions:** N/A
- **Closing Notes:** Thank you
- **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question - Alvarez , Second- Sandoval
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (8)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Sandoval, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (0)**
- **Interview Six:** Pride Student Union – Christina Portuallo – Assistant Director
 - **Opening Notes:** Sophomore, History and Classics Major, wants to pursue a law degree, serving as a secretary for Pride Student Union
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Villacorta: What is PrideU?
 - PrideU is a cohort of students to develop their professional and leadership development. I would oversee the program.
 - Alvarez: What was some improvements you want to make in the Pride Student Union?
 - We need to continue to provide professional training and then holding the e-board accountable.
 - Sandoval: What goals do you have regarding the affiliates
 - We need to do more cosponsorship events and improve our communication and having face to face meetings once a month.
 - Alvarez: How has your past involvement prepared you for this position?



- I found an outreach program to help LGBTQ youth with unstable living conditions. I made that connection and it is something that I want to continue.
 - Villacorta: What areas of campus do you think Pride could improve on recruitment and retention?
 - I plan to reach out to more RSOs so they know we exist.
 - **Questions of Character:**
 - Alvarez: Why is this position the best fit for you?
 - I did not have an organization like this in high school so as a freshman I loved having a community and I really think we are making a difference in our community.
 - Sandoval: How will you manage your time?
 - I like to make to-do list and organize them by priority. When I check them off I feel less overwhelmed. I also make sure to self care.
 - N/A
 - **Other Questions:** N/A
 - **Closing Notes:** Wants to continue to grow PrideU
 - **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question - Alvarez , Second- Villacorta
 - **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (8)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Sandoval, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (0)**
- **Interview Seven:** Pride Student Union – Ashley Rosado – Director
 - **Opening Notes:** Current assistant director of Pride, involved in the PrideU fellows, been involved with WSU, HLSU, and Pride
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: What are some positives and negatives with the previous administration?
 - Positive: reallocated responsibilities and we lost space with the union being torn down so we had to find ways to create community. Negative: Sometimes everyone was not included in the decision making but we made sure to get feedback and improve.
 - Villacorta: How do you want to work with the Student Alumni Association?
 - Pride lacks an alumni network so that is something that I want to improve on. We admire the black student union and HLSU so we hope to model off those and reach out to them for guidance. We have some archives but I think that Facebook pages will be helpful as well.
 - Alvarez: What new events do you want to see implemented?



- I participated in a pageant and I did this to try to bridge the gap between greek life and the queer community. I want to host round table events with Greek organizations.
- Villacorta: Are there spaces where Pride's presence is lacking besides greek life and how do you want to improve it?
 - I think we can be more involved in health and wellness, efforts to change the name of the Women's Clinic and providing trashcans for menstrual products in men restrooms and improving how we address identity in paperwork.
- N/A
- **Questions of Character:**
 - Glanton: Why Pride and not HLSU or WSU?
 - I felt that I can hold all of my identities in Pride and I could be my full authentic self in this role.
 - Sandoval: How do you time manage?
 - I realized in this role I was taking a lot of things on so I have learned to be a leader and delegate. I also pride myself on being transparent. I have also learned how to schedule and put my self care first.
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- **Other Questions:** N/A
- **Closing Notes:** I have given so much to this agency but I still have more to give. We had our first religious event with new ideas and events. Thank you
- **Deliberations:**
 - Round Table
 - Call to Question - Rios , Second - Alvarez
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (6)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (2)** Rios, Sandoval,

Unfinished Business: None

Final Announcements: Harmon: Come to PAC on Monday April 22nd

Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 23rd at 8:00pm

Adjourned: 9:51pm