



72nd Student Senate
Racial Inclusivity and Justice Ad Hoc
Date: 07/07/20, via zoom

Call to Order: 3:05 p.m.

Members Present: Chair Waters, Vice Chair Gonzalez, President Daraldik, Senator(s) Garcia, Lavender, Palacio, Tookes, Ad Hoc Member(s) Feacher, Marulendra, Williams

Members Absent: Senator(s) Medley-Neyra

Guests: Senator(s) Jason Maymon, Christian Sam, Sasha Martin, Renee Wang, Executive Cabinet Officer Rawan Abhari, VSU Director Harrison Aiton, VSU AD Meagan McLaughlin, HLSU AD Laura Medina, Patrick Martin, Victoria Paul, Dejah Myers

Announcements:

- Chair Waters: Hello everyone, thank you for being here. We will have a brief period for public comments in the beginning of this meeting and then we will move onto business. Remember that we are trying to both build this Ad Hoc committee while still pushing to get work done. It will be difficult but we just have to keep moving the needle forward.

Committee Business:

- Vice Chair Elections, Voting on Rules of Procedure, Legislative Roundtable to discuss agenda for the Committee

New Business:

- **Public Comments:** Patrick Martin, Director of Torchlight Campus Policy Center
- **Vice Chair Elections**
 - Senator Gonzalez is Nominated
 - Senator Tookes
 - Senator Lavender Seconds
 - Move to close the floor for nominations
 - Senator Gonzalez passes by Acclamation
- **Voting for Rules of Procedure**
 - Yes - 7
 - Gonzalez
 - Garcia

- Lavender
 - Tookes
 - Feacher
 - Williams
 - Marulendra
- No - 0
- Abstain - 0
- Rules of Procedure pass
- **Legislative Roundtable**
 - Chair Waters: Review notes taken from the unofficial ad hoc chat so we can establish an agenda for the ad hoc
 - Ad Hoc Member Feacher: point 3 in regards to SGA ballots, what tangible rules exist to hold administrators accountable?
 - Vice Chair Gonzalez: move to allow a non senator to speak
 - Secretary Abhari: SGA ballot provisions can be submitted through passing a threshold for signatures. Only exist regarding student government.
 - Ad Hoc Member Feacher: We need to be more specific in 3rd point to hold specific members accountable. If they're separated in terms of who we're talking about, it can encourage more student turnout to voice their thoughts and feelings regarding Thrasher, Hecht, Admin in general, as well as Senate and SGA. I do like the idea though and believe it can be taken up by the committee.
 - 3rd point is adopted as an agenda item for the Ad Hoc
 - Senator Palacio: Point 6- Racial RSOs continuously put on events targeting the education of individuals about race and ethnicity, but different identities don't show up. How do we force people to go?
 - Non-Committee Member Maymon: Attempt is to get white Americans and students to recognize their privilege. Number 6 was supposed to expose education to different populations.
 - Non Ad Hoc Member Feacher: Working in CLSC, a lot of white students come and learn and then don't implement those things in their lives. Other departments have tried to do these things and it hasn't worked for them. Not the best allocation of resources for the Ad Hoc specifically.
 - Senator Garcia: Echo sentiment of Feacher, its not our responsibility to teach individuals, there are paid staff on campus. Maybe work on implementing more trainings within Senate and SGA.
 - Senator Lavender: For a lot of students, a lot of things are very traumatic. Putting the burden on students who are fighting for their lives is not appropriate. Speaking in regards to individuals I know, specifically within this committee as well, it has already been very difficult for us to do this work. There are already curriculums in place to address education.
 - Ad Hoc Member Williams: Let's move on to other points. I like points 8-18
 - Vice Chair Gonzalez: Race and ethnicity credit requirement resolution was submitted to the Senate and assigned to Committee. However, we will be tabling the resolution until further notice. Per sentiments in the chat and within individual conversations, we have decided to attack course requirements through the reforming and re-evaluating of existing diversity x and y requirements so it is not as easily dismissed as something that is technically already in place. That resolution does exist though.

- Ad Hoc Member Feacher: Point 16, I love and should be a priority. We should add deadlines and a strategic plan about how we want to attack its advocacy and implementation.
- Ad Hoc Member Williams: I agree, it's very important. We're going to be an HSI and there needs to be a house and community dedicated to that population so they feel represented on campus.
- Senator Lavender: Question, do we know how to access union plans to see if the agency spaces dedicated in the Union are enough or can be used to address this point?
- Non-Committee Member Victoria Paul: think about the legislative process behind that. FSU has to get money for them. FSU is lobbying for a new Veterans Student Center.
- Chair Waters: Thrasher has been pushing and lobbying for Veterans Student Center as well as the Office of Governmental Affairs.
- Vice Chair Gonzalez: Although money is a concern, we should definitely target OGA for adding that onto their legislative agenda and we also have to consider that the University is about to become a Hispanic Serving Institution. With that designation comes grants and money that can very well be used to target the building specifically of El Centro. We shouldn't shy away just because we might be turned down.
- Chair Waters: "Cultural Village" from Dr.Bowden, where all agencies would have a house and there was a courtyard in the middle. That would be nice.
- Vice Chair Gonzalez: Moving onto Points 10 & 12: Implementing trainings within SGA. It is in the powers that Senate is given and can definitely be picked up and addressed by us.
- Non Ad Hoc Members Feacher & Williams & Senator Garcia: agree
- Senator Lavender: I agree and it should be rather easy.
- Ad Hoc Member Feacher: How will that be paid for? NCBI is expensive.
- Non Ad Hoc Member Myers: We've been talking about this in DSA. They have already allocated funds to have NCBI training for all faculty & staff. Not set in stones to see the specifics of how they will go about it but it has already been implemented.
- Senator Garcia: Implicit bias within Senate is more feasible but how do we go about it? Bills, resolutions, legislation?
- Vice Chair Gonzalez: We've actually talked about this in Internal Affairs. IA carries the power to hold 'professionalism workshops' for the entire Senate where we can strongly push Senators to attend. It doesn't have to be written or submitted for the Senate to pass.
- Senator Garcia: How do we make it a requirement, similar to the financial literacy requirement for Senators?
- Chair Waters: We've talked about this previously and we don't necessarily want to force people because it'll degrade the capacity of the trainings and the concurrent effects it can have to an individual.
- Ad Hoc Member Feacher: Less money would be working with the resources the CLSC already has. Sessions with Social change peer educators and SGA can be more effective. Facilitated by other students so individuals might be more receptive.

- Ad Hoc Member Williams: Utilizing resources that are already dedicated to these things is the best way to proceed. Need to be strategic in the way we approach it for SGA leaders. Just cause implicit bias is acknowledged doesn't mean they will address it so it would have to be followed by more training to tackle those bias'.
- Chair Waters: I like the strategy. Do the initial implicit bias and then direct trainings to CLSC to address those biases.
- Ad Hoc Member Marulendra: Might be more successful if there's an incentive attached to the training.
- Ad Hoc Member Feacher: Incentive should not be individual recognition but more group recognition. Not a big spotlight because it's the bare minimum.
- Chair Waters: Yeah, it's kind of a catch 22 because they're being rewarded for something that should naturally be done but we wanted to incentivise it so people do want to go.
- Tangible Action Steps/Agenda: Implementing questions on SGA Ballot, Advocating for EI Centro and Women's Center, and implementing trainings.
- Chair Waters: Let's barr adding anything else to the list so we can address these in the summer. These are the 3 that we will discuss having tangible action steps to the plan.

Unfinished Business: X

Final Announcements:

- **Chair Waters:** We will keep the unofficial chat updated on the things we are working on in regards to the Ad Hoc's official business.
- **Vice Chair Gonzalez:** Thank you all for nominating me. I really appreciate it. We've definitely created a beautiful community and I'm looking forward to moving forward towards substantial change on campus.
- **Senator Garcia:** Thank you to everyone in the group chat and the members. This isn't easy, it's a lot of work. I just want to acknowledge you guys and make sure you're taking care of your mental health so we can continue advocating for the student body.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: X

Adjourned: 4:12 p.m.