

THE SEVENTY-SECOND STUDENT SENATE
Journal: Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Call to order: 7:36pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Schaler

Moment of Silent Reflection:

Roll Call: Denton, Harmon, Adamyk, Murcia, MacMillan, Recht, Rowan, Cohen, Uddin, Villacorta, Selva, Ready, Fahey, Schaler, England, Haslett, Gnanam, Jungers, Leckie, Parker, Pendleton, Absten, Sojos, Diaz, Maymon, Dean, Silvia, Ascanio, Rudolph, Daraldik, Mougey, Baxter, Slimark, Fink, Lavender, Porter, Fernsel, Blackthorne

Absent: Lafontant, Donnelly, Primozić, Fisher, Ryan, Durham, Adams, Ferguson, Pedroso, Fray, Culver, Kill

Late: Weber, Acanda, Gerdts, Toussaint, Jacobsen, Levin

Verification of Quorum: Quorum was verified.

Corrections and Approval of the Journal: December 4, 2019, Villacorta moved, Porter seconds.

Student and Non-Budgeted RSO Comments: **Samuel Bradford, et al. Environment Florida:** Collected support from students and campus staff for the initiative to push for Tallahassee to be 100% renewable in energy. They've been collecting testimonies regarding the issue that they compiled into a short video. Tallahassee should transition to 100% renewable energy to lead our state and others in the endeavor. We need to follow this path as not to wreck the planet. We can become renewable by 2035. Who wants renewable energy? (You do; FSU) We should request renewable energy to force public officials to transition. They speak in strong support of Resolution 11. (Showed a video)

Special Introductions and Announcements:

Messages from the Executive Branch: **Caleb Dawkins, Student Body Treasurer:** Remember to watch your videos for the initiative platform so that we can better fulfill our commitment to the student body. Available to message if anyone has any questions.

Messages from Agency and Bureau Directors, SGA Organizations Officers and Employees:

- **Elections: (Rawan)** BSU Deceleration of candidacy due at the end of this month. Remember to check election dates. You can always contact elections if you have any questions.
- **AASU: (Executive Director and Assistant Director)** Hit the ground running; their first GBM was held last Monday with over 130 attendees. Lunar Banquet is happening very soon! East Coast Student Conference is also around the corner. Special thanks to KP.
- **HLSU:** Hispanic Latinx Leadership Institute starting soon. First voting for network next month.
- **VSU:** Director of VSU) Applications are open; thanks for helping us get to NEPCON. We brought back lots from it. First GBM is 1/27 (or 22nd)

Messages from the Executive Cabinet: **Kayla Francis, Press Secretary:** reminded the Senate that the newsletter is live and that out-of-office-office hours are coming back!

Messages from the Class Councils: **Senior Class Council: Driscoll)** Support for Senator Slimak's bill.

Messages from the Congress of Graduate Students:

Messages from the Judicial Branch:

Messages from the Union Board and SOAR Board:

Messages from the Campus Recreation Board:

Report of the SGA Accounting Office: PAC - \$39,547; RTAC - \$29,269; Senate Projects \$14,297.

Report of Senate Liaisons:

- **OGA: (Jacobson)** NEP application ends tonight. Apply for mentoring for NEP. FSU Day at the Capital is coming up.
- **BSU: (Daraldik)** Having an art exhibit; application due 1/22nd.
- **Peacejam: (Baxter)** International organization that focuses on student learning. Focuses on Nobel Laurettes. We teach how to serve the community and the world. *Flyers Passed Out* Put Baxter's name when applying to be a mentor for PeaceJam.
- **WSU: (Uddin):** Women's History Month is in March.
- **Global Engagement: (Ascanio)** Monday-Friday English Conversation Club. International Coffee Hour Every Friday 5-6:30.

Report of Committees:

- **SLAA:** Resolution 2, 4, 11 were all passed. 8 was tabled. Working on student engagement. Tour is underway.
- **Judiciary:** Met on Monday. Passed amendments 1 and 2. 3,11, and 17 tabled. Finding time to meet next week due to holiday
- **Budget:** Met yesterday. Heard and passed Bill 16. Meeting next Tuesday.
- **Finance:** Met yesterday. Heard and passed PAC Resolution unamended. RTAC was amended. Meeting next Tuesday.
- **IA:** Met yesterday. Talked about peer review process. Didn't interview any candidates. Meeting next Tuesday.
- **Rules:** Unsuspended three Senators. We're going to confirm Senate applicants, but there were paperwork issues.

Senate Confirmations: Makenna Hutts, Pow Wow Director, **41Y-0N-0A**; Victoria Kwiat, RTAC **39y-2n-0a**.

Kwiat:

Experience: Worked in public highschool board that dealt with allocating money. Wanting to become involved in SGA.

Hutts:

Experience: Fourth year on Homecoming. Passionate about planning Homecoming events. Working on Pow-Wow regarding Fiscality: Hospitality sector helped fundraise through them so they didn't have to dip into SGA funds. Already contacting international and national organizations for sponsors such as Geico. Question is how to engage all students with our budget. What Motivates You With Homecoming: It's a Leadership Development Opportunity. We take people in during Fall, and it helped me being connected through this work. Vice Chair Porter made motion to forward, Villacorta seconded-

Consent Calendar:

- Resolution 8 Sponsored by Senator Murcia
RTAC request(s) for Progressive Black Men, Saxophone Association of FSU, Alpha Mu Alpha, Minority Association of Pre-Med Students, SISTUHS, Financial Management Association, Turning Point USA at FSU, Phi Delta Epsilon FL Zeta.
AMENDED & PASSED IN FINANCE 1.14. Porter moves to approve, Leckie seconds, England objects, correct amount of Senators rise. After learning of

errors that occurred in the Finance Committee, Senate moved into Finance as Whole.

- Leckie moves to amend Turning Point USA, zero funding lodging and moving the \$1800 to Expense. Sponsor finds it friendly. **40-1-1.**
- England moves to zero fund Financial Management Association. Sponsor finds it friendly. **39-1-2.**
- England moves to remand MAPS back to RTAC, zero funding for Consent Resolution 8, Sponsor finds it friendly. **40-0-2.**
- Villacorta moves to amend SISTUHS a total of \$1000 in Travel. Sponsor finds it friendly, **37-1-2.**
- Villacorta moves to amend the Saxophone Association of FSU in the following \$1615 lodging, and \$385 in registration. Sponsor finds it friendly, **37-2-1.**
- Villacorta moves to amend Progressive Black Ben to \$1200 in the category of lodging. Sponsor finds it friendly, **35-2-2.**
- Villacorta moves to amend the Saxophone Association of FSU to zero fund Travel. Sponsor finds it friendly, **40-0-1**
- Gerdt moves to amend Turning Point USA at FSU to only \$1000 in Travel Expense. Sponsor finds it friendly, **34-6-2**
- Villacorta moves to amend Alpha Mu Alpha \$800 in registration. Sponsor finds it friendly. Move into Pro/Con. **35-4-3**
- Villacorta moves to amend Phi Delta Epsilon FL Zeta **32-8-2**
- **Ready moves to table the resolution in committee, seconded by Warren, objected by Villacorta. 20-18-4.**
- **TABLED IN FINANCE.**

Resolution 9 Sponsored by Senator Gnanam
PAC request(s) for Saving Smiles, African Student Association, Chinese Student & Scholars Association, CGW Productions, Invest a Nole, College Republicans, Sisters 2 Service. **PASSED IN FINANCE 1.14. Porter moves to approve, Villacorta seconds. APPROVED.**

Bills First Reading:

- Bill 3 Sponsored by Senator Sojos (P)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 702 regarding public availability of campaign documents. **TABLED IN JUDICIARY 11.18, 12.3, 1.13.**
- Bill 8 Sponsored by Senator England (P)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 807.4 regarding funding boards. **REFERRED TO FINANCE THEN JUDICIARY. TABLED IN JUDICIARY 12.4. PASSED IN FINANCE 1.14.**
- Bill 11 Sponsored by Senator Lavender (P)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 205 regarding the code of the ethics. **TABLED IN JUDICIARY 12.3, 1.13.**
- Bill 12 Sponsored by Senators Leckie & Absten (P)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 401.1A regarding denouncing individuals or organizations. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY THEN RULES, 12.4. PASSED IN JUDICIARY 1.13. TABLED IN RULES 1.15.**
- Bill 13 Sponsored by Senator Adamyk (P)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 805.4 regarding freezing RSO funds. **REFERRED TO FINANCE THEN JUDICIARY, 12.4. PASSED IN FINANCE 1.14.**

- Bill 15 Sponsored by Senators Gerdtts & Blackthorne (P), Dean & Diaz (Co)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 607.1 D regarding graduate students and COGS legislation. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY THEN RULES, 12.4. PASSED IN JUDICIARY 1.13. TABLED IN RULES 1.15.**
- Bill 17 Sponsored by Senator Slimak (P)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 400.2, 405.2, and 413.2 regarding Senate Officers. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY THEN RULES, 12.4. TABLED IN JUDICIARY 1.13. TABLED IN RULES 1.15.**
- Bill 18 Sponsored by Senator Maymon (P)
Amending Chapter 700 regarding Candidate Statements of Interest and an SGA candidate booklet. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY 1.15.**
- Bill 19 Sponsored by Senator Dean (P) & Fahey (Co)
An allocation of \$521 from Senate Projects to Sustainable Campus. **REFERRED TO SLAA THEN BUDGET, 1.15.**
- Bill 20 Sponsored by Senator Slimak (P)
A transfer for \$1000 within Senior Class Council from Expense to Food. **REFERRED TO BUDGET, 1.15.**
- Bill 21 Sponsored by Senator Daraldik (P)
A transfer for \$1000 within Black Student Union from Contractual Services to Food. **REFERRED TO BUDGET, 1.15.**
- Bill 22 Sponsored by Senator Cohen (P)
Amending Chapter 100.7 and 1005 with regards to the name of HLSU. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY 1.15.**
- Bill 23 Sponsored by Senator Cohen (P)
Amending Chapter 413.7 with regards to the Senator of the Year Award. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY THEN RULES, 1.15.**
- Bill 24 Sponsored by Senator Levin (P), Slimak (Co)
Amending Chapter 915 adding and creating the Mental Health Council. **REFERRED TO FINANCE, THEN IA, THEN JUDICIARY, 1.15.**

Bills Second Reading:

- Bill 6 Sponsored by Senator Sojos (P)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 413.8, changing the Senate Hall of Fame process. **TABLED IN JUDICIARY 12.3. AMENDED AND PASSED IN JUDICIARY 1.13. Dean moves to pass by acclimation, Baxter seconds. ACCLIMATION.**
- Bill 14 Sponsored by Senators Gerdtts & Blackthorne (P), Dean & Diaz (Co)
Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 705.5 regarding graduate student Senate seats. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, 12.4. AMENDED AND PASSED IN JUDICIARY 1.13. 4 rounds of pro/con on the floor. Leckie calls the question. 33y-6N-1A. PASSED**
- Bill 16 Sponsored by Senator Porter (P)

An allocation of \$725 from Senate Projects to the Academic Center for Excellence to fund highlighters. **REFERRED TO SLAA THEN BUDGET, 12.4. PASSED IN SLAA 1.13. PASSED IN BUDGET 1.14. 33Y-8N-1A. PASSED.**

Constitutional Amendments:

- Amend 1 Sponsored by Senator Gerdts (P)
Amending the Student Body Constitution to be gender neutral. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY 12.4. PASSED IN JUDICIARY 1.13. Rowan moves to call the question, Warren seconds. 33Y-6N-4A. PASSED.**
- Amend 2 Sponsored by Senator Gerdts (P)
Amending the Student Body Constitution so future amendments are gender neutral. **REFERRED TO JUDICIARY 12.4. PASSED IN JUDICIARY 1.13. Dean calls the question, England seconds. 32Y-4N-5A. PASSED.**

Resolutions:

- Resolution 2 Sponsored by Senator Sojos (P)
Regarding HIIPA Consent Forms. **TABLED IN SLAA 12.2. PASSED IN SLAA 1.13. Acanda calls the question, Dean seconds. 38Y-2N-1A. PASSED.**
- Resolution 4 Sponsored by Senator Sojos (P)
Regarding maintenance of accessible doors. **TABLED IN SLAA 12.2. PASSED AS AMENDED IN SLAA 1.13. Lavender proposes two amendments, sponsor finds them friendly. 24Y-17N-3A. PASSED. Weber moves to rescind, Daraldik seconds. 2 Rounds of Pro Con, Lavender calls the question, England seconds. 34y-4n-6. RESCINDED.**
- Resolution 8 Sponsored by Senator Ready (P)
Supporting the Local Fee Committee's recommendations for a fee increase. **TABLED IN SLAA 12.2, 1.13.**
- Resolution 9 Sponsored by Senator Sojos (P)
Amending Senate Rules of Procedures 10.12 regarding amendments. **REFERRED TO RULES, 12.4.**
- Resolution 10 Sponsored by Senator Slimak (P)
Amending Senate Rules of Procedure 15.3 regarding Senate Officers. **REFERRED TO RULES, 12.4.**
- Resolution 11 Sponsored by Senator Villacorta (P)
Urging the University to commit to using clean, renewable energy. **REFERRED TO SLAA THEN RULES, 12.4. PASSED AS AMENDED IN SLAA 1.13. PASSED AS AMENDED IN RULES 1.15. Gerdtts calls the question, Baxter seconds. 35y-3n-6a. PASSED.**
- Resolution 12 Sponsored by Senator Levin (P)
Supporting the College of Engineering Legislative Budget request. **Leckie moves to add Leckie and Ascanio as Co-Sponsors to the bill. Rowan moves to pass by acclimation, Sojos seconds. ACCLIMATION.**
- Resolution 13 Sponsored by Senator Leckie (P)

Amending Senate Rules of Procedure 15.3 regarding subcommittees. **REFERRED TO RULES, 1.15.**

Resolution 14 Sponsored by Senator Lavender and Cohen (P)
Recognizing and adopting the majority opinion of the AdHoc Naming Committee.
REFERRED TO RULES, 1.15.

Resolution 15 Sponsored by Senator Cohen (P)
Amending the Senate Rules of Procedure regarding the Naming procedure.
REFERRED TO RULES, 1.15.

Resolution 16 Sponsored by Senator Lavender (P)
Approving a retroactive payment from Executive Projects to the SLC. **REFERRED TO RULES, 1.15.**

Unfinished Business:

Statements of Dissent: **Leckie, England, Porter**

Motion to unlock the Calendar by Ready, seconded by Baxer. Move back to Resolution 4.

New Business: Central Reserves (Will be done Email; chairs, please choose two members), Senator of the Month (Done next week)

Closing Announcements:

- **Dr. Morgan Acosta:** Welcome back! You've got to be more focused, on top of our work, and more observant.
- **Denton:** Read your rules, don't sit during debate without saying that you yield, and AASU has their upcoming Lunar New Year banquet. Make sure work is being done in committees.

Final Roll Call: Denton, Harmon, Adamyk, Murcia, MacMillan, Recht, Rowan, Cohen, Uddin, Villacorta, Selva, Ready, Fahey, Schaler, England, Haslett, Gnanam, Jungers, Leckie, Parker, Pendleton, Absten, Sojos, Diaz, Maymon, Dean, Silvia, Ascanio, Rudolph, Daraldik, Mougey, Baxter, Slimark, Fink, Lavender, Porter, Fernsel, Blackthorne, Weber, Acanda, Gerds, Toussaint, Jacobsen, Levin

Motion to adjourn by Porter; seconded by Villacorta.

10:59pm

Pursuant to Senate Rule 10.15 I, Vice-Chair Mark Porter, dissent from the decision made by the 72nd Senate on January 15th to pass Constitutional Amendment 1 on the floor.

The core idea that underlies any representative government, such as the Florida State University SGA, is that the representatives chosen by the public to serve in government must make their decisions in a manner that best reflects the interests and desires of the public they serve. Under normal circumstances, this requires some discretion, as it would be impractical to survey every member of the public for their opinion on every issue under consideration. There are times, however, when the public as a whole has the opportunity to directly express its opinion on an issue, namely during elections and referenda. This was the case for Constitutional Amendment #1 on two separate occasions. Constitutional Amendment #1 has appeared on the SGA Ballot on two separate occasions, during the Spring 2019 election cycle and the Fall 2019 election cycle. On both occasions, the amendment was failed by the student body, once due to lack of turnout and once due to an insufficient vote margin. Pursuant to Article VI, Section 1 of the Student Body Constitution and Statute 704.5.B.3 of Student Body Statutes, a proposed constitutional amendment requires a 2/3 supermajority vote to pass, with a minimum 10% voter turnout. On both occasions Constitutional Amendment #1 was presented to the student body, the student body made its opinion known. As representatives of the student body, we are duty-bound to operate in a manner consistent with the desires of our constituents. Placing this issue on the ballot a third time, when the student body has already had the opportunity to approve it twice and chosen not to, is, I believe, a violation of the relationship that exists between representatives and constituents and an abdication of the responsibility we assumed when taking our oaths of office. Our job as a deliberative body is to represent the interests of the people who placed us in office, not to attempt to impose our desires on an unwilling public.

For these reasons, I dissent.

Mark Porter, Senator for Graduate Studies, Seat 1

Statement of Dissent Related to the Tabling of Consent Resolution 8:

Senators: Leckie, Murcia, Villacorta, Recht, Cohen, Gerdts, Uddin, England, Ascanio, Sojos, Slimak, Absten

The most significant service that the Student Government Association provides the student body is the distribution of A&S fees to fund student initiatives and trips. We have been entrusted to manage and allocate millions of dollars, and students depend on our ability to fulfill our duties. Our efforts make various professional functions, trips, conferences, and other events possible, all bettering the student experience and improving our university. However, our inability to pass Resolution 8 is a significant error and dereliction of our duty as senators. While there were various time-consuming technical issues to rectify on the senate floor, this was no excuse for jeopardizing the trips of various organizations. Tabling an entire consent resolution in committee is highly irregular; this action has nearly no precedent. This action harms the experiences of student and professional organizations. No matter how long an issue may take to resolve, no matter how difficult or bureaucratic it may seem, Senate has an obligation to the students of this university. On Wednesday, January 15th, the senate failed to fulfill our duties.

Below are individual statements from Senators who wished to add their own words:

Vice-Chair Ryan Villacorta

I feel very strongly that those students affected are owed an explanation. After a procedural error was made in the Finance Committee, the consent resolution had to be redone on the floor of the Senate. After myself, Chair Leckie, Vice-Chair England, and Senator Gerdts made several amendments to the consent resolution to correct the issues and ensure that RSOs that took the proper steps to request money from RTAC were funded to the best of our ability. Unfortunately, after this work was completed, the Senate voted to table the resolution with the full knowledge that many of these RSOs would not be able to go on their trips. This was a blatant disregard for the students we claim to represent and stripped them of opportunities that it is our job to assist in funding.

I am very sorry for this outcome and wish I could have done more to fight this. I encourage those affected to hold your government accountable. The voting results are posted on the SGA website under the legislative branch page, where you can see how each senator voted on the motion to table the RTAC Consent Resolution. Additionally on the SGA website you can find the contact information for every Senator, should you wish to contact them. You deserve better, and I am deeply sorry, but will commit to fighting for RSOs large and small now and as long as I hold my position.

Vice-Chair Quentin England

I am deeply saddened by the decision of the 72nd Senate to table Resolution 8. After a confusing thirty minutes, we were seconds away from calling a vote on the resolution - which would have sent several organizations on their way to their respective events. There was some concern among the Senate, which led to a motion to table the entire resolution - knowing that some organizations would not be able to travel as a result of this action.

Chairwoman Murcia suggested that we table the non-time sensitive organizations and review and pass the time sensitive organizations -- that is, an organization who would not have been able to go on their trip had we not considered their request that night. Unfortunately, the Senate chose not to pursue the option laid out by Chairwoman Murcia and instead decided to table the whole resolution.

I can only apologize to all those affected on behalf of everyone who tried to prevent this from happening. I understand you had been planning these trips and events for months and were mere weeks away from enjoying them. I wholeheartedly dissent from the decision the Senate took in regards to this Resolution and I urge you to come before a Senate session and make your voice and frustration heard in regards to this matter.

RTAC Chair Murcia

To those of you who this affects, I am deeply saddened and sorry. As the Chair of RTAC I am incredibly passionate about making sure all students are able to go on their trip with some funding. I made it clear to the senate as a whole that if they decided to table this consent resolution a few organizations would not be able to get the supplemental funding they needed to attend their trips.

What saddens me the most is that in that moment certain senators decided to be more concerned about the time we were spending instead of the effect that this would have on the students. As a student government we are supposed to prioritize the needs of the students we represent above our own. For this I am very disappointed and saddened in the decision the senate has made. Again, I would like to personally apologize to all those affected by this decision.