

THE SIXTY-FIRST STUDENT SENATE

The Journal: September 16, 2009

The meeting of the 61st Student Senate was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Student Senate President Bobby Seifter.

Senator Lias lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

MEMBERS PRESENT (First Roll Call): Senators Angulo, Assidon, Baumann, Blair, Bonderud, A. Charlemagne, E. Charlemagne, Chance, Cuyler, Daniels, Donoho, Dougherty, Fistel, Gilzean, Goins, Gold, Ghaneie, Holmes, Howard, Joseph, Kushner, Malone, Moallem, Mroczkowski, Sargent, Schlesinger, Seiglitz, Simmons, Theodore, Tunis, Walker, Williams, Wood, Yarbrough.

MEMBERS ABSENT: (First Roll Call): Senators Callahan, Carter, Fabre, Gonzmart, Grossman, Humphries, Hunter, Johns, Johnson, Kaiser, Lampi, Laughlin, Losito, Melbourne, Peterich, Richards, Scandling, Shubitz, Vasquez.

MEMBERS TARDY/LATE (First Roll Call): Senators Dunnington (7:35), Fistel (7:35), Hutchinson (7:45), McKanstry (8:24), Triay (8:10).

Corrections: None.

Student Comments: Lee Gordon, President of Seminole Christian Life, told the Senate that he attended the RTAC meeting and 4 out of 5 RSOs that requested money for travel were given the money and they were not. He said he gave the committee the same justification as the other groups did and explained why they wanted to go and he wants to know why they were denied funding. Senator Galen Wood told the Senate that he is the treasurer of Seminole Christian Life, and it was clear at the RTAC meeting that the committee was prepared for them. He said he is before the Senate tonight to ask Senate to consider their travel and overturn the decision of the committee. He said all the groups gave the same reason and same justification and he does not want to start any trouble; he just wants a fair hearing. Wood said that he asked for a written justification and the chair advised the committee members that they could be sued and he is concerned about the precedent this is setting. He said that SGA does not have a right to not fund them and it seems strange to him that they asked for less money than any of the other groups. Crystal Mitchell of the SOAR Board

announced that Constitution Day is tomorrow and they will pass out free ice cream and will register students to vote.

She also announced that they are having a Halloween event soon, that will be safe and alcohol free, and you can win a prize. She advised groups that they must get recognized by September 30, and if they do not, they can lose their privilege to have a table in the Union and from participating in Homecoming also. Rebecca Bichel, of the University Library System, told the Senate that the projects at Strozier and Dirac were started with the undergraduate advisory group, and members from SGA served on this committee. She told the Senate that they had a lot of feedback from students concerning textbooks being available and on reserve. She said they are developing a tutoring program that will start next week and there will be three tutors available to assist in failure rate courses for undergraduates. The tutoring service will be offered late night and evenings. Bichel thanked the Senate for their input and support to the library. Angie Brice, of Teach for America, told the Senate that some kids from Urban America do not have the same educational opportunities that we have and this problem can be solved when the students are given the same resources as students in affluent neighborhoods are given. She told the Senate that her experience changed her life and the teachers are from all different background and majors. For more information please go to www.teachforamerica.org.

<<http://www.teachforamerica.org/>> Amber Childres spoke to the Senate about child trafficking. She said that a child is abducted from their home and sold into slavery and this is the second largest criminal act. She announced that they are having a non-profit walk on September 27, leaving from Wescott and walking to the Capitol to take a stand.

Special Introductions and Announcements: Dr. Mary Coburn, Vice President for Student Affairs, told the Senate that there is an administrative overhead that is starting to be accessed in the A&S Fees and she has fought against this for 5 years. She said that every SGA across the state pays a small percentage of their schools expenses, except for FSU-SGA. She said that students benefit from services at FSU but do not pay for them and President Wetherell has asked that A&S Fees be assessed and Laymon and Robert agreed with this and that money went to the library.

Senate President Seifter told the Senate that since April the University has been in an economic uncertainty and

there are tangible fiscal ways that SGA can help out and SGA wants to be partners with the administration and be civil also. So on September 11, 2009, he and Student Body President Rob Jakubik and President Wetherell hammered out the overhead that SGA will be assessed. He said that SGA does the budget a year in advance and they want to just do a flat fee and this year that fee, \$500,000, went to the library. Dr. Coburn told the Senate that she cannot guarantee that this fee will stop and she feels like this is the students' fair share of university costs and services that students receive. She said she hopes it does not increase over the years, but the A&S Fees go up every year. Senate President Seifter said that after 2013 the same parties will get together and re-negotiate and the next president of the university has to abide by this contract. He said that SGA has to pay its fair share and it is their jobs as student leaders to help students and make decisions that best affect the student body. He said the

university has the power to assess this fee and the money will come from Sweepings.

Messages from the Executive Branch: Richard Benson, Student Body Deputy Treasurer, told the Senate that he is chair of RTAC and they met on Monday. He said that he is supportive of the right of RSOs to appeal their lack of funding but he objects to what committee members were accused of and some statements given were false. He told the Senate that he wants them to write qualifications for travel and their job is to make sure the travel is a benefit to the student body, not just one group. He said the committee felt that there was not enough justification to fund their travel and he said the committee was threatened and he feels personally violated. Kelly-Ann Fasano, Student Body Treasurer, and chair of PAC, told the Senate that PAC had their first meeting on Monday, and she feels that the committee acted professionally and they asked great questions and the meeting lasted 3 and one-half hours. She said she feels confident in their decisions and she agrees with the decision to not fund travel for Seminole Christian Life. Fasano asked the Senate to uphold the decision of RTAC.

Messages from Agency and Bureau Directors, and SGA Organization Officers and Employees: None.

Messages from the Congress of Graduate Students: None.

Messages from the Senior Class Council: None.

Messages from the Judicial Branch: None.

Messages from the Union Board: Heather Peeples and Jason Sheradsky gave the following report: The committee met today and changed their meeting time to the first Wednesday of every month. The next meeting will be held on October 7 at 4:30 p.m. Guest services approved an increase in rate changes for reservable space by non-university organizations. The Union Board will present the proposed budget for 2010-2011 on next Wednesday. Applications are now available for two open positions on Union Board are still available in the Union Administration Office and must be returned next Tuesday, September 24, 4:30 p.m. Events: Constitution Day will be celebrated on tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Oglesby Union. There will be free ice cream and a live reading of the Constitution. Movies: Gigantic, tonight at 7:30 and 10:15 p.m.; UP, Thursday, September 17, at 7:30 and 10 p.m.; Old Boy on Friday, September 18 at 11:55 p.m. Shows: Enlighten Up, A Guided Zen Meditation will be presented with Dr. Jimmy Yu in the Club Downunder at 8:30 p.m.; Blind Man's Colour will be performing on Friday, September 18, at 8:30 p.m. Union Productions will be holding an all-call meeting on Thursday, September 17, at 7 p.m. in the Club Down Under.

Messages from Campus Recreation: None.

Report of the Student Body Auditor: As of September 15, 2009, Senate Projects is \$95,400.00.

Committee Reports:

Student Affairs - As reported in the Calendar.

Budget - Chairman Howard made a motion to go into Committee of the Whole to go over the Resolutions 3 and 4 on the Consent Calendar. Senator Goins made a motion to accept the decision of the committee on Resolution 3; the motion was objected to by Senator Wood. The motion passed by a voice vote. There was a motion by Senator Seifter to accept the decision of committee on Resolution 4; the motion passed and the resolution passed without objection.

Finance - Did not meet.

Judiciary - 9-16-09 The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. Present: Senators Seiglitz, Goins, Daniels, Hutchinson, Moallem, Lias, Tunis, Wood, Yarbrough, Gilzean. The committee passed Bill 68, with amendments, to Second Reading. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m. The Senate interviewed and passed Emily Whelchel for Student Supreme Court Associate Justice.

Internal Affairs - There was a motion by Chairman Chance to go into Committee of the Whole to interview candidates; the motion passed. The Senate interviewed and passed: Rachel Walsh for Environmental Services Program Director, Jordan Raupp for Secretary of Internal Affairs, XiXi Li for Deputy Secretary of Internal Affairs, Nichole Ticknor for Secretary of Athletic Affairs, Tony Fusco for Secretary of Community Affairs, Chad Sulak for Deputy Secretary of Campus Security, Karissa Hazzard for Secretary of Academic Affairs, Kyle Dunnington for Secretary of Campus Secretary and Harrison DuBosar for Deputy Secretary of Academic Affairs. Senator Dunnington resigned his Senate seat before taking the oath of office.

Rules and Calendar- The Senate interviewed and passed Shawn Waltz for Graduate Studies Seat 4.

Sweepings - Senate President Seifter advised the committee to meet after Senate and set a meeting time.

Senate Confirmations: Emily Whelchel for Student Supreme Court Associate Justice, Rachel Walsh for Environmental Services Program Director, Jordan Raupp for Secretary of Internal Affairs, XiXi Li for Deputy Secretary of Internal Affairs, Nichole Ticknor for Secretary of Athletic Affairs, Tony Fusco for Secretary of Community Affairs, Chad Sulak for Deputy Secretary of Campus Security, Karissa Hazzard for Secretary of Academic Affairs, Kyle Dunnington for Secretary of Campus Secretary, Harrison DuBosar for Deputy Secretary of Academic Affairs and Shawn Waltz.

Consent Calendar:

Resolution 3- Sponsored by: Senator Mroczkowski.

Subject: Approving the Resource and Travel Committee Allocations for NAACP, Collegiate Entrepreneurs, Delta Sigma Pi, Seminole Christian Life, Institute for Industrial Engineering.

THERE WAS A MOTION BY SENATOR WOOD TO ALLOCATE \$450 FOR TRAVEL FOR SEMINOLE CHRISTIAN LIFE, THE MOTION FAILED BY VOICE VOTE. THERE WAS A MOTION BY SENATOR TUNIS TO ZERO FUND DELTA SIGMA PI. THE MOTION WAS WITHDRAWN BY SENATOR TUNIS. THERE WAS A MOTION BY SENATOR BLAIR TO ZERO FUND DELTA SIGMA PI AND AFTER DEBATE THE MOTION FAILED BY VOICE VOTE. THE RESOLUTION WAS VOTED ON AND PASSED AS ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED.

Resolution 4- Sponsored by: Senator Mroczkowski.
Subject: Approving the Programming Allocations Committee allocations for Seminole Christian Life, National Association of Black Accountants and Delta Sigma Pi.

PASSED.

Bills First Reading:

Bill 69 - Sponsored by Senator Simmons. A transfer of \$1,052.15 from Senate Projects to Victim Advocate Program.

Purpose: to restock the Victim Advocate Program's Student Healing Library. **REFERRED TO FINANCE.**

Bill 70 - Sponsored by Senators Kushner and Scandling. A transfer of \$2,700 from Pac to Senate Projects. Purpose: to be in line with Student Body Statutes 807.6 B. **REFERRED TO FINANCE.**

Bill 71 - Sponsored by Senator Wood. An addition to the Student Body Statutes adding Chapter 802.10. Purpose: to clarify how to fund a SGA Event. **REFERRED TO FINANCE AND JUDICIARY.**

Bills Second Reading:

Bill 65 - Sponsored by Senator Humphries. An addition to the Student Body Statutes adding Chapter 1000.5 C 4.

Purpose: to require all SGA agency directors to give an end of semester report to the Student Senate. **TABLED ON 9-9-09 FOR ONE WEEK.**

Bill 67 - Sponsored by Senator Seifter. A transfer of \$9,000 from Senate Projects to Executive Projects. Purpose: to purchase 15,000 "rally towels" for the "white out game" against the University of South Florida on September 26, 2009. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION.**

Bill 68 - Sponsored by Senator Assidon. A revision to the Student Body Statutes Chapter 802.6 A (1,2,3). Purpose: to clarify use of the SGA logo on advertised materials only. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION.**

Constitutional Amendments: None.

Resolutions:

Resolution 64- Sponsored by Senator Seifter.
Subject: A plan for sustainability of student life at FSU.
WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR.

Resolution 69- Sponsored by Senators Angulo, Cuyler, Simmons, Theodore and Waltz.
Subject: Endorsing the expenditure of the University Libraries to enhance the academic experience of the FSU student body.

PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

New Business: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

Closing Announcements: Senator Moallem said that she needs guys to sign up to dance with a group of women, who are dementia patients. Senate President Seifter asked the Internal Affairs members to please fulfill their commitment to the students and show up for committee meetings. Senator Theodore apologized to the Senate for his actions last week in the chamber. Senator Donoho told the Senate that she is starting a scholarship fund for a friend that passed away in 2008. She said the focus will be "against binge drinking." Senator Blair said the Senate set a precedent, not against religion, but against not planning well for an event. Senator Waltz said that Senator Wood showed amazing character by fighting for his organization and losing and then standing up for another organization to get their travel. He also said that trafficking is a serious issue and in 400 years, 12 billion people have been trafficked. Senator Howard said the Budget Committee will meet today

and the packets are due tomorrow at 3 p.m. Senator Wood thanked everyone for considering his amendment and said he is not bitter about anything. He said his RSO meets every Tuesday. Sandra Miles said that one thing to consider is precedent and get information and don't forget to be respectful to each other. Quote: Never take a person's dignity; its worth everything to them and nothing to you.

Senate Pro Tempore Cuyler thought: A man that says he can and a man that says he can't are both right. Always be positive. Senate President Seifter told the Senate that they did a great job tonight and he enjoyed the debate; it was very stimulating and was not a disaster. He asked Senators to volunteer to pass out the towels at the game on Saturday. Volunteers are Senators McKanstry, A. Charlemagne, Chance, Gilzean, Schlesinger, Donoho, Daniels, Seifter, Senate Assistant Christian Andres and Deputy Treasurer Richard Benson. He also asked for Senators that would like to be appointed to the Union Board. He will select from the following Senators: Waltz, Seiglitz, Theodore, A. Charlemagne, and Chance. Seifter encouraged Senators to attend the budget hearings next week so that they can see how the process work, from start to finish.

Final Roll Call: PRESENT: Senators Angulo, Assidon, Blair, Bonderud, A. Charlemagne, E. Charlemagne, Chance, Cuyler, Daniels, Donoho, Fistel, Gilzean, Gold, Ghaneie, Holmes, Howard, Hutchinson, Kushner, Lias, Malone, McKanstry, Moallem, Mroczkowski, Sargent, Schlesinger, Seiglitz, Simmons, Theodore, Triay, Tunis, Walker, Waltz, Williams, Wood, Yarbrough. ABSENT: Senators Baumann, Callahan, Carter, Dougherty, Fabre, Gonzmart, Grossman, Humphries, Hunter, Johns, Johnson, Joseph, Kaiser, Lampi, Laughlin, Losito, Melbourne, Peterich, Richards, Scandling, Shubitz, Simmons, Vasquez.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Student Senate President

Student Senate Program Assistant