



**72nd Student Senate
Rules & Calendar
Date: September 16th, 2020**

Call to Order: 5:08 p.m.

Members Present: President Pro Tempore Harmon, Chair(s) Adamyk, Dean, Gnanam, Gonzalez, Leckie, Martin, Sojos

Members Tardy:

Members Absent:

Guests: Rawan Abhari, Senator Maymon, Ash Soto, Jason Randall, Adrien Rigudel

Announcements:

- President Pro Tempore -
- Judiciary - None
- Finance - None
- Oversight - Passed 5 candidates to be forwarded to the Senate today.
- Budget - First official meeting, heard 2 pieces of legislation and passed both
- SLAA - We passed Resolution 70, tabled 65 and passed Bill 100
- Guests - None

Committee Business:

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- Resolution 60
- Resolution 61
- Resolution 63
- Resolution 65
- Resolution 69
- Resolution 70
- Resolution 78 (TABLED)
- Bill 92
- Amendment 2
- Amendment 3

Old Business:

- **Resolution 78 - Sponsored by Senator Sojos (P):** Rules 1.8 and 1.9, as currently written, inhibit the Senate President or Senate President Pro-Tempore from addressing the Senate in their defense other than during short rounds of pro/con debate. (TABLED)
 - **THE SPONSOR HAS WITHDRAWN THE RESOLUTION**

New Business:

Candidate Confirmations:

- **Ash Soto - College of Music Seat 1**
- Opening: Hi everyone! My name's Ash Soto, I'm running for the College of Music seat. I'm a music major and I want to aspire to make change on campus for my college and the entire student body. I also want to spread positivity!
- TNDQ:
 - Gonzalez: Are you financially certified?
 - Not yet because I've been busy but I'll get it done!
- Questions on position:
 - Gonzalez: You're applying for College of Music Seat 1. Why apply and not run?
 - I applied for this over summer but if I didn't get it through application I did plan on running
 - Gonzalez: So you're part of a political party on campus?
 - As of recently, yes
 - Gonzalez: What tangibles do you have for change?
 - I wanted to make sure every student's voice is being heard. I've had people come to me so I want to be able to help them.
 - Gonzalez: If you got in the position, how will you go about what you've described?
 - I want to use my voice through social media as well as reaching out to faculty from my college.
 - Dean: What are some skills that you feel you can utilise in this position?
 - Through other RSOs on campus I've learned teamwork as a key skill. Leadership skills in terms of how to coach myself to be a better leader. Public speaking as I'm on the executive board for a couple of RSOs so I have to communicate with lots of other people.
 - Gonzalez: Can you tell me what the responsibilities of a Senator are?
 - To uphold specific rules, look at the rules guided by SGA as well as write legislation if they want. Attend committee meeting and make sure everything's in order.
 - Martin: If you were to be forwarded to be a Senator, have you looked into which you'd be interested in?
 - I'm comfortable with any, I'm just more familiar with rules more than anything. I know there's been the investigative board and SLAA, I'm up for any.
- Questions on character:
 - Gonzalez: Can you describe your character to me and how that relates to conflict resolution?
 - People describe me as outgoing and outspoken. I like to think I bring light into specific situations. When it comes to specific conflict, I don't like when people are being negative towards one another. I like to hear both sides and what, if anything, lines up.
 - Dean: How did you overcome a situation where you disagreed with someone?
 - As an orientation leader, I was on the dance committee. I had multiple ideas which were shot down but then someone brought the same

ideas up and they were accepted. So I talked to this person politely and the committee were nicer to each other and became friends.

- Gonzalez: You said you play a mediator role. Would you say you've played this role between SGA and the Survivor's Ad Hoc?
 - I thought I was but I found I got myself into the situation too much. I took myself away from the situation for a bit, realised what I did, talked to the survivors and asked what I can do for them. I tried to be the mediator but it didn't come out that way.
- Closing: Thanks everyone for taking the time to interview me. I wanted to thank you all for letting me speak and introduce myself.
- *Dean moves to go into roundtable discussion*
- *Sojos seconds*
- Roundtable:
 - Gonzalez: In the summer I think we interviewed 2 people. Their applications talked about the change they want to make and after being confirmed they got to their seats and did absolutely nothing. That's why I asked for tangibles and I don't think I heard that.
 - Leckie: I think those are legitimate concerns. I remember when we confirmed Chair Martin. I think it's okay if you care about something and you have a rough idea on how to bring them to fruition. I share Chair Gonzalez's concerns but you don't have to know specifically how to make this happen. College of Music deserves representation and I think we should give them that.
 - Martin: The College of Music seat hasn't been filled for a while. In my interview I didn't really know what I wanted to do. I've seen Ash come to committee meetings and try to do things without the title. After connecting with people I became a better Senator. Even though there's no tangible goals I think that's okay.
 - Gnanam: Senator Martin has come a long way since applying in Spring. I think it comes down to whether or not Ash is going to put in the effort. I know they've been an active citizen and have been asking questions and attending committees. While I understand Chair Gonzalez's reservations, I recognise Ash's passion and their want to represent a diverse community.
 - Gonzalez: When you come to the Senate you're meant to be non-partial. They brought up their party affiliation and that brings up a whole another set of issues.
 - Dean: Just to confirm, this is a fall seat?
 - Harmon: Yes
 - Dean: Okay so how long would they have left to serve?
 - Harmon: Probably ~4 weeks left
 - Dean: With the timeframe left of everything, I just personally don't feel comfortable putting someone in a seat with such little time left. I'd rather people be confirmed by the entire student population.
 - Leckie: Just remember over the summer we confirmed someone for just 1 week.

- Gnanam: I don't think it's fair to blame the candidate for the application taking so long to be moved forward. We've confirmed people for less periods of time and I think that goes against what we stand for.
- *Sojos moves to call the question*
- *Dean seconds*
- **Vote:**
 - Adamyk: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Gonzalez: No
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Martin: Yes
 - Sojos: Yes
 - Vote reads 6-1-0, candidate **PASSES**
- **Tyler Roy - College of Arts & Sciences Seat 6**
 - *Due to logistical errors with the candidate's application it is TABLED.*
- **Jason Randall - Graduate Studies Seat 3**
- **Opening:** Hi! I'm a Graduate Student in the Information Technology program. I did my undergraduate studies at Florida State. I noticed there was a disconnect between what I was doing. I was working with the Tallahassee government and other organisations in Tallahassee but neglected my own community. I found several issues on campus, especially as a graduate student. There's no other Graduate Students serving in the Senate to my knowledge so I think this is a good opportunity. Graduate Students make up 20% of FSU's student body but have no current representation in the Senate. That's why I applied for this. I applied for a Fall seat because I feel there is never a time where Graduate students shouldn't be represented. Thank you for this opportunity to speak with y'all and have this opportunity to represent the student body and the Graduate students.
- **TNDQ:**
 - Dean: Are you financially certified
 - Yes
- **Questions on position:**
 - Gonzalez: Can you go into more detail about specific actionable plans
 - I want to specifically work to increase funding when discussing Victims Advocate and Case Management. Meeting with actual graduate students RSOs and cogs to understand the needs of graduate students. I think meeting with the medical school and law school council about this is also important. I think working with FAMU, TCC and the members of the Tallahassee Community is also important when discussing resolutions. As well as when discussing discrimination an hate speech, ensuraing that we are holing people accountable as well as our selves by these resolutions. As well as requiring that senators meet with members of their college and their constituents.
- **Questions on character:**
 - Gonzalez: Can you describe your character in terms of conflict resolution

- Gonzalez: Can you describe your character to me and how that helps conflict resolution?
 - I consider myself an impact. I try to get along with everyone. I'm a social individual and I like getting on with others. I like helping people, that's why I took on the role of President of the French Club. I'm pretty outgoing-- I reach out to a lot of people.
- Closing: Thanks for letting me be here and I'm excited to see how the Senate functions. If you have any other questions, feel free to reach out to me! Thank you for letting me be here. I'm thankful to be at this school and Go Noles!
- *Sojos moves to go into roundtable discussion*
- *Martin seconds*
- Roundtable discussion:
 - Dean: He has a wide range of different perspectives. He's involved on campus and has a lot of constituents. I don't think he completely understands what the Senate's about but I think that's okay.
 - Gonzalez: He didn't really have the tangibles I was looking for. He interacts in circles we don't really reach as Senate. I think the character thing was lackluster as well but yeah.
- *Sojos moves to call the question*
- *Dean seconds*
- Vote:
 - Adamyk: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Gonzalez: No
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Martin: Yes
 - Sojos: Yes
 - Vote reads 6-1-0, candidate **PASSES**
- Gonzalez moves to unlock the calendar. Dean seconds. Moving to Resolution 80.

Resolutions:

- **Resolution 58 - Sponsored by Senator J. Alvarez:** Amending Student Rules of Procedure 13.8 regarding Senator absences.
- **Resolution 60 - Sponsored by Senators Waters and Garcia (P), A. Alvarez, J. Alvarez, Gabadage, Gonzalez, Medley-Neyra, Palacio, Tookes:** Advocating for the renaming of Doak Campbell Stadium to Charlie Ward Field. (TABLED)
- **Resolution 61 - Sponsored by Senators Garcia, Waters (P), A. Alvarez, J. Alvarez, Gabadge, Gonzalez, Medley-Neyra, Palacio:** Advocating the renaming of Suwannee room to Eva Killings Suwannee Room. (TABLED)
- **Resolution 65 - Sponsored by Senator J. Alvarez (P), Chabot, Leckie, Murcia, Gnanam, Hinks, and Wang:** Encouraging the University Administration to expand the means in which the Student Body is educated regarding Indigenous Nations and reach out to other nations that use the "Seminole" name. (TABLED)
- **Resolution 69 - Sponsored by Senators Wang (P), Bogle Gnanam and Hinks (Co):** Amending Student Senate Rules of Procedure 5.12 regarding Ad Hoc Committees. (TABLED)
- **Resolution 70 - Sponsored by Senator Rudd and Stinson (P), Senators Adams, Chabot, Wang, Waters (Co):** Urging for the renaming of BK Roberts Hall and SGA Advocacy to do so. (TABLED)

- **Resolution 80 - Sponsored by Senator Maymon & Gnanam (P), Gonzalez, Wang, Gerds (Co):** Condemning the brutality showcased by the law enforcement officers of the Leon County area and affirms the idea that BLACK LIVES MATTER.
 - Opening: So this was written in collaboration with some of the protestors who protested on September 5th. This resolution condemns the violence shown by several officers. I think this resolution is a simple statement of support from the Senate for the protestors and a condemnation of the brutality shown.
 - TNDQ:
 - Dean: Have you reached out to the individual police departments or not?
 - Gnanam: I didn't because I didn't think you should in these situations
 - *Dean moves to go into roundtable discussion*
 - *Sojos seconds*
 - Roundtable discussion:
 - Dean: I think it's important to have the backs of our students.
 - Dean: Were students involved in this directly?
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Sojos: I think we should pass this
 - Gnanam: We made some small changes to the wording of the "Be it further resolved" to be a little bit more specific.
 - Leckie moves to adopt the changes as presented to the committee. Dean seconds.
 - Gonzalez moves to amend "Department of Student Affairs" to "Division of Student Affairs". Leckie seconds.
 - *Sojos moves to call the question*
 - *Dean seconds*
 - Closing: Just want to say thank you. This went much more swiftly than I thought it was going to go so thank you. Thanks for your time y'all.
 - Vote:
 - Adamyk: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Gonzalez: Yes
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Martin: Yes
 - Sojos: Yes
 - Vote reads 7-0-0, Resolution **PASSES**

Bills:

- **Bill 92 - Sponsored by Senator J. Alvarez, Chabot (P) and Murcia (Co):** Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 304.3 with regards to the candidate screening process.

Constitutional Amendments:

- **Amendment 2 - Sponsored by Senators Murcia (P) and Chabot (Co):** Amending the Student Body Constitution with regards to the number of Student Senators.
- **Amendment 3 - Sponsored by Senator Murcia:** Amending the Student Body Constitution to limit the number of students needed for a petition of recall..

Unfinished Business: None except what is tabled above.

Final Announcements:

- Harmon: Jake Alvarez has done a great job giving me a template for handling reports that come to this committee. Shoutout to him for that.
- Gnanam: I think we should take some time to evaluate their internal biases. Please keep in mind your community as time goes on and their voices in the Senate and in the student body.
- Dean: Productive meeting, that was awesome. Budget week is coming up so stay tuned!

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 23rd, 2020 at 5:00 pm

Adjourned: 6:43 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Harmon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Signature of President Pro Tempore