



71st Student Senate

Internal Affairs Committee

October 8th, 2019 in Thagard 401

Call to Order: 06:15PM

Members Present: Sandoval, Walsh, Villacorta

Members Tardy: Alvarez

Members Absent: Baxter, Durham,

Guests: Brendan Gerdts, David Higgins

Announcements: none

Committee Business: confirmation interviews and bills

Old Business: none

New Business:

- **Interview One-** Grant Kurtz (Director of OEI)
 - **Opening Statement-** Finance Major, Previous Assistant Director of OEI, Unique mission on campus, differences between College of Entrepreneurship on campus, giving back to FSU, providing business atmosphere for non-business, and non-entrepreneurship majors, a lot of new goals for this year.
 - **Technical, Non-Debatable Questions-** none.
 - **Questions Related to Position-**
 - **Sandoval** – Concreate goals for OEI? How many other members of OEI?
 - No other members but expecting to be forwarding soon. Four potential members looking to join the E-Board. Those couldn't be processed until he was confirmed.
 - **Sandoval** – How were they recruited?
 - One came looking for consulting on a social media company and was offered the position for his experience in the area. Cohen had a bad experience starting a company and so wants to handle Finance for OEI to prevent this from happening to other students. Third person is a

friend of the roommate who loves what OEI does.

- **Sandoval** – Shortcomings of OEI from last year?
 - Had no idea what they were doing. Was a lot of trial and error. Not enough people sharing the workload, only two people holding it together. Wants to remedy this by collaborating with other organizations. Had a lot of ideas but not a lot of resources. Had a lot of speakers come to campus. Now there is a concrete idea of what to do which will help bring in new people.
- **Questions of Character-**
 - **Higgins** – What traits will make you successful in this position?
 - The audience is different than most other areas of involvement because they are business minded so being personable, able to communicate, networking skills, and able to recruit from a lot of areas.
 - **Sandoval** – What makes OEI important to you?
 - We have the Jim Moran school which is amazing, but there are shortcomings due to the school being so young. OEI can achieve a lot that the school can't because in OEI you do not need to be an Entrepreneurship student. OEI is filling a niche while the school is so young. OEI is an SGA Bureau so they can target STEM majors or other students until more accessible.
- **Other Questions-** none.
- **Closing-** OEI serves its own purpose, and having already been on the board before, I have the experience to take it from walking to running.
- **Deliberations**
 - Roundtable
- **Call to Question**
 - Higgins moves
 - Sandoval seconds
- **Voting Results**
 - **Yes-** Sandoval, Walsh
 - **No-** none.
 - **Abs.-** Higgins
- **Interview Two-** Samantha Kunin (Attorney General)
 - **Opening Statement-** Graduated in May. Working as a gubernatorial fellow. Law student. Believe that certain departments are very siloed and wants to connect the Law and Med Schools to the rest of the university. Wants to be Attorney General to be involved on campus because she is analytical and has experience with data research and analysis. Wants to

bring that mindset to the position. Was not previously a part of SGA so she believes she is a fresh set of eyes. Wants to defend the Executive Branch and the Supervisor of Elections.

- **Technical, Non-Debatable Questions-** none.
- **Questions Related to Position-**
 - Motion for a non-committee member to speak by Sandoval. David seconds.
 - Gerdts – What do you see this position as and what do you want it to become?
 - I want to be a pillar, and as I am not invested, I hope I can provide clarity to what the position is and be an unbiased asset.
- **Questions of Character-**
 - **Sandoval** – Past experience shaping your leadership?
 - Part of the Presidential Scholars program and needs to create a community project filling needs in the community. Program is a mess, and no one has an idea what issues are actually needed. I took the reins and steered everyone towards a project actually helping the community and now it is an RSO that helps with tutoring refugee kids.
- **Other Questions-** none.
- **Closing-** Thank you for having me.
- **Deliberations**
 - Roundtable
- **Call to Question**
 - Sandoval moves
 - Higgins seconds
- **Voting Results**
 - **Yes-** Sandoval, Walsh
 - **No-** none
 - **Abs.-** Higgins
- **Interview Three-** Thomas Driscoll (Senior Class Council Treasurer)
 - **Opening Statement-** Applying for Senior Class Treasurer because I am a senior and I am financially certified.
 - **Technical, Non-Debatable Questions-** none.
 - **Questions Related to Position-**
 - **Sandoval** – Goals as treasurer?
 - We have been fundraising since 2013 for the senior class gift unsuccessfully, and most likely because of barriers to donation. I want to remove those barriers.
 - **Questions of Character-**
 - **Sandoval** – Why do you want to join?

- Very important part of identity for the senior class and has a large impact on campus.
 - **Higgins** – past experience with finances?
 - Currently another treasurer position.
 - **Sandoval** – Why important?
 - Graduating in 3 so atypical and very important to still leave an impact on his collages and college.
 - **Other Questions-** none.
 - **Closing-** Thank you for your time.
 - **Deliberations**
 - Roundtable
 - **Call to Question**
 - Higgins moves
 - Sandoval seconds
 - **Voting Results**
 - **Yes-** Sandoval, Walsh
 - **No-** none.
 - **Abs.-** Higgins
- **Interview Four** – Caroline Knowles, Senior Class Council Vice President
 - **Opening Statement-** senior, double major, applied because candidate is an out of state student, drawn to spirit and tradition of FSU, downtime between major events can be improved upon.
 - **Technical, Non-Debatable Questions-** none
 - **Questions Related to Position-**
 - **Sandoval-** previous experiences with class councils?
 - None, was invited to group retreat, very beneficial
 - **Sandoval-** elaborate on goals?
 - Class council social media should have more followers, offered to act as PR liaison for senior class council, more known presence, more exposure, show up more at events
 - **Questions of Character-**
 - **Walsh-** elaborate on previous leadership experience?
 - Served on e-board for UN Assoc., Garnet and Gold guide for the football program, VP of programming before that entity ceased to exist, currently VP of programming for Student Foundation, WAP, ritual director for Phi Mu
 - **Other Questions-** none
 - **Closing-** wants to continue to serve FSU

- **Deliberations**
 - Roundtable
 - **Call to Question**
 - **Villacorta moves to call the question**
 - Sandoval seconds
 - **Voting Results**
 - **Yes- (3)** Sandoval, Walsh, **Villacorta**
 - **No- (0)**
 - **Abs.- (0)**
- **Interview Five- Mollie Lewis- Deputy Supervisor of Elections**
 - **Opening Statement- previously deputy, enjoyed it**
 - **Technical, Non-Debatable Questions-**
 - **Alvarez- currently financially certified?**
 - **No**
 - **Alvarez- have you taken the election code exam**
 - **yes**
 - **Questions Related to Position-**
 - Alvarez- what lessons did you learn from your previous time as deputy?
 - Just jumping into it, didn't know anything going in, going to office hours, just doing it
 - Villacorta- how will you correct the previous mistakes and shortcomings of the supervisor's office?
 - Wasn't very involved, was new, doesn't know full depth of what was going on, trusts election commission
 - Alvarez- how do you feel you can act on campaign material review in impartial and timely manner?
 - Splitting up office hours, looking at it every day
 - Walsh- given previous statements, how do you believe you can improve the elections commission?
 - Be more involved, took a back seat before
 - Alvarez- in the past there has been complaints the elections office has not submitted violations to the commission, should you be confirmed do you believe you'll be able to be more active in finding potential violations?
 - Yeah, we could have done more, other parties were filing so many, room for improvement
 - **Questions of Character-**
 - **Sandoval- have you been affiliated with any campus political parties?**
 - **No**

- **Other Questions**- none
- **Closing**- not familiar with election commission, wants to be more familiar, really enjoyed the position
- **Deliberations**
 - Roundtable
- **Call to Question**
 - Walsh moves
 - Alvarez seconds
- **Voting Results**
 - **Yes- (1) Sandoval**
 - **No- (3) Alvarez, Walsh, Villacorta**
 - **Abs.- (0)**

- **Bill 79**
- **Sponsor-Senator Levin**
- **Purpose & Description: Revising Chapter 300.2 Composition of the Executive Branch**
- **Opening Statement-** revision to chapter 300.2, adding class council initiatives and responsibilities into table of contents.
- **Technical, non-debatable questions: none**
- **Sandoval moves to go into roundtable**
- **Villacorta seconds**
- **Villacorta moves to close roundtable**
- **Walsh seconds**
- **Sandoval moves to call the question**
- **Villacorta seconds**
- **Closing- thank you**
 - **Yes- Sandoval, Walsh, Villacorta**
 - **No-**
 - **Abs.-**
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- **Bill 86**
- **Sponsor- Senator Villacorta**
- **Purpose and Description: To allow for the forwarding letter to include the number of applicants for a position**
- **Opening Statement: The above to help inform the Internal Affairs Committee about the candidacy and**
- **Technical Non-debatable:**
- **Walsh: Who sends the forwarding letters**
- **Senator Walsh moves to enter roundtable**
- **Alvarez Seconds**
- **Alvarez: Why the decision to use applicants rather than interviewees**
- **V: everyone who applies gets interviewed**

- **Walsh: How will this be enforced**
- **V: Supreme Court, investigative powers of the senate**
- **Alvarez moves to call the question**
- **Walsh Seconds**
- **Votes**
- **Yes- Alvarez, Walsh, Sandoval**
- **No- none**
- **Abs.- none**

- **Unfinished Business- none**
- **Final Announcements- none**
- **Date and Time of Next Meeting-** October 15, 2019, at 6:00 pm in Thagard 401
- **Adjourned-** 7:51 pm