



**71<sup>st</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
Date 10/22/19**

**Call to Order:** 7:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** Chair Jacobsen, Vice Chair Leckie, Senators England, Gerdtts, Mcaullife, Weber

**Members Tardy:** None

**Members Absent:** Senator Latham

**Guests:** Chair Ready, Vice Chair Adamyk, OGA Directors Poole, Harris, new senators Sojos, Ascanio

**Announcements:**

- Chair - Be on your A game for the end of this Senate, every bill should be heard
- Vice Chair - Welcome to new senators, lets be efficient
- Members -
  - Gerdtts, welcome all new guests, proud to be on committee that meets multiple times a week, Sunday at noon is when Apportionment committee meets, in this room
  - Weber: tomorrow at 8 am strive not to drive, integration statue 8-12
- Guests -
  - OGA Directors: OGA resolution is going up tomorrow, kept it vague, recognizing need for textbook affordability and more resources, veterans access to education and purple heart wavier, strongly support efforts to increase mental health resources, student safety measures, accessibility and more housing, funding for legacy hall, BK Roberts hall renaming, Engineering school, and continued investment in FSU.

**Committee Business:**

- Bill 91 - Fehringer - The Union Board would like to ensure that every candidate is aware of what duties and responsibilities they are running to do. The Union Board has voted in support of this bill and accompanying legislation pertaining to the Union Board Elections.
- Bil 97- Levin - Change to Chapter 206
- Bill 100 - Alvarez - Removing Chapter 913 in accordance with the Bureau Review Process
- Bill 101- Harris and Cohen- Since PAC and RTAC budgets are allocated per fiscal year, this amendment will ensure that money remains for students throughout the fiscal year. This bill will set a maximum spending cap of 50% of the originally allocated PAC and RTAC budgets.
- Bill 102- Weber and Leckie - To update the Senate's authority on making grammatical and formatting corrections to the Senate's legislation

- Bill 103- Ready- To remove where possible all instances of printed publication requirements. Such requirements shall be replaced with publication requirements on the SGA website.
- Bill 104- Leckie - To help facilitate the staffing of the Office of General Council
- Bill 105 - England and Harmon- Redefine the circumstances in which a Senator's office is terminated. Thus, ensuring accurate and appropriate representation of the Student Body. Further protects against the possible manipulation of an election.
- Bill 107- Alvarez - Expanding upon Chapter 700 with regards to relevant organizations
- Bill 108- Lavender - In regards to the Legislative Agenda and the official policy preferences endorsed by the student body-all members of SGA must prevent their personal opinions as being representative of the opinions of SGA as a whole.

### Old Business:

- Bill 91 - Fehringer - The Union Board would like to ensure that every candidate is aware of what duties and responsibilities they are running to do. The Union Board has voted in support of this bill and accompanying legislation pertaining to the Union Board Elections.
  - Introduction: Fehringer: Sorry for being absent, this has been seen before, ensuring that the Union board has own set of criteria in terms of being appointed, 704.2H is why it was sent back, if you have more questions I hope to answer.  
Yields 2:25
  - Round Table
    - Gerdts: ***moves to amend section 4 of the bill, section 704.2***
      - Found friendly
    - Gerdts: now that it is amended, people don't have an issue with the bill itself, but the way the statutes were referenced, this has been approved by the union board, this makes sense
  - Closing: Fehringer: this bill supports the union board - senate uniformity, thanks.  
Yields: 2:04
  - Voting
  - England: Yes
  - Gerdts: Yes
  - Leckie: Yes
  - Mcauliffe: Yes
  - Weber: Yes
  - ***Bill Passes***
- Bill 97- Levin - Change to Chapter 206
  - ***England: moves to Table***

### New Business:

- Bill 100 - Alvarez - Removing Chapter 913 in accordance with the Bureau Review Process
  - Introduction: Alvarez: This bill came out from the decision from the majority of the Internal Affairs committee's bureau review process, this bureau was not retained, we now have an Entrepreneurship school and 7 separate programs for non majors, including microgrants for people from any major to receive funding, in addition the budget process no members of OEI came to request money, tied for second least funded bureau, the pro temp "the internal affairs and most of the senate agrees OEI is not active" in addition, this was passed by the internal affairs committee 0:26

- Round Table
  - Weber: let's say this goes through and its passes, do we ask director to resign?
  - Alvarez : it would no longer exist
  - Gerdts: when was the review process completed ?
    - Alvarez: in the Spring of inauguration
  - Gerdts: is Chair Durham involved in the writing of the bill
    - Alvarez: we waited until the fall to bring up legislation, this wasn't considered much of committee business
  - Mcauliffe: this is enacted immediately right? Why not give more time for the program to be rebooted
    - Alvarez: This was brought up in IA, OEI was given the whole previous academic year to come back to fruition, and also if we cut it off now there would be less of a hardship on the current director than if we did it later when more positions will be filled, could save money for Senate
  - England: is OEI this fiscal year funded
    - Alvarez: yes, \$2,000
  - England: what would happen to their money?
    - Alvarez: between funds of SGA
  - England: are they budgeted?
    - Alvarez: yes, would be split
  - Villacorta: the bill passed in IA, the review process found that OEI should not exist anymore, i am in favor of this because the goals of the organization is uninformed about what the school already does, they accomplish same goals as a flyer, considered giving them a chance, but they don't have a clear goal, the school already does these things
  - Harmon: Next year's budget: they were funded \$500 under the assumption they would be removed, they had to be funded
  - Weber: they had their chance, i would like our money back, saving OPS wages if they aren't doing anything
  - England: Directors are no longer OPS wage
  - Gerdts: more comfortable with this if the entirety of the IA committee was involved, i would like to hear the opinion of the whole committee
- Closing: Alvarez: im a proud member of the IA committee, IA passed this. Yields 0:06
- Vote
- England: Yes
- Gerdts: No
- Leckie: Yes
- Mcauliffe: Yes
- Weber: Yes
- **Bill Passes 4-1-0**
- Bill 101- Harris and Cohen- Since PAC and RTAC budgets are allocated per fiscal year, this amendment will ensure that money remains for students throughout the fiscal year. This bill will set a maximum spending cap of 50% of the originally allocated PAC and RTAC budgets.
  - Introduction: Harris: this bill makes it so that PAC and RTAC can only spend 50% of their allotted budget in the fall semester, everything else goes to the spring, does not effect ability to go to sweepings or senate projects, gives PAC and

RTAC chairs a scapegoat so they can say they can't fund as much, this creates situation where PAC and RTAC chairs are fiscally responsible. Yields: 1:34

○ Round Table

- England: what happens if they hit the 50% cap?
  - Harris: i'm not opposed to adding a waiver to the bill, does not apply to senate project money, PAC and RTAC would request money earlier from senate projects and sweepings, this would sustain PAC and RTAC
- England: in essence, getting more money for the Spring, would you make people come back?
  - Harris: SGA is first come first serve, that just how it works, but also what we are trying to prevent
- Cohen: this also is designed to make the responsibility more clear, this puts the responsibility on the senate as a whole, allows for fiscal responsibility, allows for traditional uptick of money in the spring
- Weber: if we do hit 50%, can PAC and RTAC waive the rule
  - Harris: no, this is not written in statutes, and do not suggest this
- Harmon: Waiving the rules is a bad idea, in regards to the bill as a whole, not entirely excited about it, senate projects, how can we promise money from senate projects will go there,
  - Harris: we expect senate to be responsible, we would all violate statues if we ran out of money
- Weber: don't PAC and RTAC have different spending trends, give more room to PAC?
  - Cohen: its up to 50%, PAC usually has easier time, hesitant for requirements for both
- England: If the 50% is hit, could we go to senate projects to refill PAC more money to spend in the fall, would you be open clarify that?
  - Cohen: hesitant to put a place where senate projects go
- Villacorta: as RTAC liaison, assuming they hit 50% would they deny anyone that comes afterwards
  - Harris: the whole thing is that this doesn't happen, to ensure people don't run out of money, if they hit the cap, we would use senate projects
- Villacorta: whatever they were allocated would be split
  - Harris: would roll over to spring what isn't spent in fall
- Harmon: PAC and RTAC chairs don't vote, i don't really have a decision in what the committee's spend, PAC and RTAC chairs should be the ones who change the amounts isn't the job
- Harris: Being chair is hard, you don't vote, don't say anything during committee, and you take the blame, disagree that it's the responsibility of the chairs, relying on senate projects, isn't end all be all, goal is that RTAC and PAC are fully funded, i think RTAC and PAC are so essential to the student body because of what they do and are integral to the college experience
- England: I can't support the bill until there is clarification for what happens when 50% is hit, my worry is that we leave some RSO's high and dry, relying on competent senate's isn't something i can do.
- England Moves to amend: to add "if the maximum allocation of 50% is met in a single semester, senate shall have the authority to allow PAC

and RTAC to receive fiscal assistance from elsewhere” **Withdraws amendment**

- Weber: incentivizes people to plan trips early, glad this encourages people to plan ahead of time
  - Gerdts: this also gives the senate and senate finance a leg to stand on in arguing to be more fiscally responsible, we all share this concern, this provides ground rules, PAC and RTAC chairs have been doing their jobs well, this puts some of the onus back on Finance and Senate, i do think PAC and RTAC chairs don't have the responsibility
  - Harris: PAC and RTAC chairs are the most thankless jobs in Senate, everyone has the same complaints and same issues, people don't see what they do, we're trying to give the chairs an ability to say no without wreaking hell upon the world
  - Gerdts: **moves to amend to add the rest of the language with 807.6**
  - Found Friendly
  - Mcauliffe: Seconds
  - Harmon: i was against this, i feel more comfortable with this, judiciary should pass this
  - England: i am in full support
  - Closing: Harris and Cohen: thank you for your support, explained why this needs to happen, its a good idea. Yields 1:06
  - Voting
  - England: Yes
  - Gerdts: Yes
  - Leckie: Abs
  - Mcauliffe: Yes
  - Weber: Yes
  - **Bill Passes 4-0-1**
- Bill 102- Weber and Leckie - To update the Senate's authority on making grammatical and formatting corrections to the Senate's legislation
    - Introduction: With the whole thing about highlights, bold, underlines. It confuses him while we can fix some things but don't have the power to change simple formatting errors. Grammatical changes can be made but not formatting. Leckie says this will make things quicker, easier and is a genuine good idea.
    - Round Table -- Mcauliffe moves, Gerdts seconds.
      - Gerdts: Likes the intent of this bill. Sending things back to committee for formatting issues "isn't a legitimate issue". Will continue to be an advocate for this to be an unnecessary statute, in that we don't want to make the Senate Advisor to have to make lots of grammatical and formatting corrections.
      - Leckie: Clarifies that this is the ability for Senators to fix formatting errors without having to go through the amendment process.
      - Gerdts: This sort of guideline is specific to statutes but is also generally used. Sometimes the Judiciary committee doesn't oversee everything that goes to Senate, hopefully future Judiciary committees won't just pass things through. Hopes this becomes a statute we never need to use
    - Mcauliffe moves to call the question. Gerdts seconds.
    - Closing
      - Thanks to everyone. Weber says it just adds one more power to

- England: Yes
  - Gerdt: Yes
  - Leckie: Yes
  - Mcauliffe: Yes
  - Weber: Yes
  - **Bill Passes**
- Bill 103- Ready- To remove where possible all instances of printed publication requirements. Such requirements shall be replaced with publication requirements on the SGA website.
  - Introduction: Ready: This bill is similar to the one we passed in this committee two weeks ago, going from the paper to the SGA website, previous statutes already had the SGA website, this clarifies language in statutes in relation to campus wide publications, we may find more instances of improper language, saves money in budget. Yields: 1:57
  - Round Table
    - Leckie: how much money will we save?
      - Ready: \$500 per publication
    - England: i agree with this bill, my own reservation is that we try to advertise SGA to everyone, i think we are contradicting ourselves by not promoting SGA as much as before, slight hesitation about not advertising as much
  - Closing: Ready: advertising is important, but campus newspaper is not most effective way, funding libraries more or more banners in strozier, we can pay for this once and it has more effect for advertising, not an attack on campus newspapers, we should use money the best way we know how, always tight on money. Yields 0:56
  - Voting
  - England: Yes
  - Gerdt: Yes
  - Leckie: Yes
  - Mcauliffe: Yes
  - Weber: Yes
  - **Bill Passes**
- Bill 104- Leckie - To help facilitate the staffing of the Office of General Council
  - Introduction: Leckie: Primary reason for this bill is that this office is one of the most important functions at FSU. Office is currently vacant and that considering this position represents students in front of the SGA court system, they're actually working for and representing students. This transfers the power to appoint the General Council from the Chief Justice to the Student Body President. Reason for this is because Chief Justice isn't elected, but Student Body President is and is therefore accountable to the student body. Law students over undergraduate students is definitely better, but having an undergraduate in the position is better than having nobody in the office. Senate will ensure no candidate passes for the position who is unprepared or unqualified. Believes this opens up more SGA positions up to the student body.
  - Round Table -- Weber moves, Mcauliffe seconds
    - Weber: Was the Supreme Court consulted?
    - Leckie: No, because believes this isn't in their purview.

- Weber: You haven't consulted the Supreme Court, but want them to establish a training program?
      - Leckie: It's not so much a training program as it is just a basic information run-down and basic introduction.
      - Gerdts: Will General Council's ever be involved in litigations against the President?
      - Leckie: No, that's the University Defender who is always a law student -- this won't be changing.
      - Gerdts: Not necessarily a training program, but the bill reads "training program"
      - Leckie: There's no definition of what that actually means. It was intentionally left vague so the two parties just speak to one another.
      - Gerdts: Somewhat uncomfortable with this bill for 2 reasons so far. Even if we assume the opinion of the Supreme Court is, is still only an assumption and we should be reaching out for their opinion. Even if we still pass the bill, it's important their voice is still heard. Reiterates reaching out to Supreme Court Chief Justice. Also mentions including the "training program" language without consulting the Chief Justice will just create "more confusion" about what this is, especially as General Councilships are usually empty. The vagueness is actually a problem to some extent, because it doesn't compel anyone to do anything beyond having a basic conversation. Thinks we should make the language more clear.
      - Leckie: Wants to go back to the question of why is the Chief Justice the person to appoint the General Council in the first place? The "training program" was left vague because he believes the people appointed will know what the position is and already know what they're doing. Open to tabling in order to speak to Chief Justice.
    - Move to table by Weber, Mcauliffe seconds.
    - **Bill Tabled**
- Bill 105 - England and Harmon- Redefine the circumstances in which a Senator's office is terminated. Thus, ensuring accurate and appropriate representation of the Student Body. Further protects against the possible manipulation of an election.
  - Intro: England and Harmon: in statutes, section 404B talks about when a senator's office shall end, talks about the end of office of successors, clarifying other circumstances when office ends, protects against changing division classifications, does not effect double majors, not allowing people to change majors purely for running for an easy seat, graduation is included, no longer a student (expectation for official leave of absences), and this only applies to upper division senators. Going from undergrad into a major, you are not effected by this bill. Yields: 0:25
  - Round Table
    - Mcauliffe: for all RSO's you have to be a student
      - Harmon: better safe than sorry
    - Weber: adding a second major took a whole month, i can't just jump from history to education
      - Harmon: you can, one major is different than having two, its better as a preventative measure
    - Gerdts: in my apportionment committee, read through the rules of all students, all have provision 2, the arts and sciences seats always have one open, technically completing a language can put you in the arts and

sciences college, small majors that are small with easy map requirements is common, this bill is a good move and in compliance with statutes, this makes certain that we represent students properly

- England: if you are in a double major, statutes accounts for that, this is about people with one major switching their one major to another major, this makes
- Leckie: clarify graduate students
  - England: if I finish my undergrad degree, that terminates my senate seat, no grandfathering in, changing constituency, should be elected and face those constituents.
- Gerdts: the committee is currently considering if we eliminate division line between graduate and undergraduate students, there would be an amendment to allow grad students to retain their seats within the same college
- Closing: England and Harmon: clarifies terms of office, eliminates vagueness, specifics are better
- Voting
- England: Yes
- Gerdts: Yes
- Leckie: Yes
- Mcauliffe: Yes
- Weber: Yes
- **Bill Passes**
- Bill 107- Alvarez - Expanding upon Chapter 700 with regards to relevant organizations
  - **England moves to table the bill**
- Bill 108- Lavender - In regards to the Legislative Agenda and the official policy preferences endorsed by the student body-all members of SGA must prevent their personal opinions as being representative of the opinions of SGA as a whole.
  - **Mcauliffe tables the bill because sponsor could not attend the meeting**

#### **Unfinished Business: Bills 97, 104, 107, 108**

#### **Final Announcements:**

Weber: sorry for not being here next tuesday, commend the committee for going through 7 bills

Gerdts: proud of efficiency, we went thoroughly, sad to lose people

England: thanks for working so efficiently

Leckie: HSA elections coming up

Villacorta: support ad hoc's, shoutout to Harmon and England for helping sustainability

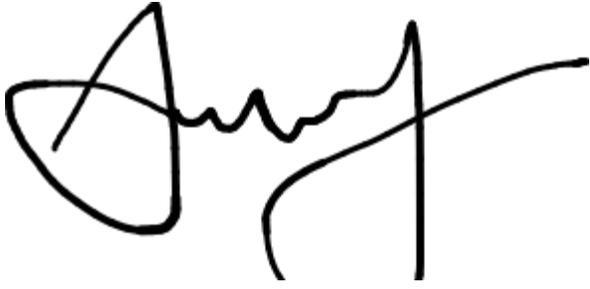
Harmon: Good job Sam

Alvarez: reach out for bill 107

#### **Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

October 29, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in innovation hub room 113

**Adjourned: 8:49**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by a series of connected loops and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Signature of Chair