



**73rd Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee**

September 10th, 2021, at 7:00 PM | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94723052898>

Call to Order: 7:10 PM

Members Present: Chair Murray, Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson, Senators Hunter, Stewart, Russell, Zittrauer, K. Hitchcock, and Barrett

Members Tardy: None

Members Absent: Senators Melian, Thau, Nasworthy, and West

Guests: Senate Parliamentarian Jack Rowan, Candidates Rawan Abhari, Johanna Carpio, Haley Olsen, Kana Lilly, Ana Dolorit, Col Stinson, Kevin Angel, Kaitlynn Adams, and Jason Puwalski

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements:

- Chair:
 - Asks all of the candidates to only speak during their opening, questions, and their closing for efficiency reasons. All of the candidates can stay after they have been confirmed and should feel welcomed, but they are able to leave.
- Vice Chair:
 - Asking for the members of the committee to reach out to him in advance about absences so they can be excused.
- Members:
 - None
- Nonmembers:
 - None

Committee Business:

- **Candidate for Veterans Student Union Secretary** – Haley Olsen
- **Candidate for Mental Health Council Vice President of Outreach** – Ana Dolorit
- **Candidate for Medical Response Unit Director** – Kevin Angel
- **Candidate for Office of Governmental Affairs Director** – Rawan Abhari
- **Candidate for Deputy Treasurer** – Nicolas (Col) Stinson
- **Candidate for Diversity and Inclusion Institute Director** – Kaitlynn Adams
- **Candidate for Office of Governmental Affairs Deputy Director** – Ariel Trueba

- **Candidate for Office of Governmental Affairs Internal Assistant Director** – Jason Puwalski
- **Candidate for Mental Health Council President** – Kenley Adams
- **Candidate for Mental Health Council Executive Vice President** – Kana Lilly
- **Candidate for Asian American Student Union Treasurer** – Johanna Carpio
- **Candidate for Pride Student Union Secretary** – Van Lugo

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation: Haley Olsen – Veterans Student Union Secretary**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Is a veteran and in the army reserve. Has history in the JROTC as well as ROTC. Has held various leadership positions within the JROTC, ROTC, and band. Is an organized person, and enjoys making Instagram posts and keeping organized minutes.
 - Candidate yields with 1 minute and 36 seconds remaining for their closing.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Senator Stewart: Are you financially certified?
 - Candidate asks for an explanation of what that means and Senator Stewart explains. The candidate has not been financially certified.
 - Chair Murray allows for a point of information as to if the secretary has to be financially certified.
 - Candidate Dolorit says no.
 - General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Hunter: What critical feedback do you most often receive back from your work?
 - Candidate: Delegating their work. They are aware they struggle with this because of how organized they are and are working on this.
 - Senator Stewart: What are your goals for this upcoming year?
 - Candidate: Get more organized and increase attendance to the VSU meetings. They have many connections and feel as though they can draw people in with their fresh ideas.
 - Senator Hunter: How do you plan, as secretary, to increase inter-agency interactions?
 - Candidate: Has been getting to know many of the other people with leadership positions in other agencies. Has family member in one of our agencies.

- Candidate yields with 1 minute and 24 seconds remaining for their closing.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - None
 - General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Hitchcock: What are some of the ideas of projects that you have?
 - Candidate: Wants to facilitate a project with the health and wellness center because of how people are not aware of everything that is offered on campus nor the mental health journeys that students can work on.
 - Senator Hunter: How do you see outreach and intersectionality coinciding with the role you applied for?
 - Intersectionality plays a major role with many of their positions, giving examples from various positions. This position is more than just focusing on the major mental illnesses, wants to talk more about black transgender people in order to account this demographic that is usually left behind. Their own biases allow for them to engage with a diverse and inclusive community.
 - Senator Hunter: Have you participated in any trainings with FSU such as GreenDot?
 - Candidate: I have not, but they are working with someone who has undergone some training.
 - Closing Statement:
 - Mental health issues are nuanced in how they are presented and how we can help them. Believes there are many ways to help solve this issue. They are aware of how to delegate work as well as how to ask for help whenever it is necessary.
 - **Senator Stewart moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Zittrauer seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Hunter: Ana's application was one of the best we had out of this entire set. Praised the work the candidate has done and feels as though there is nobody better suited for this role.
 - Senator Stewart: Agrees with Senator Hunter
 - Senator Hitchcock: Agrees and praised the candidate's passion.
 - **Senator Hunter moves to call the question; Senator Stewart seconds**
 - Vote:
 - Yes: 6 - Senators Hunter, Stewart, Russell, Zittrauer, Hitchcock, Barrett, and Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
 - **RESULT: CANDIDATE Dolorit PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Kevin Angel – Medical Response Unit Director**
 - Opening Statement:

- Explained how the team works for the Medical Response Unit. Listed out their past involvement for the MRU and the positions they have held. Explained how they have had examples outside of campus that have allowed for them to have personal growth and development. Explained what the MRU has done with COVID.
 - Candidate yields with 1 minute and 25 seconds remaining for their closing.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - None
 - General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Hunter: What current certifications, that are medically related, do you personally have?
 - Candidate: Went through the EMR training for FSU, is a certified clinical medical assistant.
 - Senator Stewart: Why do you think you were elected for this position by your peers?
 - Candidate: Continuity helps, as they have held positions on this board before. Pushes against some challenges, and their experience helps. Historically, all three directors take on the work load, and they have worked towards improving everything after framing things similar to SGA procedures.
 - Senator Hunter: How do you see your role transforming and changing during this pandemic?
 - Candidate: Does not feel as though the position is changing so much, as they have already been working on vaccinations and want to continue to do so. They continue to stay involved, with only few exceptions as to why they would not be present (gave example of the COVID vaccinations at the tail gate). Will continue to volunteer.
 - Senator Hitchcock: Were there any problems in their positions, and if so, what did you learn that could help you?
 - Candidate: Sometimes they feel a little too eager for things, which led to them making connections with those holding higher positions. The way they reached out to these figures, though, was not always the best. They have learned the value of respecting the chain of command.
 - Closing Statement:
 - Thanks everyone for taking their time on a Friday. Aims to continue serving this university. Has continued to work with the two people who held this position before, and has been able to shadow them to learn the best ways to improve this position.
 - **Senator Hunter moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Stewart seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:

- Shares their experience within SGA. Feels qualified for this position and wants to serve the student body since there is a need for that. Served as Budget Committee Chair. Wants to reach the student body to let them know what money they have available for them to make the campus more diverse. Has met with the current Student Body Treasurer.
 - Candidate yields with 1 minute and 29 seconds remaining for their closing.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Senator Hunter: Are you financially certified?
 - Candidate: Yes
 - General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Hunter: Where do you see yourself fitting in with the current climate of the Executive Branch and do you feel you can communicate your work with the Legislative Branch?
 - Candidate: Has worked with those in the Executive Branch and has already been meeting with them. Feels content with his relationships with those on that team, especially the Student Body Treasurer. It is one of the biggest goals of the Executive Branch to form a strong connection with the Student Senate, and they feel as though they can easily communicate and be open to communication with those in the Student Senate. Feels the mutual understanding between the position and expectation of himself can facilitate good communication.
 - Closing Statement:
 - Wants to thank the committee for taking time out of their day to do their due diligence.
 - **Senator Hitchcock moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Stewart seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Stewart: Points out his qualifications as they served as Budget Chair and have already worked with the Student Body Treasurer.
 - Senator Hunter: Appreciates the candidate's work while in Senate as Budget Chair. Feels they are the best candidate for this position.
 - Senator Hitchcock: Feels this is a great, well-rounded candidate.
 - **Senator Hunter moves to call the question; Senator Hitchcock seconds**
 - Vote:
 - Yes: 6 - Senators Hitchcock, Stewart, Russell, Zittrouer, Hunter, Barrett, and Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
 - **RESULT: CANDIDATE Stinson PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Kaitlynn Adams – Diversity and Inclusion Institute Director**
 - Opening Statement:

- Just started their second year. Passion for these topics began during their first year while living in the LLC they lived in and served on the Diversity Board of their Sorority. Realizes they can use their privileges to help those who are in marginalized groups in order to amplify their voices. Wants to create a safe space for those in various identity-based agencies. Wants to put their passion to help them in this position.
 - Candidate yields with 38 seconds remaining for their closing.
- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - None
- General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Hunter: Are you aware of the events that transpired on Sunday at the football game?
 - Candidate: Yes.
 - Senator Hunter: Were you at the listening session that occurred this morning?
 - Candidate: No, because I was working.
 - Senator Hunter: Moving forward, will you make space and time for events such as that to occur to allow minority groups to have their voices heard?
 - Candidate: Yes, feels as though open dialogue helps to better Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. It is important for people within Greek Life to go listen to these groups to help avoid these sorts of negative experiences.
 - Senator Hunter: How do you plan to make space for people to feel comfortable to speak with you when they are not comfortable with the organizations you represent?
 - Candidate: Can see why people might not feel comfortable, but can bring in individuals from their community to make them learn and listen more about diversity. Those who are already allies are not learning as much as those who are not already allies for these organizations. They are here with every part of themselves to be there for various organizations despite being in Greek Life, which is built on racism.
- Closing Statement:
 - Some of her identities might be conflicting as to why she would want to serve, but hopes to bring more individuals similar to her into these spaces so they can learn how to be better allies on campus for marginalized groups.
- **Senator Stewart moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Hitchcock seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Hunter: Thinks the candidate's application was great and she is very good at writing. Her answers were fantastic, even though the questions were hard. She has the passion that is needed to be there in

this space. She did not shy away from topics that could hinder her. Feels she will be a fantastic person in this role.

- Senator Stewart: Wholeheartedly agrees that the candidate is suited. She has the capabilities, training, and open-mindedness. She did a fantastic job answering hard questions that are very important as they pertain to recent events on campus.
- Senator Hitchcock: Praised the candidate's answers to these questions. Pointed out how the candidate realized her privilege but wants to serve these communities.
- Senator Barrett: Will be abstaining but has the utmost faith in his fellow senators.
- **Senator Hunter moves to call the question; Senator Stewart seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: 5 - Senators Stewart, Hitchcock, Russell, Zittrouer, Hunter and Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Adams PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Jason Puwalski – Office of Governmental Affairs Internal Assistant Director**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Candidate is a Political Science major on a pre-Law track. Explains the role of OGA when it comes to the student body. Explains his involvement on campus as well as the legislative process within SGA, and his understanding from high school experience. Has experience with both state and local government, and wants to write legislation. Is a fellow with the Institute of Politics. Had the opportunity to lobby in high school. Looks forward to work with other leaders to make sure that OGA can continue to work for students.
 - Candidate yields with 55 seconds remaining for their closing.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - None
 - General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Barrett: What are some concrete goals that you have for your position?
 - Candidate: Realized that some things not done at FSU but that are done at other state universities. Has goals outlined in his application. Wants to have a greater push for voter registration on campus. Sees value in getting as many students as possible to register to vote. Wants to deal with the state government to get the funding the student body needs. Would like to have a city level government component with our university. Is a Social Scholar, and discussed how they were able to help people register and get to the polls, so he wants to partner with them. Wants to

do some legislative agenda presentations to ensure that all of OGA's work has transparency. Wants to hear feedback about the legislative agenda from the student body. Wants to increase the social media presence for OGA in order to better communicate with the student body.

- Senator Stewart: How will you work to keep your personal beliefs separate from what is best for the student body.
 - Candidate: Is usually not shy from sharing his beliefs, but addresses how that is not something he needs for his job. He wants to be there for the students, which requires him to step back. Wants questions to be asked about the legislative agenda to keep up transparency so that the work can be done correctly. It is not hard for him to not voice his political beliefs for this position, as this is not the time to do so.
- Closing Statement:
 - Believes that respect is lost but trust is gained. You need to give respect to everyone, but that you do not have to just give trust. Feels as though his experience and involvement should support that notion and can best serve the students in this position.
- **Senator Hunter moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Stewart seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Hitchcock: Feels inspired after hearing his goals. Points out his work in senate and how he is able to put his personal feelings and agenda aside in order to come to agreements.
 - Senator Barrett: Wants to echo those sentiments. Feels he was really well spoken and provided tangibles that conveyed his passion. Explained both what he wants done and how he will get it done during his time.
 - Senator Stewart: She can see his vision for certain goals and that he can help communities grow.
 - Senator Hunter: Her experiences allow her to not even have to ask questions. Events from the last senate meeting show how he cares about the student body. Feels as though he is one of the only senators who actually reaches out to the communities he wants to represent, which is a huge part of OGA. He has only shown with everything he has done that he is prepared for this role.
- **Senator Hitchcock moves to call the question; Senator Stewart seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: 6 - Senators Stewart, Russell, Zittrauer, Barrett, Hunter, Hitchcock and Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Puwalski PASSES**

- **Candidate for Confirmation: Kana Lilly – Mental Health Council Executive Vice President**
 - Opening Statement:
 - She feels as though mental health is important to them because they were sexually assaulted their first year, which led to a struggle with their mental health. Empathetic to other students on campus as it pertained to their mental health. A requirement for this position is to be transparent with the struggles one faces as they navigate through their life. Feels as though they can create a ton of positive work due to what they have been through. Wants to help those like them navigate with their mental health journeys. Wants to partner with the various identity-based agencies in order to normalize the struggles they face and help them with such. Has been able to form a tight-knit relationship with the counseling center.
 - Candidate yields with 46 seconds remaining for their closing.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - None
 - General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Hunter: What long lasting impact do you plan on leaving this office?
 - Candidate: Being able to create an educational program to help with minority-based struggles. Points out the forum today and how that is a prime example. Wants to create this sort of system to help better our school and put us into a forward motion.
 - Senator Hunter calls for a quorum call:
 - Present: Chair Murray, Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson, Senators Hunter, Russell, Stewart, Zittrauer
 - Absent: Senators Melian, Barrett, Thau, Hitchcock, Nasworthy, and West
 - Quorum was not met at 8:52 PM
 - Senator Stewart moves for a quorum call:
 - Present: Chair Murray, Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson, Senators Hunter, Hitchcock, Russell, Stewart, Zittrauer
 - Absent: Senators Melian, Barrett, Thau, Nasworthy, and West
 - Quorum met at 8:55 PM
 - Senator Hunter: How do you see being able to grow this office on campus?
 - Candidate: Creating a space where we can hold more symposiums for both IFC and Panhellenic sororities and fraternities. Wants to help bring to light mental illnesses we don't get to see so clearly. Help bring down the stigma with mental health. Wanting to bridge the gap between different communities by reaching out to various organizations in order to convey the importance of holding some sort of space for a conversation that includes some

form of engagement. Feels as though the council failed to do some of these things over the past year.

- Senator Hunter: How do you plan on advocating for mental health resources offered for out of state students?
 - Candidate: Working with various organizations to reach out to these students to work towards more access for these students since they are out of state. Mental health is universally talked about but not systematically talked about, so we need to take more things into consideration for these students. They need to play a more vital role for this institution.
- Closing Statement:
 - Wants to thank the committee for this opportunity and listening to them.
- **Senator Stewart moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Russell seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Hunter: Thinks this candidate is perfect for this role. This person has been a champion for advocating for this community. Nobody suits this role better.
 - Senator Stewart: Wants to commend the candidate for sharing their story and the bravery for doing so and serving this community. Thinks she is an incredible candidate.
 - Senator Russell: Feels as though it takes guts to share the story the candidate shared, as well as it shows how genuine the candidate is. Feels they are perfect for the position as they are such a strong advocate.
 - Senator Hitchcock: Feels as though the candidate is amazing even though the senator missed everything that was said.
- **Senator Hunter moves to call the question; Senator Hunter seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: 6 - Senators Stewart, Zittrauer, Hunter, Russell, Hitchcock and Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Lilly PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Johanna Carpio – Asian American Student Union Treasurer**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Has been involved in AASU for two year, serving on the executive board for one year. Never had an opportunity to be connected to their culture but was able to do so and thrive in AASU. Wants to continue fostering the learning they have already done while in AASU, and wants to lead events focusing on events focusing on AAPI struggles. Has been able to develop as a leader and in their own skin while in AASU.
 - Candidate yields with 1 minute and 30 seconds remaining for their closing.

- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Senator Stewart: Are you financially certified for this fiscal school year?
 - Candidate: Yes
- General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Hunter: What financial experience do you have that should qualify you?
 - Candidate: Was the main person to work with the main keynote speakers for the union. Was helping to communicate the process of getting this speaker and how to cover the financial aspect of AASU.
- Closing Statement:
 - Thanks the committee for staying all throughout tonight.
- **Senator Hunter moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Stewart seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson: While seeing her work in AASU, he knows that there is nobody better suited for this position. She is passionate about this community and will learn whatever skills might be necessary for her to serve within this position to her greatest potential.
 - Senator Hunter: Points out the amazing answers in the application and believes the candidate can serve this position well.
 - Senator Stewart: Feels as though her drive and passion will do her well in this position to serve AASU.
- **Senator Hunter moves to call the question; Senator Hitchcock seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: 6 - Senators Hitchcock, Stewart, Russell, Zittrauer, Hunter and Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Carpio PASSES**
- **Senator Hunter moves to amend the Rule of Procedure; Senator Hitchcock seconds.**
 - Moves to amend our quorum to be redefined as “more than half.”
 - Senator Hitchcock calls for Point of Clarification
 - Chair Murray explains that our current Rule of Procedure says only half, while Senate’s statutes say “more than half.”
 - **AMENDMENT PASSED**
- Senator Hunter moves we return to the orders of the day; Senator Hitchcock seconds

Unfinished Business:

- **Candidate for Office of Governmental Affairs Deputy Director** – Ariel Trueba
- **Candidate for Mental Health Council President** – Kenley Adams
- **Candidate for Pride Student Union Secretary** – Van Lugo

Closing Announcements:

- Senator Hunter moves to unlock the calendar; Senator Hitchcock seconds
- Senator Hitchcock wants to apologize for being in her car and all of the issues that went along with that
- Senator Hunter wants to say thank you to everyone in the committee who was able to attend the listening session this morning
- Senator Stewart questions if our meeting is this upcoming Monday
 - Our forwarding letter was not posted, which means we will not have our meeting on Monday
- Chair Murray commends everyone for coming and being engaged, and appreciates all of the questions that were asked tonight. Thankful for everyone coming on a Friday night. We will have six candidates to hear on Tuesday night. Sorry for moving meetings so often, and we will be alternating meeting times. If attendance becomes an issue, we will just have to pick either Monday or Tuesday. He is always here if anyone has any questions or suggestions for how the committee operates.
- Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson wants to thank everyone for coming, and will need someone to take notes on Tuesday meetings since he has class during that time.
- Senator Hitchcock says “Good job Chair Murray.”

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 14th at 6:30 PM

Adjourned: 9:25 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor Murray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line across the middle and several diagonal strokes extending downwards from the baseline.

Signature of Chair Trevor Murray