



**73rd Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
September 27th at 6:30 PM | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94723052898>**

Call to Order: 6:35 PM

Members Present: Chair Murray, Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson, Senators Barrett, Marcus, Thau, Stewart

Members Tardy: Senator West

Members Absent: Senators Hitchcock, Melian, and Zittrauer

Guests: Senator Randall and Pro-Tempore Wang

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements:

- Chair:
 - Thank you all for coming, we only have one piece of business today. We can, and should, have more. We need to discuss what we need to be doing as a committee. Senator Russell is currently suspended and doesn't count for quorum.
- Vice Chair:
 - Requests everyone to turn their cameras on, if possible, since this is going to be a short meeting and out of respect to Chair Randall, as he has put a lot of work into this legislation and has earned that respect from us.
- Members:
 - None
- Guests:
 - Chair Randall: We need senators to sign up for RTAC and show up as members-at-large. There are five spots open. We could also use some Union Board and Student Engagement Ambassadors.

Committee Business:

- **Bill 55** – Sponsored by Chair Randall (P) – Resolving issues with the Black Student Union election code and bringing the BSU election in line with the procedures for the SGA Spring Election.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Bill 55** - Sponsored by Chair Randall (P)

- Opening Statement:
 - This bill talks about the BSU elections. This came during April from the SOE, Rawan Abhari, due to some of the issues that arose from the BSU elections. Issues arose from the debate and deadlines in general, specifically there is language that did not reflect the actual positions within the BSU. The debate statutes were not in line with the actual Spring debate Statutes. Some deadlines were earlier than they needed to be. Approval from the BSU liaison and members of the BSU. Second half deals with the future, such as office hours, how things are published, some of the deadlines of the SOE, how they should inform people about the deadlines that are coming up. There is a lot of detail he requests the committee to look at.
 - Sponsor yields with 2 minutes and 56 seconds remaining for his closing
- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - None
- **Senator Marcus moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Stewart seconds**
 - **POI Senator Marcus:** Is there any discrepancy that you are aware of that could interfere with the legislation that Senator Marcus is currently writing and that the Sponsor has seen?
 - Sponsor: I do not believe so, the reforms you made apply to any election. The goals are dealing with the filing deadlines and informing the candidates of this process. No huge change for the deadlines, just adding more transparency about deadlines. Does not change anything dealing with finance.
 - Senator Marcus: Really likes this bill, as it makes it more clear for the students. BSU elections can be confusing, since they are different from other agencies.
 - **POI Senator Barrett:** In Point M, there is some confusing wording with an addition of “in” before Black Student Union President.
 - **Senator Barrett moves to Amend:** Remove “in” and replace it with “the” in section M
 - **Senator Marcus seconds**
 - Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson: Agrees with Senator Marcus, as BSU elections can be quite confusing since they have their leadership elected while other agencies do not. This will make things concrete and standardized, which will improve the transparency of the entire process.
- **Senator Barrett moves to call the question; Senator West seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - Appreciates everyone looking at the Bill and for Senator Barrett catching the mistake. Some people do not know if they can vote, and the Sponsor recognizes some of the things that the BSU wanted. They did not want their vote to be on the Spring Ballot, as to separate everything to make sure it was less confusing. He did not want to impose upon their requests.
- Vote:
 - Yes: 6 – Senators West, Stewart, Barrett, Marcus, Thau and Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: BILL 55 PASSES**

- **Senator Marcus moves to enter legislative round-table; Senator Barrett seconds**
 - Senator Barrett wants to work on what President Harmon brought up, looking at appointments and making sure we are interviewing people who actually need to go through IA; Senator Barrett also mentions the whole process of dealing with the reading of the Land Acknowledgement
- **Senator Barrett moves to Unlock the Calendar; Senator West seconds**
- **Senator Barrett moves to Amend our Rules of Procedure:** “The chair or the presiding officer shall read the Land acknowledgement at the start of the meeting or designate another member to do so.”
 - **Senator Stewart seconds**
 - **AMENDMENT PASSES**
- **Senator Stewart moves to Return to the Orders of the Day; Senator West seconds**
 - Senator Stewart: Recognizes that the disconnect between students not knowing past legislation could be improved if we have some kind of way to allow students to be emailed, or some other method communication, any past legislation
 - **Senator Barrett moves to allow a non-Senator to speak; Senator Stewart seconds**
 - Pro-Tempore Wang: Recognizes that President Harmon is working on this, but any email has to go through Dr. Hecht. If you want anything posted on our Instagram, you need to reach out to President Harmon or Secretary Remington for people to get anything posted.
 - Senator Stewart: Will reach out to Virginia to look into utilizing our social media more so we can see how that would turn out. Will reach out to President Harmon and Dr. Hecht to see what else can be done.
 - Pro-Tempore Wang: Says that committees being more proactive about their duties can help with the outreach to students.
 - Chair Murray: We can propose changes the process of elections and we can surveys to the Senate and students to look into the satisfaction of the Student Body with the Senate. We cannot do much else until the Fall Election is confirmed. Something that he has learned quickly and thinks that we should do is that the appointment process is not being followed correctly. It’s not being done correctly since we are hearing candidates that do not need to be heard.
 - **Point of Clarification Senator Marcus:** There was some paperwork lost for a candidate for the PSU. Many agency leaders are frustrated by how inaccessible the statutes dealing with this sort of process are, as they are hard to read unless you are deeply embedded with the Student Senate.
 - Chair Murray: There are various ways to deal with this inside and outside of our committee meetings, including a sub-committee.
 - Pro-Tempore Wang: Is personally against the creation of sub-committees, just do this work while still in the committee since we have so many people.
 - Chair Murray: This could be hard to do, since we have to focus on the appointments for each candidate.
 - Pro-Tempore Wang: Points out the way that Chair Randall runs the Finance Committee and delegates work to each of the members.
 - Senator Barrett: To avoid the headache that could come at the end of long meetings, it would be a good idea to delegate the pieces of legislation to everyone so that we can come to committee with work to present.
 - Chair Murray: Are we going to prioritize going over appointment statutes or doing surveys of the committees?
 - Statutes: Barrett, Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson

- Chair Murray: Will look over everything and then will assign things before our next meeting. Do we want things to be more consistent, or should we just be more clear about each of the bureaus and organizations?
- **Senator Barrett moves to exit Legislative Round-Table; Senator Stewart seconds**

Unfinished Business:

- None

Closing Announcements:

- Chair Murray: Said everything he wanted to during legislative round-table, but it could be good if we were to create a legislative report for everyone to see.
- Vice Chair Pfeuffer-Ferguson: Thank you for turning your camera on, and remember to let him know if you are going to miss the meeting.

Next Meeting: October 4 at 6:30 PM

Adjourned: 7:18 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor Murray', written over a horizontal line.

Signature of Chair Trevor Murray