



## 74<sup>th</sup> Student Senate Finance Committee

[10/21/22, 2:30 P.M.] | [<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/9745164143>]

**Call to Order:** 2:33 p.m.

**Members Present:** Chair Hockett, Vice-Chair Rivera, Senators Folwell, Allaman, Pedraja, Klostreich

**Members Tardy:** 0

**Members Absent:** Senator Rock, unexcused, Senator Gummerman, unexcused

**Guests:** 5

### Land Acknowledgement

The Student Government of Florida State University acknowledges that it is located on land that is the ancestral and traditional territory of the Apalachee Nation, the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We pay respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to their descendants and to all Indigenous people. We recognize this land remains scarred by the histories and ongoing legacies of settler-colonial violence, dispossession, and removal. In spite of all this, and with tremendous resilience, these Indigenous Nations have remained deeply connected to this territory, to their families, to their communities, and to their cultural ways of life. We recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land and extend our gratitude as we live and work as humble and respectful guests upon their territory. We encourage all to learn about and educate others on the contemporary work of the Indigenous Nations whose land we are on and to endeavor to support Indigenous sovereignty in all the ways that we can.

### Announcements:

- Chair
  - Welcome, thank you all for being here and welcome specifically the people that are new to this committee. It is one of the most fun committees, so welcome.

### Committee Business:

- **Consent Resolution 31-** Pre-Dental Society, Music Industry Connection
- **Consent Resolution 32-** American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- **Bill 87**

### Old Business:

- None

## New Business:

- **Consent Resolution 31 - Sponsored by Chair Wyatt**
  - Opening Statement:
  - Hi thank you for meeting with me again this week, it is so nice to see you guys. This Consent Resolution is pretty simple. The first line item is for the Pre-Dental Society at FSU. They are just buying shirts to be handed out at their general body meetings and also at Market Wednesday. The shirts are really nice, they are designed nicely, they have paid for by SGA on it so they meet all of the requirements. The total for the shirts would be \$1,400. The next line item is the Music Industry Connection. They are hosting a workshop with Megan Mallory who is a guest speaker, and a professor here at Florida State. The workshop is going to be on November 2, and they are just going to be teaching the College of Music Students and anybody interested on how they can market themselves in the music industry and hope to grow their careers. All they are going to be needing money from PAC for is for food for the event and that is going to be \$150. So the total is going to be \$1,550 for this week's Consent Resolution.
  - General Questions:
    - None
  - **Senator Folwell moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Pedraja seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion:
    - Senator Folwell: I want to speak in support. This isn't that much money; it sounds like it will be good. I am good friends with the person that I believe is the founder and president of the Music Industry Connection, and they have literally put themselves through the ringer, they have put a lot of their own money into organization and I have trying to get them apply for PAC for a long time and I'm glad to see that they did. One thing I will note, is that at the bottom, below the actual allocations, it says that it "be resolved by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate at Florida State University", I'm not sure if that's something we could fix without an amendment.
  - **Senator Folwell moves to call the question; Senator Allaman seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    - I just want to say that the Music Industry Connection did say how much they used out of their own pocket, so I am also very excited to hear how they learned about PAC's resources, and it's exciting how we are able to help in the way that we intend to. I will make sure that all of the Consent Resolutions from here on out and will make sure on all of the previous one's as well. Thank you.
  - Vote:
    - Yes: [ 5 ] Senator Pedraja, Senator Folwell, Senator Allaman, Senator Rivera, Senator Klostreich
    - No: [ 0 ]
    - Abstain: [ 0 ]
    - Abstain: [ 0 ]
  - **RESULT: CONSENT RESOLUTION 31 PASSES**
- **Consent Resolution 32 - Sponsored by Senator Mantilla**
  - Opening Statement:



so I think that it further validates why they should go on this, they are very inclined to attend it and pay money out of their pocket for other things.

- Vote:
  - Yes: [ 5 ] Senator Pedraja, Senator Folwell, Senator Allaman, Senator Rivera, Senator Klostreich
  - No: [ 0 ]
  - Abstain: [ 0 ]
  - Abstain: [ 0 ]
- **RESULT: CONSENT RESOLUTION 32 PASSES**
  
- **Bill 87 - Sponsored by Chair Kariher**
  - Opening Statement:
    - I was here last Friday with another central reserves bill, this is Bill 87, which is finishing up some of what we did last week. central reserves in the beginning was used as a reserved account so it would have a minimal amount allocated to the account and just in case there was an emergency or something we could pull that money out. There was a change in administration that happened and for the past couple years we have been using the account for dumping all of the extra money that we get every year into that account. The way that budget works is that the budget office projects how much money we are going to get in A&S fees. Every year they don't really know how much they are going to get so recent years it's been much to conservative of an estimate, so we have been getting hundreds of thousands of dollars being put into this account at the end of the fiscal year so that's just extra A&S money. After talking with so many people and discussing with Dr. Hect and the budget office and general council, we have come to the conclusion that we will no longer be using central reserves in this way. We are going to go back to the old way which is there will be a minimal amount, set by student statute, which is what part of this bill is, and then everything that is in excess of the budget, instead of going in central reserves, will now just go to sweepings. The only time central reserves will be open will be if there is a huge enrollment shortfall and they give us \$14.6 million, but we only collect \$13 million in the A&S fees, then we will have to pull \$1 million out of reserves. That's kind of like the use of it now. Because of that there will really be no need for a central reserves committee because there will be no requests, it will just be opened and we will pass a bill recognizing the shortfall, and give the amount of funds so we are not in debt. That is essentially the bill, it strikes out everything regarding central reserves. Central reserves is actually not the name of the account, it's called the A&S reserve account, so we will no longer refer to it as central reserves.
  - General Questions:
    - Senator Folwell: I know there was a pseudo-committee that was working on this process, but I don't see any of the people that was working on it with you here as co-sponsors, have they all signed off on this? And was this a collaborative effort?
    - Chair Kariher: They are aware of it, I can't remember if I got any email responses, but I feel like last meeting there wasn't a deliberation, it was just how this is going to happen now. So now I am just changing statutes to reflect what we discussed in our last meeting.

- Senator Folwell: After the bill was written after discussions about what was going to be in it, was there any discussion on the actual text of the bill?
- Chair Kariher: No, but the bill is really just striking out everywhere it says central reserves and the one section it keeps is this, the only thing we changed was the level of 500,000 to 11%, which we have been in discussions with the central budget office, which apparently there is around \$3 million in central reserves and 11% of our budget would keep it at about \$1.6 or \$1.5 million. U.S. has their central reserves at 7% of the budget. This number is set by us, so we can decide how much money we want in there. I chose 11% because someone mentioned 15% and then the U.S. is 7% so I just met in the middle. But this is open to discussion.
- Senator Folwell: So if something happens and we have to spend money from the A&S reserves, for the next budget when they are allocating money, the first amount of money they have to allocate goes toward the A&S fees, and then everything else is the normal budget allocation, is this correct?
- Chair Kariher: So the way it is mentioned here and in FSU regulations is that it really will come from sweepings, at the end of the year, all of the money that is swept, A&S will have first claim on that money. If we spend \$400,000 into debt but we have \$500,000 in sweepings, \$400,000 of those dollars will go straight into central reserves, and then leave on \$100,000 of those dollars will go for the actual sweepings process.
- Senator Folwell: In 809.9 on the very last page, the required amount in this process will be the first priority in A&S dollars, how does that effect your claim that it comes out of sweepings, because in my eyes first priority on A&S dollars is first priority on the annual allocation of the A&S dollar budget.
- Chair Kariher: It is mentioned that sweepings, at the end of the fiscal year, there is another projected budget but the money that we have left over from that following fiscal year would be considered the sweepings amount. If there was a budget shortfall, but you still had leftover money at the end of the year, all of that money would be swept and out into central reserves, and if all of the sweepings money gets put into there, then the next thing would be to allocate a portion of our budget to get that back up to the 11%. It would go from sweepings to budget, but sweepings happen before budget does, in the fiscal year.
- Senator Folwell: Are you aware that, two or three years ago, sweepings happened after budget, in terms of actually allocating money.
- Chair Kariher: It does not matter what order; we know how much money we have left over before we predict how much money we are going to get next year.
- Senator Folwell: If you go to 205.3, you don't cross out or central reserves, you just cross out the central reserves, would you be friendly to an amendment to fix that?
- Chair Kariher: Yes
- Senator Folwell moves to amend to strike out , or; Senator Klostreich seconds
- Senator Folwell: In 809.8, you add on 11% A&S budget for the fiscal year but that is not actually underlined.

- Chair Kariher: All of the grammatical errors do not need an amendment, but I appreciate you pointing it out.
- **Senator Folwell moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Klostriach seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - Senator Folwell: I was surprised to see this on first reading this early, just because it is such a complex process, I know that Chair Kariher has been in Florida Statutes and Trustees, and university regulations. I have heard what has taken to get to this point. I want to first really commend to commend the sponsor for going through all of that, it's a sign of an exemplary senator, to be willing. I wish that people in committees who have been a part of this to give in-depth commentaries on the bill. It's not a reason to vote against its just my own personal preference. I think the system is going to be a lot simpler in the long term. Combining it and sweepings is an important thing to do. I am not happy that the process is going to get larger, but I do think it is necessary to preserve what the budget allocates. I think I am in support of this bill. I think it should go in front of the senate.
- **Senator Folwell moves to call the question; Senator Allaman seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - I will say that this has been sent to everybody, I have talked to Jacalyn, she's cool with it, everyone is fine with it. Ultimately, this is happening no matter what, we're not in control of this budget process. This is legally what has to happen. I am changing statutes to reflect that. What we have been working on is for central reserves to be opened and to get money out, that's not going to happen anymore. Since we will not be opening central reserves, this is why this bill has come forth so quickly and why there hasn't been a lot of discussion about it because this is a conclusion, we all came to as an administration, all of the right people were at that meeting and this is what we decided. I hope you guys support it and I look forward to answering any more questions.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [ 5 ] Senator Pedraja, Senator Folwell, Senator Allaman, Senator Rivera, Senator Klostreich
  - No: [ 0 ]
  - Abstain: [ 0 ]
  - Abstain: [ 0 ]
- **RESULT: Bill 87 PASSES**

**Unfinished Business:**

- None

**Closing Announcements:**

- Chair Hockett: Thank you all for coming, if not we have to find people last minute to come in here so that we can have legislation heard

**Next Meeting:** 10/28/22 at 2:30 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 3:12 p.m.

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**Signature of TJ Hockett**