



**74th Student Senate
Student Life Committee
Friday, 14th October 2022 at 3:30pm | Zoom ID: 937 1197 2014
Meeting Recording Link:**

Call to Order: 3:36 pm

Active Member Roll: DuChêne, Barrett, Carter, Weintraub, Soares

Members Present:

Members Tardy:

Members Absent: St. Hilaire (EXCUSED), Beall (EXCUSED), Hakmon (Unexcused)

Guests: Senator Folwell, Senator Diaz, Senator Anderson

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 recognize this land remains scarred by the legacies of violence and removal, we recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land, and we 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:

Committee Business:

- Bill #81, Bill #82, Resolution #65, Resolution #66, Resolution #67

Old Business: None

New Business: Bill #81, Bill #82, Resolution #65, Resolution #66, Resolution #67

- **BILL #81 - Sponsored by Senator Diaz (P), Senators Anand, Crocker, Kariher, McMahon, Rivers, Roogow, Schindler, Vollick (Co)**
Formally granting the Student Body President and Agency & Bureau leadership the right to forward candidates for different positions from those that candidates applied for.

- Opening Statement (5 mins):
- **Diaz:** Unfortunately, this isn't as simple a bill as some of the other legislation I have introduced. But that being said, this is an issue what we had this summer. The executive branch has sort of over time given themselves the ability to forward candidates for positions they didn't apply for. Ill give an example. Over the summer an individual applied for sophomore class council president and whomever did the interviews liked the candidate but did not like the candidate for that position and they were forwarded to the senate for vice president. There have been similar situations like this in the past. I can tell you that their was an individual last year who applied for OGA director and again, whomever did the interview liked their interview but not for that position and they were forwarded to the senate for assistant director. This bill would just give the executive branch the explicit authority to do that. I know because I was told that certain senators over the summer voted against that candidate solely because they didn't think exec had the power to do that. My mission with the time left I have here is to make confirmations as smooth as possible and this is one of the things, I think can do that. So basically, what this does is allow the student body president to forward candidates for a position within the same sga entity. If it was a position in class councils, then it could be a different class council position. It was for cabinet then it could be a different cabinet position. It also says, in some cases, especially with agencies, it is the agencies themselves that interview candidates and recommend candidates to the student body president. So, this bill also says that agencies and bureaus as well as other sga entities such as the class councils have the ability to forward to the president someone for a position that they did not apply for. Again, this is all with the candidate's consent. Point 3 also says that we must receive notices on the forwarding letter when this occurs. This is something that I talked about with the chief of staff, and he is on board with this. I would appreciate your support and am happy to answer any questions.
- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - **Barrett:** Did you talk to the student body president about this?
 - **Diaz:** No, this doesn't give him really any different authority and I expect future presidents to exercise this regardless.
- **Barrett moves to enter round-table discussion; Soares seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Carter:** I like this. I think it gives individuals more ability to get involved within SGA.
- **Soares moves to call the question; Weintraub seconds; no objections**
- Closing Statement:

- Diaz: Waive close.
- Vote:
 - Yes: **4** Voter Names: Carter, Weintraub, Soares, Barrett
 - No: **0**
 - Abstain: **0**
- **RESULT: BILL #81 PASSES**
- **Upon passage this Bill shall be forwarded to the Committees on Internal Affairs and Judiciary**

- **BILL #82 - Sponsored by Senator Folwell (P), Senator Suarez (Co)**

This bill makes it so that instead of being slated and voted on as a group, Campus Recreation and Union Board candidates are given individual seats that will be voted upon separately.

 - Opening Statement (5 mins):
 - Folwell: This is a pretty simple bill, but that being said it does change a lot. Essentially, I have been talking with the supervisor of elections since the beginning of the semester, honestly even over the summer. The election code is not really good. There are a lot of problems with it. It's not conducive to how effective elections can be. There are a lot of bills that I am working on right now in regard to the election code and this is one of them and this is one of the larger ones while admittedly being not much text. Right now, anyone that signs up to run for union board or campus rec runs against each other. Everyone in all the parties is running against each other, anyone who is independent is running against anyone in all the parties who are running against each other. In my eyes that's not really an effective system. I think the system we have for senate creates more competitive elections and increases accountability for each individual and I think it should be extended to these boards. I have talked to Ana Grande who is the chair of the campus recreation board and Katie F who is the chair of the union board, and they are both on board with this. I will briefly read to you excerpts of my emails to them because I'm less eloquent when I'm speaking then when I am reading. Under the current system elections are less competitive and it discourages voting for the individuals that are best fit. For example, if person x really likes one candidate who is running with one political party, but that same political party is also running candidate 2 who person x really dislikes. Assuming that in the other political party they view the candidates as neutral. It actively disincentivizes them from voting for the candidate they like because it inherently makes it so the other person is more likely to get a vote because it takes a vote away from that persons opposition. So, under the current system people can't always vote for the person they want the most because it also makes it so the people they don't want can get there. It also makes it practically infeasible for independent candidates to win because they are running against over a dozen other people. Assuming that in a two-party system, both are running a full slate of candidates. For campus rec they would be running against 16 opponents and for union board they would be running against 24 opponents.

Under my new proposed system, it would make it so there are 8 seats for campus recreation and seats would go the same as senate. I want to reemphasize that the chair of campus rec, the chair of the union board, and the supervisor of elections are all on board with this.

- Technical Non-Debatable Questions: None
- **Barret moves to enter round-table discussion; Soares seconds; no objections**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Barrett: I look forward to how this will be discussed on the senate floor. I'm definitely in support of it.
- **Barrett moves to call the question; Soares seconds; no objections**
- Closing Statement: Folwell: I wanted to thank you all for making this quick. If this goes through the entire process and passes, this will into effect next spring election which means the union board would have this system in place. I could circumvent this by putting in proviso language that makes this upon spring inauguration, but I don't really see that as necessary. I think we should pass this because I think it is simply a better system.
- Vote:
 - Yes: **4** Voter Names: Weintraub, Carter, Soares, Barrett
 - No: **0**
 - Abstain: **0**
- **RESULT: BILL #82 PASSES**
- **Upon passage this Bill shall be forwarded to the Committee on the Judiciary**
- **RESOLUTION #65 - Sponsored by Senator Anderson (P), Senators Schindler, Wyatt, Suarez (Co)**

Hate crimes against women are not classified as true hate crimes in Florida and Georgia, therefore do not have to be reported federally. This resolution asks The Student Senate to recognize Maura's Voice Research Foundation and the positive impact of the goal that the foundation is doing as well as the Department of Criminology and College of Social Work to classify hate crimes against women as hate crimes in Florida and Georgia.

 - Opening Statement (5 mins):
 - Anderson: Essentially on November 22nd of 2018, Maura Binkley was a member of Delta Delta Delta Alpha Eta chapter, she was at a hot yoga studio and a man came in and opened fire killing her and another woman who was a faculty

member at Florida state. It was an act of hate against women and Maura's voice was founded by her parents as they went to the police about it and wanted to do something about it federally because technically in the state of Florida and also in Georgia, hate crimes against women are not considered hate crimes. Recently, actually September 15th, Jeff Binkley Maura's father and co-founder of Maura's voice, went to United We Stand summit and was recognized by current president Joe Biden for the work he does to address hate motivated violence. Maura's voice was seen and recognized as well. So essentially what I am asking is for the student senate to recognize the work that Maura's voice does as well the work that the college of social work and the department of criminology do to help classify this is a crime and contribute research.

- Technical Non-Debatable Questions: None
- **Soares moves to enter round-table discussion; Barrett seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Soares: I remember hearing about Maura's voice during recruitment and was super interested in it and I am in support of this.
- **Barrett moves to pass by unanimous consent ; no objections**
- **RESULT: RESOLUTION #65 PASSES**
- **Upon passage this Resolution shall be forwarded to the full Senate floor**
- **RESOLUTION #66 - Sponsored by Senator Kariher (P)
Resolution to create an Investigative Board due to A&S fee account discrepancies.**
 - Sponsor not present**
 - **RESULT: RESOLUTION #66 IS TABLED**
 - **Upon passage this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Committee on the Budget**
- **RESOLUTION #67 - Sponsored by Senator DuChêne (P), Senators Barrett, Bettley, Burton, Carter, Diaz, Folwell, Kariher, Maglin, Mantilla, Rivers, Soares, St. Hilaire (Co)
A resolution commemorating Indigenous Peoples' Day and re-affirming the Student Senate's support for Indigenous communities.**
 - Opening Statement (5 mins):
 - DuChêne: Hello everyone. This does exactly as the description says: it commemorates Indigenous Peoples' Day. It talks about the purpose of indigenous Peoples' Day is and how it's only recently been commemorated in

both Florida and the United States. You can see also Florida's specific history of treatment toward Indigenous peoples and Florida State's unique history on the issue. Some of Senate's work, as we amended the legislative agenda last year to include language on a Center for Native American Studies. So, the "be is resolved" statements are that we recognize and honor Indigenous Peoples' Day, as well as reaffirm our commitment to advocate for the completion of that Native American Studies Center, as well as encourage FSU to kind of do more – just because FSU is the largest university in the country, and its not even close, by tens of thousands of students, to use Native American symbols and imagery in its core traditions. So just encouraging FSU to do more.

- Technical Non-Debatable Questions: None

- **Soares moves to enter round-table discussion; Carter seconds; no objections**

- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Soares moves to pass by unanimous consent; no objections**

- **RESULT: RESOLUTION #67 PASSES**
- **Upon passage this Resolution shall be forwarded to the full Senate floor**

Unfinished Business:

- Resolution #66

Closing Announcements:

- DuChêne: Its campaign week so try not to kill yourselves.

Next Meeting: Friday, 21 October 2022 at 3:30pm

Adjourned: 4:01 pm



Signature of Chair, Patrick A. DuChêne