



**76th Student Senate
Budget Committee
Monday, December 4 at 6:30 PM | Zoom:
<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/4349728982>**

Call to Order: 6:32 PM

Members Present: Chair Salazar, Vice Chair Meier, Senator(s) Arellano, Barresi, DeVitto Goldstein, McEnery, McEntyre, Rodriguez, Valderrama, Valdes-Herrera, Vargheese

Members Absent: Senator(s) Burton, Garcia, Pareja

Guests: Adam Bowling, Carson Dale, Jason Gorelick, Hope Hellman

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:

- Chair: Welcome to the first and last meeting of the semester, just wanted to say that I know we're over Zoom but I'd like to make these meetings as personal as possible, so if you guys could please turn on your cameras, it's just a policy I like to have. The way the meeting is going to go today is how I want these meetings to go in the future, just strictly following the committee calendar.
- Members:
 - Vice Chair Meier: Does anyone on the committee have any announcements? I'd like to invite Treasurer Adam Bowling to speak now, if he wants to.
- Guests:
 - Student Body Treasurer Adam Bowling: Hey everyone, I'm the current student body treasurer. I served one term in Senate in the Finance committee, I was the Finance chair and then the Deputy Student Body treasurer. The reason I'm here today is just to talk to you guys about the relationship between my office and the budget committee during this next budget committee. We're operating at a bit of a budget deficit to say the least, so we were operating at around 14,600,000 dollars during 2023, and now we're around 14,000,000 during 2024. Not accounting for things like overhead and COGS, things that we have to take out of

the budget, so we're operating a very tight budgetary situation right now. My goal is to provide as many resources as possible as you go through this daunting process. I am going to drop my phone number in the chat, and I want to be a resource in any way I can. We are working on a budget calendar as it will be occurring in the spring. Expected to be on the first week of February, I look forward to meeting with you guys further. We plan on having budgetary seminars to train you on how the A&S budget works and how the situation has developed throughout the years. You all are a fantastic group and I have full trust in you. Another thing, Chair Salazar is now the liaison to the Student Body Treasurer. Now I would like to open the floor for any questions.

- Senator Rodriguez: In past years, how long has the whole budget process taken?
- Student Body Treasurer Adam Bowling: It's colloquially known as budget week as it is a week long process, but it will take a little bit longer than a week because we will be doing budget trainings and compiling the budget book the week before. Another thing I wanted to add, if you think something about the budget process should be changed we can work together to reform that. Have a great rest of your meeting and a great night.
- Deputy Student Body Treasurer Carson Dale: I just wanted to introduce myself, any questions you guys have about the finance code or budget process, I was in the Budget committee last year so I know a decent amount about it. I encourage you to reach out to Bowling, he's a really nice guy, I'll also drop my number in the chat. We are working on compiling more resources to help you guys out.

Committee Business:

- Adopting Committee Rules of Procedure
- **Motion to adopt Committee Rules of Procedure**
 - **Vice Chair Meier moves; Senator Rodriguez seconds**

Old Business:

- N/A

New Business:

- **Bill #1 - Sponsored by Senator(s) Cofer, Gorelick**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Pro-Tempore Gorelick: Hi Budget Committee, this is pretty simple, this is a budget transfer bill. Basically what is being done here is any RSO agency or bureau that wants to move money from a certain category in their account has to come to a Senator to ensure that they can do so. What's going on with this one is one of the JSU exec members and previous Vice Chair of Sweepings, Hope Hellman, reached out to me. We are moving 2,000 dollars from the JSU Contractual Services category to the JSU Expense category. This is so they can use this money to fund Jewish heritage month events. Hope Hellman is here so if you'd like to move to allow a non-senator to speak if you have any questions about how this money is being spent. I yield.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Motion to allow a non-senator (Representative Hellman) to speak
 - Senator Goldstein moves, Senator Rodriguez seconds

- Senator Goldstein: Can you give us a breakdown on how the 2,000 dollars is going to be allocated between the events and activities for Jewish Heritage month?
 - Representative Hellman: Yes, so we originally had this money in our contractual services to bring in a Jewish comedian or performer. Kind of what all the agencies do is during their history or heritage months, they are just pumping out events. We'll be having two to three each week for the month of January. We decided to do more events during the week instead of putting our money towards one expense for a performer. Philanthropy projects, GBMs, Bar Mitzvah party. We wanted more of our members to come to multiple events
- **Vice Chair Meier moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator McEntyre seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Vice Chair Meier: I think that this is a straightforward bill, we should transfer this money in order to allow the Jewish Student Union to have a successful Jewish Heritage Month.
 - Senator Rodriguez: I agree with Senator Meier, this is a reasonable ask, a good idea for them to have multiple meetings to spread this money throughout the whole month.
- **Senator McEntyre moves to call the question; Senator Goldstein seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - Pro-Tempore Gorelick: Yeah, it's pretty straightforward, this isn't meant to be controversial. I yield.
- Vote:
 - Yes: 11 [Vice Chair Meier, Senator(s) Arellano, Barresi, DeVitto, Goldstein, McEnery, McEntyre, Rodriguez, Valderrama, Valdes-Herrera, Vargheese]
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: Bill 1 PASSES**

Unfinished Business:

- N/A

Closing Announcements:

- Chair Salazar: Cool meeting, went pretty smoothly. I'm still transitioning from IA, but I'm getting there. Just wanted to reiterate, if you could keep your cameras on for the entire meeting. That's everything on my behalf.
- Vice Meier: Great first meeting everyone, I apologize for any names I mispronounced. Just wanted to let you know, I didn't want to overwhelm everyone today, so I made a presentation for when we return and have our next Budget Committee meeting, that will basically just give you guys a rundown of all the different SGA budgeted entities, what all those accounts look like, where we can find any relevant information, and give you guys the emails and numbers of all the resources we have. And again, if you any questions please text me, email me, let me know.
- Chair Salazar: Adding on to that, I did meet with Treasurer Bowling today and he's going to be quite involved with this process, because like he said, we're dealing with a budget of over 14 million dollars, I might make him an ex-officio member of this committee, and be a non-voting member to answer questions and give help. Vice Chair Meier, Deputy

Treasurer Dale, everyone else on the financial staff, and I will all make sure that we don't go into this process without knowing everything you need to know, so we can make the best decisions possible. This is a lot of money that we're allocating towards different people, we need to know where this money is going, what it's being used for. This is one of the most important processes that anyone can do as a Senator, so we're very lucky to have this opportunity, that's why I'm making a big effort to make sure we go into this well-educated. More information to come! Take care guys, bye!

Next Meeting: TBD after Winter Break

Adjourned: 6:54 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

Signature of Chair