



**75th Student Senate
Judiciary Committee**

October 6, 2023 at 4:00pm | [<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/93149836915>]

Call to Order: 4:00pm

Members Present: Chair Velazquez, Vice Chair Anandjiwala, Senator(s) Behar, Mendez, Chinn, Walerio, Widman

Members Tardy:

Members Absent: Senator(s) Crusey, Brewer, McKinney, Ramos

Guests: Senators(s) M. Brown, Staveski, Meier

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:

- None

Public Comments:

- None

New Business:

- **Senate Bill #84 – E.Brown Stavesky (P) M.Brown, Lento (Co):** This legislation essentially allows the Student Body President to address the Student Body more informally to allow the further transparency within SGA. It removes the term “State of the Student Body Address” to simply be “Presidential Addresses.”
 - **Resolution #71 —E.Brown, Staveski (P) M.Brown, Lento(Co):** This bill overhauls Title VII of the Student Body Statues
 - **Senate Bill #87 — Widman (P):** This bill shall create the Freshman Class Council
 - **Resolution # 69 — Velazquez (P):** This bill clears up what happens when a Senator fails to receive a 2/3 threshold for impeachment on the Senate floor for excessive absences.
 - **Senate Bill #86 — Diaz, Cofer (P):** Amending Senate Rules to change procedures for the consideration of candidates coming for Senate Confirmation
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- **Senate Bill #84 – E.Brown Stavesky (P) M.Brown, Lento (Co)**
 - Opening Statement:
 - **Senator Stavesky:** Hi judiciary. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Alexis Stavesky. And the purpose of this bill is to have an Instagram post go but the beginning of the fall and spring semester just advertise the pack and our PAC funding is open. I'm the vice chair of packages and I'm really passionate about and I want to start off by explaining why this has to be the legislation instead of one kind of that it's a little bit confusing. So this is the bill to amend statutes to put it in the deputy treasurer responsibilities to work with the executive branch's social media team to get a post up on like FSU SGA Instagram in the corresponding resolution as the responsibility to the Senate press secretary's duties. So then the post will get put up on the Senate Instagram. So as of right now, the only place nice funny boards are consistently advertised on the SGA website and I don't think that our constituents are really unfortunately like perusing the website often. So our souls really only know that this funding exists if they know where to look or if they've been told about it. So I want to use this bill in the corresponding resolution to really make us more transparent and to really advertise these funding boards so people know where to go for funding our SOS if they want it.
 - **Yields with 2:03 remaining**
 - **Senator Widman motions to enter roundtable, Vice Chair Anandjiwala seconded.**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Senator Widman:** Point of information to the bill's sponsor, would you be open to an amendment that would include all funding avenues such as sweepings SAP, which is student academic programs. So just to add all the funding avenues that are open for students?

- **Senator Staveski:** I would definitely be amenable to that. The only thing I can think of is I didn't run that part of it by the Deputy treasurer and the stent, the Senate press secretary and that would add more to their workload, just having to like post more so if they were amenable to it, I would be what I can say is I can try to I can talk to them before Senate on Wednesday, and I can let you know about that amendment so you can make it on the floor if they're okay with that.
- **Senator Widman:** Thank you!
- **Senator Widman motions to call the question, Vice Chair Anandjiwala seconded.**

- Closing Statement:
 - **Senator Staveski:** Thank you guys so much for hearing me out. I'm really passionate about this. So I hope you guys can support it. Thank you.
- Vote:
 - Yes: [6] Vice Chair Anandjiwala, Behar, Chinn, Mendez, Walerio, Widman
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
 - **RESULT: Motion to pass Bill 84 [PASSES]**

- **Vice Chair Anandjiwala motions to unlock the calendar and move Resolution 71 to be read next, no objections.**

- **Resolution #71 E.Brown, Staveski (P) M.Brown, Lento(Co)**
- Opening Statement:
 - **Senator Staveski:** Thank you guys so much for unlocking the calendar for me. So this is just as I mentioned earlier, the corresponding piece of legislation to amend Senate rules and procedure. So this part would put it this part would amend the Senate press secretary's duties. So then they would post it on the Senate Instagram. I've talked to Senate Press Secretary about this. She's totally okay with it. And thank you so much.
 - **Yields with 2:30 remaining**
 - **Senator Widman motions to enter roundtable, Vice Chair Anandjiwala seconded**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Senator Widman:** Just speaking on the question I asked you regarding the relating bill, would you be open to that same amendment for to include packing or sweepings in SAP?
 - **Senator Staveski:** Oh, yes, absolutely. And unfortunately, I have the same answer for you. I'm going to talk to them just because I don't want to add more to their workload without asking them about it. So again, same answer. Thank you.

- **Vice Chair Anandjiwala motions to call the question, Senator Widman seconded.**
- Closing Statement:
 - **Senator Staveski:** Thank you guys so much for marking the calendar and hearing me out
- Vote:
 - Yes: [6] Vice Chair Anandjiwala , Senator(s) Behar, Chinn, Mendez, Walerio , Widman
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
 - **RESULT: Motion to pass Resolution 71 [PASSES]**

Senator Widman motion to return to the orders of the day, Vice Chair Anandjiwala seconded.

- **Senate Bill #87 – Senator Widmann (P)**
- Opening Statement:
 - **Senator Widmann:** Hi, everyone. Outside of my role in Senate I also serve on OGA Board of Directors. This is just to change OGA. The OGA bill passed over the summer kind of restricted us. So, it's just this change right here just in Section A of 908.7 Just to make it to where we can work outside of just the Florida legislature so we can work within the local Tallahassee government and hopefully, I'm planning on expanding into the federal legislature a little bit. So this is just to where I'm allowed to do that.
 - **Yields with 2:23 remaining**
 - **Vice chair Anandjiwala motions to enter roundtable, Senator Behar seconded.**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Vice Chair Anandjiwala:** So right now it only allows you to do it for the Florida Legislature. You can't be a part of the Leon County Legislature.
 - **Senator Widman:** So the normal bill reads the Office of Governmental affairs shall have the authority to create a legislative agenda for any session in the Florida Legislature. So we can't go work in like the City of Tallahassee is legislature. So that's just kind of what's preventing us and then I'm just changing the text as well from the agenda shall include policy proposals for intended submission in the Florida Legislature to in all levels of government. So we can actually work for this. I would be favorable to an amendment actually just to say this agenda shall include policy proposals. So it doesn't necessarily eliminate the legislative agenda to be for all branches we can do separate ones if we need to.

- **Senator Behar:** Just for clarification, so currently, you guys can't work with federal legislation.
- **Senator Widman:** No, so we can reach out to them but we can't hold a student body or make an legislative agenda because we can only work within the Florida legislature so it would kind of just be it. It doesn't allow us to like actually hear the students opinion.
- **Senator Behar:** What kind of plants you want to work outside of that you can't like currently do with how the policy is now?
- **Senator Widman:** Well, the current policy, it only allows us to work in the state legislature. So I personally don't have any plans for the local government. But I just wanted to change that just to have it but for the federal government, I interned in DC this summer. So I've been working with the director of Federal Relations for FSU. His name is Josh Duncan, so I'm meeting with him and I'm gonna be meeting with the rest of the Office of governmental relations with some of the OJ leadership to go over really what we can do and my biggest goal is just to make the students voice heard there. There is something they call it like the quote unquote, embassy of Florida in DC. It's called the Florida House. And FSU is the only public university in the state. That is not a part of it. So UF UNF like FIU is a part of it. Literally every single public institution in Florida except for FSU, isn't it? So that's my goal.
- **Vice Chair Anandjiwala:** I would like to amend. This agenda shall include policy proposals intended for submission in their respective branches of government.
- **Senator Walerio seconds the amendment**
- **Senator Widman finds the amendment friendly**
- **Senator Mendez:** Yes, I think this is a very important legislation, and I'm very much in favor of it. But I just wanted to ask, How much is this going to change on OGAs time commitment or how is this going to affect their schedules? I know that all the are new. So, I'm just wondering how this is gonna affect your workload or houses in a positive or negative way.
- **Vice chair Anandjiwala motions to call the question, Senator Chinn seconded.**
- Closing Statement:
 - **Senator Widman:** Waived
- Vote:
 - Yes: [5] Vice Chair Anandjiwala, Senator(s) Behar, Chinn, Mendez, Walerio,
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [1] Senator Widman
 - **RESULT: Motion to pass Bill 87 [PASSES]**

Chair Velazquez relinquishes his chair to vice chair Anandjiwala

- **Resolution # 69 – Chair Velazquez (P)**
- Opening Statement:
 - **Chair Velazquez:** So yeah, the Senate Resolution basically changes the rules procedure. Currently, it's unclear what happens when a senator fails to receive a two thirds threshold for impeachment on the Senate floor for excessive absences. So, this bill here, if you forward them for impeachment, let's say someone goes through rules because for judiciary forwards them for impeachment to the Senate floor, and then they're not they don't get the two thirds threshold on the Senate floor to like, you know, remove them from their position there. It's kind of unclear what happens after that. So, this basically is changes the language say if through the impeachment process, the shape committee or the Senate as a whole finds that the senator is capable of continuing their work and Senator and good faith. The Senate shall be suspended after the proceedings in which the Senator is on suspended. So basically, we're just saying that the Senator will be suspended if the Senate if the judiciary or Senate as a whole finds them to still be capable of serving their position and I will yield the rest of my time.
 - **Yields with 2:00 remaining**
 - **Senator Widman motions to enter roundtable, Senator Behar seconded.**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Vice Chair Anandjiwala:** So, right now if someone is impeached but fails to receive a two thirds threshold for that impeachment, What happens now like what currently do they do? Because I thought it went to the Rules Committee. If you don't appear for rules you go directly to the supreme court.
 - **Chair Velazquez:** I think this is in practice. Me and President Diaz actually is sent me this bill, but he told me that in practice, this is what we would already follow. It's just not currently codified in statute. So he wanted to make sure that this was codified statute basically. But if this is it out of happening today, we already kind of follow this rule. It just wouldn't be on the books.
 - **Senator Widman:** From what I'm interpreting it currently as it's not really changing anything. The former text says, if the judiciary committee finds that the senator is capable of continuing that work as a senator in good faith, the senator shall be unsuspended.
 - **Chair Velazquez:** Yeah, so if they go to the Senate floor, so if we if we find them on Capitol serving the role goes to the floor and he's a two thirds vote on the floor as well. If they go to the two thirds vote on the floor, and they don't get to hold ask us me a two thirds threshold for impeachment on the floor. Right now. There's really nothing in statute. You're saying what's gonna end up happening in that point, like it's kind of up in the air? And I mean, like, like I said before, it's a previous question. Their President has already said that this is what he would follow on this, but he just wanted it codified in statute because we had a situation he told me last semester, not last

semester, and it was last semester or two semesters ago, where we had a situation like this, and he followed this rule set, but just to have it in statute to be more safe going forward. Okay, thank you.

- **Senator Widman motions to call the question, Senator Chinn seconded.**
- Closing Statement:
 - **Chair Velazquez:** Yeah, so thank you guys for listening to this today. Like I said, it's kind of already what we would do. But just to make sure it's the president. Yeah, just wanted to make sure that we had this.
- Vote:
 - Yes: [5] Senators(s) Behar, Chinn, Mendez Walerio, Widman
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [1] Chair Velazquez
 - **RESULT: Motion to pass Resolution 69 [PASSES]**
- **Senator Widman motions to unlock the calendar and move to the legislation sponsored by President Diaz, Vice Chair Anandjiwala seconded**
- **Senate Bill #86 - Diaz, Cofer (P)**
- Opening Statement:
 - **President Diaz:** This bill changes the statute about Senate awards. It restructures for 13.4 Because if you look at 13.7 and statute is currently says spring awards, and it has a list under it of all of the awards that are given in the spring. But the awards for the fall are given their own numbers. And I thought that that was just confusing because as the person who's responsible for like the management of the floor for those awards as like, these awards aren't listed under fall awards. So I want to make sure it's specified that their fall awards. So at the beginning, it says for 13.4 Fall awards, and now it says A B, C, D, these are the awards right? I just think it's easier. I added brand new his first name, and I specify that it's the Student Life Award, because that's what's on the SGA website. That's precedent. It's called the Student Life Award. It's called the Student Life Award and talk to Andy about it. He's fine with that. We already have a new senator of the Year Award, it's under the spring awards. Let's make it let's call it what it is. If you have less than 60 credits, you're an underclassmen. So let's call it the underclassmen Senator award. I created an Officer of the Year award so I can recognize somebody from my staff Mike Clark, historian, press secretary just because they don't go recognized officially ever. So it was like why not? To match. There's four awards in the spring. I wanted that to be four awards in the fall. The only thing I could think of was my leadership team. So there you go. If you go down to the spring awards at the bottom of the bill, if you have

any confusion as to why I deleted the Morris award and put it at the end and D and so that it goes Vires, Artes, Mores in that order, which is our motto, I didn't like that it was out of order. So I think I went through almost every single change hope it makes sense Hope you like it's not changing much.

- **Yields with 32 seconds remaining**
- **Senator Widman motions to enter roundtable, Vice Chair Anandjiwala seconded.**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Senator Widman motions to call the question, Vice Chair Anandjiwala seconded.**
- Closing Statement:
 - **President Diaz:** Waived
- Vote:
 - Yes: [6] Vice Chair Anandjiwala, Senators(s) Behar, Chinn, Mendez, Walerio, Widman
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
 - **RESULT: Motion to pass Bill 86 [PASSES]**
- **Senator Widman motion to return to the orders of the day.**

Old Business:

- None

Unfinished Business:

- None

Closing Announcements:

- **Chair Velazquez:** Thank you!

Adjourned: at 4:33

Signature of Chair Velazquez

Christian Velazquez