



**71st Student Senate
Judiciary Committee
March 5, 2019**

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Chair Denton, Vice Chair Jacobsen, Senators Latham, Walsh, Weber, Leckie

Members Tardy: Senator(s)

Members Absent: Senator(s) Dobbins

Guests: Chair Warren, Senator Alvarez

Announcements:

- Chair - It is almost Spring Break!
- Vice Chair -
- Members -
- Guests - Chair Warren- Thanks for having me!

Committee Business:

- Bill 10 - Sponsored by Senator Ready - A revision to the Student Body Statutes Chapter 800, the Finance Code. Purpose: to facilitate the Finance Committee mandated review of Chapter 800
- Bill 29 - Sponsored by Senator Alvarez - Amending Statutes 702.2 and 704.1 to grant the Supervisor of Elections the power to change seats under specific criteria
- Bill 30 - Sponsored by Senator Alvarez - Amending Statutes 704.2 and 712.1 to include Candidate Statements of Interest
- Bill 31 - Sponsored by Senator Warren - Amending Statutes 1002.3 to amend the membership of the Executive Board of AASU

Old Business:

- Bill 10 - Sponsored by Senator Ready - A revision to the Student Body Statutes Chapter 800, the Finance Code. Purpose: to facilitate the Finance Committee mandated review of Chapter 800

New Business:

- Bill 29
 - Sponsor Alvarez- There are many open seats available and people have no way of knowing of who is running for what seat. The Supervisor of Elections currently does not have the power to let people know when seats are currently open and which ones are not. This would allow for The Supervisor of Elections to notify people if seats are available . This would also not allow for an individual to

- change seats in the middle of an election to another college. This has been discussed a lot and hopefully allow for more individuals to get involved in SGA.
- Senator Weber moves to round table Senator Walsh seconds 1:45
 - Senator Weber I have some concerns about this. I would be worried that the Supervisor of Elections would possibly abuse their power. I would like to discuss the possibility of a “Union Board” type of vote.
 - Senator Alvarez- That would change a lot of statutes. If we start this off we could then discuss this a later date and have a smoother transition to that idea.
 - Senator Walsh- I think this solves an issue currently and I think that this is a good start to fix the problem
 - Senator Leckie- 702.3T This a check on the system. I would love to see a “union board” system too.
 - Senator Weber- If you potentially see a “Union Board” type change why wouldn’t we just change it all at the same time
 - Senator Alvarez- We should get something done so we can assure that it affects the Fall Election. In the meantime we have something
 - Senator Walsh- I would like to see that they get notified 48 hours before an election.
 - Senator Alvarez- 24 hours would allow for the candidate to drop out of the election.
 - Vice Chair Jacobsen- I fully support this
 - Senator Latham- If there are 5 open seats and 6 people are running where would the odd person out go?
 - Senator Alvarez- They would have to meet the criteria and we would avoid this. I also want to point out that individuals wouldn’t be able to change their seat to a different college if that college has open seats.
 - Senator Leckie- If this is passed would you follow the Legislative History Act
 - Senator Alvarez- Depends on what happens on the floor, you can always submit a statement of dissent
 - Senator Weber- This is putting a lot of power in one person
 - Senator Alvarez- The candidates can disapprove so that is the ultimate check
 - Chair Denton- Should we allow for candidates to respond to the Supervisor of Elections email within 24 hours?
 - Senator Leckie- So, the Supervisor of Election has an incentive to do this before the timeline
 - Senator Latham- So if any candidate says no, no one moves seats
 - Senator Alvarez- Yes, you have the right to say no for wanting to run for another seat.
 - Senator Leckie moves to call to question
 - Senator Alvarez- This is really encouraging that you all have so many great ideas about Election Code. I really enjoyed this conversation
 - Vice Chair Jacobsen- YES Senator Latham- YES Senator Leckie- YES Senator Walsh- YES Senator Weber- YES

Bill 29 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

- **Bill 30**

- Sponsor Alvarez- The students don’t know who people are. IRHC and homecoming allow for people to have a statement describing who they are. It would make sense to allow for candidates up for election to describe themselves. This would allow for students to get a better understanding of who they are voting for and why. The more information the better and this would ensure full transparency! 1:46

- Senator Walsh moves to enter round table Senator Weber Seconds
- Senator Latham- Could we have the candidates bios in an email link?
- Senator Alvarez- Yes, we could have a link to all the students
- Senator Leckie- Can they put whatever they want in their bios?
- Senator Alvarez- No this would fall under campaigning and they would have to follow the rules already set in place.
- Senator Weber- would you like to put something into statutes to protect candidates from bias?
- Senator Walsh- Considering the large volume of people of running in senate could we lower the word count even more maybe to 100 words? Also, I am worried that the Supervisor of Elections wouldn't notify them if they didn't approve of their bio's.
- Senator Alvarez- The Supervisor of Elections would notify them. 704.3 C I chose the word counts based on what I think would be best for the general student body to look over but I am willing to change it.
- Senator Weber- Have you brought this up to Ben Young?
- Senator Alvarez- No not yet
- Senator Weber - Could you talk to Ben Young? Also, this is infringing on first amendment rights by forcing some candidates to have less words.
- Senator Alvarez- Yes, and I would be open to changing the word counts
- Senator Walsh- I am worried that the word count would create a us vs them situation.
- Senator Latham- I really don't think that we should be that worried about the word count.
- Senator Leckie- I move to Table Bill 30 so we can talk to the other parties involved.

BILL 30 IS TABLED

- Bill 31
 - Sponsor - Chair Warren - This is adding two exec members into statutes. The Asian American Student Union asked me to add this into statutes. Sponsor yields 4 min
 - Senator Latham moves to move into round table Senator Weber seconds
 - Senator Walsh -this a great idea!
 - Senator Weber moves to call to question Senator Walsh seconds
 - Sponsor Warren- Thanks for hearing me out!

BILL 31 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Unfinished Business:

None.

Final Announcements: Senator Weber- Thank you Senator Alvarez for bringing this to Judiciary!

Date and Time of Next Meeting:

March 12, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in Strozier Faculty Conference Room

Adjourned: 7:39 p.m.

Jack Denton

Signature of Chair