



74rd Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
5:15 PM January 17, 2022 | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94723052898>

Call to Order: 5:15 PM

Members Present: Vice-Chair Russell, Senators Barberis, Diaz, Downing, Drackley, Suarez, Tucker

Members Tardy:

Members Absent: Fronczak (E), Hautrive (E), Lessard (E), Chair Murray (E) Pfeuffer-Ferguson (E)

Guests: Candidates Sharry Anne Solis, Emma Daly, Remi Ventura, Adriana Nguyen, Mel Umbdenstock, Grace Campbell-Hutts, Jack Rowan, Ashley Allen, President Hunter, Pro-Tempore Nemeth, Chair Gonzalez, JSU Director Brandon Gabay, OGA Director Rawan Abhari

Land Acknowledgement – Acting-Chair Russell

- 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:

- Since Chair Murray is not present tonight, Vice-Chair Russell will be acting as Chair for the meeting.
- **Acting-Chair Russell** – Begins with a quote from Martin Luther King Jr.'s "*A Proper Sense of Priorities*" speech - "There comes a time when one must take a position that is

neither safe, nor politic, nor popular; but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right”

Committee Business:

- **Candidate for the 74th Student Senate, Parliamentarian – Jack Rowan**
- **Candidate for Jewish Student Union, Treasurer – Remi Ventura**
- **Candidate for Homecoming, Overall Director – Adriana Nguyen**
- **Candidate for Asian American Student Union, Assistant Director – Sharry Anne Solis**
- **Candidate for Women’s Student Union, Political Action Chair – Emma Daly**
- **Candidate for Homecoming, Overall Assistant Director – Mel Umbdenstock**
- **Candidate for Homecoming, Homecoming Live Director – Grace Campbell-Hutts**
- **Candidate for the 74th Student Senate, Press Secretary – Ashley Allen**
- **Resolution 5 – Ashley Gonzalez (P)**

Old Business:

- none

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation: Jack Rowan – 74th Student Senate, Parliamentarian**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Remi Ventura – Jewish Student Union, Treasurer**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Adriana Nguyen – Homecoming, Overall Director**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Sharry Anne Solis – Asian American Student Union, Assistant Director**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Emma Daly – Women’s Student Union, Assistant Director**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Mel Umbdenstock – Homecoming, Overall Assistant Director**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Grace Campbell-Hutts – Homecoming, Homecoming Live Director**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Ashley Allen – 74th Student Senate, Press Secretary**
- **COULD NOT HEAR CANDIDATE DUE TO FORWARDING LETTER TIMELINE AND STATUTE VIOLATION**
- **Resolution 5 - Sponsored by Senators Gonzalez (P), Hunter (Co)**
 - Opening Statement:

- **President Hunter:** This resolution as it stands right now aims to start a commission that will be charged with examining, gathering evidence, and providing recommendations over the entire entity of Student Government. Commission will determine in the Student Government entity should be retained, reconstructed, or improved. The be-it resolved clauses of the Resolution 5 detail who would oversee the Commission, the Secretary of Internal Affairs in the Executive Branch would oversee the Commission. The goal is to update and improve our institutions.
- **Co-Sponsor yields 3 minutes and 33 seconds to their closing statement.**
- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - none
- General Round of Questioning:
 - **Senator Diaz:** Can you inform us of the statute that the sponsor cites for the Student Senate's right to establish a commission like this?
 - **President Hunter:** It is a resolution, not a statute change.
 - **Senator Diaz:** Is there a statute that says the Student Senate has the authority to establish this commission?
 - **President Hunter:** No.
 - **Senator Drackley:** Would appointing people to the commission interfere with the statute we had a problem with during the Senate meeting on January 11, 2022?
 - **President Hunter:** The power to appoint is only given to the Student Body President, so the Student Body President would ultimately appoint the members of the commission. The commission does not appoint people. They are being appointed to a commission, not a position. This is not statutorily the same. The commission is not an official entity of Student Government because it is not in statutes.
 - **Senator Tucker:** What is the difference between a commission and appointed positions when they would both have power over what goes on in Student Government?
 - **President Hunter:** An appointed position is the position detailed in statutes, commission positions are not detailed in statutes. Any position detailed in statutes has to be appointed by the Student Body President, and the commission is not that.
 - **Senator Tucker:** When the commission decides what they want to change about Student Government entities, who will have the authority to make those changes?
 - **Chair Gonzalez (P):** The commission does not have power to change anything in statutes. The final product of the commission will be recommendations to the Student Senate that has to pass through the Senate process. This will all go through the Student Senate because we are not taking away legislative power along with checks and balances that are given to the student body.
 - **Senator Tucker:** So the commission is essentially an advisory panel?
 - **Chair Gonzalez (P):** Yes.

- **Senator Diaz:** Have you spoken with the people mentioned in the Resolution about the commission?
 - **President Hunter:** We've had a meeting with every entity who will be appointing someone to this commission. Everyone mentioned in Resolution 5 met at the end of fall semester, is aware of the resolution, and fully supports it. The Congress of Graduate Students Speaker, myself, the Secretary of Internal Affairs, and the Student Body Vice President are aware and excited in hopes that this resolution passes.
- **Senator Suarez moves to call the question; Senator Tucker seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - **President Hunter:** Thank you for hearing the resolution, if you have any other questions we would be more than happy to answer them. Just know this resolution will be very beneficial for Student Government in reviewing statutes and procedures. This advisory commission has the potential to do great work for Student Government. There are processes that need to be re-evaluated as well as the Legislative, Judicial, and Executive Branches. All of Student Government leadership is very excited about this.
 - **President Hunter waives the remainder of their time.**
- Vote
 - Yes: 6 – Senators Barberis, Diaz, Downing, Drackley, Suarez, Tucker
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: RESOLUTION 5 PASSES**

Unfinished Business:

- As per President Hunter, we will be going into Internal Affairs a whole to confirm candidates tomorrow night at 7:30 PM.
- **Candidate for the 74th Student Senate, Parliamentarian** – Jack Rowan
- **Candidate for Jewish Student Union, Treasurer** – Remi Ventura
- **Candidate for Homecoming, Overall Director** – Adriana Nguyen
- **Candidate for Asian American Student Union, Assistant Director** – Sharry Anne Solis
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Closing Announcements:

- **Acting-Chair Russell:** I'm so sorry for all the confusion in today's meeting, I was advised by Chair Murray that we could proceed candidate confirmations, but obviously that did not align with statutes. Please engage with our candidates.

Next Meeting

- January 24th at 7:30 PM <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94723052898>

Adjourned: 6:44 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor Murray'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line across the top and several diagonal strokes extending downwards.

Signature of Chair Trevor Murray