



74th Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
January 24th, 2022 at 7 PM | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94723052898>

Call to Order: 7:03 PM

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

Members Tardy: Senator Fronczak (Excused)

Members Absent: Chair Murray (Unexcused), Senators Hautrive (Unexcused), Lessard (Unexcused)

Guests: Candidate Kristin Crespo, Chairs Ashley Gonzalez, Luke Nasworthy, Vice Chair Megan Bettley, Secretary Quentin England and Senate Parliamentarian Jack Rowan

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements:

- Chair:
 - None
- Vice Chair:
 - If anyone wants to amend Rules of Procedure, we can definitely do that. Welcome Senator Fox!
- Members:
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson requests that everyone speaks clearly for his sake since taking minutes is not an easy job. He also wants to remind everyone that it is disrespectful to be having side conversations if everyone is in the same room

Committee Business:

- **Candidate for Student Council for Accessibility Advocacy, Assistant Director – Kristin Crespo**

Old Business:

- **None**

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation: Roberto Ortiz – Student Council for Accessibility Advocacy, Committee Member**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Candidate yields with X remaining.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Senator X moves for period of questioning; Senator X seconds

- General Round of Questioning:
 -
- Closing Statement:
 -
- **Senator [name] moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator [name] seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 -
- **Senator [name] moves to call the question; Senator [name] seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: [#] – Senators [names]
 - No: [#] – Senators [names]
 - Abstain: [#] – Senators [names]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE ORTIZ [PASSES/DOES NOT PASS]**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Kristin Crespo – Student Council for Accessibility Advocacy, Assistant Director**
 - Opening Statement:
 - This is a position they truly have a heart for and they feel could execute well. They understand that this Bureau is new, but they are ready to give this position 100% effort and everything that has to do with this branch.
 - Candidate yields with 2 minutes and 6 seconds remaining.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: If you are comfortable with sharing them, would you please share your pronouns?
 - Candidate: I use she/her pronouns
 - Senator Diaz: Are you financially certified?
 - Candidate: I am not.
 - Senator Diaz: Are you aware of the process for becoming financially certified?
 - Candidate: Has had conversations about it, but is working towards it.
 - Senator Suarez: Are you aware of how much money has been allocated for this Council?
 - Candidate: I am not
 - General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Diaz: What experiences or connections do you have that make you feel as though you are qualified for this position and the duties of this position?
 - Candidate: Is someone who is a part of this community and has been working with the OAS for accommodations since coming here. She has also advocated for this community in the past so she understand from both perspectives how to correctly serve this community.
 - Senator Tucker: How could you innovate this position and bring something new to the table?
 - Candidate: Knows this Council is new, and has done her research on other universities on how they do this sort of advocacy and service. Wants to see what other schools do well and then bring that back to FSU and serve this community the best that they can.
 - Closing Statement:

- Thanked everyone for taking the time to interview the candidate. This specific position is something that she has put a lot of thought into this position and wants to give this position their all to create an environment that is the best that it can be for this community.
 - **Senator Tucker moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Suarez seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: The Director is looking for those in this community to step up, and the passion from this candidate combined with her identity with the community could greatly benefit this bureau.
 - Senator Diaz: Agrees with previous speaker and feels as though it is imperative for those within the community to serve those on campus. Only hesitation is that they have not seen much come out of this Bureau and hopes that the candidate can change that and bring more to the table.
 - Senator Suarez: Supports the candidate and feels they will do great in this position.
 - **Senator Suarez raises a Point of Clarification**
 - This Bureau is new and the Director was just appointed last semester
 - **Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson moves to call the question; Senator Tucker seconds**
 - Vote:
 - Yes: 8 – Senators Tucker, Diaz, Downing, Suarez, Drackley, Fox, Barberis, and Pfeuffer-Ferguson
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
 - **RESULT: CANDIDATE CRESPO PASSES**
- **Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson moves for a Vote of No Confidence, Senator Drackley seconds**
 - Vice Chair Russell requests advice from Parliamentarian Rowan on what to do
 - **Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson raises a Point of Clarification**
 - Parliamentarian Rowan is currently on the PAC call and in class
 - Parliamentarian Rowan outlines the procedure
 - Opening Statement:
 - A lot of information has come to the Senator over the past week and he now feels obligated to make such motion. It is his job as not only a senator but also as general student to hold SGA accountable. It has come to his attention that many of the candidates forwarded last semester were illegally forwarded due to Chair Murray's inability to follow Rules of Procedure and therefore statutes. In the 73rd Senate, we did not complete Bureau Review the way that we should have. This was not all Chair Murray's fault, but he knew we did not do it correctly and has yet to start the process for the 74th Senate. We only have just over a month to complete it now, and it is a lengthy process where we will have to be working with these Bureaus in an accommodating manner. Statutes and Rules of Procedure have been broken every meeting under Chair Murray, no exaggeration. He understands that everyone in the call has their own personal relationship with Chair Murray, but this does not excuse his work and we are required to hold him accountable. Chair Murray has gained two consecutive unexcused absences, and he is not prioritizing this position. Actions taken by Chair Murray reflect us in this committee and

does have an impact on our opportunities in SGA. He does not want this sort of behavior to continue to affect the candidates we hear, the rest of Senate as they have to deal with all of our mishaps, and the organizations that each of these leaders serve. Chair Murray has failed to represent his communities. Every single member of this committee has taken an oath of office and needs to put their personal feelings aside in order to complete the job expected of us. There is the risk that everyone in the committee could be held liable in a lawsuit, and he does not have the availability to go sit in the School of Law until the late hours of the night to deal with this sort of situation.

- Senator yields with 1 minute and 19 seconds to his closing.
- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Senator Diaz: Could individual members of the committee or the committee as a whole be held accountable for these actions?
 - Parliamentarian Rowan: Theoretically, yes.
- General Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Tucker: Upon finding out that we were breaking statutes last week, did Chair Murray not try and fix it to where we would no longer break statutes?
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: Chair Murray has not taken responsibility in the way that he feels is the right way to do so. Upon finding out himself, he went down the right track to hold Chair Murray accountable. Even though Chair Murray says he is working for that, this is his second unexcused absence in a row, and knowing where he is, it says a lot about his priorities. Prioritizing his position is the first step in fixing things, and he failed to do so.
 - Senator Diaz: Could Parliamentarian Rowan elaborate on malfeasance, misfeasance, and all of that?
 - Parliamentarian Rowan: This is different than impeachment, since that would require actual charges to be made. A Vote of No Confidence can be made at any time.
 - Senator Downing: Does Chair Murray have a record from last semester, she knows that a lot of us have other involvements that could impede us so maybe that is impacting him?
 - **Senator Diaz raises a Point of Clarification**
 - Senator Downing cannot vote on this motion, as she has not been in the committee long enough
 - **Vice Chair Russell raises a Point of Clarification**
 - Senator Downing and Fox cannot vote on this motion, as they have not been in the committee long enough
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: Two of the people in this call were in IA under Chair Murray, and it was not always run the cleanest or smoothest. It just came to fruition that we were breaking Rules of Procedure on a regular basis due to business day issues. Also understands busy schedules, having his own job where he works over 25 hours a week, serves on several different executive boards, is taking 16 credit hours, yet is still able to show up and comes prepared, as it is expected if you step up to fill these shoes. Chair Murray's position has higher expectations for him, and he failed to meet said expectations. He supports Chair Murray

in getting involved in other ways, but Chair Murray chose to prioritize other involvements over this position.

- Senator Barberis: Is this the first time this sort of behavior is being addressed?
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: With this specific case, it is. On other occasions, it was not the first time Chair Murray has found himself being told he was not doing things the way he should have. Last week, he put into question the advice from older senators with more knowledge. Chair Murray pushed everything under the table instead of stepping back and accepting responsibility.
- Senator Downing: Considering two of us cannot vote on this, does this require something specific to vote?
 - Vice Chair Russell: It requires a 2/3 vote from those who are eligible to vote, and requires 5 people in attendance to be able to vote as per Rules of Procedure.
- Senator Tucker: I feel as though it would be more appropriate to have Chair Murray here for this sort of motion, could we make a motion to hear this at another time?
 - Vice Chair Russell: You can make a motion to table this.
- **Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson raises a Point of Clarification**
 - Chair Murray had the opportunity to be here. His absence tonight is unexcused, so even though we might not feel it is fair for him to not be here, he was presented with the opportunity to be here. He prioritized other involvements.
- **Vice Chair Russell raises a Point of Clarification**
 - Chair Murray was made aware that this motion was going to be made
- **Senator Suarez raises a Point of Inquiry**
 - Can she move to go into roundtable discussion, Vice Chair Russell says yes
- **Senator Suarez moves to enter roundtable discussion; Senator Diaz seconds**
- Senator Suarez: Aside from our personal relationships, we need to be able to differentiate between the two. Being one of Chair Murray's closest friends, she can recognize how we have not been following Rules of Procedure. Chair Murray put Vice Chair Russell into a position where she had to call on other leadership when she should have been prepped for the meeting. It is also important to point out how we have to do Bureau Review, and it comes onto all of us that it has not been done. We need to put the strongest people into leadership to deal with all of this. Will be voting yes on this motion.
- **Senator Barberis raises a Point of Inquiry**
 - What is the procedure for replacing Chair Murray for his position?
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: We would have to re-open elections for chair. If Vice Chair Russell runs and wins, we would have to do the same for Vice Chair.
 - Parliamentarian Rowan: Yes, and then explains the process for that situation.
- **Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson raises a Point of Clarification**
 - Vice Chair Russell is the most senior member of the committee
- Senator Diaz: The election of the chair has to be overseen by a specific list of people, but does not know if this is only for fall elections.

- Chair Russell: Another senator oversaw our election, we have had many people do that. We could get one of those people on this call if need be.
- Senator Tucker: While Vice Chair Russell was put into a rough position, but none of us could not have expected that to happen. Does not think that point is completely fair to Chair Murray.
- **Senator Suarez moves to call the question; Senator Tucker seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - This is not something that is easy, but is something that we are required to do. I am trying to do it right, as the 74th Senate's leadership is trying to run a clean Senate that follows statutes. Even though people might think it's not fair, Chair Murray has not always followed his expectations, going back to Summer Senate when Chair Murray had issues with the minutes he was taking as Vice Chair of IA. Chair Murray's behavior could have impacts on all of our futures in SGA. You all took an oath of office saying you would take the proper actions, if you do not, you will also be breaking statutes.
- **Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson relinquishes his position to Senator Diaz**
- Vote:
 - Yes: 6 – Senators Pfeuffer-Ferguson, Barberis, Drackley, Suarez, Fronczak, and Diaz
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 1 – Senator Tucker
- **RESULT: MOTION PASSES**
- **Senator Diaz relinquishes Vice Chair Duties to Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson**
- Parliamentarian Rowan: Explains that there needs to be formal elections for Chair and that entire process
- **Senator Barberis moves to open the floor for Chair nominations; Senator Suarez seconds**
- Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson nominates Senator Russell; Senator Tucker seconds
- Vice Chair Russell relinquishes the acting Chair duties to Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson
- **Senator Tucker moves to close the door for nominations; Senator Suarez seconds**
- **RESULT: SENATOR RUSSELL IS ELECTED CHAIR OF THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR THE 74th SENATE**
- **Senator Suarez moves to open the floor for Vice Chair nominations; Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds**
- Senator Tucker nominates Senator Diaz; Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds
 - Senator Diaz accepts the nomination
- Senator Suarez nominates Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson; Senator Barberis seconds
 - Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson does not accept the nomination
- **Senator Drackley moves to close the floor for nominations; Senator Fronczak seconds**
- **RESULT: SENATOR DIAZ IS ELECTED VICE CHAIR OF THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR THE 74th SENATE**
- **Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson moves to allow a non-Senator to speak; Senator Fronczak seconds**
 - Secretary England: Forwarding letters can come out on Thursday mornings; would suggest that we look at statutes. We might not even need this rule in our Rules of Procedure at all.
- **Senator Drackley moves to enter legislative roundtable; Senator Tucker seconds**
 - Chair Russell: Sees no point in changing anything, but if everyone wants to we all definitely could.

- Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: Trusts Secretary England to get the letters in on Thursdays, and if he doesn't we most definitely could hold him accountable.
- Senator Drackley: We have a senator, or multiple, in this committee that could only meet on Mondays. We could just remove it to be safe, as it would prove to be no harm.
- Senator Downing: Got switched to this committee, so needs to be able to meet on Mondays.
- Chair Russell: We could just amend our Rules of Procedure.
- Secretary England: Would require a simple majority vote and is a debatable motion.
- **Senator Drackley moves to amend Section 3.A in our Rules of Procedure; Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds**
 - **Vice Chair Diaz moves to pass by unanimous consent, Senator Tucker seconds**
- **RESULT: MOTION PASSES**

Unfinished Business:

- Updating the list of potential questions to ask candidates for the website

Closing Announcements:

- Chair Russell: Thank you all for being here and being engaging, even though it was a long and stressful meeting. Please hold her accountable with this position.
- Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson: Thank you everyone, that was not an easy issue to deal with. We did what was required of us, and I know this is going to be great for us moving forward. Proud of us and cannot wait to see where the new leadership takes us.
- Vice Chair Diaz: Congratulations to everyone. There is some stuff that this committee needs to do and straighten out. We need to improve communications with the Secretary of Appointments. We need to update our minutes on the website. Cannot wait to get to work.
- Senator Drackley: As much as he respects Senator Murray, sees how we look like a mess to the rest of Senate. We do not want to have the same thing that happened last meeting to occur again.
- Senator Fronczak: Wants to see if everyone can meet at 7:30
- Chair Russell: Wants to see if everyone can meet at 7:30, and everyone said they could.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 31st at 7:30 PM

Adjourned: 8:11 PM



Signature of Chair Katie Russell