



**74<sup>th</sup> Student Senate  
Internal Affairs Committee  
March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30pm | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/95903818319>**

**Call to Order:** 6:33

**Members Present:** Chair Russell, Vice Chair Diaz, Senators Fronczak, Murray, Suarez, Wells, Hautrive, Barberis, Downing, Drackley

**Members Tardy:** Senator Lessard

**Members Absent:** Senator Pfeuffer-Ferguson (U)

**Guests:** Candidate Marlon Derilus, SCURC Director Gabriella Herrerias

*Vice Chair Diaz presiding*

*Senator Fronczak acting as Vice Chair*

**Land Acknowledgement – Senator Suarez**

- 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:**

- Vice Chair Diaz: Chair Russell apologies that she is unable to attend tonight, as she is currently working long hours at the Florida Senate ahead of sine die. Echoes the sentiment that Chair Russell advises Senators to not be using their phone/laptops unless necessary for the meeting. Chair Diaz has a resolution he'd like to share to IA at the end of the meeting regarding the SGA application process.

**Committee Business:**

- **Candidate for Freshman Leadership Institute, Director – Marlon Derilus**
- Opening Statement:
  - First generation college student from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Inspiring to leave an impact and create a legacy on campus for him and his family.

FLI has elevated his leadership experience on campus so far, was a mentee during his freshman year and served as a mentor last semester. Now hoping to become the Director of FLI to see the program full circle.

- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
  - None
- General Round of Questioning:
  - Vice Chair Fronczak: You talked a lot about how FLI helped elevate your leadership experience at Florida State, do you have an example of how so, particularly during your time as a mentee?
    - Personally, I was really closed off coming in; comes from a minority-based community in South Florida. The public speaking workshop was especially helpful in getting me out of my comfort zone. I connected well with my “mom” of my FLI family as well as my mentor. I have spent a good amount of time with both individuals during FLI, as well as getting together and spending time outside of the organization boundaries.
  - Senator Murray: Do you believe that it is better to have participants with the most potential for growth or to have participants that are already the best?
    - I think that those who need FLI are the best population to pool from. I’m all about recognizing the potential for people. It’s great if people are qualified and they can be incorporated as well but want to focus on those who need help and can really have a strong takeaway from the program.
  - Senator Murray: What qualities do you look for in an FLI mentor.
    - Being a mentor last fall, I’m looking for someone who I would want to be my mentor. I’m looking for someone who is open-minded, has relevant leadership experience and can instill those same values and leadership qualities in their mentee. I’m not looking for someone who is too aggressive, you don’t want to be too much for the mentee, rather someone who can be balanced and a bit more laid-back when it comes to making that connection with their mentee.
- Closing Statement:
  - Shared a slide show, I am a first-generation college student and aspire to leave a legacy. I’m hoping to help others grow with genuine relationships. Still very close with my FLI family, appreciative of my mentee and the reveal process.
- **Senator Hautrive moves to enter roundtable discussion, Senator Murray seconds**
  - Wells: Does not think that is anyone better qualified than Candidate Derilus. I appreciate that he truly always practices what he preaches, being a first year I worked with him in the Black Student Union, and he served as a sort of mentor for me during that timeframe.
  - Downing: Hearing what he had to say about his mentor matching was insightful, the mentor-mentee process can be challenging, and I appreciate how he noted that the importance of a strong matching process.
  - Suarez: I really like the full circle outlook, the people who will be mentored should not come off too strong or aggressive, need to be welcoming to their new mentor. I also like the perspective of accepting candidates who

may be somewhat less qualified but demonstrate that they can really benefit from the program. Currently on campus there is a sort-of stigma that students must be very involved in many different things, so I appreciate the candidates perspective on utilizing FLI as an opportunity for growth, rather than just another check of involvement.

- **Senator Lessard moves to call the question; Senator Suarez seconds**
- Vote:
  - Yes: 8 - Senators Murray, Suarez, Wells, Hautrive, Downing, Drackley, Barberis, Fronczak, Russell
  - No: 0
  - Abstain: 1 – Senator Lessard
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE MARLON DERILUS DOES PASS**

#### **New Business:**

- **Bureau Review Presentation: Student Council for Undergraduate Research & Creativity (SCURC)**
  - Presentation: First thing you had asked for was basic contact information, (contact information was provided). Previously before being put into this position, I didn't have much of a financial background. 2019-2020 reflects a larger amount of spending, lessened during 20-21 and 21-22 because of COVID-19. Large allocation of budget is dedicated to travel, COVID-19 has greatly limited this. Currently in the process of printing the OWL, printing it in late-March. Anticipating that this will take up the rest of our funds. Had two hybrid events on how to get involved in undergraduate research at FSU An event on March 24<sup>th</sup> with the ASLC is in the works as well. Our OWL launch party is also in April upon the printing of that. Mission statement is being filled by offering the opportunity for students from any background to be published in the OWL. We've had a pretty high turnout with attendance rates this past semester. Many of those who attended were able to find even more research opportunity programs. Excited that students are getting more out of our meetings and programming than just learning about the organization itself. SCURC wants to ensure that students have the ability and resources to get involved with research no matter their circumstances, all students should be able to be confident with their research. We additionally encourage students to join our council, applications will open later in March and it will be exciting for all who applies. We try to highlight diversity and inclusivity, encourage members to be from different groups. It's nice to see members come from different majors and then we're able to supply them with different tools. Since FSU has such a large research community it's really great that we've been able to extend amongst members. Applications will open up after Spring Break the board consists of 4 executive board positions and 5 board member positions. The office who is currently serving in that position is the one to interview the person applying for that position. This is based off governing statutes, have no issues with current governing statutes, satisfied with all the current statutes that are being held.
  - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
    - Senator Lessard: Who has access to the director email listed on the last slide?
      - Director Herrerias: The Director and two Assistant Directors.
    - Senator Lessard: How often is the email looked at?

- Director Herrerias: Roughly once a day, there was confusion with our onboarding process, I gained access very late into the semester, it has been a struggle and prevented us from changing certain things for SCURC.
- Senator Lessard: Is the contact information listed on the SGA website up to date?
  - Director Herrerias: Put in a request but have not heard back, somewhat hesitant to do sue due to the upcoming elections. Frustrating as the previous executive board struggled in successfully passing along the passwords and other relevant details.
- General Round of Questioning:
  - Senator Lessard: Is SCURC currently operating without a treasurer?
    - Director Herrerias: No, we do have a treasurer. He was recently appointed and went through IA a few months previously.
    - Chair Diaz: Can confirm that that candidate went through and was forwarded through IA a few weeks back.
  - Senator Lessard: Do we know if his (the treasurer's) financial certification is up to date?
    - Director Herrerias: Yes, it should be. Struggled during our early on-boarding process for SCURC in terms of getting everything in order and organization but have worked out the details over the previous few weeks.

**Senator Suarez moves to table SCURC for deliberations; Senator Lessard seconds.**

**Senator Lessard moves to enter legislative roundtable, Senator Barberis seconds.**

- Vice Chair Diaz brings forward a draft resolution proposing a change to the SGA application that would clear up confusion regarding applicants' year classifications. He mentions that there is confusion as to what the application is asking for in terms of being a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior, as it is not clear if that is referring to academic status by credit hour cumulation, or if it wants to know if someone is a first, second, third, or fourth-year student. The committee discusses the proposal, asks questions, and comes to consensus that it should be introduced, and amendments can be discussed and made when it is formally referred to Internal Affairs by the Senate President. Several committee members cosponsor the draft resolution.

**Senator Lessard moves to exit legislative roundtable, Senator Barberis seconds.**

**Unfinished Business:**

- Bureau Review
  - Deliberations

**Closing Announcements:**

- Vice Chair Diaz: We should definitely attempt to meet again on March the 21<sup>st</sup>, even though it is the first day back from Spring Break, as we have this draft resolution being referred to us that must pass before Spring Inauguration, and we have to begin Bureau Review deliberations as soon as possible. I'm sure Chair Russell will let us know later on

about whether or not the committee will meet in a hybrid format or exclusively through Zoom.

**Next Meeting:** March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at 7:30pm via Zoom <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/95903818319>

**Adjourned:** 7:36pm

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Russell". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Signature of Chair Katie Russell**