



**74<sup>th</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
[March 22, 2022 | 7:00 pm] | [938 6379 6079]**

**Zoom recording:**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_bEIJ6dNaIERPUGUSkHK\\_9mzrJg2v6fs/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_bEIJ6dNaIERPUGUSkHK_9mzrJg2v6fs/view?usp=sharing)

**Call to Order:**

**Members Present:** Chair Myers, Vice Chair Beall, Senator(s) Wang, Little, Tucker, Guillamont, Noel

**Members Tardy:**

**Members Absent:**

**Guests:** JSU Director Brandon Gabay, Chair(s) Gonzalez, DuChene, TJ Kaminsky

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Announcements:**

- Chair Myers:
- Director Gabay: Sorry if I cut out! As chair Myers mentioned, we spent a while working on revisions of statutes (can't hear him). Hes referencing bill 29

**Committee Business:**

- Bill 12- Wang, Gonzalez (P)
  - Revising the statute regarding the amount of money that shall be funded to an organization in the category of lodging.
- Bill 29- DuChene, Lessard (P)
  - Revising the Jewish Student Union's Statues
- Impeachment Hearing: Senator Guillamont (Undergraduate Studies Seat 8)
- Impeachment Hearing: Senator Thau (Communication and Information Seat 2)
- Impeachment Hearing: Senator Reeves (Criminology and Criminal Justice Seat 2)
- Impeachment Hearing: Senator Noel (Education Seat 2)
- Impeachment Hearing: Senator Kaminsky (Undergraduate Studies Seat 15)

**Old Business:**

- None

**New Business:**

- **Bill # 12 - Sponsored by Senator Wang, Gonzalez (P)**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Senator Gonzalez: This is basically fixing the issue we've had about lodging recently. We've been in the senate for 3 terms. In the manual it's always 175 per night. The way it's basically happened is in Florida state policy it states 175 per person per night and all florida has to follow and it's a university policy but basically SGA is more strict. I don't want it to be 175 per person per night because that's giving them basically a penthouse. I copied straight from the manual and it moved to 200 per night. I'd be happy to answer any questions. YIELDED 1:09
  - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
    - Senator Little: Was this amended in finance?
    - Chair Gonazlex: It was amended to 200, chair bowling needs to fix it
    - Senator Tucker: I wanted to verify, is 200 enough to get a hotel room.
    - Chair Gonzaelz: The usual still base rate for a hotel in the US is still lower than 175 and we looked at where most RSO's go and it made sense
  - **Senator Little moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Tucker seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion:
    - Senator Little; I like this bill. I have been in mock trials for years now and we travel a lot and I think 200\$ for a hotel room is very reasonable. I think that this is good and I like having our documents lined up with finance code. I will be voting yes
    - Senator Tucker: It looks reasonable and it looks well thought out and it keeps things in order.
  - **Senator Tucker moves to call the question; Senator Little seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    - Chair Gonzael: Thank you, a big thing we had in finance was it says it excludes taxes, that does not include in the 200\$. Waived time
  - Vote:
    - Yes: [ 4 ] [VC Beall, Senator(s) Tucker, Wang, Little
    - No: 0
    - Abstain: 0
  - **RESULT: BILL 12 PASSES**
- **Bill #29 - Sponsored by Senator(s) Duchene, Lessard**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Chair Duchene: Bill 29 effectively just revises jewish student union statutes to level the playing field for candidates who are looking to join the executive board and unifies language to be more consistent with agencies who are already in student government. The orgical statues were not always intended to be the permanent ones and now that JSU has been more established, they felt more comfortable drafting this amended version of their statutes. Director Gabbay was in partnership with folks across student government and received their advisory opinions. YIELDED 1:21
  - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:

- Senator Little: I'm looking at 1008.3 executive board under subsection c sub A, under this new writing, would people who are running for office still be involved in the discussions even though they don't have a vote
  - Chair Duchene: The original language brought to me made this clause much stricter, and if I may speak for director Gabby, after many conversations they took it out to make folks who are running for positions on the advisory council still somehow a part of the process. I remember he still thinks that folks who are running for a position shouldnt be involved in the process.
  - **Senator Little moves for a non senator to speak, senator Wang seconds**
  - Gabbay: The reason that we did this is that it's unfair for a current board member to vote on a position that they are applying for when someone new can't vote for themselves. Since they can't cast a vote, it means they can't vote. They can attend the advisor meeting.
- **Senator Wang moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Tucker seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - Senator tucker: i'll be voting yes on this
  - Senator Little: Yea so i understand the points made by the sponsor allowing people to attend the meetings which i think makes sense. What I'm more worried about is that the language after conducting interviews and everything. From my reading I know there's a discussion about the interviews and if someone is on the current e board and is running for another position and as a member, they can still discuss and give their opinion. The language is very broad and I'm worried that the advisory council can still do whatever they want and could involve candidates who are trying to sway the opinions.
  - Senator Wang: Yeah, I completely agree with that. If we could put in some kind of language saying that if a current council member is running for a position, they shall not be included in election processes. Putting in language to prevent them from having a say so in the selection process is something we should do.
  - Chair Duchene: Point of clarification, and amended is found friendly by myself and to director Gabbay
  - Senator Little moved to amend, Senator Wang seconds
    - Section 1008.3.C(1)A: add “, shall not participate in any selection processes,” between “interviews” and “and”.
    - Senator Wang Seconds; Sponsor finds it friendly
  - Senator Little: I believe this is very well written and I appreciate the effort and i will be voting yes
- **Senator Wang moves to call the question; Vice Chair Beall seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - Duchene: I appreciate the amendment andi believe it makes the change and the bill stronger. Waived time
- Vote:
  - Yes:[ 4 ] [VC Beall, Senator(s) Tucker, Wang, Little
  - No: 0

- Abstain: 0
  - **RESULT: BILL 29 PASSES**
- **Impeachment Hearing: Senator Kaminsky (Undergraduate Studies Seat 15)**
  - Total of 7 unexcused absences since 12/01/2021
  - Opening Statement (5 minutes)
    - Senator Kaminsky: The majority of my absences have come from committee meetings. This is due to the fact that I have a lab that day and at the time. Sometimes when we first started it was hard to balance both at the same time. Now everything is fixed and I don't see a problem with absences moving forward. YIELDED 4:13
  - Questioning
    - Senator Wang: Is the lab something you have this semester?
    - Senator Kaminsky: Yes, and it supposed to end 30 minutes before the committee meeting but sometimes I am required to stay later
    - Senator Wang: Have you spoken to President Hunter about getting a committee reassignment?
    - Senator Kaminsky: I really like my committee and I understand I could have moved committees and I understand I can do that. I'm more passionate about the material in student life.
    - Senator Little: Did you inform your committee chair?
    - Senator Kaminsky: There were a couple times I did let him know and he was very accepting and had no problem.
    - Senator Wang: DO you know the specific details of your absences?
    - Senator Kaminsky: I believe 3 of the 7 were senate meetings
    - Seanotr Tucker: When was the last time you had to miss a committee meeting?
    - Senator Kamsinky; I've attended the last 2 committee meetings
    - Senator Little: Is the reason for missing senate meetings the same as committee meetings?
    - Senator Kaminsky: The reasonings are different. I've missed senate meetings due to personal issues and I've let Pro Tempore Niemeth know about them before senate meetings.
    - Senator Little: Do you have a plan to improve your attendance record?
    - Senator kaminsky: The plan would be to continue to speak to my TA and if I can't improve I'll speak to president hunter about a committee reassignment.
    - **Senator Little moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Tucker seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion
    - Senator Tucker: I know it's never good to see a senator rack up absences, however senator Kaminsky has been trying to communicate and is open to reassignment and says a lot about him. He's also the only person who showed up to this meeting.
    - Senator Wang: Point of information, considering in rules if someone is unsuspended they have to vote on a number of absences that someone is allowed to have before they are resuspended. What is the process now if we don't forward impeachment.

- Senator Little: I don't think the specific statute applies to us, only rules can make the decision regarding that/
  - Senator Wang: my concern is that there is no tight leash to keep him on before he is resuspended.
  - Chair Myers: Rules would deal with that, we don't have any enforcement power there. He would just resume normally.
  - Senator Little: does anyone know the number of absences he gets back if he isn't moved to get impeached
  - Chair Myers; It'll be what we voted on in rules
  - Senator Wang: No, you only vote in rules if you unsuspend someone and that's what I mean
  - Chair Myers: Im assuming the pro tempore would retroactively decide and make a fair decision regarding how many he now has. As statues currently stand, since there is no calibration, he would be clean later and get all his absences back including mental health days unless pro tempore niemeth would know a different procedure.
  - Senator Little: Is it possible for this to be remanded back to rules
  - Senator Wang: technically we could just ask Sarah to vote and decide on rules.
  - Chair Myers: My call is that if you vote not to forward, it stands until you talk to pro tempore niemeth and until then he gets all of his absences back
  - Senator Little; I would hope that pro tempore niemeth, considering the fact that the chair of student life only received a text only 1 or 2 times, I just want to make sure he is being held accountable. I would hope that pro tempore niemeth would call a vote for the number of absences. He is a fall senator and I would hate for him to get all of his absences back and decide not to participate and I think that would be a shame. I don't want to move to impeach.
  - **\_\_\_ moves to call the question; \_\_\_ seconds**
- Closing
  -
- Vote: Yes to approve the charge of impeachment: No to not
  - Yes: [ (vote count) ] [voter names]
  - No: [ (vote count) ] [voter names]
  - Abstain: [ (vote count) ] [voter names]
- **RESULT: TABLED**
- **Impeachment Hearing: Senator Noel (Education Seat 2)**
  - Total of 8.5 unexcused absences since 12/01/2021
  - Opening Statement (5 minutes)
    - \_Senator Noel: I just want to let you know I don't have any excuses. We all know how life gets, lots of things going on. I had a death in the family of my grandmother. Sadly due to confusion of being a first semester, I have just been checked out from everything. That's pretty much everything and I know I could do a way better job communicating and letting everyone know the situation. YIELDED 4:15
  - Questioning

- Senator Wang: have you ever contacted chair myers or pro tempore neimeth regarding your absences beforehand
- Senator Noel: Yes so i know i concatenate pro tempore niemeith regarding my absences and she said i was all good.
- Senator Wang: So you only pro tempore niemeeth when she sent out notifications about absences.
- Senator Noel: Yes most of the time I was late but still there for almost every senate meeting. I have a class that ends right after the senate starts so I was late but I tried to stay toward the end.
- Senator Tucker: How committed to you plan to be if you are not forwarded for impeachment.
- Senator Noel: Yes, I have taken a lot off my plate that I was feeling with before and I feel like I'll be able to participate more.
- Senator Tucker: If for some reason you aren't able to make these commitments, are you open to resigning?
- Senator Noel: Yes.
- Seanotr Little: Is senate leadership aware of the class conflict?
- Senator Noel: Not that i'm aware, I failed to notify anyone
- Senator Little; In the future, will you notify senate leadership if the problem of the class continues?
- Senator Noel: yes, I plan to notify Pro tempore niemeth if i'm going to continue to be late
- Senator Wang: Point of information to you chair myers, what senate seat is she
- Chair Myers; Education seat 2
- Senator Little: Have you ever sponsored a piece of legislation? Do you plan to be more involved if you are not forwarded for impeachment?
- Senator Noel:No, but I know I want to be more involved with legislation and love the senate as a whole.
- **Senator Wang moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Tucker seconds**
- **Round-Table Discussion**
  - Senator Wang: Ok, I'm very torn with this hearing. I know last year in rules we heard a lot of unfortunate stories similar to hers with covid. However I served as the chair for rules and calendar and I don't think I ever received notification by this senator when she was going to miss a meeting and I believe she was also suspended while I served as chair. She's also a member of this committee. The senator has no plans to sponsor legislation and has never sponsored anything. At this time I will move to impeach.
  - Senator Little: I'm also on the fence because the senators term is going to be ending in 2 weeks and because i don't know if its worth it to forward to impeach her if it's going to take a quite a bit of time to actual go through the whole process and someone is about to take her seat. On the other hand, I just think communication only takes a second and there's quite a number of absences without any notification. I do think I empathize with the senator.

- Senator Tucker: I was thinking the same thing the previous senator said. If by the time we finish this impeachment, the inauguration is happening anyways. It could be worth it to give them the opportunity to show up for senate. I don't think personally I'll be voting to move forward.
    - Senator Wang: For me, it's more about the principle of it but I do appreciate all the round table discussion.
    - Senator Little: Point of information for the candidate, will you commit to attending the remainder of the senate and committee meetings?
    - Senator Noel: yes.
    - **Senator Little moves to call the question; Senator Tucker seconds**
  - Closing
    - Senator Noel: Thank you guys for letting me talk on my own behalf. I do know I have to take responsibility for my actions. I just want to note that this is the first time I'm being suspended, contrary to Senator Wang's comment earlier. I do want to let you all know that I am trying to grasp SGA as a whole and I want to be committed. WAIVED
  - Vote: Yes to approve the charge of impeachment: No to not
    - Yes: [ 1 ] Senator Wang
    - No: [ 4 ] Senator(s) Little, Tucker, Beall
    - Abstain: 0
  - **RESULT: Senator Noel is not forwarded to the Senate for impeachment.**
- **Impeachment Hearing: Senator Guillamont (Undergraduate Studies Seat 8)**
  - Total of 9 absences since 12/01/2021
  - Opening Statement (5 minutes)
    - Senator Guillamont: For those of you who don't know me, I am still a senator. I was elected to my position a year ago. Last semester I Vice Chaired this committee and I was a lot more active. I had recently asked Pro Tempore Neimeith for a leave of absence that never really got processed. I thought I would just come to this hearing and let you guys know I had to focus on my mental health.
  - Questioning
    - Senator Wang: Point of clarification, only rules have the power to grant leaves of absences.
    - Senator Tucker: When was the last time you spoke to Pro Tempore Neimeith about a leave of absence?
    - Senator Guillamont: In the beginning of the semester
    - Senator Little: Did you attend your Rules hearing?
    - Senator Guillamont: no i did not
    - Senator Wang: Was there a reason?
    - Senator Guillamont: I'm not sure of the exact reason but I know I had something
    - Senator Little: Do you plan to attend future senate meetings?
    - Senator Guillamont: No i do not
    - Chair Myers: Did you plan to get unsuspended tonight so that you could be granted a leave of absence at a future date?
    - Senator Wang: Did you communicate to chair Myers?
    - Senator Guillamont: no.



- **RESULT: Senator Thau is forwarded to the Senate for impeachment.**
- **Impeachment Hearing: Senator Reeves (Criminology and Criminal Justice Seat 2)**
  - Total of 9.5 unexcused absences since 12/01/2021
  - Opening Statement (5 minutes)
    - NOT PRESENT
  - Questioning
    - NOT PRESENT
    - \_\_\_\_\_ moves to enter round-table discussion; \_\_\_\_\_ seconds
  - Round-Table Discussion
    - Senator Little; this one makes me sad. Senator Reeves came into the judiciary committee as a new senator and he did seem to have a lot of passion for it. However he started to not show up for whatever the reason may be. The track record shows the lack of commitment.
    - Senator Noel: I agree with the previous senator, and he is in a fraternity and they just dropped \_\_\_\_\_ and he may just be busy
    - Senator Tucker: I agree with everything, as a person in the college of criminology we need to represent and I will be voting yes.
    - Senator Little; Hopefully someone from senator leadership can reach out to him and let him know he can resign.
    - **Senator Little moves to call the question; Vice Chair Beall seconds**
  - Closing
    - NOT PRESENT
  - Vote: Yes to approve the charge of impeachment; No to not
    - Yes: [ 5 ] VC Beall, Senator(s) Wang, Little, Tucker, Noel
    - No: 0
    - Abstain: 0
  - **RESULT: Senator Reeves is forwarded to the Senate for impeachment.**
- **Legislative Round Table**
  - Discussion
    - Chair Myers: So Senator Diaz came to me with this. Basically in statutes, the judiciary is given the power with an SGA advisor to make minor changes in statutes like grammar and spelling. From my understanding, there is a consent resolution that would outline all of these statute changes that the judiciary has agreed upon to be shown to the next senate. I think he misunderstood
    - Senator Little: I'm not sure what to explain. The statute on the ability for us to do this if poorly written. Essentially we would be secretly changing things? I'm confused
    - Senator Wang: Yes, Cami texted earlier, we were all confused. To my understanding the Judiciary committee has the ability to do this. All of the changes will be notified to the next senate via a consent resolution. My issue with this is there's no record of it on paper because we don't have access to the document.
    - Chair Myers: I agree, I understood but I don't know the procedure. I'll probably still have Senator Diaz attempt to pass a bill casud apparently it's pretty simple and should be passed.

- Senator Little: from my understanding, it takes a long time for statues to update with all the bills we have passed and everything. My issue with this is is it ethical to exercise this power without telling anyone else.
- Senator Wang: it does say that statues were updated in January, Maybe we can work on outline and refining this process
- Senator Little: I would like to contact Jaclyn and other advisors so that we don't run into trouble and just get some guidance.
- Senator wang: we could also ask parliamentarian Rowan
- Chair Myers: We could bring this up at a later meeting and this is important to follow up on and create a bill on. I'll definitely ask the advisors and see if they can tolerate it.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Impeachment Hearing: Senator Kaminsky (Undergraduate Studies Seat 15)- Tabled

**Closing Announcements:**

- Chair Myers: Thank you for an awesome meeting! I think this meeting also highlighted some loopholes or vague statutes that would be good to write legislation on so I would like to do legislative round table again next week to discuss some of those.
- Vice Chair: None

**Next Meeting:** March 29th at 7:00pm. Zoom <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/93863796079>

**Adjourned:** 8:35 PM

*Camila Myers*

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**Signature of Chair**