



**75th Student Senate
Finance Committee
February 28 at 6:15 PM
On Zoom**

Call to Order: 6:15 PM

Members Present: Chair Pedraja, Vice-Chair White, Senators Seeger, Patel- Qadir, Anandjwala, Senator Shasho, Patel Rivera, and King

Members Tardy: Senator Jones

Members Absent:

Guests: Chair Wyatt, Rawan Abhari, Senator Dale

Land Acknowledgement: 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:

- Chair Pedraja
- Vice-Chair White: Thank you Senator Dale for coming

Committee Business:

Old Business:

- **Bill #20 Sponsored by Senator Dale and Co-Sponsored by Folwell, Salazar, Jones, Bettley, Chehaitli, Humberg**

- Opening Statement:
 - Senator Dale: So this bill was brought to me by a member of PIRG students, and the sustainability ad HOC and I really liked the idea. The statue number 802.9 was written by our former Senate president Abril Hunter. That bill prevented disposable plastic water bottles from being bought with A&S fees, and this bill would do that for plastic straws. This would be a good step for sustainability that would not affect clubs in a negative way. This is just going to set some more guidelines about how RSOs can be more sustainable. I am open to Amendments and would love to work with all of you.
- General Non-Debatable Questioning:
 - Senator Seager: Do we have a lot of RSOs that request plastic straws or is this done to make sure that they are not used for the future.
 - Senator Dale: I do not believe a lot of A&S fees are used for plastic water bottles, and this is to prevent disposable waste in the future
- **Amendment adopted to make Senator Jones a Primary Sponsor on the Resolution, seconded by Senator Anandijwala**
- **Senator Seager motions to moves to roundtable; Senator Kings**
- Round-Table Discussion:
- **Senator Anandijwala moves to call the question; Senator Seager seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - Senator Dale: I think this a relatively non-controversial bill that shows that Senate is dedicated to sustainability
- Vote:
 - Yes: [9] Senators White, Seager, Anandijwala, King, Shasho, Patel-Qatir, Patel, Rivera, and Jones
 - No [0]
 - Abstain: [0]

New Business:

- **Consent Resolution #16 Line Item #3- Sponsored by Chair Wyatt**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Chair Wyatt: The Arab Student Union came to us to request money to request money for two ramadan dinner. March 29 is their first event and second for April 19. I actually have a representative here if you want to speak to them to answer questions. The first event on March 29 was not funded because the Muslim student is having a very similar event on March 28 that was already approved by the Senate. Senate funds are running a little low, so we decided it would probably be more beneficial for the student body if these two unions decided to work together on these events to celebrate Ramadan. We did want to give Arab Student Union funds for their own event. We gave them \$3,016 in the category of food. They are receiving food from Sixty Four Tally which is a new business within the Tallahassee community. They are serving diverse food items, desert, and cutlery. Looks like a great event.
 - General Non-Debatable Questioning:
 - Senator Seager: I motion to let a non-senator to speak, Rawan Abhari
 - Seconded by Senator King
 - Senator Seager: Has the Muslim Student Union been responsive in working with them, and what was there reaction

- Non-Senator Rawan Abhari: We messaged them last night and today, but as an organization we have not been able to get as close due to the divide in our constituents. We have both Muslim and Christians involved so we represent different cultures. The Muslim Student Union believes that they finished a lot of the work and do not see the need, but we offered to be helping hands. I understand where they are coming on because I can see them not being happy about another organization getting credit for their work. I tried to empathize with the opposition, but that was basically their response. So I was here today to if there's any one last push to fund, to add the amount that we requested yesterday but with full awareness of the small amount that is left in the Pac budget to see because you know, if there is three Ramadan events have been on campus, I promise you that would not be money wasted, but I know what the context of making the decision, but I hope that answered your question. Thank you
- **Vice-Chair White motions to moves to roundtable; Senator Ananjwila seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Seager: Is the Arab Union only asking for \$3,016, or are they asking for more?
 - Chair Wyatt: Yeah, um so the original request from the Arab Union was for \$4,262.21. So the amount of \$1,525.68 was cut because that was the amount that they were requesting for their first event that we decided to not fund. So the \$3,016 that you guys see right there is the amount that obviously that PAC had approved and that would be for their event on the 19th. And they came in asking me to have two separate events. One on the 29th of March for the \$1,525 amount that we ended up cutting and one on April 19 for the \$3,016 amount that we announced.
 - Senator Seager: Would the Sponsor find it friendly to add the first event back to the resolution?
 - Chair Wyatt: So I believe that the decision of the committee should probably stay on just because of the limited resources that are left in the program allocations committee budget, um, unfortunately even if the line item passes as it does if the consent resolution passes, it does today, we'll only have \$6,000 left around that amount for the rest of the semester. So while I think that the vendors are trying to put on would be awesome, and I don't think that it would be wasted funds. I still just think that the nature of the event lines up very similarly to an event that is happening only the previous day before. So even if the student union wasn't able to partner in the event that the Muslim Student Union has going on, there are still opportunities for them both to be able to celebrate Ramadan, and the Muslim Student Union event is open to everyone. So again, going through senate and PAC we were going through saying we have to make sure that the entire student body can attend the event. So because the nature of them being so similar, I just think that the stance of the programming allocations committee should remain.
- **Vice- Chair White moves to call the question; Senator Seager seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - Chair Wyatt: Thank you guys very much. I think that this is gonna be an awesome event, the venue that they showed for the 19th of April does look incredible. I'm so glad that the pack was still able to fund this event.

Again, we're just really trying to make sure that we're funding a variety of different things on campus with a limited budget that we have left, but I really think the FCC is gonna do a great job putting on this event called the

- Vote:
 - Yes: [9] Senators White, Seager, Anandijwala, King, Patel, Shasho, Patel- Qatar, Rivera, and Jones
 - No [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: Consent Resolution #16 Line Item #3 Passes**
- **Consent Resolution #16 - Sponsored by Chair Wyatt**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Chair Wyatt: Yeah, so the first line item for the look at yoga club at FSU. They are trying to put on multiple, multiple different courses throughout the remainder of the semester. And we're going to be hiring instructors to come and teach courses. And they're also buying yoga mats for students that don't have them and just like to be used in the club, obviously not for things to keep but to use when they do provide these instructions. They have great attendance for all the different pens that they've had. And they just really want to continue to fund and give students a good outlet for exercise and to help relax. The Society of Women Engineers is putting on their annual banquet on the fourth of April from six to 9pm Township. They're requesting \$1,535.35 in the category of food, and we did end up also cutting this line item because we believed that they could possibly use some of the funds that they have themselves to pay for the remaining expenses and fees that the township was charging. Again, unfortunately, our budget is just really limited so we need to make sure that we're allocating it correctly. The Society of Women Engineers explained to us that they do have some money to be able to cover part of the event. And that whatever Packwood funds, they will be able to cover it. We just eat into what they would be able to spend on their conference that happens annually in September. So as a committee, we thought it would be best to cut it because they would still have time to fundraise additional funds for that annual conference in September if they didn't raise enough funds for their women to go on that annual conference that they could go to the Arctic committee because the Arctic impact budget will be updated for the next school year. So we wanted to make sure again that we were allocating our funds correctly. And then finally the minorities and public health. They are just asking for 75 T shirts from information to hand out to other general body meetings and Market Wednesday. I'm an Oregon Public Health was started in 2019, with over coded, they kind of dismantled, so they're coming back and really trying to spread awareness for the organization, and they think the teachers will be a really great way to do that without
 - General Non-Debatable Questioning:
 - **Senator Seager motions to moves to roundtable; Vice-Chair White seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:

- Senator Anajiwala: Did they ever complete anything like any fundraising to I guess help with hiring instructors or any pay for some of the organizers they were asking for?
- Chair Wyatt So the yoga club has actually been putting on events like this one throughout the year but just because of the popularity of their events. They have run out of club funds to be able to continue to put on the events. So that's why they're asking for additional funds to help them hire additional yoga instructors. and I think they also are requesting money for the math because again they kind of run out of funds.
- **Senator Anandijwala moves to call the question; Senator King seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - Chair Wyatt: Yield
- Vote:
 - Yes: [9] Senators White, Seager, Anandijwala, Patel-Qatir, Patel, Shasho, King, Rivera, and Jones
 - No [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: Consent Resolution #16 Passes**

Unfinished Business:

- None

Closing Announcements:

- Chair Pedraja: Glad to see everyone, great job, smooth meeting. Thank you all for coming for fall attendance
- Vice-Chair White: Hope you all Liked Otter, will get meetings up shortly
- **Next Meeting: Tuesday March 7, at 6:15 PM**

Adjourned:

Ended at 6:45 PM

Signed,

**Edward Pedraja
Finance Chair**