



## 75<sup>th</sup> Student Senate Internal Affairs Committee

February 6th, 2023, at 5:00pm | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/96176523850>

**Call to Order:** 5:02pm

**Members Present:** Chair McMahon, Vice Chair Crocker, Senators Adonis, LoBianco, Roogow, Vollick

**Members Tardy:**

**Members Absent:** Senators D'lugos (E), Salazar (E), Anderson(U), Birdsong(U)

**Guests:** Candidates Dorman and Peters, Chair Bettley, Senator Chehaitli

### Land Acknowledgement – Chair McMahon

- 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 McMahon:** We have 2 candidates to interview today, Alexis Dorman for Office of Governmental Affairs Assistant Director, and Sidney Peters for Deputy Supervisor of Elections. We will also be hearing Bill 14 and Resolution 11, sponsored by Bettley and Chehaitli. After we have completed this, we will enter roundtable as a committee to discuss the potential changes to the SGA Application. I have been in contact with our advisor, Jaclyn Butts, to set up a meeting where she can give us guidance in this process.

### Committee Business:

1. Alexis Dorman – Office of Governmental Affairs, Assistant Director (1 applicant)
2. Sidney Peters – Deputy Supervisor of Elections (1 applicant)
3. Bill 14 – Sponsored by Bettley (P), Chehaitli (P)
4. Resolution 11 – Sponsored by Bettley (P), Chehaitli (P)
5. Committee Discussion on Potential Changes to the SGA Application

### Old Business:

- None

### New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation:** Alexis Dorman – Office of Governmental Affairs, Assistant Director
  - Opening Statement:
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  - Rounds of Questioning:
    - **Vice Chair Crocker:** What changes, if any, would you like to see take effect in regard to OGA and how it operates?
      - **Candidate Dorman:** I think that making OGA more accessible to the student body is really important. OGA represents not only student government participants, but also the entire student body. It is important that they know what OGA does and how it works to lobby for the student body.
  - Deliberations:
    - **Vice Chair Crocker:** I am in full support of this candidate. They clearly have the prior experience needed for this role, and I am confident that they will work to see that the goals they have come to fruition.
  - **Vice Chair Crocker moves to call the question; Senator Roogow seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    -
  - Vote:
    - Yes: 5 - Vice Chair Crocker, Senators Adonis, LoBianco, Roogow, Vollick
    - No: 0 -
    - Abstain: 0 -
  - **RESULT: Candidate ALEXIS DORMAN PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation:** Sidney Peters – Deputy Supervisor of Elections
  - Opening Statement:
    - My name is Sidney Peters, and it's my second year at FSU. I'm a political science and sociology double major and I am here to be confirmed for the position of Deputy Supervisor of Elections. Over time, I have developed a distinct interest in voting and a passion for voter education. The work that I've done to ensure that our student body becomes passionate about voting and engaged in local elections is part of what drew me to this position, and why I believe that I am the best candidate for the election's office. In my time at FSU, I've worked as an intern with our Public Interest Research Group, or PIRG, on the New Voters Project Campaign leading up to midterm elections. Through PIRG and partnerships with the Tallahassee League of Women Voters, of which I am also a member of, I was trained to facilitate paper voter registrations and help students around campus register and find out when and where they could vote. My approach to volunteering has always been and always will be nonpartisan, so I am prepared to maintain neutrality and professionalism within the election's office. The work I did with PIRG also led me to the SGA Elections Office, where I was selected as an Elections Assistant for last Fall's election. In my experience as Assistant, I got an opportunity to see what the work in the Elections Office is really like, and that's why I'm

back in front of you all today seeking this position. And in terms of logistics, I am already very familiar with the Elections Code and operations of the office, as I have already studied and passed the exam once before. For all of these reasons, I believe am I qualified to serve as Deputy Supervisor of Elections and look forward to your questions."

- Rounds of Questioning:
    - **Vice Chair Crocker:** What changes, if any, would you like to see take place in regard to the student elections held on campus?
      - **Candidate Peters:** I honestly can't say that I have an answer to that question at the moment. I do not want to say what changes I think should be made before I have a chance to be engaged and witness a complete election cycle first so that I can form a proper conclusion.
  - Deliberations:
    - **Vice Chair Crocker:** This candidate has my full support. They were asked a question that they acknowledged they did not have an answer too, yet. I think it's really important for candidates of this position to acknowledge that they do not have the answer to everything, as there is so much to learn should they acquire this position, which this candidate demonstrated.
  - **Vice Chair Crocker moves to call the question; Senator Vollick seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    - Thank you all so much for your time and questions, it was a pleasure to meet with you and I hope we'll be able to work together going forward.
  - Vote:
    - Yes: 5 – Vice Chair Crocker, Senators Adonis, LoBianco, Roogow, Vollick
    - No: 0 -
    - Abstain: 0 -
  - **RESULT: Candidate SIDNEY PETERS PASSES**
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- **Bill #14 – Sponsored by Bettley and Chehaitli (P)**
    - Opening Statement:
      -
    - Rounds of Questioning:
    - Deliberations:
      -
    - **Vice Chair Crocker moves to call the question; Senator LoBianco seconds**
    - Closing Statement:
      -
    - Vote:
      - Yes: 5 - Vice Chair Crocker, Senators Adonis, LoBianco, Roogow, Vollick
      - No: 0 -
      - Abstain: 0 -
    - **RESULT: BILL #14 PASSES**
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- **Resolution 11 – Sponsored by Bettley and Chehaitli (P)**
    - Opening Statement:
      -

- Rounds of Questioning:
  - None
- Deliberations:
  - None
- **Vice Chair Crocker moves to call the question; Senator Roogow seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  -
- Vote:
  - Yes: 5 - Vice Chair Crocker, Senators Adonis, LoBianco, Roogow, Vollick
  - No: 0 -
  - Abstain: 0 -
- **RESULT: RESOLUTON 11 PASSES**
- **Discussion Pertaining to Changes to the SGA Application**
  - *The Internal Affairs committee met during the 74<sup>th</sup> Senate with the Attorney General, Chief of Staff, SGA Director of Student Affairs, and the Student Senate Program Assistant to hold a discussion about changes to the application, in compliance with Student Body Statute 307.3(C).*
  - Roundtable Discussion:
- **Chair McMahon:** Alright so the purpose of this discussion is really to have a discussion about changes to the application and to update those who weren't here during the 74<sup>th</sup> Senate for these discussions. President Diaz was able to send me the changes we decided upon, as well as the resolution for the proposed changes. However, we can't submit this resolution until we have a conversation and meeting with Jaclyn. But what do you guys think about some of the changes on this list?
- **Senator Roogow:** I think the changes make a lot of sense, I just think it is important to remember that with this we want to rely more on the interview rather than the application itself and so it is important that we're all participating and asking these important questions.
- **Vice Chair Crocker:** Yeah just echoing the sentiments of Senator Roogow, it is important that with these changes we all participate to show that we value the candidates time and are appreciative of them for coming to these interviews. Sometimes I ask some unnecessary questions but that is only because no one else here will ask questions and so I just don't want these candidates to have no questions.
- **Chair McMahon:** Very well said, I know today was a little different but I know myself and Vice Chair Crocker appreciate when you guys have your cameras on and are participating.

**Unfinished Business:**

- None

**Closing Announcements:**

- **Chair McMahon:** I don't really have much, we will have to pick a new meeting time for next week just because of the Senate Workshop that is at 5 but I will went something in the groupme about it.

**Next Meeting: Monday February 13, time TBD**

**Adjourned: 5:47pm**

*Jack McMahon*

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**Signature of Chair Jack McMahon**