



75th Student Senate Internal Affairs Committee

March 20th, 2023, at 5:00pm | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94273602691>

Call to Order: 5:02 pm

Members Present: Chair McMahon, Vice Chair Crocker, Senators Anderson, Birdsong, Lewis, LoBianco, Roogow

Members Tardy: Senator Salazar

Members Absent: Adonis, Allgoever, Dlugos, Fineout, Vollick

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:

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Committee Business:

1. Bryan Gonzalez – Mental Health Council, Assistant Director (1 Applicant)

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation:** Bryan Gonzalez – Mental Health Council, Assistant Director
 - Opening Statement:
 - Hello senators, my name is Bryan Gonzalez. I am a 4th year political science and international affairs major at FSU. I am applying for Mental Health Council Assistant Director. I personally believe in the potential and mission of this bureau, that's why I applied. I would be a strong candidate

to help the council gain some traction. The past semester, it's been a little rocky for the council. Mental health is very stigmatized and a touchy subject in college. With the right programming a leadership and things in place, I think it can do great things on campus. Throughout my time here, I have been very involved on campus. From being president of the Hip Hop club and Audio Production, being a writer for the FSU, as well as being involved in various SGA election campaigns, I've had my fair share of experience in leadership roles. I know what to expect, how to work with others, and I feel like given this role, I will be able to help the Mental Health Council put on good programming and have a real impact on our campus.

○ Rounds of Questioning:

- **Vice Chair Crocker:** You mentioned wanting to help the Mental Health Council put on better programming, do you mind going a little deeper into that?
 - **Candidate Gonzalez:** I've had experience programming events during my time at FSU, with the organizations that I've been a part of. Obviously, I know that an SGA bureau is different than an RSO, but just having events present and having that physical presence on campus really matters for students because not a lot of students know about SGA or the Mental Health Council. Just having stuff that is interactive and out there I think is really important. Whether it is just being on Landis, being present with more stuff to help calm anxiety, I know that is something that has been done in the past by all of the organizations. Stuff like that and also working together with other organizations and a wide array of organizations is what I was going with as far as the programming aspect.
- **Vice Chair Crocker:** Aside for programming, do you have any specific goals that you would like to see come to fruition on Landis that you would like to see happen?
 - **Candidate Gonzalez:** I kind of referenced it earlier, just working with other organizations because I feel like building those bonds and connections with other organizations and obviously the members, I think is super important because student organizations can obviously relate to mental health. Being there as a resource for a multitude of organizations is definitely a goal of mine.
- **Senator Birdsong:** I'm curious what your view of your role entails. How do you identify what your role will be as Assistant Director and what will you do to satisfy those roles as far as time management goes and organization?
 - **Candidate Gonzalez:** Being Assistant Director is obviously a big role, being right up there with Director in terms of making sure everything runs smoothly and runs efficiently. Obviously, I'll be there as a guide as an assistant to the director. In terms of like executing everything and also like making sure the whole executive board is in line because that's another thing, not just the actual events, the actual things you do, but also just making sure we're cohesive as a unit and that's something that definitely takes time to get and manage. So, I would say that for Assistant Director, it's not really a specific role in

that there is going to be different things thrown a mile away that I will have to face and deal with. In terms of time management, I think I've been pretty good with that during my time here, especially managing different leadership roles during my time, allocating time to focus on one task at a time. I think it is important. I guess summarizing, I know this is a little bit of a ramble, the Assistant Director is not a very specific role, and you are tasked with a lot. But obviously, I feel that making sure the executive board as a whole is on the same page and everyone knows their role as well as just being there as like a right-hand person to be there for the Director is what I think my role will entail.

- **Chair McMahon:** You talked a lot about your previous experience in other organizations, can you touch on how that will assist you to be Assistant Director and in the case of the Director not being able to fulfill their duties, the director of the council?
 - **Candidate Gonzalez:** As I said earlier, I've been President of the Hip Hop Club and the Audio Production Club, in the case of the Hip Hop Club last year, president was my role last year, we had to really rebuild from scratch. It was a defunct RSO. We had no members going into that previous school year, so it was definitely a challenge getting off the ground again. Through connections that I already had made previously, and through working with other organizations, being out on Market Wednesday, just getting that presence back, thankfully we were able to have some of that recruitment to the Executive Board and actually have a little bit of community by the end of the school year. I'd say for me, that was definitely an eye-opening and impactful experience. Like I said earlier, I know an RSO is not the same as an SGA bureau. Helping something get off the ground again will definitely help me in this role. Being Assistant Director and being that second person will really build my experience.
- Deliberations:
 - **Senator LoBianco:** I have previously worked with Bryan on a number of projects and one thing I can definitely say is I think he is extremely well-prepared for this role. He is diligent, he knows how to manage his time, and he also has a lot of experience in various number of avenues, which I think will definitely equip him to become Assistant Director because it is a very diverse role as you're handling a lot of different things so I think everything he has worked on in the past years has really just equipped him for this role. I really hope he passes I think he is very well-prepared.
 - **Senator Salazar:** So, I've met Bryan and I've talked to him before, and I've worked with him in an organization setting type-thing. He's a great guy and has a lot to bring to the table. He has a lot of potential and he really knows what he's doing. I think he would be a great fit for this position and he has my full support.
- **Senator Birdsong moves to call the question; Senator Anderson seconds**
- Closing Statement:

- Just real quick, I want to thank all of you guys for your time. I'm really excited to hopefully have this position. Mental Health Council is a bureau that I feel has a lot of potential that sadly through circumstances not really had a chance to succeed and have a place on this campus, and so I think that with my previous experiences all throughout campus, through a multitude of different communities, I feel like I would be a strong candidate for this role and look forward to hopefully executing this role if it goes through.
- Vote:
 - Yes: 7 - Vice Chair Crocker, Senators Anderson, Birdsong, Lewis, LoBianco, Roogow, Salazar
 - No: 0 -
 - Abstain: 0 -
- **RESULT: Candidate BRYAN GONZALEZ PASSES**

Unfinished Business:

- None

Closing Announcements:

- None

Next Meeting:

Adjourned: 5:18 pm



Signature of Chair Jack McMahon