



75th Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
April 17th, at 5:30 pm | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/4349728982>

Call to Order: 5:30 pm

Members Present: Chair Salazar, Vice-Chair LoBianco, Senators Brown, Gandolfo, Lento, Windlan, Faletti, Gomez, Fineout, Nguyen

Members Tardy:

Members Absent: Senators Birdsong (U), Dlugos (E), Lewis (U)

Guests: Samuel Cook, Senator Dale

Land Acknowledgement – Chair Salazar

- 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 Salazar:** Welcome to our first IA meeting! I'm excited to get to work with you all and to hopefully see some engagement even if it's our first meeting.

Committee Business:

- Samuel Cook – Medical Response Unit, Executive Director (1 applicant)
- Bill #52- Sponsored by Dale (P), Faletti (P)

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Samuel Cook, Medical Response Unit, Executive Director]**
 - Opening Statement:
 - **Samuel Cook:** Hello everyone, my name is Samuel Cook and I am grateful to be here presenting in front of you all, I have spent two years working in or around the Medical Response Unit here on campus, I believe that my years of being a TA for the Medical Responder class here at FSU gives me good knowledge of this role, having worked in an ambulance responding to calls and emergencies and having to take the lead on many calls in which lives were in jeopardy help make me a strong candidate for this position. I have been endorsed by the leadership of the Medical Response Unit for this role and I am hopeful that with their endorsement and my previous experience working in this field I am appointed to be the next Executive Director of the Medical Response Unit.
 - Rounds of Questioning:
 - **Vice Chair LoBianco:** I was looking over your application and saw you stated you wanted to increase the presence/outreach of MSU to the student body, how do you plan to do so?
 - **Samuel Cook:** I actually have several plans in place to do so, one of which I just met with the current leadership of the MRU to discuss earlier today.
 - **Senator Fineout:** What previous leadership positions do you have that will equip you in this role?
 - **Samuel Cook:** I do not have many but I have a high amount of experience in MRU and was elected for this position by the current MRU E-Board.
 - **Senator Lento moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gomez seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Vice Chair LoBianco:** I wanted to express my support for the candidate as he is obviously very qualified due to his previous intense involvement in MRU. Furthermore, I appreciate his honesty when asked if he has had previous leadership positions before.
 - **Senator Gomez:** After hearing what this candidate has to say, I strongly support them and believe they are a great candidate for this position.
 - **Senator Lento moves to forward the candidate; Senator Nguyen seconds**
 - Closing Statement:
 - **Samuel Cook:** As Executive Director elect, I was elected for this position by MRU. However, I would like to continue to uphold our professional image and respect from the campus community, as well as continuing in the direction of growth in regards to outreach projects, as there is a ton of room for it. I have the experience, the insight, and the time to make MRU my priority.
 - Vote:
 - Yes: 8- Vice Chair LoBianco, Senators Brown, Faletti, Fineout, Gandolfo, Gomez, Lento, Nguyen, Windlan
 - No: 0-
 - Abstain: 0-
 - **RESULT: CANDIDATE SAMUEL COOK PASSES**

- **Bill #52 - Sponsored by Senators Dale (P), Faletti (P)**
 - Opening Statement:
 - **Dale:** This bill will remove secretaries from agencies and bureaus from major office, as they hold lower responsibilities within an organization as well as not having a large time commitment compared to other positions. It doesn't make sense that these positions aren't able to get more involved as positions that has equal or if not more time commitments are able to get more involved, so we are just trying to fix that. I also realized I made a mistake on the document which I have already discussed with Senator Lento to amend. I will now pass it off to Sean as he has been a secretary in a bureau and why he supports this.
 - **Faletti:** Thank you Carson. For those that don't know I have spent the last year serving on the ASU executive board as their outreach coordinator, and I can safely say I would not be where I am today with you guys if it were not for my passion for that agency . As I have also served on other executive boards such as the SASA , some problems I've seen within these secretary positions is that we have ambitious individuals who want to represent their organizations but cannot do so as Secretary as it does not hold much responsibility. I have spoken to the AASU Secretary who is in favor of this possible amendment. I am very grateful for the opportunities my position has granted me and would love to see Secretary's get that same opportunity.
 - Round of Questioning:
 - **Senator Lento:** I move to amend. Strike out the word secretaries on line C7 and then remove the strike out on A4, which was clarified by the sponsor. **Seconded by Senator Fineout.**
 - **Senator Windlan:** Besides the secretary at AASU, have you spoken to any other secretaries that this would impact?
 - **Faletti:** We have not yet had the opportunity to speak to other agency secretaries but we have spoken to many RSO secretaries, many if not have the same responsibilities, and they are in favor.
 - **Senator Lento moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gomez seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - None.
 - **Senator Lento moves to call the question; Windlan seconds**
 - Closing Statement:
 - **Dale:** I wanted to thank you guys for the opportunity to present this legislation, I think this will be a good move to get students more involved in more than one space in SGA, while also bringing representation from areas that need representation.
 - **Faletti:** I would like to second what Dale said and bring up two reasons why secretaries should be in office. 1) There is no conflict of interest given the roles of a Secretary 2) Secretaries do not have high time conflicts. Thank you all for your time.
 - Vote:
 - Yes: : 8- Vice Chair LoBianco, Senators Brown, Faletti, Fineout, Gandolfo, Gomez, Lento, Nguyen, Windlan

- No: 0-
- Abstain: 0-
- **RESULT: BILL #52 PASSES AMENDED**

Unfinished Business:

- None.

Closing Announcements:

- **Chair Salazar:** President Diaz called me earlier in regards to some legislation Senator White, Chair of the Finance Committee is proposing, in which the finance committee will interview all of the candidates for the treasurer and finance positions, as Internal Affairs is busy in the fall. Do you guys have any questions/support it?
- **Vice-Chair LoBianco:** I don't know how I feel about that, as in IA, our main duty is to interview/ pass candidates for confirmation. In the fall there were some meeting where we would only have three people and that's it. Overall, I want to keep some purpose to IA.
- **Senator Gomez:** So this would take out finance nominees from IA?
- **Chair Salazar:** Yes, it would help take some stress off of IA as in the fall it gets very busy.
- **Senator Lento:** You said treasurer and "stuff like that", would it only be treasurer or what does that mean exactly?
- **Chair Salazar:** The exact wording is "Forward or deny all agency, bureau, and affiliated project nominees for financial officers".

Next Meeting: April 24th, at 5:30 pm

Adjourned: 5:55 pm

Signature of Chair:

Benjamin Salazar