



75th Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
April 24th , at 5:30 pm | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/4349728982>

Call to Order: 5:32 pm

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

Members Tardy:

Members Absent: Birdsong (U), Fineout (E)

Guests: Jackson Boisvert, Carson Dale, Sarah Nemeth, Kyle Casiple, Nicole Alvarado, Maximo Valdes

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:

- None

Committee Business:

- Jackson Boisvert – Executive Branch, Attorney General (4 Applicants)
- Carson Dale – Executive Branch, Deputy Treasurer (5 Applicants)
- Sarah Nemeth – Executive Branch, Policy Director (4 Applicants)
- Sean Faletti – Asian American Student Union, Director (1 Applicant)
- Kyle Casiple – Asian American Student Union, Assistant Director (2 Applicants)
- Nicole Alvarado – Hispanic Latinx Student Union, Director (4 Applicants)
- Maximo Valdes – Hispanic Latinx Student Union, Assistant Director (1 Applicant)
- Jennifer Light – Mental Health Council, Director of Finance (2 Applicants)

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Jackson Boisvert, Executive Branch – Attorney General]**

- Opening Statement:

- **Jackson Boisvert:** Good evening Internal Affairs, my name is Jackson Boisvert. As you may have seen in my application and resume I have a strong leadership background on campus and a firm commitment to upholding the values of fairness, justice, and integrity within our FSU community. From my experience as the Executive Vice-President in IFC as well as my experience from the 74th and 75th judiciary committee, I am well prepared for the role of attorney general. My time in Senate was also spent as the Vice-Chair of PAC, and last summer I was called upon to revamp FSU Panama City's election code. This experience has shown my dedication to a more transparent and efficient government, as well as my deeper understanding of FSU statutes. As FSU's Attorney General, I plan to promote transparency and fairness by working closely with the Judiciary Committee, the Executive Branch, the Department of Student Conduct, and other stakeholders to ensure that our policies and procedures are clear, consistent, and applied fairly across our university community. This includes advocating for more transparent meeting minutes across our committees, and additionally I will work to help streamline legal processes in both SGA and the university's legal framework. I aim to identify areas where unnecessary bureaucracy can be reduced in our statutes and processes can be made more efficient. This will allow for a more effective resolution of legal matters and a much more agile legal system. Furthermore I am to serve as a trusted resource and advisor on legal and statutory proceedings in the legislative and executive branches of student government. This includes defending potential impeachment hearings, and ensuring the processes adhere to the principles of fairness, and due process. Lastly, I plan to work closely with the university defender to increase the visibility and effectiveness of that position. I am confident that my experience, dedication, and passion for justice will serve the FSU community well in the role of Attorney General. Thank you for your time and consideration.

- Round of Questioning:

- None

- **Senator Lento moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gandolfo seconds**

- Round-Table Discussion:

- **Senator Lento:** I don't know the candidate personally but I know from his previous leadership experience and mutual friends that he is very dedicated and is a very good candidate for this role because of his resume and past experiences, but yeah I am totally in support of his confirmation.
- **Senator LoBianco:** I would also like to speak in pro of this candidate. I have served with the nominee in the 75th senate for a few months now, and one thing I can definitely say he will follow up on his goal for transparency and fairness. I feel like anytime he spoke in senate, it was

really coming from a completely non biased and factual perspective- only wanting what is right, so I will say I am definitely in support because of that.

- **Senator Lento moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gomez seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: [10] Vice-Chair LoBianco, Senators Browne, Dlugos, Faletti, Gandolfo, Gomez, Lento, Lewis, Nguyen, Windlan
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE JACKSON BOISVERT PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Carson Dale, Executive Branch – Deputy Treasurer]**
 - Opening Statement:
 - **Carson Dale:** Hello senators, I got to meet almost all of you last week when I presented to IA, but if you don't know me my name is Carson Dale and I'm honored to be considered for the position of student body deputy treasurer. I've served in senate on the budget committee in the 74th and 75th senate and during this time I've been able to assist in the annual budget week working to allocate \$14.6 million that we had to allocate to different RSOs and budgeting entities around campus. Through budget week, committee meetings, and senate as a whole I've gotten to see first-hand the process of A and S allocation, reviews, and changes all of which have given me insight on the process and what difficulties face leaders who requested them. More than anything I've come to realize that there's a lot of power in the hands of the student government. We have an enormous amount of funding that allows us to let student life on this campus thrive. Through the role of deputy treasurer I hope to help the student body treasurer assist our organization in getting the funding they need, reviewing the spending of organizations through a much needed budget audit over the summer and generally take the weight off the shoulders of the treasurer to allow him to focus on the big picture items for our student body in addition to the doing these time saving tasks that will be delegated to me I will bring to the table several passion projects. These would include a host of financially related events and objectives like an alumni appreciation task force of financial literacy incentives through SGA, the creation of the student government green fun, weekly campus entrepreneurship spotlights, and partnering with the mental health council to host some SGA mental health awareness week every year. My promise is that if I were granted this position, I would ethically grow as a leader and bring a new precedent to what can be accomplished with this role that only has a one sentence description in the statutes.
Thank you.
 - Round of Questioning:
 - None
 - **Senator Lento moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Nguyen seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Senator Faletti:** I would just like to take a moment to speak in favor of this candidate. I've had the pleasure of knowing his candidate and seeing them grow over the past year and I am proud of them and their hard work on both a personal and professional level. I have seen this candidate put their all into everything that they do and I can safely say that they will

bring their relevant experience and unique perspective to the table when trying to find solutions that better serve the student body.

- **Senator Lento:** I also have the pleasure of knowing this candidate and they are one of the most empathetic leaders I have ever met, he is always fighting for other people and for the betterment of the university. His plans are fantastic, reading his application I am in full support of this candidate, he definitely deserves it.
- **Senator Lewis:** I would like to speak in favor of this candidate. Seeing him in senate recently, I think he's just done a great job at asking questions when we are looking at different types of legislation especially when it comes to budgets and giving out money and things like that. His application speaks for itself he has some really great ideas and I think he will continue to expand his knowledge and do a great job in this position, so I am pro of this candidate.

○ **Senator Lento moves to forward the candidate; Senator Browne seconds**

○ Vote:

■ Yes: [10] Vice-Chair LoBianco, Senators Browne, Dlugos, Faletti, Gandolfo, Gomez, Lento, Lewis, Nguyen, Windlan

■ No: 0

■ Abstain: 0

○ **RESULT: CANDIDATE CARSON DALE PASSES**

● **Candidate for Confirmation: [Sarah Nemeth, Executive Branch – Policy Director]**

○ Opening Statement:

■ **Sarah Nemeth:** Hi everyone! My name is Sarah Nemeth, I am a 3rd year at FSU pursuing a dual degree in International Affairs and Economics, with a minor in Social Welfare. First for my qualifications, I have extensive experience in student government where I served as an undergraduate seat in Fall of 2020, then served a 2nd term as a Social Work seat where I also became the Pro-Tempore of the 74th Student Senate, which was the most transformative leadership experience of my undergraduate career. Taking this semester off has made me realize how much I miss this space, and I truly think my past experience can benefit both the legislative and executive branch in my role as Policy Director. For background information as this position is newer, the Policy Director will work directly with the Attorney General and Jack to carry out his passion projects, in which there will also be 3 policy directors, I am just the first one to be forwarded so far. I feel I am fit for this position because I already work very well with Jack, we have a lot of the same goals and work in spaces well, so I know it will create a good work environment in which I can get a lot done. I also work well with teams so I am excited to be working with 2 other policy directors. I am very passionate about involvement as I served as the Director of Involvement for my sorority, so some things I want to do to increase involvement will include creating a quiz for students to answer at orientation to match them up with RSO's, a student government Alumni list connecting alumni to current students, and an advancement committee.

○ Round of Questioning:

■ **Senator Lento:** Since this is a new position, do you foresee any problems that may occur?

- **Sarah Nemeth:** I am not really concerned, but more so excited to see how this position will work in Student Government as I feel a

lot of time and detail has been put into making the descriptions of this position.

- **Senator Nguyen moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Windlan seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Senator Lewis:** I am in pro of this candidate as I think she will do great things, and her experience speaks for itself.
 - **Senator Lento:** I don't know this candidate personally but have only heard great things about her through Senate. I also feel her diverse background of experience and already existing relationship with the people she will be working with will serve her well.
 - **Senator Gandolfo:** I am also in pro, she has a good background and I have seen her pursue many projects outside of student government.
- **Senator Lento moves to forward the candidate; Senator Windlan seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: [10] Vice-Chair LoBianco, Senators Browne, Dlugos, Faletti, Gandolfo, Gomez, Lento, Lewis, Nguyen, Windlan
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE SARAH NEMETH PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Kyle Casiple, Asian American Student Union- Assistant Director]**
 - Opening Statement:
 - **Kyle Casiple:** Hi IA, my name is Kyle Casiple and I previously served in the 74th Student Senate and was the AASU Liason. A little bit about my self, I grew up as a Filipino-American not feeling very connected to my culture, the language, or celebrations, however I can say coming to FSU it felt like none of that mattered, as I found that place that accepted me, despite having that much knowledge. Therefore, I want to become Assistant Director to give back to a community that has given me so much already. I believe this starts with our affiliates, as this is where a lot of our retention comes from in regards to big programming or small day to day conversations. I want to continue to help affiliates through providing resources such as RTAC, PAC, etc, as these are things that can really grow an affiliate. In addition, I hope to educate the public on Asian American topics. AASU has really changed my life, as this is where I got my first intern-ship, became President of one of our affiliates, met the people that led me to the 74th Senate, and met life-long friends. Thank you.
 - Round of Questioning:
 - **Senator Lento:** Can you talk more about your affiliate work?
 - **Kyle Casiple:** Yes, I served as the President of the Filipino Student Association in which we advocated for education on topics, hosted banquets, and also worked externally with many various communities and student organizations. With this experience I learned how to work on a team and I am very proud of what I've done.
 - **Chair Salazar:** In what ways do you plan on communicating with your Senate Liaison effectively?

environment. I also want to bridge the gap between the Hispanic Latinx community and the Tallahassee community. I am eager to give back to the community that has provided me with so much, thank you.

○ Round of Questioning:

- **Vice Chair LoBianco:** Reading over your application I saw you wanted to bridge the gap between affiliates and communities on campus. Did you have any specific initiatives in mind to complete this role?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** My main goal is to start the initiative of having those conversations with other agencies and affiliates through implementing events or even brain storming ideas. One thing I would like to do is more collaboration with BSU as we both share an affiliate, which I feel is a good representation of those intersecting identities. But yes my main initiative is to begin those conversations to create higher involvement with other agencies in the future.
- **Chair Salazar:** In what ways do you plan on communicating with your Senate Liaison effectively?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** I plan on having meet ups with our Liaison to ensure information from both sides is being communicated and to ensure that our Liaison is actually engaged within HLSU. No matter how minor, I want to ensure we are in current contact.
- **Chair Salazar:** HLSU is one of the largest communities on this campus, how do you plan on running it affectively with cohesiveness amongst affiliates?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** I feel this begins with continuing to give back to the community and always keeping the transparency of our agency, as well as providing a safe space to everyone here on campus, as well as continuing to provide resources to the community.
- **Chair Salazar:** There are two new affiliate organizations within HLSU, how do you plan on creating a smooth transition phase for those affiliates, or do you not see that as your duty?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** Of course I would want to incorporate these new affiliates into the HLSU space, while this duty falls more so under the Assistant Director I still plan on being engaged in making sure these affiliates are accounted for and included in our agency. I plan on doing this by communicating with the President of these affiliates to learn what are their needs and how can I help accommodate those needs.
- **Chair Salazar:** How do you plan on increasing attendance in your President's meetings?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** It is very important for high engagement at these meetings, so a way I feel I can increase engagement is by having incentives for affiliates. Affiliates are what help make this union, so it is very important they show. Some of these incentives could include certain awards, hosting of an event, and more.
- **Chair Salazar:** Do you have any plans for Hispanic Heritage Month?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** Currently I have no official plans, but one of my goals is to start working on a theme with my Assistant Director for HHM. One event I plan on continuing is the "We Need to Talk" event, as this has happened for the past 2 years I have been on

E-Board now. For example, last semester we had a “We Need To Talk” discussing language and identity.

- **Chair Salazar:** Are you familiar with sweepings and how those work?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** I am aware that sweepings consist of leftover money that can be used for entities on campus.
- **Chair Salazar:** Do you have any plans for the rest of the year or are you mainly planning on things for the summer and fall?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** We don't have any more planning as we have gotten through our mass event which was the Gala. My next focus currently is to prepare interviews for our new Executive Board, and I also plan on beginning to plan for HHM.
- **Chair Salazar:** On the topic of executive board, how do you plan on picking and managing your executive board?
 - **Nicole Alvarado:** I plan on working with my Assistant Director to find the people that we are both looking for. Specifically, we want people that have a good work ethic, passion, and experience. Even if people don't have experience, I am always open to teaching people new skills. I also am looking to having one-on-one's with all of the people on E-Board in order to create a cohesiveness.

- **Senator Lento moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gomez seconds**

- Round-Table Discussion:

- **Senator Brown:** I have had the pleasure of knowing this candidate and can confidently say she is passionate and has a lot of experience in managing and delegating big projects. She has shown her dedication through being Program Coordinator, and she is eager to learn.
- **Senator Gomez:** I would like to speak in pro as she is very passionate about HLSU and answered the questions with great responses.
- **Vice Chair LoBianco:** I would also like to speak in pro, with the amount of questions she just got asked and how great she answered them with professionalism and knowledge, I can tell she has a lot of ideas she is eager to implement.

- **Senator Lento moves to forward the candidate; Senator Windlan seconds**

- Vote:

- Yes: [10] Vice-Chair LoBianco, Senators Browne, Dlugos, Faletti, Gandolfo, Gomez, Lento, Lewis, Nguyen, Windlan
- No: 0
- Abstain: 0

- **RESULT: CANDIDATE NICOLE ALVARADO PASSES**

- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Maximo Valdez, Hispanic Latinx Student Union – Assistant Director]**

- Opening Statement:

- **Maximo Valdez:** Hi everyone, my name is Maximo Valdez, I use he/him pronouns and I have the distinct honor of running for the Assistant Director of the Hispanic Latinx Student Union. As a first generation gay, Cuban American from south Florida, I have always embraced my culture. When I came to FSU, I quickly realized HLSU was my home, and was

reminded to continue to embrace my culture, and that no matter where I am, or who I am around, I will always be Latino. As Assistant Director, it would be my main priority to extend the same atmosphere to other students. HLSU taught me that the many spaces on campus can co-exist peacefully and efficiently. HLSU is not only for Spanish speakers but for anyone looking to learn more about the culture as a whole. With the intersectionality of HLSU, I plan to continue to let this atmosphere thrive by promoting programming that is educational and representative. As the previous Programming Coordinator for the agency, I have had plenty of experience that would qualify me to support our future HLSU E-Board. This is not a position I will take lightly, and I truly don't know where I would be without HLSU. I hope to empower other Latinx students, and I yield the rest of my time.

○ Round of Questioning:

■ **Vice Chair LoBianco:** What skills from your past positions will help you in this current position?

- **Maximo Valdez:** The first position I will definitely leverage is being the Professional Development Coordinator for the Cuban American Student Association. This position taught me a lot about the insides of what it means to be an affiliate organization, thus as I am going to be overseeing affiliates as Assistant Director, already knowing how affiliates work and having that unique perspective will serve me well. I also was the Vice-President of another affiliate, which helped me learned the administrative side of things, which will help me with paperwork and such as Assistant Director.

■ **Chair Salazar:** As Assistant Director, how do you plan to incorporate the two new affiliates into HLSU?

- **Maximo Valdez:** I will say I have a unique advantage as I have served as the Vice President of one of these affiliates, which I think will help me introduce the new affiliates to the agency and teach them what it means to be an affiliate It is extremely Important to make them feel welcomed and as important as the older affiliates, and that they will be supported during our President's meetings. Overall, just making sure they get all the resources they need.

■ **Chair Salazar:** Seeing as you're the Vice President of an affiliate and the Assistant Director of HLSU elect, how do you plan on balancing the two?

- **Maximo Valdez:** This was something that has been brought up in the application process and it is genuinely not something I am concerned about as we had many open and honest conversations with my affiliate E-Board, and asked them to let me know if they felt uncomfortable with me executing both positions at once. My E-Board let me know they are comfortable with me still doing both positions, and I would like to make it known that these will be my only two involvements on campus, besides school.

○ **Senator Lento moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gomez seconds**

○ Round-Table Discussion:

■ **Senator Faletti:** I would like to speak in pro as I have worked with this candidate for HLSU's event "Nole for a Day" , and I saw first hand his passion and dedication for HLSU

- **Sean Faletti:** Yes so I want to increase the communication between the Executive Branch and the Senate Liaison and let them know when our E-Board meetings are to give them the opportunity if they would like to hear updates or share updates.
 - **Chair Salazar:** How do you plan on running AASU effectively considering it is an extremely large organization?
 - **Sean Faletti:** To my knowledge previously, the Director is focused on external affairs whereas the Assistant Director was focused on internal affairs, however I feel this may cause miscommunication between the two positions. Thus, I would like to create a blending between the two positions. More so, I would like to go to President's meetings to understand what is going on with our affiliates. I would also like to be involved on the one-on-one's the Assistant Director holds with affiliate Presidents.
 - **Chair Salazar:** How do you plan on picking your E-Board?
 - **Sean Faletti:** In interviews, I will be looking for potential and passion. While I will be looking for talent, I will be additionally looking for motivated individuals who are eager to learn.
 - **Vice Chair LoBianco:** Do you plan on keeping your position as Vice President of SASA and becoming Director of AASU?
 - **Sean Faletti:** I am actually the President elect for SASA now, so something I would want to clarify is that we will be expanding our board for SASA, which will add an internal and external vice president. I will also be creating new positions such as fundraising and chairs such as that. Thus, I have full confidence in managing my time in both leadership opportunities.
- **Senator Lento moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gandolfo seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - **Senator Lento:** I would like to speak in pro as he is super intelligent and very experienced.
 - **Senator Nguyen:** I have seen the candidate work at many events and am amazed by how passionate he is, you can tell through his interview questions he is really looking out for this organization.
 - **Senator Windlan:** I served with Sean in the Presidential Scholars Program and he did a really great job at organizing certain events so I think he is great for the position.
- **Senator Lento moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gomez seconds**
- Vote:
 - Yes: [10] Vice-Chair LoBianco, Senators Browne, Dlugos, Gandolfo, Gomez, Lento, Lewis, Nguyen, Windlan
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE SEAN FALETTI PASSEs**

Unfinished Business:

- None

Closing Announcements:

- None

Next Meeting: TBD

Adjourned: 6:51 p.m

Signature of Chair:

Benjamin Sealayn