



75th Student Senate Rules Committee

Wednesday, 19th April 2023 at 5:30pm | Zoom ID: 937 1197 2014

Call to Order: 5:46 pm

Members Present: Pro-Tempore DuChêne, Representative Velazquez for Chair Alvarez, Chair(s) Salazar, Burton, White, Meunier, Humberg, Seeger

Members Tardy:

Members Absent:

Guests: Connor Brown, Jalisa McEntyre, President Diaz, Joseph Cofer

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 recognize this land remains scarred by the legacies of violence and removal, we recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land, and we 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:

- Pro-Tempore:
 - Welcome to our first Rules meeting under new leadership! Congratulations to you all.
 - Goes over the role of the Rules committee and committee expectations and responsibilities.
- Judiciary: Vice Chair Velazquez
 - Committee will meet tomorrow at 8 pm.

- Internal Affairs: Chair Salazar
 - Committee met Monday at 5:30 pm and passed the candidate for the position of Executive Director of Medical Response Unit and amended and passed Bill 52.
- Budget: Chair Burton
 - Committee will meet tomorrow at 6 pm.
- Finance: Chair White
 - Committee did not meet this week and will meet next Tuesday at 6:15 pm if there is business.
- Student Life: Chair Meunier
 - Committee met at 10 am this morning and passed bill 51, 54, and tabled resolution 38, 42.
- Programming Allocations: Chair Humberg
 - Committee did not meet. Did meet with Student Body Treasurer to discuss budget and proceedings.
- Resource for Travel Allocations: Chair Seeger
 - Committee did not meet. Did meet with Student Body Treasurer to discuss budget and proceedings.
- Members of the Public
 - Announcements: N/A

Committee Business:

- **Confirmations:** None
- **Bills for Consideration:** None
- **Resolutions for Consideration:** None
- **Suspension Hearings:** Connor Brown – College of Arts & Sciences Seat #11, Jalisa McEntyre – College of Social Sciences and Public Policy Seat #5
- **Censure Repercussion Hearings:** None
- **Leave of Absence Requests:** None

Old Business:

- None

New Business: Senator Brown Suspension Hearing, Senator McEntyre Suspension Hearing

- **Suspension Hearing: Senator Connor Brown (A&S Seat 11)**

- Declaration of Absences:
 - Budget Committee Excused Absence 11/29 (0.5) = 0.5
 - Senate Meeting Unexcused Absence 2/01 (1) = 1.5
 - Budget Committee Excused Absence 2/02 (0.5) = 2
 - Senate Meeting Unexcused Absence 2/08 (1) = 3
 - Budget Committee Excused Absence 2/16 (0.5) = 3.5
 - Senate Meeting Unexcused Absence 3/29 (1) = 4.5
 - Budget Committee Unexcused Absence 3/30 (1) = 5.5
 - Budget Committee Unexcused Absence 4/06 (1) = 6.5

- Opening Statement (3 minutes)
 - Hello all, for the whole semester, budget met Thursdays at 3 pm, had an alumni meeting with an alumni from his fraternity, as he is on the Executive Board for his fraternity, only available alumni meeting time was Thursdays at 2 pm, sometimes the meetings would go over, wasn't able to communicate very well as his work ramped up and as the semester went on and wasn't able to utilize his excused absences. Was able to switch committees, now in Student Life, which meets Wednesdays at 10 am and he does not have any issues with that, talked with Chair Meunier about it and showed up today even though he was on suspension, so he didn't have to. Confident he will be able to make both committee and senate meetings for the rest of the semester, won't be doing summer senate. Won't be at senate tonight due to mono, will be there next week when he is feeling better.

- Question Period (15 minutes)
 - Chair Salazar: Why have you missed previous senate meetings?
 - Senator Brown: There has been a lot of events he has done this year especially in the evenings, poor communication, been making recent meetings, and will make them for the rest of semester besides today due to mono, mainly budget committee meetings he struggled attending.
 - Chair Seeger: What does your workload look like next semester and how can you be more in attendance for next semester?

- Senator Brown: Classes should be fine, will have less commitments, less philanthropy. Will work on keeping communication up, such as what he has been doing with Chair Meunier and Pro-Tempore.
 - Chair Meunier: How many mental health days do you have?
 - Senator Brown: Didn't really know we had those until now.
- No further questions, Pro-Tempore DuChêne extinguishes remainder of time.
 - Closing Statement (Remainder of Opening Time)
 - To reiterate, confident he can make the remainder of meetings this semester and in the fall, hope for that to be considered.
 - Deliberations (15 minutes)
 - Chair Salazar: Makes sense to let him stay, always told to change committees if they can't make it to the meetings and that is what he did, will be more open for the rest of semester to make it to meetings, trust him to make it to meetings now.
 - Chair Alvarez: First three budget committees that he missed were excused, was communicative, the fact that he made sure to be in a committee that he could participate in says a lot.
 - Chair Seeger: Seen firsthand how busy he has been, him coming to us today and talking about how he will fix it for next semester shows a lot.
 - Chair Meunier: Shows character for him to show up to Student Life Committee despite being suspended, has been in good conversation with him about making sure he can be at meetings.
 - Chair Humberg: Things happen, when we were inducted in the Fall, it wasn't super obvious what the excuse policies were, Senator Brown didn't even know what mental health days were.
 - Chair White moves to call the question, Chair Meunier seconds, no objections.
 - Vote on Forwarding to the Judiciary Committee for Impeachment Proceedings (Yae to Forward, Nay to Unsuspend)
 - Yes: 0
 - No: **7** (Alvarez, Salazar, Burton, White, Meunier, Humberg, Seeger)
 - Abstain: **0**
 - **RESULT: SHOW SENATOR BROWN IS UNSUSPENDED**

- Unsuspension Only: New Absence Deliberations (5 minutes)
 - Chair White: Recommends following precedent, grant the senator two more absences.
 - Chair Meunier: Propose give him three extra absences due to him having mono, doesn't want to be around someone with mono. Give him three so he can miss this meeting and come back next week.
 - Chair Seeger: Echo previous senator, thinks that if senator has mono, it would be good for him to get three extra absences.
 - Chair Salazar: Thinks two is good enough for the senator.
- Chair Alvarez moves to grant the Senator 2.5 additional absences, Chair Seeger seconds, no objections.
- **Senator Brown is granted 2.5 additional absences.**

- **Suspension Hearing: Senator Jalisa McEntyre (COSSPP – Seat 5)**
 - Declaration of Absences:
 - Budget Committee Unexcused Absence 11/29 (1) = 1
 - Senate Meeting Unexcused Half-Absence 1/18 (0.5) = 1.5
 - Senate Meeting Unexcused Absence 2/08 (1) = 2.5
 - Budget Committee Unexcused Absence 2/16 (1) = 3.5
 - Senate Meeting Unexcused Half-Absence 2/22 (0.5) = 4
 - Budget Meeting Excused Absence 3/02 (0.5) = 4.5
 - Senate Meeting Excused Absence 3/08 (0.5) = 5
 - Budget Committee Unexcused Absence 3/09 (1) = 6
 - Mental Health Day #1 3/22 (0) = 6
 - Budget Committee Unexcused Half-Absence 3/29 (0.5) = 6.5
 - Senate Meeting Unexcused Absence 4/05 (1) = 7.5
 - Budget Committee Unexcused Absence 4/06 (1) = 8.5

 - Opening Statement (3 minutes)
 - Hello, sorry for all the unexcused absences, no excuse in all honesty a lot of absences accrued due to lack of communication. Had a lot going on this semester, was in the hospital at one point, had to go home for an emergency, also participated in a pageant that there was practice for every day. Didn't know about mental health days until halfway through

semester, didn't know about leave of absence, would have declared that which means she wouldn't have accrued so many absences. Also told that if she had reached out for help this wouldn't have happened, will be more communicative moving forward, already started doing so. Will have her schedule wide open, did run for vice-chair of budget to show that she can be more present and show she can take on more of a commitment in SGA, schedule is more clear, available for her committee meetings now thanks to time change. Would be leaving class and would stay and talk to professor, causing her to forget to check into the committee meeting. Will have a more open schedule and will be more communicative next semester.

- Question Period (15 minutes)
 - Chair White: Are you staying for summer senate?
 - Senator McEntyre: Has two options for an internship, one is in Tallahassee at a law firm, unpaid but it lets her stay in Tallahassee, another is in Miami, weighing the options between the two. Depending on the one in Miami.
 - President Diaz: Clarifying that the survey to determine whether one is staying for summer senate closes tonight, so they can open the application for those who wish to serve in summer senate.
 - Senator McEntyre: Not doing summer senate.
 - Chair Alvarez: Don't have to go into the specifics, but what were the time frames when you were in the hospital and went home?
 - Senator McEntyre: Went home once in February, once in March, Mom is going through a lot, dealing with Aunt who is dealing with cancer, which is hard on her because she grew up with her aunt in the home. Usually only home from a Wednesday until a Monday in March, from like the middle to close to the end of March, towards the end of February. Was in the hospital for two days, was told to stay home for an additional two days to rest, has paperwork which she believes she sent to the Pro-Tempore of the Senate.
 - President Diaz: Don't feel obligated to answer any personal or medical questions.

- Chair Alvarez: Trying to get dates so she can line up the specific dates with her absences.
- President Diaz: Perfectly fine.
- Chair Salazar: Since you missed so many committee meetings, did you ever consider switching committees?
 - Senator McEntyre: Really tried to make it to the meetings, at first, she could make the times, it started running into things she didn't plan on it running into, times throughout the semester where she had times that just kept coming up at that time. Failed to reach out, thought she could do it but couldn't.
- Chair Salazar: Any senate meetings she missed with no excuse; you chose not to go?
 - Senator McEntyre: That was never the case, she just wasn't in town and/or had something going on, didn't communicate it.
- Chair White moves to enter deliberations, Chair Meunier seconds, Chair Alvarez objects. Chair White withdraws. Motion is withdrawn.
 - Chair Alvarez: When were you told that you were placed on suspension? Was it when you first received that email saying that you had exceeded your absences?
 - Senator McEntyre: Just got her email yesterday, apparently when he sent it, it went to the wrong email, technically got it yesterday. Had a conversation with the Pro-Tempore last senate meeting, had met with the senate advisor regarding number of absences, Pro-Tempore had told her that she wasn't on suspension yet because she hadn't received her email yet.
 - Chair Humber: If you were to be unsuspended, how would you make an effort to not run out of absences again?
 - Senator McEntyre: Has a clearer semester, had a lot of e-board positions this semester, also did pageant, additionally will communicate more, will be asking for help if she needs it, will take more proactive actions on her part to ensure that won't happen.
- Chair Meunier moves to enter deliberations, Chair Alvarez seconds, no objections
- Deliberations (15 minutes)

- Chair White: She has just taken on the role of vice-chair and it means she is dedicated to represent her constituents and be more dedicated to her position as a senator.
- Chair Seeger: She is very outspoken and always asks great questions, we should keep her on to see what she can do in the future.
- Chair Alvarez: Personally, not a fan of impeachment process, as college students we all have things that come up, it is concerning to see so many absences over the time period, knows the senate advisor, senate president and pro-tempore were very communicative about the certain amount of absences. There are options for senators to reach out if they need help, therefore it is each individual senator's responsibility to reach out when inaugurated, if we don't forward her to judiciary, she shouldn't be granted a significant amount of excused absences, as vice-chair of her committee, she needs to be committed to her committee, shouldn't be granted much more leeway.
- President Diaz: The reason why the number of absences got so high was because the number of absences hadn't been reported until the end.
- Chair Salazar: Agree with previous chair, personally doesn't find it nice to be in the same committee for so long and still not switch out of it, when one misses so many committee meetings, it is concerning.
- Chair White moves to call the question, Chair Seeger seconds, no objections
- Closing Statement (Remainder of Opening Time)
 - Thank you for hearing my case, did accrue a lot of absences, will be more communicative in the future, won't hesitate to reach out.
- Vote on Forwarding to the Judiciary Committee for Impeachment Proceedings (Yae to Forward, Nay to Unsuspend)
 - Yes: **0**
 - No: **7** (Alvarez, Salazar, Burton, White, Meunier, Humberg, Seeger)
 - Abstain: **0**
- **RESULT: SHOW SENATOR McENTYRE IS UNSUSPENDED**
- Unsuspension Only: New Absence Deliberations (5 minutes)

- Chair White: Grant the senator 1.5 absences to let the senator experience the role of vice-chair and see if they step up for that role, the senator also has a mental health day for her to use.
- Chair Salazar: Agrees, now that she has communicated that she will be more communicative and more responsive and knows about mental health day, we should give the minimum amount, considering she has so many absences.
- Chair Alvarez: Also in favor of the 1.5 absences, her schedule will be clearer in the fall semester, no other excuses for her to get any more absences.
- Chair Humberg moves to grant the Senator 1.5 additional absences, Chair Meunier seconds, no objections.
- **Senator McEntyre is granted 1.5 additional absences.**

Unfinished Business:

- None

Closing Announcements:

- President Diaz: Hope to see you all at Senate today, get those meeting times in and if you have a member who can't make the time, let me know and we can move them to a different committee.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 26th April 2023 at 5:30pm on Zoom

Adjourned: 6:25 pm



Signature of President Pro-Tempore Patrick A. DuChêne