



76th Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
1.16.24 | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94124739530>

Call to Order: 4:30pm

Members Present: Senator(s) Carr, Grant, Kubiak, Lalani, Vice Chair Larancuent, Nguyen, Pu, Ramos, Waller, Chair Windlan

Members Tardy: [0]

Members Absent: Senator(s) Gomez (U)

Guests: Alexia Holliday, Sofia Tascon, Jordan Brown

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:

- Welcome back!
- Candidate August Kessler: Pride Student Union Assistant Director, did not make the meeting, we will hear him at the next Internal Affairs meeting on 1/23/24

Committee Business:

- August Kessler: Pride Student Union Assistant Director
- Sofia Tascon: Legislative Branch, PAC Member
- Jordan Brown: Legislative Branch, PAC Member
- Alexia Holliday: Legislative Branch, PAC Member

Old Business:

- None.

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Sofia Tascon: Legislative Branch, PAC Member]**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Candidate Tascon: Hi my name is Sofia Tascon. I am a first year student here studying Political Science and English honors. Part

of why I really wanted to be a part of this program is because through SGA I really got to learn more about finances. This last fall I was a part of the legislative certification program which was an amazing experience. My interest was first sparked to be on PAC through speaking with one of the senators Alexis. When we sat down and a conversation together because that was one of the requirements on the sheet. She actually started talking to me about her role which she does in PAC and if I knew anything about the budget we talked more about how the fiscal year works. Through that, the way she explained it really made me realize how much I really didn't know about finances and how much I really wanted to learn. So after that experience I fully let her know about my interest to be a part of PAC. Throughout this last fall I had as a first year student I was also able to join mental health council and freshman class council which is where I learn how PAC really funds their RSOs here on campus like mental health council. We just got an SGA tablecloth. Through that process it really makes us happy as a club and that's something I really aim to do in my own position. Last year in high school I was part of the Dance marathon team for the past 3 years when I learned the value of fundraising and the value of money especially when it goes to charity. Then I was president of English National Honor Society which is really where I learned how to have each member have their finances regularly so it was my duty to make sure every member paid their dues and then me as a president had to make sure our club was using that money responsibly. Which is something that PAC holds accountable for throughout the school year so I had to make sure that our dues were being used on graduation cords and the money was being used responsibly which is something I definitely aim to do in my committee member position. Within those processes I have been able to learn more about how those finances work and I really hope to be a part of PAC in order to expand my knowledge further.

○ Round of Questioning:

- Vice Chair Larancuent: Seeing as this position is to where you will allocate finances I was just wondering if you were familiar with the finance code.
 - Candidate Tascon: Yes, I just recently got financially certified.
- Senator Lalani: Yeah, so you talked about Dance Marathon in high school and obviously that is fundraising like you mentioned. How do you think that's going to help you when it comes to doing things in PAC since you will be allocating money so it's similar in a lot of ways?
 - Candidate Tascon: Yeah, so through that program, because I was so involved in high school and so involved now I really got to understand the value of money when it comes to RSOs money to be able to do things for their program through fundraising I had to make sure I was raising enough money so that way a hospital could use it for a child's needs so I was able to learn skills such as goal making for financial purposes, and use that money for the hospital so they have enough for what they need

- **Senator Nguyen moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Larancuent seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Nguyen: Yeah, so I would like to speak in pro of this candidate. I think this candidates experience really speaks for itself. I felt like she hit every single point in her statement not going to lie. I really appreciate not only is she committed to her work with she went out of her way to talk to a Senator who is in PAC themselves.
 - Vice Chair Larancuent: I would also like to speak in pro of this candidate and just echoing what the past senator said I think its also good that she took initiative to talk to the PAC chair and clearly she has been in multiple financial positions and completing the LCP I think that looks really good for her. I think she would make a great candidate for this position.
- **Senator Grant moves to forward the candidate; Senator Lalani seconds**
 - Closing statement: Candidate yields
 - Candidate:
 - Vote:
 - Yes: [9] Carr, Grant, Kubiak, Lalani, Vice Chair Larancuent, Nguyen, Pu, Ramos, Waller
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
 - **RESULT: CANDIDATE TASCAN PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Jordan Brown: Legislative Branch, PAC Member**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Candidate Brown: Thank you so much for having me here today. My name is Jordan Brown I am a first year student majoring in International affairs. Some of my qualifications include I was senior vice president in high school and as part of that role I had to manage the budget for the senior class including making purchase requests for items such as t-shirts or foods which is very similar to what RSOs do with PAC. I have also gone through the Legislative Certification Program as a part of the program I attended PAC multiple times wanting to learn more and more about the committee because I thought it was interesting. On campus, I am also on the freshman class council like Sofia on the logistics chair so I do a lot with helping our treasurer and making sure we comply with the finance code. Additionally I am the botanical society treasurer from Fort Mill which is where I am from and I have really enjoyed the role and getting to help manage the budget with that. In terms of what I want to do with PAC, I would like to increase transparency and communication. I believe our RSOs are very important here on campus and bridging the gap more and more between RSOs and PAC and SGA as a whole and I would like to work with Senator Staveski with that.
 - Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Pu: On your application you described your leadership style as fluid or in-between style as Laissez Faire and more direct. Which style do you think would be more appropriate in the position you're applying for.
 - Candidate Brown: Yeah, so I like that question. In terms of being on PAC obviously were the board that takes these requests so if no one comes up with any questions I can take that leadership role and step up to ask these questions. So we can properly vet

these RSOs because we don't want to make a mistake and overfund or underfund. Because we have a limited amount of funds and we want to make sure all the RSOs on campus can get the funding they need and deserve. I could also take a backseat approach if need be if everyone has a lot of questions, if I can't kind of just sit back and just take in the information. That way I could make a good judgement on the situation.

- Senator Carr: I know you said you were involved on campus. I was just wondering how you will have time to dedicate to PAC?
 - Candidate Brown: Yes, so when going about doing my schedule with all my organization and stuff I have already carved out a space and time for when PAC is set to meet because this is something I would like to prioritize because RSOs are super important and I would like to put a lot into PAC. I set aside this time and I'm ready to fully commit to it.
- **Senator Lalani moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Larancuent seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Lalani: Yeah, so I've known Jordan he's actually my suitemate. I have known him since the beginning of the year. I have had multiple interactions with him whether a social or professional level of commitment. I haven't seen someone as driven or committed as him. Whatever goals he wants to achieve whether it's finance and I think that is really important with PAC obviously and I couldn't think of a better candidate for this organization.
 - Vice Chair Larancuent: Echoing what the last Senator said, I've seen this candidate multiple times and I can see how dedicated he is to all these RSOs. I know he will make enough time for PAC (more than enough) and with that I support this candidate
 - Senator Nguyen: I recently started working with this candidate in Honor Student Association and Peer Mentorship and we work with budgets and stuff and I can already tell he is a strong-headed level-minded person so I really advocate for this person.
- **Senator Nguyen moves to forward the candidate; Senator Kubiak seconds**
- Closing statement:
 - Candidate Brown: I just want to say thank you guys so much for your time. I look forward to seeing you guys tomorrow night.
- Vote:
 - Yes: [9] Carr, Grant, Kubiak, Lalani, Vice Chair Larancuent, Nguyen, Pu, Ramos, Waller
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE BROWN PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: Alexia Holliday: Legislative Branch, PAC Member**
- Opening Statement:
 - Candidate Holliday: Hello, my name is Alexia Holliday. I am a first year here at FSU I am majoring in Political Science and English, Editing, Writing and Media. Minor in history and international affairs with hopes of one day entering politics and legislation. I am really excited in getting involved in the Programming Allocation Committee. I would like to learn

more about finance and budgeting as a whole. I have some experinec ewith the topic, back in high school I was appointed tob teh School Advisory council to represent the student body. We basically voted onw hat amounts money should get for events given our set yearly budgetwhich was around \$20,000 annd I knnw for PAC it is \$55k. I also created the interclub council which basically aimed to rpomote club ventures and help with events and anny feedback they needed from student governmentnt,.Here at FSU i have been apart of the service leadership seminar, freshman leadership institute, and the legislative certificatin with SOfia and Jordan and thank you for your time.

- Round of Questioning:
 - Vice Chair Larancuent: Since you are applying for PAC member I was just wondering if youre familiar with the finance code, if youre financially certified annd what your goals are for PAC
 - Candidate Holliday: Yes, I got finacnially chertified over the weekend. My goals for PAC would be to help as many clubs and RSOs as possible. I am very passionate about helping them and underfeed events and give events to teh student body taht helps everybody as a whole
 - Senator Lalani: Whta do you think is the greatest challenge you face within PAC to help accomplish those goasl?
 - Candidate Holliday: I would say I am not definitely as experienced on visceral matters as other candidates. But, I do have a really great passion fro like I said helping clubs. SO onnce I get the finacnial code wrapped around my head which I did just pass the financial exam but a little greater of an understanding and I am sure that will come with the meetings as they have them then I think i iwll be good.
- **Senator Kubiak moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Larancuent seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Senator Nguyen: I really appreciate how the candidate spoke with her honest truth about how even though she may not be the best in visceral matters. She is really passionate in helping organizations she is really passionate for this role, SO eyeah I really advocate for this candidate.
 - Vice Chair Laranucent: I would like to echo what the last Senatir said. I think it is really great fro people to talk about their challenges annd how she plans to grow from them and learn more about this position while she is in it just to give back.
 - Senator Pu: I would also like to speak in pro of this candidate. Having had prior experience on campus with her i cant imagine a more promising candidate ofr involvement in student government. She is very genuinely interested and passionate in this line of involvement. I knnw she has pretty intimate details and has done her research around campus. This candiate would make a great addition.
 - Senator Lalani: Advocates for this candidate
- **Senator Nguyen moves to forward the candidate; Senator Grant seconds**
 - Closing statement:
 - Candidate Holliday: Thank you so much to all of those who spoke in pro. I am very excited to see you guys tommorow night!
 - Vote:

- Yes: [9] Carr, Grant, Kubiak, Lalani, Vice Chair Larancuent, Nguyen, Pu, Ramos, Waller
- No: [0]
- Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE HOLLIDAY PASSES**

Unfinished Business:

- None.

Closing Announcements:

- None.

Next Meeting: 1/23/24 4:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 4:59pm

Signature of Chair [Name]

Ella Windlan