



**72<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
Date: July 7th, 2020**

**Call to Order:** 7:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** Chair Leckie, Vice Chair Chabot, Senator(s) Cusnier, Little, Alvarez, Garcia, Gabriel, Rossi

**Members Tardy:** Senator(s)

**Members Excused Absent:** Senator(s)

**Members Absent:** Senator(s)

**Guests:** President Daraldik, Secretary Abhari, Senators Bogle, Sam, Gnanam, Dodson, Jack Rowan

**Announcements:**

- Chair - None
- Vice Chair - Board meeting is this Thursday at 5. I will have to step out briefly to go to SLAA.
- Members - None
- Guests - None

**Committee Business:**

- **Bill 86** - Sponsored by Senator Dodson - To add Deputy Treasurer, and Members of the Executive Office to the list of major positions.
- **Bill 88** - Sponsored by Senator Gnanam - To encourage the discussion of Green Dot Bystander Intervention training, Allies and Safe Zone Training, Diversity and Inclusion Institute and other related resources on campus within New Senator Orientation
- **Bill 89** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia - To redefine Omnibus Bill thresholds
- **Bill 90** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia and co-sponsored by Senator Chabot - To modify and clarify the terms of office for Senators
- **Constitutional Amendment 1** - Sponsored by Senator Leckie - To create a Constitutional Review Commission to ensure periodic review and modernization of the Student Body Constitution
- **Constitutional Amendment 2** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia and co-sponsored by Senator Chabot - To amend the upper limit on Senate seats to match the United States Senate
- **Constitutional Amendment 3** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia - To correct the math behind recall elections
- **Constitutional Amendment 4** - Sponsored by Senator J. Alvarez - To Abolish the offices of the Student Body President and Vice President, and replace them with the Executive Council of the Student Body

## Old Business:

- None

## New Business:

- **Bill 86** - Sponsored by Senator Dodson - To add Deputy Treasurer, and Members of the Executive Office to the list of major positions.
  - Opening Statement
    - Dodson: this bill adds Deputy treasurer and members of the executive office to major offices
  - Technical, Non-Debatable
    - Alvarez: was it the intention of the sponsor to read members of the executive office or members of the EOOP
    - Dodson: members of the EO
  - Senator Cusnier moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Alvarez seconds
  - Round Table
    - Alvarez: I think this is a unanimous consent bill however I hesitate off the back because it is not EOoP. i want it to be clear for future iterations. I would like to hear the committees opinion
    - Chabot: should we also change cabinet officers to members of Executive cabinet
    - Alvarez: I think that it is fine the way it is right now given existing language in the constitution and statutes. I'm still wondering if we should change members of the EO to EOOP
    - Cusnier: personally I feel it works either way. I'm good if we add it or not
    - Garcia: I would prefer the more specific revision. Does this make any legal difference?
    - Alvarez: currently no but in the future it could. **Motion to amend bill**
    - **Garcia seconds**
      - Change "Executive Office" to "Executive office of the president"
    - **Alvarez moves to pass bill by unanimous consent**
    - **Cusnier seconds, bill passes**
  - Vote
    - X
  - Bill RESULT
- **Bill 88** - Sponsored by Senator Gnanam - To Encouraging the discussion of Green Dot Bystander Intervention training, Allies and Safe Zone Training, Diversity and Inclusion Institute and other related resources on campus within New Senator Orientation
  - Opening Statement
    - Gnanam: I have been working on this for a while. It includes diversity training in new senator orientation. It raises awareness for these training programs while not making it mandatory. There have been studies that do not recommend requiring these trainings. However raising awareness for it is a good first step
    - Bogle: I was in New Senator Orientation where this measure was include. I found it to be helpful and informative. I intend to use these in the future and support this measure
    - Gnanam: a few senators would like to be added as co-sponsors

- Technical, Non-Debatable
  - Alvarez: do you have a word version available without the comments included
  - Gnanam: yes
  - Alvarez: what are the names of people who wish to be add
  - Gnanam: Gabadage, adams, wang
- Senator Alvarez moves to enter Round Table Discussion
- Senator Cusnier seconds
- Round Table
  - Alvarez moves to add Gabadage, Adams and Wang as co sponsors, Cusnier seconds
    - Sponsor finds it friendly
  - Alvarez: we need to change the font to Arial for accessibility, and remove the comments section. I have always not been a fan of having NSO in chapter 200 but having these measures included are great. I have been through greendot training and it is very valuable. I applaud the Senator for not mandating it and I hope that this is strongly encouraged in the future.
- Senator Cusnier moves to call the question
- Senator Alvarez seconds
- Closing
  - Gnanam and Bogle: Thanks!
- Vote
  - Y 7(Alvarez, Cusnier, Garcia, Gabriel, Little, Rossi, Chabot, Little)
- **Bill RESULT**
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- **Bill 89** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia - To redefine Omnibus Bill thresholds
  - **Garcia moves to add Senator J. Alvarez as primary sponsor**
  - **Cusnier seconds, motion passes**
  - Opening statement
    - Alvarez: I don't know if any of you have experienced the Mandela effect. The concept has been around for several years, and in the Senate, I have felt that many times. For a long time, I thought that the requirements of an omnibus bill were different than what is actually in our rules. The implications of that could be dangerous. I have proposed this to right that wrong so that the written standard for what is and is not an omnibus bill is in line with our vocal practice. An omnibus bill requires a two thirds majority to pass, and it amends two or more statutory titles. I hope you join me in passing this bill so we can avoid any future concerns about intel conduct of business.
  - Technical, Non-debatable
    - **Cusnier moves to enter round table**
    - **Garcia seconds**
  - Roundtable
    - **Cusnier moves to pass by unanimous consent**
    - **Garcia seconds, bill passes**
- **Bill 90** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia and co-sponsored by Senator Chabot - To modify and clarify the terms of office for Senators
  - **Garcia moves to add Senator J. Alvarez as a primary sponsor**
  - **Cusnier seconds, amendment passes**

- Opening statement
  - Alvarez: This bill covers two large concepts and one small fix. The first large problem is a reaction to Senator Gertz's appointment bills regarding allocation of seats. Sitting senators may be enrolled for graduate programs at FSU while not actively an undergraduate student. So, I've added a clause that if that happens, they'd be permitted a leave of absence between graduation from undergrad and commencement of graduate school. It also addresses senators who apply to swap seats while a sitting senator. In the past, I wrote a statement of dissent based on a Senator who did that. This bill states that while serving as a Senator, you cannot apply to take another Senator's vacant seat. Senators must serve the full length of terms if able. This bill also says that Senators cannot extend their term by resigning from a seat and simply applying for another, rather than running.
- Technical, Non-debatable
  - Garcia: Can a Senator resign to run for executive office?
  - Alvarez: Yes, but this bill doesn't cover the exec branch in any capacity
  - Garcia: So does this limit Senators from resigning for other reasons?
  - Alvarez: no
  - **Cusnier moves to enter roundtable**
  - **Garcia seconds**
- Roundtable
  - Cusnier: I completely disagree with section G. We are limiting people's opportunities. If someone sees other, better opportunities, they should be able to apply for them. Although it isn't the most ethical, section G shouldn't pass.
  - Alvarez: That only bars sitting senators to apply for other open senate seats. They would still be allowed to apply for other offices.
  - Cusnier: I knew that, just wanted to clarify.
  - Garcia: If a summer senator wanted to run for a vacant fall seat, would that be allowed? Since they wouldn't be a summer senator?
  - Alvarez: Yes. Additionally, summer senate is a temporary position and isn't affected by this.
  - Garcia: So you're trying to prevent Senators from switching seats between colleges?
  - Alvarez: Yes. This is mainly to prevent senators from extending their term through the application process- like going from undergrad studies to COSSPP without actually running for it.
  - Cusnier: **motion to amend the bill, removing section G**
  - **No second, amendment fails**
  - Garcia: I want to know why Cusnier feels we should remove section G.
  - Cusnier: Let's say I'm currently an undergraduate seat. I've been doing a good job and could go for re-election. I'd rather just apply for another seat without having been re-confirmed. It makes more sense to just remove it.
  - Garcia: I think that applies when people are doing their jobs and are invested. But sometimes, people aren't so accountable. In certain cases, Section G would be relevant, like when we don't want students in Senat just occupying space. A set of fresh eyes is always good. Worst case scenario, it would be good to have this available. If a senator wants to continue their term, they should just run for the seat in an actual election and accept the extra work.

- Cusnier: If a senator is not doing a great job, when they are confirmed, the senate wouldn't vote them back in. Even if we remove the section, those senators would still be allowed to complete their terms.
- Alvarez: One of our responsibilities as senators is to stick to our one year term. It's a privilege to be a senator, not a right. We've had instances in the past where people have taken advantage of the public's trust to extend their term. Keeping this section holds everyone accountable.
- Garcia: Would this bill limit Senators to only one term in their college career?
- Alvarez: No, there are no term limits in this bill. This is just so that sitting senators do not take available seats from other interested students.
- Cusnier: Essentially, this is to stop people from seat-hopping. But I think that's perfectly fair
- **Garcia moves to call the question**
- **Cusnier seconds**
- Closing
  - Time expired
- Vote
  - Alvarez (y), Cusnier (n), Garcia (y), Gabriel (n), Little (y), Rossi (n)
  - Chair breaks the tie, yes
  - **BILL DOES PASS**

### **Chairship is temporarily passed to Senator J. Alvarez**

- **Constitutional Amendment 1** - Sponsored by Senator Leckie - To create a Constitutional Review Commission to ensure periodic review and modernization of the Student Body Constitution
  - Opening Statement
    - Leckie: Oftentimes, our constitution is not looked over in a holistic way by anyone. This would put reps from all parts of SGA together to review it. The legislative branch would not be sitting alone in its power to change the constitution. Putting those leaders in a room together once every two years gives a necessary review to the document.
  - Technical non-debatable
    - Garcia: Before this amendment, how was the constitution reviewed?
    - Alvarez: This question is not formatted in a technical, non-debatable way. You may rephrase.
    - Garcia: How was the constitution reviewed in past years?
    - Leckie: There was no formal review process. Individual senators reviewed it and submitted amendments
    - **Garcia moves to enter roundtable**
    - **Cusnier seconds**
  - Roundtable
    - Cusnier: **motion to amend**
      - "5.D I want to amend Section 5 D to read "All Meetings of the Commission must be open to the public, must be advertised 24 hours in advance, and must include time for student comment from all students who wish to be heard with a minimum of at least three minutes given to each student."
    - **No second, amendment fails**

- Garcia: For that section specifically, I think it should be advertised more than 24 hours in advance. In order for other students and leaders to learn about it, we should give them more notice. 24 hours isn't enough to adjust schedules for such an important meeting.
- Leckie: I see your point, and I agree there should be an advance notice. But I also know from experience that you don't want to make it too far in advance. If you did 48 hours, that would be ok, but anything beyond that is excessive
- Cusnier: **motion to amend**
  - "5.D All Meetings of the Commission must be open to the public, must be advertised 24 hours in advance, and must include time for student comment. All Students who wish to speak will be allowed to speak at least once."
- **No second, amendment fails**
- Garcia: In the senate, is there a rule that everyone gets to speak?
- Leckie, Yes, there is time allocated for student comment in our rules
- Garcia: Does that rule limit each person to talking one time? Or is it different for every meeting?
- Alvarez: Any student who requests to speak at a senate meeting will be allotted that time, but there may be a time limit. And at least 5 min total must be available for student comment.
- Cusnier: I know both my amendments failed. But my amendments would ensure that everyone gets to speak. There's no guarantee that people will want to speak, but this amendment makes sure that people get that time if they want it
- Chabot: I think this is a matter for statutes, not this amendment.
- Garcia: Question for Chabot- earlier I mentioned extending the 24 hour advance notice to 48 hours for accountability purposes. How do you feel about that?
- Chabot: Again, I think this is a matter for statutes, not our constitution. I would like to see everything after "All Meetings of the Commission must be open to the public" removed and put into a separate bill for our statutes. Senator Alvarez, can you confirm our rules?
- Alvarez: our rules say that all meetings must be advertised at least 24 hours in advance on the SGA website. We must make meetings public, and have to give at least 5 minutes for public comment
- Garcia: I was just curious. **Motion to call the question.**
- **No second, motion fails**
- Chabot: **motion to strike**
  - Remove everything after "All Meetings of the Commission must be open to the public" in section 5.D
- **Cusnier seconds, amendment passes.**
- Chabot: **motion to call the question**
- **Cusnier seconds**
- Closing Statement
- Vote
  - Y (Chabot, Gabriel, Rossi, Garcia, Cusnier, Leckie, Little)
  - **AMENDMENT DOES PASS**

**Chairship is passed back to Leckie**

- **Constitutional Amendment 2** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia and co-sponsored by Senator Chabot - To amend the upper limit on Senate seats to match the United States Senate
  - **Garcia moves to add Senator J. Alvarez as a primary sponsor**
  - **Cusnier seconds, motion passes**
  - Opening statement
    - Alvarez: This bill addresses two things: increasing the cap of senators to that of the US Senate, and include the Panama City campus seat. It was phrased as “number of seats” in the case of introduction of new seats to our senate. The current practice is to consider Panama City seat an “addition” rather than a member of quorum, this bill would fix that.
    - Chabot: This would allow us to reflect the US Senate- currently at 100 seats. Increasing seats would make apportionment much easier, since it is counted in percentages of colleges. This would make things much easier.
  - Technical, Non-debatable?
    - Cusnier: Is the number of seats based on the student body size? Would that change with this amendment?
    - Alvarez: It would remain as-is, based on enrollments in academic divisions.
    - **Cusnier moves to enter roundtable**
    - **Garcia seconds**
  - CusnierRoundtable
    - Garcia: So, this bill doesn’t change the amount of senators to 100 right now, but it would allow the senate to increase to that number, given proper interest?
    - Alvarez: Yes.
    - **Cusnier moves to call the question**
    - **Garcia seconds**
  - Closing statement
    - Alvarez: I appreciate the input. I’m glad to see this bill on the floor.
    - Chabot: Thank you all, hopefully this makes our lives easier.
  - Vote
    - Y (Cusnier, Chabot, Alvarez, Gabriel, Rossi, Little, Garcia)
    - **AMENDMENT DOES PASS**
  
- **Constitutional Amendment 3** - Sponsored by Senator Murcia - To correct the math behind recall elections
  - **Garcia moves to add Senator J. Alvarez as a primary sponsor**
  - **Cusnier seconds, motion passes.**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Alvarez: as the student body has grown the number regarding recall elections has not matched this. Right now it takes more signatures to recall an AS senator than the SBP. In creating this I look towards different counties in the state of florida, and used that to create this amendment. I also removed unnecessary language and fixed the math. This makes it easier for the general public to understand
  - Technical Non=debatable
    - None
  - Little moves to enter roundtable, Garcia seconds
  - Cusnier moves to call to question, Little seconds

- Closing: I appreciate the enthusiasm and trust. Thank you
- Vote
  - Y (Alvarez, Cusnier, Gabriel, Garcia, Little, Rossi, Chabot)
- **Constitutional Amendment 4** - Sponsored by Senator J. Alvarez - To Abolish the offices of the Student Body President and Vice President, and replace them with the Executive Council of the Student Body
  - Opening Statement:
    - Alvarez: I don't usually use quotes but "all of the ills of democracy...". I believe that one of the things we need to address is unitary executive theory. I wrote this to remind senators of institutional change and in looking at other nations, Switzerland inspired my writing and I wanted to use this to say that the executive should represent more than one part of campus. I believe that power should be shared within the council. I wanted to ensure accountability between the senate and exec and this addresses those concerns. I realize the depth and scope of this and look forward to seeing what you all decide
  - Technical Non-debatable
    - None
  - Garcia moves to enter roundtable, Cusnier seconds
  - Roundtable:
    - Cusnier: Why do you want this change?
    - Alvarez: I enjoy looking at other points in our history when SGA has been a force for good. But there is a consistency of the lack of initiative and representation in Exec. the nature and culture of these offices have separated them from each other, SGA and the student body as a whole. I have seen the failures of this culture and the possibility for change that fixes these problems. If there was a reality, this would be an expansion of the possibility of the exec and the possibility of real change. I hope that the make up of this council would be more diverse than we have seen in the SBP in the past. I want this to be an example of the change we are capable of.
    - Little: this executive council replaces the top three as is?
    - Alvarez: only the SBP and SBVP, not treasurer
    - Little: Why not give the SBT a vote
    - Alvarez: currently their powers in statutes does not align with what this council is meant to do. It would also complicate the functioning of this council.
    - Cusnier: I hear Alvarez lead and clear however this is a major change to how SGA will be structured and function.
  - Cusnier moves to table, Rossi seconds
  - **Amendment Tabled**

### **Unfinished Business:**

### **Committee Legislative Round Table:**

- Alvarez: I have so many things I am working on. I am open to questions about those. I know some things are going to Rules and I was wondering if you all had any opinions.
- Leckie: I have a resolution that will bind the Senate to creating a COVID taskforce

**Final Announcements:**

- Leckie: We got through a lot today so thank you.
- Chabot: The Board is meeting this week. Take care of ourselves! I am here if you need me

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** TBD

**Adjourned:** 9:06 p.m.

*Griffin Leckie*

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Signature of Chair