



**74<sup>th</sup> Student Senate  
Rules and Calendar Committee  
06/20/22 | Via Zoom  
<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/92013872399>**

**Call to Order:** 5:33 pm

**Members Present:** Pro Tempore Drackley, Chair DeChick, Chair Folwell, Chair Tucker, Vice Chair Marting, Vice Chair Harrell

**Members Tardy:**

**Members Absent:**

**Guests:** Senator Pedraja, President Diaz

**Land Acknowledgement**

- **Chair DeChick**

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:**

- **Judiciary:**
  - Met on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 1pm and Bill 51 was amended and passed, worked on election code test for candidate for Supervisor of Elections to be finished in the next couple of weeks, next week supreme court candidates and Chief Justice candidates will be heard, tabled Bill 52.
- **Internal Affairs:**
  - Last Wednesday evening, confirmed 11 candidates for class council, [positions in] the different unions, executive branch positions chief of staff and deputy chief of staff, meeting to confirm more candidates next week. Tabled Bills 48 and 49.
- **Budget:**

- Budget met on Thursday at 7:00PM, amended and passed Bill 53 and amended and passed Bill 54
- Finance:
  - Met earlier last week, passed Bill 52.
- Student Life:
  - Met last Wednesday at noon, went over Bill 53 and 54 and made amendments and passed, amended and passed Resolution 41, passed Resolution 42 Carrier

**Committee Business:**

- Bill 51 Amended
- Confirmation
- Leave of Absence Hearing for Senator Pedraja

**Old Business:**

- N/A

**New Business:**

- **Bill #51 Amended - Sponsored by Chair Folwell (P)**
  - Opening Statement:
    - This is very simply a bill that fixes an error within the senate hall of fame nominations, where basically if someone has served less than two years in senate, then you can override the threshold of two years in order to nominate that person. Currently it is a “3/4 2/3rds” majority vote, which doesn’t look right and seems to be an error when I looked at the minutes of the bill being copied over to statues. It also fixes some grammatical errors which are not controversial, as well as slightly raising the threshold for the senators who served less than two years to be nominated. Currently there are no specifications for when the vote to overrule happens, and this would place this before the resolution would be read at all, in order for senators to see that the nominee is worthy given the time. There were some issues brought up in Judiciary, some were opposed to the 3/4ths majority versus the 2/3rds majority where there are only two options, my view is that it takes a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority to pass the nomination and it would be the same amount of senators to also vote to pass the threshold which doesn’t make sense if it is supposed to be an exception it should be a higher threshold. Because almost anybody who votes to hear a resolution will likely vote for it. And that's not one to one, but for all intents and purposes, I think that's an OK generalization to make. I pulled up the voting results from the last time this happened in every person who voted for in the initial vote to overrule also voted for and the vote to induct. There was an amendment made to prevent any points of con, but I yield the rest of my time for my closing.
  - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
    - N/A
  - Round-Table Discussion:
    - Pro:
      - **Chair DeChick:** Real quick, I do want to speak in pro of this I think that the reason for this bill especially just kind of observing how the hall of fame went last time that this would help those sorts of things. If something that exceptional for that short amount of

time that I think that the threshold for voting should be that higher, not just the same amount of the original voting for nomination.

Thank you.

- **President Diaz:** Hi, just a point of clarification. Procedurally speaking for those who might not be aware the rules and calendar committee ironically doesn't have its own rules of Procedure, so the way that we've kind of decided to go about it is to just go by the Senate Rules of Procedure for legislate. Which are you know 5 minute opening technical, non debatable and Pro con. If you guys have questions to sponsor or to me or to the pro temp questions can and should be addressed as a point of information and you can do that like we do in regular Senate just having your pointer finger up, yeah, so just an FYI for procedure.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** if you have any points or anything like that, try and raise your hand through the zoom as I'm unable to see all of you at once physically through the cameras. We're in two minutes and 27 seconds left in the first round of pro. Would anyone else like to speak in the first round of pro?
- **Vice Chair Marting:** Yeah, I think it's pretty obvious that cheerful has done some digging and looking at this topic enough, I think it's a much needed cleaning up to some grammatical error errors and just streamline the process even more.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Right, that leaves us with two minutes and 16 seconds left in the first round of pro. Anybody else willing to speak in the first round of pro. Seeing none, we will enter the first round of con unless there is a motion.
- **President Diaz:** Point of personal privilege, so this was a debate that we had in judiciary, which is like what does it mean for a resolution to be placed or any piece of legislation to be placed on 1st and second reading. This statute might be read as a little bit confusing because it sounds like if I'm reading this, it sounds like resolutions have to be placed on second reading, which is not true. Rules stipulate those resolutions have to be referred to committee or the Senate President can choose to place it on second reading, or a majority vote of the Senate can place anything on second reading so just I don't know if it's worded. I don't know if the wording of this might cause confusion as to what it means to say this must be voted on before it's placed on second reading because some people might interpret that as saying, well, you guys must vote on this even before you make a motion to place on 2nd reading. I just don't know what the clarity of this is like. I'm not against this bill at all and I'm just pointing that out as a point of personal privilege.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** We're in the first round of con. Would anyone like to speak in the first round of con or I will be willing to entertain a motion to call the question?
- **Chair DeChick:** Point of information to the sponsor of the bill. Would you be friendly to an amendment? Changing placed on second reading to just presented which was the original statement or something similar to that?

- **Chair Folwell:** I would be friendly to that, but I would suggest instead of just changing it back to instead say before the resolution. Has or before the sponsor of the resolution gives their opening statement. I think that's Probably the most unambiguous way to say that.
- **Chair DeChick:** Yeah, before opening statement, that's a good way to put it. I would like to move to make an amendment to the bill.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Would the sponsor be friendly to the amendment by Chair DeChick?
- **Chair Folwell:** Uhm, let's let him say the exact wording first, yes.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Right if you if you want to go ahead and type it in the zoom chat.
- **Chair DeChick:** So I will be saying Basically, replacing placed on second reading too. Before opening statements. Yeah, so basically kind of how we how we've done it before. So before opening said if you know if in the case someone doesn't meet that two-year stipulation, that's when that vote you know before their opening statement before their Hall of Fame opening statement.
- **Chair Folwell:** Sorry, I know this is annoying. I'm going to sound not friendly just because it doesn't make grammatical sense like that.
- **Chair DeChick:** I'm thinking a vote of the Senate, I strike placed on second reading to just vote at the Senate before opening statements occur in situations. Whereas you know that's where it can continue.
- **Chair Folwell:** Yes, and I'd be friendly to that.
- **Chair DeChick:** I would move to make an amendment to strike out everything after the resolution is placed on second reading to before opening statements occur.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Just for the record of minutes and everything, could you just put it in the chat? Mostly just to clarify, before we do the second step. So, your finalized amendment is the one that you just sent into the zoom chat just so directly for everyone here. OK, and does the sponsor find it friendly?
- **Chair Folwell:** Yes.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Okay, is there a second to the proposed amendment by Chair DeChick?
- **Vice Chair Harrell:** So seconded.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Are there any objections? Seeing none, the amendment is adopted. My word isn't working on my Google Chrome. So I'm giving President Diaz co-host so he can share what the bill would look like with the attached amendment. Just for all of your guys purposes before you actually vote on it since the amendment has technically already been adopted. If all the other chairs here are willing, I can entertain a motion to call the question unless you would all rather wait to actually see it in writing.
- **Vice Chair Marting moves to call the question; Chair Tucker seconds**
- **Closing Statement:**
  - Oh yeah, thanks guys, I think honestly, it's probably a good amendment. It's not that controversial so it's safe, so thank you for hearing me out.

- Vote:
  - Yes: [ 4 ] [DeChick, Marting, Harrell, Tucker]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [1] [Folwell]
- **RESULT: [BILL #51] [AMENDED AND PASSED]**
- **Special Leave of Absence Hearing, Senator Pedraja**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Good evening fellow senators, chairs, vice chairs, President Diaz, and Pro Temp Drackley. My name is Senator Pedraja I have requested to take a leave of absence starting this week and this is because I have to go to Fort Knox, Kentucky for my ROTC Cadet summer training on June 25th to July 29th. So, I will be requiring that leave absence because that will be 5 weeks where I'm going to be in training some of that time I'll be in barracks. The other part of that time, I'll Be in the field. And I will return back in the fall semester. And continue serving as.Sender, I just wanted to take this time from Summer A when I was taking classes the first six weeks to serve my time as a senator while I was waiting to go to Fort Knox. So I already discussed this situation with Jaclyn and President Diaz and they just told me that I was able to take this leave of Absence and this request and get approval for y'all, so I appreciate if you guys like hear my situation out and approve my request. Thank you. I yield my time for my closing.
  - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
    - **Vice Chair Marting:** Senator, when exactly do you leave like? Do you leave on the 25th or is that just kind of like a buffer?
    - **Senator Pedraja:** I leave on June 25<sup>th</sup>, that's my flight to Kentucky from Tallahassee is on that Saturday.
    - **Vice Chair Marting:** Perfect, thank you.
    - **Senator Pedraja:** Of course.
    - **Chair Folwell:** Sorry you said it, but I missed it. So you leave on June 25th but when do you get back?
    - **Senator Pedraja:** July 29th, however, I'm not sure if we're still going to be in the semester for summer, depends, but if it's still going on, I definitely like to serve whenever I come back..
    - **Chair Folwell:** Yeah, I I have a. Point of information, probably for President Diaz. The statute that allows leaves absences, has that been updated since the statutes that are on the website have last been updated?
    - **President Diaz:** So my understanding is that it's not a statute, it's a rule. It's rule 13.9 which I'm looking at right now. I can actually pull it up if you want. I've been reading it for the last couple minutes. Really, it just talks about summer and it says any senators wishing to take a leave of absence at other times must first get permission from the majority of the rules and calendar committee, so it's honestly very loose. It doesn't give too much direction from the rules that we've currently adopted, so.
    - **Chair Folwell:** OK point of personal privilege. So what's in statutes it's 400.1 C directly contradicts that. I, for one, am inclined to do the one that to follow the procedure and rules and set gives Senator Pedraja more leeway and frankly the circumstances seem legit I guess. I just I don't know procedurally If we can pick and choose which one we do.

- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Point of personal privilege, It does say at 400.1 C It does say special exceptions may be granted by the rules and calendar committee by a 2/3 vote.
    - **Chair Folwell:** Yeah, I took that. As being any leave of absence as a special exception except for summer.
    - **Pro Tempore Drackley:** I would assume this would also be included in that special exception. If we want we can save this for the open table just to save Senator Pedraja some time.
    - **Vice Chair Marting moves to enter round-table discussion; Chair DeChick seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion:
    - **Chair Folwell:** I thank you for clarifying that. I was very scared to beat that guy for a second, but that being said, so long as this is legal, I'm you know fully in support. This sounds like you know a genuine circumstance. So yeah, I'll be voting in favor.
    - **Vice Chair Marting:** So uhm, for those who aren't aware, chair Gardner has been forwarded for the cabinet and that would leave us to have a new election for leadership and the Finance Committee. I was wondering if it's kind of a question for President Diaz or Pro Tempore Drackley, when would be the earliest possible I could call that meeting because I would like Senator Pedraja has to be present for voting on the new leadership of the Finance Committee?
    - **President Diaz:** Chair Garner can resign whenever he wants, but I believe he is intending to resign assuming he gets approved by the Senate on Wednesday, he's he legally has to resign in that moment and the earliest you can call a meeting would be Next Thursday. Honestly, I think like if you want to call a meeting next Thursday, you can as the Vice chair. I would probably suggest Friday just because of the 24 hour notice thing, but Yeah this Friday the 24th is probably the earliest finance can meet.
    - **Vice Chair Marting:** So you're saying like this Friday? I think a couple days I could do it before he went on his leave.
    - **President Diaz:** Yeah, because if chair Garner resigns on Wednesday, then you have the authority as vice chair to call the meeting. And Pedraja doesn't have to be there for the record, but if he wants to. Of course he can accommodate for that.
    - **Chair Folwell:** Yeah, President Diaz then. Do regular leaves absences act like summer Leave of absences in which someone else can temporarily fill their seat? Or is it just two different things that share the same name?
    - **President Diaz:** These are questions that I'm somewhat unqualified for, I can tell you of one of our senators that was elected in my class. So last fall he took a leave of absence to go to Europe on like study abroad, so I don't know that and nobody has nobody felt a seat so I don't know. I'll defer to Chair Tucker.
    - **Chair Tucker:** Yeah, sorry, I lost connection for a little bit guys. I just wanted to go off of the discussion that chair fall brought up. Yeah, so historically, if you ask for a temporary leave of absence, it's a whole different deal. You know summer sense, a special occasion that's different. But if it's throughout like a regular semester such as President Diaz pointed out that we had with a previous senator, they asked for a

temporary leave of absence. It was granted. They never lost their seat and their seat was never replaced.

- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Anybody else wanting to talk in roundtable discussion? I mean, I don't need to call on you for this. You can just freely speak.
- **Chair DeChick:** Especially, I would rather not put someone in a circumstance where they're trying to stress it's too thin because of obligation. Especially something like RTC where they're not like they're going to be out of state. They're just not able to participate fully, which I totally understand, and I think that you know to Chair Marting's point that if he is able to vote on the election would be great and this is a very valid reason for a Leave of absence. Thank you.
- **President Diaz:** Sorry I have. I have a point for clarification following Statutes 404 D1 basically kind of talks about the seat being vacant and kind of leaves it only. For summer it's a little bit loose but with the way it's worded it implies only for summer by saying they need to file a notice of intent with the Senate President 2 weeks prior to the last student Senate meeting Of the spring semester and then like two sentences later, talking about the discretion of the Senate President and majority of the Senate, the notice the Senate seat should be considered vacant available for appointment for the entire summer so it only talks about summer.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** That doesn't apply in this case, because that's for summer leaves of absences. I was stating that the vacancy would apply to Senator Pedraja's situation.
- **Chair Tucker:** Yeah, so sorry I cut out again for saying, but someone hasn't already I move to call the question, I think we're all on the same page on this so I feel like it's time to make a make a decision.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Sorry I actually I have to kill the call the question as there is no question to call. So instead of making a motion to call the question, let's do a motion to grant a leave of absence with the specific dates, so is there anyone would like to get those certain dates through a point of information?
- **Chair Folwell:** Yeah, point of information to Senator Predraja, just what are the dates once more?
- **Senator Pedraja:** June 25th to July 29th and I just did my research. Summer B does end July 29 so would I just continue my seat in the fall? That's more of a question for President Diaz, sorry.
- **President Diaz:** It's not a suspension. If your leave of absence ends on June 29th, then you become a senator again the next day after that. And you start again in the fall.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Technically we're still in open table discussion, so if you don't have any points, you guys can be free to talk.
- **Chair Folwell moves to grant Senator Pedraja a special leave of absence from June 25<sup>th</sup> to July 29<sup>th</sup> 2022; Vice Chair Marting seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - **Pro Tempore Drackley:** Since there's no technical procedure for this kind of situation, I will ask Senator Pedraja if he finds those dates friendly.
  - **Senator Pedraja:** Yes, I find those dates right.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [ 5 ] [DeChick, Harrell, Folwell, Tucker, Marting]
  - No: [ 0 ]

- Abstain: [ 0 ]
- **RESULT: Leave of Absence from June 25<sup>th</sup> to July 29<sup>th</sup> 2022 has been approved for Senator Pedraja**

**Unfinished Business:**

- Bill 48 (Tabled)

**Closing Announcements:**

- **President Diaz:**
  - Hi y'all, I've been to on your committees this week pretty much and y'all did great work. I know that it's been stressful as you can tell by this meeting all day and I don't really know what we're doing sometimes. And it's just a matter again, I know that most of you are new. Pretty much everybody has been here since I know the oldest people here have been here since last fall, so even I'm new to this stuff too. So, it's a learning process for everyone I promise you so great first week, most of your committees were pretty good. I don't want to embarrass judiciary, but I think it would be pertinent to like mention what happened last week just so that everybody knows for the future. Make sure that your zoom links work people because what happened in Judiciary last week was that their zoom didn't open and then if you have the wrong location on there, then sometimes your meetings have to get shut down because they don't follow sunshine law. So just make sure that you test everything. Things are running smoothly, etc. That's kind of it.
  - I wanted to also mention I spoke with Vice Chair Harrell on this a couple days ago, but on Wednesday all of you or the chairs or vice chairs in the chair's absence are responsible for committee reports on Wednesday night. If you guys look at the calendar, I haven't posted the calendar for this Wednesday, but if you look at the old ones. You'll see there's a spot for the report of committees, so each I'll call through each of the committees in order of the seniority of the committees, and then basically the reports that you guys did in the beginning of this meeting. You just do it again for the full Senate so that they all know what you guys have been up to. That's kind of it. I mean great. First week, y'all. Let's make sure committee weeks are this great every week.
- **Pro Tempore Drackley:**
  - I would just like to say It was a great first Rules and Calendar Committee meeting. I just want to say great job. I think we did great work with the work what we had to do today. Anybody else have any other closing announcements?
- **Chair DeChick:**
  - Yeah, real quick. I just want to thank everybody, I have reached out to a couple you guys for stuff just for my committee. I just want to thank you guys for all the help you guys have given me and just am happy to work with you guys for the you know short time you have in summer and again you know if there's anything I can do as budget chair please feel free to reach out to you know I always have my phone on me if there are any questions, just please let me know if not I'm looking forward to seeing some of you guys in some capacity in the Fall so thanks for that.

- **Pro Tempore Drackley:**

- Alright, if nobody else has any other closing announcements, I would say the next meeting for rules will be figured out this week. I don't want to do rules constantly every Monday unless you guys prefer it, otherwise, I will come up with a more consistent date/time. So if you have any preferences for time and or dates like Monday, Tuesday or whatever, please message the Rules Group group chat, or me personally and I can try and figure it out what's best for all of us. So if there are no more closing announcements I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

**Chair Folwell moves to adjourn the meeting; Vice Chair Harrell seconds**

**Next Meeting: TBD**

**Adjourned: 6:29 PM**

**Recording Link:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FMbMORPSOeRhaelZslhI53rTXtZEJpYv/view?usp=sharing>

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aeden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

**Signature of Chair Pro Tempore Drackley**