



**75<sup>th</sup> Student Senate  
Finance Committee  
July 18, 2023**

<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/94597574335>

**Call to Order: 6:45pm**

**Members Present:** Chair Bevis, Vice-Chair Fredock, Senators Hellman, Shaver, Gessner, Olsson

**Members Tardy:**

**Members Absent:** Senators Jones,

**Guests:** President Cofer, Stella Humberg, Spencer White, Senators White, pedraja,

**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 settlers- 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:**

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**Committee Business:**

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**Old Business:**

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**New Business:**

- **Bill 66 - Sponsored by Chair Bevis**
  - Opening Statement:
    - **Chair Bevis:** Okay, y'all guys so basically what this bill is doing so you know, obviously not prepared to be get elected to be your vice chair and

your chair. I made sure to read over you know, the finance code, which is like chapter 800 of student body statutes which goes over a bunch of different financial rules and especially goes over a lot about packing hardtack and yeah, so for those you all don't know, it's not that we don't go over that much. Um, pack is a programming Allocation Committee it finds ourselves looking to put on events for the FSU community. And our topic is the resources for travel Allocation Committee. It looks to find ourselves looking to travel things like workshops. And pays for things like gas mileage, and like flights and hotels stuff like that. And if throughout all the finance code they're like several exceptions packing or tack can make to certain rules. Like I think I remember seeing one where like, I think they can make an exception to like have like an event off campus sponsored by pack I think that's what I saw. But there are several that you can do. And one of them I saw was like this. If there's like the statute that says it's like hacking or attacking phone executive board only events but right after it says like they can make an exception by two thirds vote. And the other exceptions to me just made sense. But when I saw this when I was just kind of like, whoa, hey, watch this. I just wasn't a big fan of it. And I just don't I to me what I just saw his eyes was like that pack and our tech money could possibly be used to like put on or fund an executive board only event over you know, another RSO looking to you know, help a much bigger group of people because I just don't think that's fair because you know, we have a lot of ourselves requesting money from Pac and our attack and I think I don't I just don't think it's in the best interest to you know, Sue executive board only events, especially for PAC is literally on the SGA website. I think it literally says like the purpose of PAC is like been put on find on our so it's putting on events for the FSU community. So when I saw that and looked at this exception, especially for PAC, I'll just kind of like, I don't know, I just don't feel like that. That really fits my vision of Pac. And also I did some research too. I looked through all our PAC Nortek minutes for the past fiscal year. And I sorry, yeah, I saw very, I don't even think a single executive board only event was funded by Pac and our TAC maybe at the most in the past year or two, maybe one or two. So that just shows that very little money is used any way to fund executive board only events compared to you know, events for the FSU community that PAC nor tag funds so I really don't think this will change a whole lot funding wise because just so much so little bit is going to executive board only events anyway. And yeah, that's all I gotta say. If there's any questions, please feel free to ask and with that I yield the rest of my time.

○ Technical Non-Debatable Questions:

- **Senator White:** I have a question regarding the what type there's a definition of what an executive board only event is considering that I know a lot of Rs O's rely on like sometimes SGA money or just a lot of fundraising in order to go to their nationals events. If they wanted to bring their executive board to like a national level conference or something like that, which I know might be more our tack them pack but that would be considered an executive board on the event.
- **Chair Bevis:** Yeah, absolutely. So all executive board only events. They weren't specifically to find statutes. The way I interpreted this as was like

events that are like put on for like, just events that are for only executive boards or events that are just like, overwhelming. We just made up of like executive board members. I see it is pretty much just like a majority of the people going are from an executive board. That's how I see this as and also sorry for future reference, everyone. I'm not allowed to answer any questions from anyone not part of the committee. But I was glad to answer that one. Sorry.

- **Senator Hellman moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Olsson seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion:
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  - **Senator Hellman moves to call the question; Senator Olsson seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
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  - Vote:
    - Yes: **4, Hellman, Olsson, Shaver, Gessner**
    - No: None
    - Abstain: None
  - **RESULT: Bill 66 PASSES**
- **Bill 68 – Sponsored by Vice Chair Fredock**
    - Opening statement:
      - **Vice-Chair Fredock:** so, for a little bit of context for you all the organizational fund has existed for quite a few years as far as I'm aware. But speaking to former Senators and whatnot, I don't think it's actually been used in quite a while as intended and that's because there is no actual system in place for allocating the money. I think all that said in the current form of statues is literally just there shall be an organizational font for this purpose. So what my bill does is clarify what that purpose is. It gives the student body treasurer the ability to actually hear requests from RSOs into actually give them the money for startups. So sort of like an example if a new RSO gets established on campus say they're like an art club or something they can request from the student body treasurer, up to \$300 to get startup supplies you know, things like if it's an art club, paint brushes, drawing supplies, things of that nature. Yeah, I think that's about it. It's more just taking something that already exists and making it actually functional. So yeah, with that, I yield to my closing.
    - **Senator Olsson moves to enter roundtable; Senator Gessner Seconds**
    - **Senator Hellman moves to call the question; Senator Shaver Seconds**
    - Closing Statement:
      - **Vice-Chair Fredock:** Well, after that thrilling discussion, I don't think I have anything further to add. So I yield the rest of my time.
    - Vote:
      - Yes: **5, Vice-chair Fredock, Senators Hellman, Shaver, Olsson, Gessner,**
      - No: none
      - Abstain: none
    - **RESULT: Bill 68 PASSES**

- **Bill 69 – Sponsored by Vice-Chair Fredock**

- Opening Statement

- **Vice-Chair Fredock:** Okay, well, first of all, so this bill has sort of two components to it. The first component is several changes that I think are just kind of no brainer tweaks to make the funding process more accessible to our RSOs. For example, I require that whenever the Senate votes or denies of spending requests for an RSO that are associated have to be notified about that request. Speaking from experience when I was going through this as an RSO. We were kind of left in the dark a lot of the time. So this should hopefully alleviate that. A couple of tweaks to make it more fair when the funding board is going to run out of money. So as is entirely first come first served. So you could be scheduled at a meeting with our RTAC or PAC and then not even get to be heard. So from my experience, we literally sat with the board for two hours only for the tariffs to come onto the call and say sorry, we ran out of money. So this is going to make that a little bit of a nicer process a little more fair. And then I think the big tweak at the end is changing how funding maximums are handled. So under the current statutes, each RSO is given the chance to request money from each funding board two times or \$2,000 each. What my request does is it keeps you know, for two times 2000 Each is an effective 4000 maximum, right. My bill does away with the number of requests you can limit and says each year you have the ability to get up to \$4,000 from each funding board. And that just makes more sense to me. Because just like chair Beavis was I was going through the minutes have passed our tech and pack meetings and RSS frequently get more than \$2,000 because there is that two thirds wave capability. So mine new system is just more realistic with that. It says look, they're taking more than 2000 Anyways, this way we now have like, we give the RSO is more flexibility and how they request the money. So you can request it like you know, four times for 1000 Each or just one big \$4,000 event, which I think should just be easier and more fair for our says that I think I yield towards closing.

- Technical Non-Debatable Questions:

- **Senator Hellman moves to allow Stella Humberg to speak; Senator Olsson seconds.**

- **Stella Humberg:** I guess I just have a couple of questions. Slash statements about it. Um, I'm wondering, what was the decision on three a when deciding which requests to partially fund preference shall be given to our Assos that have not received SGA funds in the past? I get what you're saying there, but have you considered that potentially, two of the requests may be these are just two of ones that we've gotten in the past, like veggie burgers for the vegetarian club. Versus like, a meal for Passover for Hillel. I'm wondering if you consider the sort of difference in some of the requests that we get, even though Hillel may have gotten funding in the past, what would be the implication of not funding them for something like this because

- **Vice-Chair Fredock:** Um, I guess I do see your point. That that's not meant to be brushed. It can be worded better, but it's not meant to be like a hard like, Oh, you've gotten money in the past. Therefore, you're kicked out. You don't get any money this time. I just kind of wanted that to be a strong factor that's to be considered. You know, because it is a little unfair if like, like, ether if one RSO got \$3,000 already. This RSO hasn't gotten a cent yet is treated on equal footing.

- **Stella Humberg:** Okay. Um, yeah, I agree. I see what you're saying that like, you know, some clubs get like a bunch, but also we get a lot of people who are requesting a lot of things over and over again, because honestly, not a lot of artists don't know about PAC, which is hopefully something that will change this year. But I understand that Yeah, I think that maybe it could be worded a little bit better. That way, it doesn't seem so like, for sure because I mean, no offense to the vegetarian club at FSU, but I'd rather fund something for like an identity based organization or a holiday or something. Um, and then my other question was about the removal of the two thirds vote for the line item over 2000. So that I personally just don't really like that. Because I do think that even though it goes through Pac and it goes through finance people on the floor should be able to vote about that. So again, I'm just kind of wondering like, was that something that other people said that they like weren't interested in doing or I don't know. I'm just like truly curious.
- **Vice-Chair Fredock:** So well, to re-go over what my bill is doing is it's kind of doing away with that 2000 limit in favor for a yearly maximum of \$4,000 and that provision does have a two thirds like waiving ability, if you're going to be funded over \$4,000 Or your new total for the year is about to go over \$4,000 That requires a two thirds vote.
- **Stella Humberg:** So like, you know, if whatever came out RTAC, like if someone in the debate club wants to go to Paris and it's \$3,000 that that line I think is just referring to the fact that on the floor, when PAC is presenting or RTAC the consent resolution, everyone would have to we would have to get a two thirds vote on that for it to pass. When Yeah, yeah. Which I think is, I mean, as someone who always hasn't been PAC chair, I have enjoyed and felt that it was necessary for everyone to agree that we're spending that money on that. So I don't know. I don't know if you have like if other people have been like, No, we don't care about that. I'm truly just curious.
- **Vice-Chair Fredock:** Yeah, no, I can say my rationale and striking that was because, you know, it's the \$2,000 limit. I'm doing away with that. And I added at the very end of this bill, the new section all the requirements. I do think I don't know if I say anything about the on the Senate floor. But yeah, it's because there is no \$2,000 limit now. Now it's the 4000 yearly limit, which if you want to scroll to the bottom, Parker, there is the like you need a two thirds now for going over the 4000 for your yearly total. That's kind of meant to be the placement of that as far as
- **Stella Humberg:** so typically like for example, if you know the elegant and vegetarian club wants \$3,000 in one sitting or one consent resolution, when I'm presenting it to the floor. I would, you know, bring it up and then we would the entire floor would have to vote two thirds on that specific line item. Just because it's so much money. It would I guess affect the yearly 4000 that they get, but that one is just for a line item. Yeah. So that's why I think that it's important that we can everyone can vote on that. Sorry, that wasn't really a question. Maybe this is more roundtable discussion
- **Vice-Chair Fredock:** You're good. But I mean, it's a fair concern, but I guess that RS so that that kind of responsibility might fall in the RSO is, you know, at the end of the day, it's they're not promised that of course, but it's their \$4,000 limit that they can play with however they want, if they want

to blow it all on a one \$3,000 thing. You know, I think that's on them, but I'm definitely open for more like things on the Senate floor.

- **Stella Humberg:** Um, yeah, I believe so. I think I actually have one more which is would you possibly be open to amending the whereas the actually in one of the very first paragraphs in D one, it says that I should send out meeting notifications 48 hours prior to the meeting times. So requests are due on the Friday before the meeting. And then I would typically like review them on Saturday and like give sent out any emails that are like, Oh, you're you didn't do this correctly, or, you know, you just need to redo this pretty quickly. And then I would send out the meeting time on Sunday. This isn't like super necessary, I guess like if you want it to keep it you're welcome to it would just be probably easier for both me and them. If I could just send them the meeting time. 24 hours before the meeting time doesn't change ever. So they should kind of already know what it is. But it would just make it easier if I could just send up take those 48 hours to send them any revisions or anything.
- **Vice-Chair Fredock:** Yeah, I think that's fine. If the if the meeting time is consistent, because on my experience, it was we had I had met with them twice and it was at different times. But as long as that times like posted clearly on the website I have no no problem going to 24 hours.
- **Stella Humberg:** Yeah, it should be posted on the website and I have nothing to do on Mondays at 730. So it shouldn't change. If it does change. I'd be happy to send them that 48 hours before but just kind of for my laziness. Sake Yeah. Okay, now I'm done. I'm sorry promise.
- **Senator Hellman moves to allow Spenser White Speak; Senator Avery Seconds**
- **Spencer White:** So I'm just worried about the last part where it says Park chair Beavis. Can you scroll down to the last part again, we were this is what the pack chair was trying to say to this bill eliminates where if it goes over for that, if it goes over the threshold, where it prevents the whole Senate from speaking because right now we go through the consent resolution and we have to start with the line items on the Senate floor if they're over 2000. And I think this would eliminate valuables debate over it from the rest of the senators that aren't included in the finance committee, whose opinions are equally as valuable when we give out this large amount of money to these organizations. I also don't agree with increasing the threshold without increasing the amount of money that we have available to the organizations because if we start increasing the threshold, it's gonna prevent fiscal responsibility and prevent more debate on to how we're utilizing the funds. And if we keep the \$2,000 threshold, it creates more debate which will hopefully allow more clubs to request money and allow more funding to be available to everyone. Thanks and I want to thank Senator Hellman for letting me speak.
- **Senator Hellman Moves to call the question; Senator Olsson Seconds**
- Vote:
  - Yes: 1, Vice Chair Fredock
  - No, 2, Senators Hellman, Gessner
  - Abstain: 2, Senators Shaver, Olsson
- **RESULT: Bill 69 Fails**

- **Resolution 51 – Sponsored by Senator White**

- Opening Statement:
- Senator White Talks about her experience with SNAP funding on campus. She expresses frustration with how difficult it is to locate the EBT terminal on campus, and how the ability to use SNAP on campus locations such as the pod is not properly advertised. She claims her resolution will help to alleviate this issue.
- **Senator Olsson Moves to call the question; Vice-Chair Fredock seconds**
- Vote:
  - Yes: **5, Vice-Chair Fredock, Senators Hellman, Shaver, Olsson, Gessner**
  - No: None
  - Abstain: None

**Unfinished Business:**

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**Closing Announcements:**

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**Next Meeting: Finance will not meet again until fall.**

**Adjourned: 7:33 PM**

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Signature of Chair **Parker Bevis**