



**75<sup>th</sup> Student Senate**  
**Internal Affairs Committee**  
**June 5, at 5:30 pm | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/98419540608>**

**Call to Order:** 5:31 pm

**Members Present:** Chair Randall, Vice Chair Waller, Senator Gorelick, Senator Butrum

**Members Tardy:** Senator Richards, Senator Gomez

**Members Absent:** Senator Edenfield

**Guests:** Senator President Cofer, Juan Bustamente, Dan Muniz, David Russ, Mekhi Lafontant, Will Gooden, Eli Mckown Dawson, Denver Harris, Maddie King, Hannah Carter, TJ Hockett, Autumn Anderson, Stephanie Matos, Layla Mathews, Senator White

**Land Acknowledgement – Chair Randall**

- 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:**

- **Chair Randall:**
- Welcome all candidates and senators to internal affairs. Very nice to see you all, I am excited to have our first meeting together. The way this is going to work is we will go through the process one at a time and you will have three minutes for your opening statement. Whatever you do not use will then be yielded towards your closing statement. We will then go into a round of general questioning so that any committee members can use that time to ask you any questions that they might have after reading your application. We will then move into a round of round table discussion where committee members can discuss what they've heard, what they like about you and any cons. We will then move into a vote but before that you will be able to use the remainder of your time towards a closing statement. If you pass through the committee, you will then go to

the next senate meeting to be confirmed on the floor. That will be next Wednesday because Senate meets every other week during the summer. That will be June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. That will be in HCB room 216 because orientation is using Senate chambers or on Zoom if you cannot make it to Tallahassee. If you need to leave early for some reason or anything, let me know and I can change the order around.

- **Vice Chair Waller:**

I'm looking forward to working with you all for our first meeting.

**Committee Business:**

- Juan Bustamante– Executive Branch, Deputy Chief of Staff (2 Applicants)
- Luis “Dan” Muniz– Executive Branch, Cabinet Director (2 Applicant)
- David Russ– Jewish Student Union Treasurer (1 Applicant)
- Mekhi Lafontant–Executive Branch, Co-Director of Programming (3 Applicants)
- Will Gooden – Executive Branch, Policy Director (5 Applicants)
- Eli McKown Dawson– Executive Branch, Policy Director (5 Applicants)
- Denver Harris–Executive Branch, Press Secretary (3 Applicants)
- Maddie King – Executive Branch, Budget Analyst (2 Applicants)
- Hannah Carter– Executive Branch, Director of Academic Affairs (3 Applicants)
- TJ Hockett– Executive Branch, Director of Collegiate Affairs (3 Applicants)
- Autumn Anderson– Executive Branch, Director of DEI (5 Applicants)
- Stephanie Matos– Executive Branch, Director of Public Relations (1 Applicant)
- Layla Matthews – Executive Branch, Director of Photography (2 Applicants)
- Tory Kim– Executive Branch, Financial Assistant (3 Applicants)
- KJ Foristall – Executive Branch, Director of Social Media (2 Applicants)
- Yesenia Yataco– Executive Branch, Co-Director of Programming (3 Applicants)
- Daniel Ferraro– Jewish Student Union Assistant Director (1 Applicant)
- Remi Ventura– Jewish Student Union Secretary (0 Applicants)
- Josie St. Hillaire– Executive Branch, Director of Student Life (5 Applicants)
- Kolby Gawlik– Executive Branch, Director of Sustainability (3 Applicants)
- Gustavo Ayala– Executive Branch, Director of Community Engagement (3 Applicants)
- Resolution 44– Sponsored by Senators Salazar (P), S. White (P)
- Bill 56– Sponsored by Senator Humberg (P), Cofer (P)

**New Business:**

- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Juan Bustamante, Executive Branch, Deputy Chief of Staff]**

- Opening Statement:

- Hi everybody. It's good to be back. This is my second time before this committee Last year I was forwarded for a directorsustainability as one of the first positions or it was like a new position created in cabinet by the Gage administration. Andso I'm excited to be forwarded to this position as Deputy chief of staff. I forgot I did not introduce myself, but my name isJuan Boe, I'm a rising senior at Florida State University and I currently am a brother and president of my fraternity AlphaMu chapter of F Alpha Fraternity Incorporated. I'm could not be more excited and honored to be forwarded to thisposition by the Hitchcock and Chung administration. I look forward to answering all your questions as to what thisposition entails. I could say that my time as director of sustainability and cabinet has really opened and widened my eyesto what the potential of student

government is. I can say that I came in with just that focus of sustainability being on my mind, that being my passion, but realizing how cabinet works, realizing how the, how the executive office works and how everybody can really come together, put their passions and their ideas together for a greater purpose to serve the student body has widened my scope and my belief in this organization and that is why I am excited to just carry that on in my second and final year in S G A to be at Vice President Nina Cho's side, a sister in whatever capacities she may need, set the administration's priorities together so that they can become a reality by the time that we're rolling out and fall. And so I look forward to all your questions and thank you again for having me. I yield back balance of my time.

○ Round of Questioning:

- **Senator Gorelick:** Just have really one question. I just want to kind of know, maybe if you could talk about it a little bit, what I guess you did give an example maybe of something you did with your last position being director of sustainability and maybe something you wanna do with your new position that you are, that you applied for.

- **Speaker:** Yeah, thank you for that question. So one thing that I can point to is working on the garden renovation. I talking with Jack who, who was cabinet director last year and now he is student body president. He was cabinet director and cabinet, you know, has like different areas that are priorities for in cabinet members. And I kind of noticed, we kind of know this like overlap between director of accessibility, director of sustainability and director of student wellness. And we kind of teamed up together those three positions with obviously Jack leading us to organize together and set like this priority that we want to do a garden renovation, but we also want to expand it for a bigger purpose. Like we're not just building a garden into, you know, having just more plots, but we're also going to incorporate student wellness into it. We're gonna engage the food pantry and those toxicity, like to what extent they might need more support for food production to fill the shelves on the pantry. And we realize that like if you have a, like if you are on a wheelchair, you cannot garden because there's no path there that directly leads, that allows for a wheelchair to go, you know, to a bed. And so that became, you know, the, the project which was create this collaborative team that would, you know, not only build up the garden more, but also we're gonna, you know, engage in talks with the senate pass this bill to create a d a accessible beds. And you know, I just came out to the garden two days ago and I'm seeing those beds being built. So I think that's really cool like that. That's definitely I think my highlight of last year in S G A and that's something that I want to continue more collaborative efforts between members of the executive branch because a lot of things do overlap. Student life is one big umbrella of a lot of things and cabinet in my time I felt was very independent work. But hopefully as deputy chief of staff I could help facilitate a little bit more of that teamwork under the, you know, guidance and direction of the student body vice president and the president to connect cabinet with the executive office of

the president, vice president and just create projects that widen the scope of, you know, what the intentions are. Yeah. Thank you for that question.

- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - NONE
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Butrum seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - Speaker: I just wanna say thank you for the question. Thank you for having me. I look forward to hopefully seeing you all in person if anybody's in Tallahassee. If should I be forwarded for the Senate vote? I'm in Tallahassee over the summer, hopefully doing a little bit of work here. But yeah again, thank you for the questions and I'm excited to work with you all potentially next year I yield back.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [3] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick Butrum]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE JUAN BUSTAMENTE PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Dan Muniz, Executive Branch, Cabinet Director]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Speaker: Hey, how's it going everyone? Hope everyone has is having a good evening today. I would just like to thank you for the time and opportunity to present myself for cabinet director this evening. So there is really three things that will make me a best choice for cabinet director. So the first thing is I have experience in the cabinet as the director of student wellness for last year. And I've seen how Jack the last cabinet director really led and managed the role very personally. So I believe that with my past experience I'll be able to effectively manage the cabinet and bring a positive atmosphere to the work environment. Second, I know how to get things done. I've shown this through my textbook affordability project where I raised over 500 classroom materials for F S U course reserves and for the care library so I understand what it takes to effectively carry out projects for the executive branch. And lastly, I'm a people person. I can work with anyone and I've exemplified that through my time at SGA, obviously with Juan. Shout out Juan, like we worked together on that garden bed project last year and with a ton of other projects with other people in the cabinet. So I believe that the cabinet director needs to be someone who is reachable, someone who's easy to work with and is able to complete the goals for student government and for students across the campus. So I'll keep that short. With that I'll waive the rest of my opening statement.
  - Round of Questioning:
    - **Senator Gorelick:** Just a quick question. In your application I see somewhere I see under the question what goals you have for your potential role. And I quote additionally, I am to, I aim to serve the responsibilities of the presidency in the most capable manner. Providing Jack Hitchcock with the utmost loyalty and trust in his vision through his

position on F S A I aim to provide assistance and aid to his role as a member and hopeful chair by carrying out the duties he entrusted on his team. I just want to know from you, if you don't see eye to eye on something with the presidency or with the administration, will you try and work with to come to a level or like to a meeting place between the two? Or is this more, are you gonna just kind of like have to go with what they say?

- Yeah, for sure. So I'll add a little context to that part. So I initially applied for the policy director position and that position more aligns with more personable or personal passion projects of the president. And so that being a lot of what he does with fsa and I think he was recently just elected as chair for fsa, so congratulations to him. But cabinet director kind of has a different angle on passion projects for the executives. So it's really you you, it's more of a collaborate, collaborative effort. So really, you know, when coming into the organization, seeing the platform that they ran off of through the campaign, I really do believe in every single talking point that they have presented through their platform. And I really do believe in the organization's goal for F SSU students. So I'm, I am completely on board with whatever Jack wants to accomplish. I have seen it all before, already nothing, there is nothing controversial. I don't see anything being controversial, but if there comes to a point where there is, I wouldn't say disagreements, but times where we can have a conversation about things, I, I, I am very open to that. We've had that all the time last year in cabinet, he was my cabinet director, so my boss last year and, and we had conversations about things all the time and we would, you know, just bounce back and forth about different ideas and it was a very open collaborative environment. So I don't see that being an issue and I, I do see myself working very well with whoever is in my cabinet, whoever that may be. So yeah, hopefully that answers your question.
- **Senator Butrum:** So I saw in your application that you interned with a floor representative and also worked under their aid. How do you think that's gonna help you in this future position?
  - Yeah, that's a great question. So I have a, so through that internship and I've had another internship this last legislative session through lobbying firm, I've gotten to learn and develop a deep understanding about the legislative process here in Florida and really how the politics of things surround certain decisions. So I'll give you an example. HB 999 was a huge controversial type of thing that was going on in D S G A world last year and pretty recent last semester. So with that kind of thing, it's allowed me to navigate those issues very well because I understand the process, I understand where a bill needs to go or how the, the language is read in order to effectively communicate that information to students. So I believe that with that experience, that will help me out a lot through the cabinet director role.
  - **Senator Butrum moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion:

- NONE
  - **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Butrum seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    - Yeah, I just wanna thank for the opportunity again and I'll just waive the rest of my time.
  - Vote:
    - Yes: [4] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, and Richards]
    - No: [0]
    - Abstain: [0]
  - **RESULT: CANDIDATE Dan Muniz PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [David Russ, Jewish Student Union Treasurer]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Hi, my name is David, I'm a rising sophomore and my major is mechanical engineering. I'm really excited to enter the world of the student government. I've been, I've been looking for more ways to get more involved and I feel like this is a great place to start for me chose the role just cuz I feel like it would give me a, like I said, a good, a good introduction to, to the Jewish Union, union and the SGA in general and seeing, you know, just seeing like what we do, what our roles are and also the, the, the Jewish Student Union is very important to me personally cuz I'm a, i I love being Jewish, I love showing everyone I'm Jewish and I feel like there're like as, like as a, as a Jewish community we have a very large we have a very large Jewish community here at Florida State and I feel we can come together and form a a beautiful community together. And I will, waive the rest of my time.
  - Round of Questioning:
    - NONE
  - **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Butrum seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion:
    - NONE
  - **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gorelick seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    - I just want to thank you all for having me today and I yield the rest of my time.
  - Vote:
    - Yes: [4] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, and Richards]
    - No: [0]
    - Abstain: [0]
  - **RESULT: CANDIDATE David Russ PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Mekhi Lafontant, Executive Branch, Co-Director of Programming]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Okay. Hi everyone, my name is Mekhi Lafontant. I'm current public health major minoring in biological science and today I'm here to present to you about why I should become the codirector of programming of I applied to, I accepted this position because I know how much an event can have an

impact on campus. I know last year a big impact for me was FSU night. Just seeing everyone come out and I feel like you know, we can make a impact through these events. Having a larger demographic, you know, not just aiming for one specifically, you know, just getting the units to really bond and build on the connection that they already established. So for this, I do have pretty big plans I wanna implement. Just making sure you know, we have workshops that are beneficial to all people on campus of areas on campus. Especially you know, me being a care student, I do believe there are, you know, some things that we lack and you know, there are things that we can improve on as a whole student body and I know I just wanna keep upholding the spirit of FSU as well as you know, making sure everything runs smoothly and you know, SGA has really opened my eyes about how impactful they can be. So that's kind of my goal is just, you know, really being more establishing like like I said before, like better bonds with these unions and in between the unions and you know, using these events to actually have an impact on others and not just as, not just in the Florida state community but as well as the Tallahassee community as well. Just showing what type of school we are and holding that school spirit. And I yield my time.

○ Round of Questioning:

■ **Senator Butrum:** Speaker: I see your application that you mentioned that you plan to create organizations and programs that stand against HB 999 and I was just wondering like how you plan on doing that or what organizations you plan on creating to stand against that bill?

- So creating organizations, it's more so just having our unions really come together to, I know we had a walk that I attended which really was impactful for us. So I would say more so like just creating those, establish those more unifications so we can like, you know, have more protests like walking against those rights cuz you know the HB nine-nine bill is like removing the, the diversity and inclusion or attempting to try to move federation inclusion. So just trying to establish, you know, having seen that uniform of like all the units come together really like opened my eyes about how impactful people can be when they come together. So just more emphasis on that type of programming. Probably like communicating with with other units like hey can we all like gather around to rally for this, you know, making sure that we're all understanding each person's message. Yeah.

○ **Senator Butrum moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Waller seconds**

○ Round-Table Discussion:

■ NONE

○ **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Butrum seconds**

○ Closing Statement:

■ Thank you so much for having me today and I yield the rest of my time.

○ Vote:

■ Yes: [4] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, and Richards]

■ No: [0]

■ Abstain: [0]

○ **RESULT: CANDIDATE Mekhi Lafontant PASSES**

- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Will Gooden, Executive Branch, Policy Director]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - **Speaker:** Hey everybody, how are you doing tonight? My name is Will Gooden and I'm honored to have been forwarded by the executive branch as one of the three policy directors. For those of you who I may not have had an opportunity to get to know on either a personal or professional level, I wanted to just give you all a quick overview of my background and my goals for the position. First, I'm a rising senior in the College of social sciences and the fact that there are three policy directors who will work together and separately on these passion projects is a prospect, is a prospect that I'm incredibly excited about. I think that everyone brings something different to the table and together we can make the university a better place. One area that I personally have excelled in in the past is project management. In addition to my time as the director of annual giving for the FSU student foundation, I've served in a few different roles in my fraternity, specifically as vice chair of three different committees and most recently as the secretary of the fraternity in these roles I was completing long-term projects and these included an overhaul of our organizational bylaws, applications for different awards such as the F S L, chapter of the Year awards and some that were administered through our international headquarters. And I also assisted in the development of our risk management policy. These experiences involve the same skills that the policy director needs to utilize including networking, personal research, collaboration and time management. In addition to these experiences, I have excellent relationships with many members of the executive branch and the legislative branch as well as just around campus, which will allow me to jump right into accomplishing the work that matters more than anything. I'm committed and passionate to making our university a better place. I believe that the way to do this is by seeking projects such as the Advancement Committee and reform of the S G A statutes and Campus Improvement projects and seeing them through. Thank you.
  - Round of Questioning:
    - **Senator Gorelick:** Speaker: Just outside of of Greek life or outside of your frat, do you have any other, I guess maybe not roles on campus but any type of leadership roles I guess maybe that's the word I'm looking for?
      - Absolutely. So as I mentioned in my opening statement, I think that my fraternity work is the most applicable to this position since it's the most directly coordinated with project management. However, I did have experience in the student foundation as the director of annual giving and this gave me skills such as team leadership as well as serving on a team of directors to accomplish our overall project of raising money for the Great Give. And in addition to that I've just had professional experience in customer service, so networking and that same kind of thing. A big part of this job will be reaching out to people and collecting information and that kind of stuff to accomplish the project. So I think that's really important. I'm also completing an internship right now that includes a business project. Thank you for asking the question by the way,



- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - NONE
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - Thank you for having me, I am looking forward to working with you guys hopefully.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [4] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, and Richards]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Will Gooden PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Eli McKown Dawson, Executive Branch, Policy Director]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Speaker: Okay. You did not butcher it by the way. That was right. So hi everyone, it's good to be here tonight. Thank you for having me. For those of you I haven't met, my name's Eli McCown Dawson, I'm going into my senior year at F S U I study political science and Statistics. Most of my involvement on campus is fairly research based. I work as a research fellow at the Leroy Collins Institute, which is a public policy think tank housed within the College of Social Sciences where I research mostly elections, voting behavior and public policy in Florida. I also research policy with the Deval Moore Center and then I do some survey research with the public opinion firm yu gov. In terms of SGA involvement, I've served as the director of the student council for Undergraduate Research and Creativity for the past year. And before that I was with the Torchlight Campus Policy Center for two years where I again conducted research on sga, a executive policy and legislative branch policy. I think that SGA has really a lot of potential to help FS U students have the best experience they can, but at the same time there are certainly things that can be improved and refined and new policies that can be implemented to help more students and I really think that serving as a policy director is the best way I can contribute to that. So I look forward to hearing all your questions and yield back the rest of my time.
  - Round of Questioning:
    - **Vice Chair Waller:** What policies would you advocate for to help our students?
      - Speaker: Yeah, great question. So something I've been already speaking about with Jack A. Little bit is kind of an idea to help new F S U students find things to get involved with because I remember that, you know, when I first came to F S U, it can be kind of overwhelming sometimes because there are so many clubs and organizations that kind of things to get involved with. So one thing I'm, he was talking about having me help implement was potentially kind of a, a survey that we would include on kind of orientation materials for students where they could take this, enter some information about kind of what they're interested in, what

kind of experiences they're looking to get, that sort of thing. And then we could connect them with organizations on Noel Central that kind of match that description so they can kind of, instead of having to navigate through the entire list of organizations on no central, perhaps they have some kind of places to start. So that's just one example of one of the things we've been talking about.

- **Senator Butrum:** So on your application it obviously what you just stated was the survey, which I think is like so cool, but what other plans do you have for the position to get more freshmen involved and just to get a higher involvement in the SGA community?
  - So something I think would help, that would help freshmen get involved with SGA is I think the website can be a little confusing sometimes. I think there's a lot of information on there. I think it's not particularly well organized in in in some ways in terms of, especially if you're new figuring out what does the executive branch do, what does the legislative branch do, how do I get involved and maybe run for senate or that kind of, and I think there are creating some resources there to help new students just instead of having to read through statutes or or or something very complicated to figure out how things work. Get a kind of a a place where students can go get an overview of what SGA does and kind of how you can get involved, maybe how you can find a political party if you wanna run for office or, or get a better idea of kind of how a kind of complex organization works and see if it's something you're more interested in.
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Butrum seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - NONE
- **Senator Butrum moves to forward the candidate; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - I want to thank you all for taking the time to ask me questions and I hope to see you all next week in senate.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [4] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, and Richards]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Eli McKown Dawson PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Denver Harris, Executive Branch, Press Secretary]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Thank you so much. So how's it going guys? My name's Denver Harris. I'm seeing some familiar faces in this chat. So hito all of you. Those who don't know me, I'm a rising senior here at Florida State. I'm double majoring in political science and philosophy and I've been adjacent to student government pretty much my entire time here at Florida State. However, I have been very passionate about the university in general from my very first day stepping on campus. My goals for the press secretary position are to really increase the amount of transparency in SGA so that way more students know about a lot of the great stuff that SGA does. I feel like kind of the unfortunate truth of the matter is a lot of students,

especially those who don't have a major that falls into CUSP is that the SJ is kind of this resume builder that there's, you know, it's a slow moving machine that takes a while for anything to really find purchase on campus. I know that's not the case. I feel like most people in this chat know that's not the case and so to me then the issue and the deficiency there is communication, which is why I'm interested in the press secretary position. I think I'm uniquely qualified for the position being that I study political science, but my extracurricular involvement on our campus really is focused on representing the university. So I'm a university ambassador. I spend all day talking to prospective students about why they should come to Florida State University. I also have done a lot of work with F S V or on campus news publication. Met a lot of the great people over there and I mean at the end of the day I feel like it's the best way that I can contribute back to the university. The opportunity to communicate all the great stuff that I already know and we already know that goes on here is one I don't wanna pass up. So with that I'll yield my time.

- Round of Questioning:
  - NONE
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - NONE
- **Senator Gorelick moves to forward the candidate; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - Thank you all for your consideration.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [4] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, and Richards]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Denver Harris PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Maddie King, Executive Branch, Budget Analyst]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Hello senate, my name is Madeline King. I am a rising third year studying criminology in the process of minoring in mathematics and I am a current senator and I'm up for confirmation for the position of budget analyst. To begin, I would like to state my reason of which I'm applying specifically for this position. I would say that it definitely is where my passion and qualifications so perfectly align. Specific speaking to my experience in the real world and the jobs I in my job experience, I've worked under an accounting branch specifically under a CPA for over four years and I believe that this did give me a very strong foundation for the work that I do here at Florida State University. Moving on to my experience here, the positions that I hold are include treasurer, assistant treasurer, or I do work directly with financial advisors on a weekly basis in every organization that I'm a part of, some of which include but are not limited to class councils, student alumni association, the 19th 10 honorary, my sorority specifically and Pan as a whole. And in senate I served on the budget and finance committee and I am definitely financially certified. So being from various RSOs and different organizations and directly from Senate, I believe that I

have established knowledge of statutes, the 800 specifically and the financial manual and code I've seen from both sides and am able to serve as a credible source for and a bridge for organizations and the executive financial department specifically in my time here I do hope to provide a strong sense of clarity and transparency. This physician is the new physician and I am really excited to start getting connected with PAC and RAC processes, forming relationships with them and striving to lead with both intelligence and intentionality on a daily basis. A specific goal that I do have with my position is to work with PackarTech to efficiently utilize the funds that they were given, ensuring the elimination of both over and underspending a problem that we did previously face in the last Senate. Overall I applied because as previously stated, fiscal responsibility is something that I'm so genuinely passionate about and paired with my sga, RS O and real world experience, I believe that I will not only be successful in my role but leave a lasting impact along the way. So thank y'all for listening to me and I yield the rest of my time.

- Round of Questioning:
  - NONE
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Butrum seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - **Senator Richards:** I have gotten a chance to know this candidate personally and professionally and she truly is the most qualified person I know for this position. She has helped guide me as I joined Senate and her kindness, compassion, knowledge, and empathy will truly allow her to excel in this role.
  - **Vice Chair Waller:** I'll say that this candidate is extremely hardworking and I don't think there's anyone else more qualified for this position.
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - Thank you all for your kind words, I really appreciate it and thank you for taking the time to listen to me and I do look forward to seeing you all in Tallahassee on the 14th. I am here all summer so if anyone needs me, I'm here. And with that I yield the rest of my time.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [4] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, and Richards]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Maddie King PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Hannah Carter, Executive Branch, Director of Academic Affairs]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - All right, thank you Chair Randall. I appreciate it and it's giving very much déjà vu to be back in a Senate zoom committee meeting, but a good type of déjà vu. I also have to say if y'all thought that I was talking to like a phantom in the chat earlier, I meant to direct message share Randall and I'm like feeling a little bit of embarrassment about it, but I'm gonna power through. All right. Hi everyone, my name is Hannah Carter. I am a rising senior studying political science. I'm from Chattanooga, Tennessee and I am so excited to be forwarded to be this year's director of academic

affairs. In applying for this position, I felt like I had two relatively distinct opportunities to serve in I guess relative roles. The first would be that I served an entire term in the student senate. It was by far one of the best opportunities I ever took. I served as the chair of student life, which I'm pretty sure I made my personality trait for the entire time that I did so. But in my time in Senate I felt that I made a lot of relevant change to, you know, the academic sphere that I feel prepare me for this role. My other position that I hold currently is I'm the vice president of intellectual development for my sorority on campus. So I deal with a lot of professional and academic development as well as just making sure that people are following their individual passions and making the most out of the resources that F S U offers if given the opportunity to serve in this role, I, my main sort of goal overarching is that I want to make academic resources more accessible and I also want to expand the idea that all of us have of academic resources. I agree that you know, ACE tutoring and different specifically academic minded resources are important and I would love to continue to work to uphold those resources. But I also think that things such as, you know, the food pantry on campus and victim advocacy also directly relate to a student's academic success. So I would love to see a greater connection between academic resources and things that aren't typically seen as such. And with that I'm looking forward to any questions that you all may have and I wave the remainder of my time.

- Round of Questioning:

- **Senator Gorelick:**

- I'm looking at your application and I am seeing here under the past relevant experience as the vice president of intellectual development of Alpha Chi Omega, do you still have this position and if so, how would you maybe balance this or do you think it's not gonna be that much of a struggle to balance these two roles?
      - Yes, I, I know my, my title's kind of a mouthful there so I commend you for even getting it correct. But yes, I do think that I will be able to balance these two positions if given the opportunity I did. I've had experience I guess in balancing many different leadership roles and even with VP intellectual development, it very much relates to what I will be doing in academic affairs, just familiarizing myself with resources, making sure those are available to interested individuals. So honestly I think holding both of the positions at the same time might actually be helpful so I'm looking forward to seeing how those can sort of work in tandem with one another.

- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**

- Round-Table Discussion:

- **Senator Butrum:** I just wanna say Hannah I think was like one of the most active senators I knew when I was in the Senate legislative program. She was like the bubbliest person too. She helped also co-sponsor the bill I worked on with a bunch of other senators to get free menstrual products on campus. So she's very into student life and she was basically like the queen of student life so she's just amazing overall perfect for this position.



my fellow senators very, very much. Thank you Vice chair and thank you chair and I hope to see you all in person.

- Vote:
  - Yes: [5] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, Richards, and Gomez]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE TJ Hockett PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Autumn Anderson, Executive Branch, Director of DEI]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Hi guys. So yeah, as you know, I was a part of the 74th and 75th student Senate and I was a member of it. So it's nice to be back. I am applying for the Director of Diversity Equity Inclusion. I am a rising senior double majoring in political science and criminology. So I have some background in that. I was the DEI chair for my sorority last year and then I just moved to the DEI committee. Some things I just wanna do regarding programming is just work with the Diversity and Inclusion Institute that was just established on campus just to host more events and make it more well known. I think the DEI institute could do like kind of something on market Wednesday to get it out. And I also wanna work with club down under, under and get events going there. As you guys may know, the Senate bill 299, I believe 266 was just passed, which will create a little bit of a limit on DEI regarding in universities especially and funding for DEI programmed programming. So I had a plan. Originally I was hoping this wouldn't happen to work with our major agencies that will be personally affected by this. Obviously that will now have to be put into action. So I wanna sit down with them and Jack of course, and some just relevant stakeholders within the university to work on what we can do to make sure that they are still getting funding. That's my biggest thing and my biggest I guess thing right now that I wanna focus on. I did have some, you know, planning, development and policies, but I'm kind of putting those in the back burner because I feel like this is a more pressing issue. One of the biggest policies that I'm really looking forward to implementing is that the 75th Student Senate just passed a abridge version of the land acknowledgement, which I think I want to get implemented into all syllabi and as well read before every home football game. We do a lot for the seminars and you know, we do give them money, but I think just having everyone recognize, you know, the land that Chief Osceola is running on Renegade with, like where that came from, I think that will have a big lasting impact. So that's one of the biggest policies and programming that I'm working on. Again, my biggest thing right now is working with those affected agencies in moving forward on what they need from me, what we need to do, and just talking to relevant stakeholders. With that, I yield my time and I welcome any questions.
  - Round of Questioning:
    - **Senator Gorelick:** Yes, I have one question, autumn. So with everything that's happening with HB 99 and everything happening in the Florida legislature, how do you see this? Or do you see this as a, something that's gonna stop you or is it like a, let's see, like a brick wall I guess, that you don't think you'll be able to go through or you're trying to like figure

out different ways to try and accomplish what you want to get done, even though outside of F S U? Well, not really outside of F S U cause it's gonna affect us at some point. But yeah. How do you see yourself working around this HB 99 bill and things like that are happening?

- So Senate bill 2 66 actually goes into effect July 1st, which will immediately affect this upcoming school year, which is why I'm trying to make like break ground right now. Like soon as I'm confirmed I'm going in, I'm creating meetings, zoom meetings, I'm in Tallahassee, I, you know, I'm open. I don't see this as necessarily something that's stopping me because when I did originally apply for this position, I knew that this was a high possibility of something I would have to deal with. And I don't think this is, I'm the first person that would have this position that is how to deal with something as big of a scale as this. I want to make sure that the things I'm working on and the things that I plan on changing and just kind of changing the language within this awful piece of legislation that we can still work with our agencies and making that tangible. I feel like with the person who had this before me, a lot of the change they made, I wasn't tangible so it didn't feel like anything was happening. I wanna make sure that I'm being intentional and very transparent about what's going on because I've had a lot of people come to me with very real concerns as well as I'm gonna try to go to every other senate meeting as well and speak to other senators about the legislation they're trying to push and stuff like that. And you know, the budgets and allocations and how that'll work. There's just so many moving parts in this that I think it'll not necessarily hinder my work, but also create a sense of, you know, community within SGA because this is affecting every single person involved.
- **Senator Butrum moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - None
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - I just wanna say thank you guys for inviting me out here and I hope to see you guys in Senate next week and then I'm good.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [5] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, Richards, and Gomez]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Autumn Anderson PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Stephanie Matos, Executive Branch, Director of Public Relations]**
  - Opening Statement: Hi everyone. You did say right by the way. Thank you for having me today. My name is Stephanie Mathos and I'm honored to be considered for a director of public relations. As a marketing major, I've always had a passion for and have become pretty well versed in both communications



and creative projects as a whole. This past school year I served as the public relations chair for the Hispanic Latinx Student Union. A role that allowed me to not only advocate for my community, which is something I'm very passionate about, but just grow within the public relations industry. In this position I created original media for HSU's members. I completed weekly interviews for our affiliates on social media and I independently spearheaded the reinstatement of our magazine, LA Familia, which was something that was very exciting for me. I have also been a part of the Student Alumni Association communications team for I believe two years now. And I recently completed an internship for public relations at the Zimmerman Agency, which allowed me to apply all of these skills that I learned on campus in a real world context. These are all lessons that I believe will help me in this position if given the opportunity to, and thank you so much. I yield my time.

- Round of Questioning:
  - NONE
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - NONE
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - Thank you all for your time and I hope to see a good result.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [5] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, Richards, and Gomez]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Stephanie Matos PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Layla Mathews, Executive Branch, Director of Photography]**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Yeah, no problem. Hi, I'm La Matthew, I'm going to be senior here at S U and I'm an international affairs major. I think that I should be confirmed as the director of photography because I love being involved in leadership roles and I've been a photographer for around six, seven years now and it's one of my favorite things to do. Some of my credentials include, I'm going to be the director of photography for Strike Magazine on campus this coming semester. I'm a photo shoot director for K Clutch Magazine and I'm also a freelance photographer who's done multiple things with organizations on campus, fraternity sororities. I'm a part of my student leadership council for the College of Social Science and Public Policy. And with them I've done headshot events that have had great turnout. So I, my goal for being in S G A is to not only capture the people of SGA A and like what we do as a whole but capture them in a sense of like humanizing them in a professional way but also showing off the personalities of the people here and giving us a fresh new look. And with that I yield my time.
  - Round of Questioning:
    - **Vice Chair Waller:** How do you plan on balancing your time? It sounds like you're very involved with a lot of different organizations. You're the

photographer for Strike Magazine among other things. I mean how do you plan on balancing this?

- Yeah, awesome question. Last semester I actually was involved with more so this semester will be less so I feel like I'll have a better time balancing everything. Last semester I was also working parttime with the company I'm working with right now, EL three Harris as a contracts manager along with everything else and more so. And grad season is usually a lot shorter in fall, so that means less work for me this semester. So I don't think that balancing all of these roles will be an issue. And also I'm the type of person that is not a shame to ask for help when I need it. So if that needs to happen it will happen. But I don't see that being an issue in the future.
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - **Senator Gorelick:** Yes. So I don't even know a candidate personally, but I do follow them on social media and I've seen some of their work and it's very, very good. So I would vote in favor of moving this candidate to the next phase of this process.
  - **Senator Butrum:** I also dunno the candidate personally, but I do work for Strike and if you see any of our magazines or any of our likeshoots and stuff, like it is literally a piece of like visionary work and to have like this sort of photography for SGA or just even someone with such amazing talent would just be like amazing.
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to forward the candidate; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - I just wanna thank you guys so much for having me here and thank you guys for those kind words. That's so nice and awesome to hear. And yeah, hopefully I'll be seeing you guys next week with that. I yield my time.
  -
- Vote:
  - Yes: [5] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, Richards, and Gomez]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Layla Mathews PASSES**
- **Resolution 44 - Sponsored by Senators Salazar (P), S. White (P)**
  - Opening Statement:
    - **Senator White:** So I hope you all had a great meeting. It's going long so I'm, I don't wanna take much of your time, but this bill just takes financial officers for unions and agencies and has their confirmation hearings go through the finance committee. As the finance committee is experienced, has experience with financial statutes and understands and understands the rules and regulations that they must follow to appear to their role. I, I wrote this bill with senator with Chair Salazar who serves as internal affairs share during this, during the spring semester next fall semester with the help of the previous internal affairs share, president Diaz. And we

wrote this bill because of meetings like this that take now, well the finance committees usually take about 15 minutes and it's important that we assure that all nominations and confirmation hearings have the same high standard. And by changing this it like makes the committees more equal. And this will also fine president that the judiciary committee hears the judicial nominees the rules committee, here the senate nominees. So it was just following that too. And with that I yield the remainder my time for the close.

- Round of Questioning:
  - **Senator Gorelick:** I have a one question, Senator White. So is there, is there anything different or anything that the people in the finance committee have to do differently than people in the IA committee and what not? So that, that you would think that it's better for the finance committee to hear rather than have it go through IA or what do you Well what's the answer to that question I guess?
    - So the main reason is with the finance code. The finance committee is very experienced with having TE gain knowledge on it based on mo majority of our meetings being based on the consent resolutions from R Tech and PAC and making sure those follow all financial regulations while being physically responsible and in these roles, the treasurers or financial officers of the bureaus and agencies will have to follow the same financial code will have to put in request to Senate and we'll have to understand the protocols that the finance committee has to learn.
  - **Senator Gomez:** So with the interview being done by the finance committee, do you plan on like asking more finance tailored questions and specifically, you know, asking more financial aspects of the interview?
    - So questions similar to internal affairs really depends on who the members of the committee are and what they feel comfortable asking. I would hope that's the direction we'll lean to, but it's more based on the members and what they feel comfortable asking.
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - NONE
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to call the question; Senator Gorelick seconds**
- Closing Statement:
  - I'm happy I got to see all of you today. I'm excited to see you guys next week. Kind of sad is not on Wednesday. Kind of didn't remember that until I got here. But I hope this bill passes and I'm happy to explain it to any of you more and I look forward to you presenting it on the floor. Hopefully I yield.
- Vote:
  - Yes: [5] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, Richards, and Gomez]
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: RESOLUTION 44 PASSES**

**Old Business:**

- **Bill 56 - Sponsored by Senators Humberg (P), Cofer (P)**
  - Opening Statement:
    - **Senator President Cofer:** Well, hello everyone. Thank you so much for musing through. I'll make this quick as our last thing. So basically this bill allows students enrolled in the Panama City campus the ability to vote for student body treasure and also amends Panama City statutes to modernize their language surrounding their voting procedures. Currently the language says that Panama City students can vote by absentee ballots, which is not what's currently happening. What's currently happening is they vote online just like we on the Tallahassee campus do. So this just changes the language to say that the Panama City campus actually votes in a manner determined by the student supervisor of elections pursuant to the election code, which is what's actually happening. A k a online voting. We've already reached out to the Panama Cities Council and they were approving of these changes. We've spoken to our key stakeholders, so we also feel free to, you have any cosponsors we wanna add onto this, you know, to get you more involved in writing legislation. But yeah, let me know if you have any questions.
  - Round of Questioning:
    - NONE
  - **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gorelick seconds**
  - Round-Table Discussion:
    - NONE
  - **Vice Chair Waller moves to call the question; Senator Gomez seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    -
  - Vote:
    - Yes: [5] [Vice Chair Waller, Senators Gorelick, Butrum, Richards, and Gomez]
    - No: [0]
    - Abstain: [0]
  - **RESULT: BILL 56 PASSES**

**Unfinished Business:**

- NONE

**Closing Announcements:**

- **Chair Randall:**
- Congrats on making it through our first meeting. You all asked good, relevant questions.
- **Vice Chair Waller:**
- We all did a great job and made great pace. Let's keep the momentum going for future meetings.

**Next Meeting: June 19, at 5:30 PM**

**Adjourned: 6:56 PM**

---

**Signature of Chair:** *Samantha Randall*