



75th Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
July 17 at 5:30 pm | <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/98419540608>

Call to Order: 5:30 PM

Members Present: Chair Randall, Vice Chair Waller, Senator Gomez, Senator Richards, Senator Gorelick

Members Tardy: N/A

Members Absent: Senator Edenfield, Senator Butrum

Guests: Senate President Cofer, Daniel Muniz, Alexis Dorman

Land Acknowledgement: Senator Waller

- The Student Government of Florida State University acknowledges that it is located on land that is the ancestral and traditional territory of the Apalachee Nation, the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We recognize this land remains scarred by the legacies of violence and removal, we recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land, and we extend our gratitude as we live and work as humble and respectful guests upon their territory. We encourage all to learn about and educate others on the contemporary work of the Indigenous Nations whose land we are on and to endeavor to support Indigenous sovereignty in all the ways that we can.

Announcements:

- Chair Randall: Welcome everyone. You are going to have 3 minutes for your opening statement and any time you do not use for that will be yielded for your closing statement. After, we will move toward general questioning and then round table. Then you will give your closing statement and senators will vote. If you pass you will be sent to senate.
- Vice Chair Waller: No announcements.
- Daniel Muniz: I hope you all recognize that the bill being discussed today will achieve great things. It has my full support and if you have questions please ask me.
- Alexis Dorman: This is a great piece of legislation. I have been in OGA for a while now and I want to make sure everyone is satisfied with this. I encourage you all to vote in favor for it.

Committee Business:

- Kennedy Perry—Veterans Student Union, Secretary (2 applicants)
- Jack Folwell—Executive Branch, Policy Director (4 applicants)
- Roshu Senthil—Transfer Leadership Institute, Assistant Director (0 applicants) *this applicant applied for a different position
- Bill 67—Sponsored by Senators Gorelick (P), Randall (P)

Old Business:

- NONE

New Business:

- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Kennedy Perry–Veterans Student Union, Secretary]**
 - Opening Statement:
 - I am really excited for the opportunity to explain why I should have this position. As a fellow college student I understand the importance of creating a strong and supportive community on campus especially for our veterans. I am a senior in airforce ROTC and have seen the challenges that veterans have gone through and it is our duty as the veteran's student union to make sure they are welcomed and supported. If I am confirmed I want to build a stronger sense of togetherness. I want them to feel like they have a home away from home. My goals are to connect the ROTC students to veterans. As an ROTC student I know there are resources for ROTC students to use and many of them do not know about it. Transitioning from military to civilian life is hard and I want to address this by providing one on one coaching or mentoship.
 - Round of Questioning:
 - N/A
 - **Senator Gorelick moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
 - N/A
 - **Senator Gorelick moves to forward the candidate; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
 - Closing Statement:
 - I just wanted to thank everyone for the opportunity. It is really cool to see how everything works within SGA.
 - Vote:
 - Yes: [4] Vice Chair Waller, Senator Gomez, Senator Richards, Senator Gorelick
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
 - **RESULT: CANDIDATE Kennedy Perry PASSES**
- **Candidate for Confirmation: [Jack Folwell–Executive Branch, Policy Director]**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Good evening Internal Affairs, I hope you're all doing well. My name is Jack Folwell, and I am absolutely delighted to have been forwarded for Policy Director -- I feel like you guys have been around the block a time or two with interviewing those forwarded for Policy Director, so I'll get right to it. I was a Senator from Spring 2022 to Spring 2023, representing the college of Arts & Sciences. As a Physics and Political Science double major, I find myself often harboring unique perspectives and experiences which have proven valuable throughout my time in SGA. While I was a Senator, I became incredibly legislatively active, writing over two dozen separate pieces of legislation on a wide range of topics, including 17 passed bills that consist of changes both minor and major in scope, including the complete overhaul of statutes relating to Senator Leaves of

Absence, the structure of the Class Councils, and the Institutes. I also served as the primary sponsor in the codification of two new departments in SGA, the Diversity & Inclusion Institute and the Garnet & Gold Voting Commission. In short, I know my way around statutes. I also served as Sweepings Chair, where I led the allocation of more than \$580,000 to dozens of different organizations around campus, which introduced me to individuals from every walk of life here at FSU. I initially intended to continue using the connections and skills I developed through my term as a Senator for another year, but when I lost my reelection, I knew I had the opportunity to go elsewhere. Policy Director is an incredibly interesting position, because it enables me to connect SGA with Administration. A large portion of the Student Body President's job is to liaise with University administration, and I have had frequent experiences with administration in the past.

I will primarily serve to assist Jack and Nina in their passion projects, which I have already seen can range significantly in area of focus, but are all important. My knowledge of Student Government blended with my connections, skills, and passion make me well-equipped for this role, and I sincerely hope that you will afford me the chance to serve in it.

- Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Gorelick: Hi Jack, do you think there will be any trouble working with the other policy directors?
 - Candidate: I absolutely believe there is a chance we will not agree on things and that is what makes us unique. We may disagree but we will not butt heads. I do not see having issues with them, I know them on a personal level and I know their competence and that we have mutual respect.
- **Senator Gorelick moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Vice Chair Waller: I was able to campaign with Jack. He is very passionate and determined. He he is very experienced and we can seriously benefit from having him in this role.
 - Senator Gorelick: The man knows what he is talking about I do not think there is anyone better for this position so definitely vote yes.
- **Senator Gorelick moves to forward the candidate; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - I really appreciate the kind words. It is good to be on the other side every now and then. For the Vice Chair, I have my opening statement written out so I will be sure to email you for minutes purposes.
- Vote:
 - Yes: [4] Vice Chair Waller, Senator Gomez, Senator Richards, Senator Gorelick
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: CANDIDATE Jack Folwell PASSES**
- ⊘ **Candidate for Confirmation: [Roshu Senthil–Transfer Leadership Institute, Assistant Director]**
 - Opening Statement:

- Hello everyone, I am currently a sophomore majoring in statistics and minoring in data analytics. I am involved in FSU honors program, UROP, and work as a data entry specialist. Last year I was involved with FLI and realized that I wanted to be part of a program like it. I know I am not a transfer student myself but I know the difficulties of adjusting to a new place. I had to move from Nebraska to Florida. I promise to make sure every student feels welcomed and heard. I am super excited to work with different RSOs on campus and want students to feel connected to our school.
 - Round of Questioning:
 - Vice Chair Waller: What is your best course of action for promoting a welcoming environment for these transfer students?
 - Candidate: Every student has their own struggles so I want to set aside time to have students share about their problems or day. I want them to feel welcomed to look forward to meetings and talking about themselves.
 - **Senator Gorelick moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
 - Round-Table Discussion:
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 - **Senator Gorelick moves to forward the candidate; Vice Chair Waller seconds**
 - Closing Statement:
 - Thank you all for the opportunity. I am very grateful and excited to see what the upcoming year has in store.
 - Vote:
 - Yes: [4] Vice Chair Waller, Senator Gomez, Senator Richards, Senator Gorelick
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
 - **RESULT: CANDIDATE Roshu Senthil PASSES**
- **Bill #67 - Sponsored by Senator Randall and Senator Gorelick**
 - Opening Statement:
 - Senator Randall: Hello, I have spoken to most of you about this already but this bill is an overhaul of the general process of the office of the governmental affairs. The director and assistant director saw this new approach as the best way to create a smooth and more effective lobbying process. To give a brief explanation, the most major change is the addition of the policy proposal. This will be original legislation drafted by the OGA board that sends a survey out to the entire student body asking what issues they are passionate about and this legislation will reflect that. OGA's focus will be primarily on lobbying for the Florida legislators to adopt this policy proposal. Senate will have the opportunity to approve or disapprove this proposal giving them a large amount of influence on the process while still giving OGA enough discretion to properly do their job. Lobbying for so many initiatives was proven impossible last year so the OGA has less of a binding mandate to lobby for this legislation because they do not have the means. However, this will still allow for our voices to be heard with the primarily lobbying focus now on the policy proposal. Additionally, this selection process is expanding to the assistant and deputy director in order to avoid any corruption. Expanding this

responsibility ensures that power is not consolidated. This will remove the OGA board members from being a major office. Making it a major office would be too restrictive. The OGA director team is confident in all of these changes.

- Senator Gorelick: I want to keep this short and sweet. I think this is a great opportunity for senators and agency leaders to be part of this board of directors if this bill does pass. We know a lot about what students want so I think giving us the chance to be on this board allows for things to be placed on this agenda which will do good for FSU. I am in favor and we should all vote yes.
- Round of Questioning:
 - Senator Gomez: Could you elaborate more on what the previous problems were?
 - Senator Randall: There were conflicts in terms of items being placed on legislative agenda by senate. Certain items were not being lobbied for at the capital. Many people did not go what was going on. This bill will make the process more smooth.
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Gomez seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
 - Vice Chair Waller: This bill has my full support. I am a cosponsor but referring back to what the sponsor said, if the leaders of OGA emphasize that this will make the processes easier, we should support it.
 - Senator Gomez: This bill also has my support. This will facilitate communication and accurately represent students.
- **Vice Chair Waller moves to call the question; Senator Gomez seconds**
- Closing Statement:
 - N/A
- Vote:
 - Yes: [5] Senator Randall, Vice Chair Waller, Senator Gomez, Senator Gorelick, Senator Richards
 - No: [0]
 - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: BILL #67 PASSES**

Unfinished Business:

- NONE

Closing Announcements:

- Chair Randall: You all have been wonderful, we got a lot done.
- Vice Chair Waller: Great job everyone!
- Senate President Cofer: Congratulations! I will see you on zoom this Wednesday.

Next Meeting: N/A

Adjourned: 6:01 PM

Signature of Chair

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