

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH STUDENT SENATE
Calendar: March 22th, 2023
Location: Student Chambers, Student Union
Time: 7:30 pm

Call to Order:

- Pro Tempore DuChêne, acting as President, calls the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

- Conducted.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

- Conducted.

Land Acknowledgement:

Brewer: 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.

Roll Call:

- Conducted.

Verification of Quorum:

- Verified.

Corrections and Approval of the Journal 11.16.2022, 11.30.2022, 01.18.2023, 01.25.2023, 02.01.2023, 02.08.2023, 02.15.2023, 02.22.2023, 03.01.2023 03.08.2023

Student and RSO Comments:

https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b9EVvRotPr4y03r

- Jackson Knight, All Night Yahtzee: I'm the administrative coordinator. All Night Yathzee is FSU's oldest acapella group and we are participating in a competition called Boston Sings. Boston Sings is taking place in Boston, MA. It is a selective competition, 8 competitors, a weekend long. We'll be trained by professionals and gain skills to bring back to FSU. We are currently asking for registration costs to be covered and we've upheld a certain level of out of pocket costs. We're actually going to be driving a van instead of driving so we're driving from Tallahassee to Boston. We've started a GoFundMe and would love your support.
- Brooks Elsen: I want to offer everybody a word of encouragement. Keep pushing forward and I wanted to offer a thank you for all the work that you do, you all have a

super important job and I greatly appreciate it. I'm here as a concerned student and don't have any affiliation with any group, but I want to speak in opposition of Student Resolution 29. I don't think it is right to characterize legislators trying to protect the unborn as malicious. While I do see the argument for the right to privacy, I would've liked to see some more elaboration. Additionally, saying that the 30,000 FSU voters stand against this bill but I think that's not true and it misrepresents the student body. Each of you have been given the right to life and I just want to ensure that right for future generations. Just as a concerned student, I think that condemning this resolution is saying we don't support the future generation. Thank you for your time and being open to hearing as many different viewpoints as possible.

Special Introductions:

- None.

Report of Senate Officers:

- DuChêne: Yesterday was FSU Day at the Capital, this week HB 543 is on second reading tomorrow in the legislature and third reading for passage on Friday. If that's of interest to you, you can attend tomorrow just up the road.

Messages from the Executive Branch:

- Andres Cubillos: We are continuing our advocacy around HB999. On Tuesday at Railroad Square, we are going to be having another protest. Nikki Fried will be there most likely as well as some of our SGA leaders. We have a goal of 400 students and hope to see you all there. This is going to be the last opportunity for students to protest this bill. I just want to emphasize that this is not about defending Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, but rather defending each other. This is going to affect everyone and I ask you to join me next Tuesday and hopefully leave an impact.

Messages from Agencies, Bureaus, Affiliated Projects, and SGA Organizations:

- Mental Health Council: Our candidate for assistant director is very qualified and we are very excited to be working with him next semester. We have our first event next week. We are having baby animals and tie dying and journaling and I would encourage everyone to come and tell your organizations about it.
- Alex Dorman: FSU Day at the Capital was a huge success. The work doesn't end here and you can continue advocating for the bills on the agenda. Students will have excused absences next week at the Railroad Square protest and there will be a lot of great guest speakers.

Messages from the Class Councils: None.

Messages from the Congress of Graduate Students: None.

Messages from the Judicial Branch: None.

Messages from the Union Board and Campus Recreation Board: None.

Report of the SGA Accounting Office: Remaining Balances: Senate Projects \$15,714, PAC \$2,442.36 RTAC \$0, and ORG Fund \$0

Report of Senate Liaisons:

- Pedraja, VSU: Tomorrow we are having a Golden Week event from 10-4 showing off what we do.
- Casiple, AASU: AASU has a lot of really cool things going on. On Friday, we have Amped and we're bringing in a special guest. AASU Executive Board Applications came out and I'd love to see you guys on Friday,
- Folwell, Elections: All the stuff surrounding election violations is continuing on this week.
- Salazar: HLSU Pageant is this Friday at 7 p.m. in the Moore Center. Bruce Suarez will be there. It looks great.
- White, COSSLC: COSS Leadership Conference is having a political discourse event tomorrow.

Report of Committees:

- Judiciary
 - Met last night and decided not to forward Senator Birdsong for impeachment.
- Internal Affairs
 - Met on Monday and passed one candidate for confirmation.
- Budget
 - Met last Thursday at 3:15 and passed Bills 33, 34, and 35 unamended.
- Finance
 - Met last night at 6 p.m. and passed CR 18.
- Student Life
 - Met Friday at 3 and passed Bill 35 and Resolution 29.
- Rules
 - Did not meet due to no business.
- Sustainability Ad Hoc
 - Did not meet.

Senate Confirmations:

- **Widmann moves to enter IA as a whole. Lobianco seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **IA is entered as a whole.**

Anagrace Bennett – Executive Branch, Financial Assistant (4 Applicants)

- Opening Statement:
 - I'm a dual degree in Finance and Econ. I held an accounting internship this past summer. I have a background in helping out as an assistant since I worked at a country club.
- General Questions:
 - DuChêne: Do you have plans to become financially certified?
 - Yes
 - Widmann: What makes you the most qualified out of all the applicants
 - I was SGA President in high school and I'm a quick learner and I'm eager to gain the experience.
 - St. Hilaire:
- **Pedraja moves to enter Round Table. Maglin Seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
- Round Table:
 - White: I heard this candidate yesterday and I'm really excited to see what you do in this position.
- **Widmann moves to exit IA as a whole. Maglin seconds.**

- **No objections.**
- **IA is exited. The Senate returns to Senate Confirmations.**

Anagrace Bennett – Executive Branch, Financial Assistant (4 Applicants)

- Opening Statement: You guys already heard what I have to say and I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.
- General Questions: None.
- Roundtable: None.
- Closing Statement: Waived.

Bryan Gonzalez – Mental Health Council, Assistant Director (1 Applicant)

- Opening Statement: When I heard about the vacant position, I was very interested. I've been involved with numerous FSU Organizations and Agencies like HLSU and FLI. I think Mental Health is a very important issue, especially as college students. I look forward to potentially working with you.
- General Questions:
 - Pedraja: What qualifications do you have?
 - I have a background in programming so I really want the MHC to be present on campus and I think a lot of organizations and agencies could benefit.
 - Maglin: When are you graduating?
 - I'm graduating in May and will be pursuing a graduate degree here at FSU.
 - Folwell: I saw in your application, you say you want to partner with RSO's, are there any specific ones in mind?
 - Off the top of my head, Club Down Under and minority agencies come to mind that would be interested in targeting mental health.
- Roundtable Discussion:
- Maglin, Point of Information to Candidate Gonzalez: Will you be reapplying for this position in the fall during your master's program?
 - I would, yes.
- Closing Statement: Looking forward to potentially working with you guys.
- **Seeger moves to forward the candidates individually. Carter seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
- **Voting results on Anagrace Bennett-Candidate for Executive Branch, Financial Assistant**
 - **35 yesses, 3 no, 5 abstentions.**
 - **The candidate PASSES.**
- **Voting Results on Bryan Gonzalez, Candidate for Mental Health Council Assistant Director**
 - **35 yesses, 3 no, 3 abstentions.**
 - **The candidate PASSES.**
- *Acting Pro Tempore Kariher administers 'Oath of Office'*

Consent Calendar:

CR 18

Sponsored by Senator Wyatt (P)
To fund the Vietnamese Student Association, Financial Management Association, The Rosentrass Foundation, and the Haitian Cultural Club.

- Opening Statement:

- So I think this is going to be the last Consent Resolution of the year from PAC, which is sad. The numbers that are on the calendar today say that we have more money, but I'm pretty sure my numbers are correct and this is getting rid of the rest of the PAC funds. The first organization is the Vietnamese Student Organization, they requested a lot more money but we had to drastically cut them for their upcoming event. The \$267 is to cover their entree expenses, and \$183 is for decorations. The Rosentrass Foundation helps people pay for their research, which is kind of cool. They were also requesting money for other website maintenance stuff but we couldn't fund them for that. The rest of the funds are going to the Haitian Cultural Club, who were requesting over \$3,000 for contractual services and food, but we were only able to give them what was left. That's it.
- **Folwell moves to approve the Consent Resolution as a whole.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **CR18 is approved.**

Constitutional Amendments: None.

Bills First Reading:

Bill 35 Sponsored by Senator LoBianco (P)
 A transfer of \$1,445.12 is made from Senate Projects to All Night Yahtzee to assist them in registration for the Boston Sings Acapella Festival. **(Referred to Student Life and Budget. Passed in Student Life 03.10. Tabled in Budget 03.09.)**

- **LoBianco moves to enter the Budget as a whole. Widmann seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Budget as a whole is entered.**
- Opening Statement: This is a pretty simple bill that's a transfer from Senate Projects. All Night Yahtzee is an amazing group and this will help them register for a great event.
- General Questioning:
 - White: When would the event in question be occurring?
 - April 14th-17th.
 - Brewer: Can you elaborate on how the \$90 is going to help them with their registration?
 - There's 16 students attending, and each registration is \$90.
 - Alvarez: **(RECORDING INAUDIBLE).**
 - Widmann: **(RECORDING INAUDIBLE).**
 - Kariher: We already funded this organization last semester and they have a history of being fiscally responsible. They're super great and I don't know why we're really debating this, I just don't think it's appropriate.
- **St. Hilaire moves to enter Roundtable Discussion. Widmann seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
- Round Table:
 - St. Hilaire: I would like to speak in pro. I grew up watching acapella because I was in acapella and I think this is a great opportunity. Everything this group does

is amazing, they're incredibly professional, they work really hard, and the members of All Night Yahtzee have already put so much of their money towards this, the best we can do is \$90.

- Widmann: I will also speak in pro. This organization is very fiscally responsible. We're only paying for their registration fees so it does say a lot that they are covering hotels and travel.
- Brewer: Without calling to question the integrity of All Night Yahtzee, I think we should table this bill because there's just too much information missing.
- White: I'm going to speak in con of this. As we all know, Senate funds are running very low, and we need to conserve what little funds we have left so I think we need to be more cautious.
- Folwell: If this bill passes, we have \$13,500 remaining, so unless someone has something that's going to cost them \$13,000, we should help this RSO out.
- Humberg: Like everyone has said, this funding is for our students so why would we just let it sit and go to waste?
- Casiple: I see both sides of the argument. This organization has fundraised a lot. While this is "providing a service" and gives favoritism to certain RSO's and isn't good practice for future RSO's, since you need a Senator to request funds from Senate Projects.
- Kariher: This group reaches a lot of diverse populations on campus and is a great representation of the College of Music. Also, in terms of money, there is a statute that says only 50% of PAC and RTAC funds should be spent in the spring semester, and people didn't listen, so now we find ourselves in this situation.
- **Pedraja moves to call the question. Crocker seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
- **Closing Statement:**
- We still have \$15,000 in Senate Projects and this is a great group that deserves our financial support.
- **Voting Results on Bill 35.**
 - **37 yes, 7 no, 3 abstentions.**
 - **Bill 35 PASSES.**
- **Widmann moves to exit Budget as a whole. Maglin seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - *Senate exits 'Budget as a Whole'*
- **Folwell moves to accept the decision of the committee for the Bill as a Whole.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **The decision of the committee is accepted as a whole and Bill 35 is PASSED.**

Bill 37 Sponsored by Senator White (P) Anderson, Dllugos, and Newsom (Co)
To update Vacancy protocols for the SoCC in Statues. **(Referred to Internal Affairs, Referred to Judiciary)**

Bill 38 Sponsored by Senator Diaz (P)
Revising language pertaining to the bill veto process and amending the budget bill veto process to conform to state law. **(Referred to Budget to Judiciary)**

Bill 39 Sponsored by Senators Diaz and Kariher (P) Bettley (Co)

Defines the scope and purpose of the A&S Fee Reserve account, re-establishes a mandatory threshold for said account, and removes all references to Central Reserves processes. **(Referred to Finance, Referred to Judiciary)**

Resolutions First Reading:

Resolution 28 Sponsored by Senator Kariher (P) Anandjiwala, Bettley, Carter, Crocker, Chehaitli, Dale, DuChêne, Fineout, Folwell, Humberg, LoBianco, McEntyre, Maglin, Rivers, Salazar, Severy, St. Hilaire (Co)
To support gender-affirming care on campus, transgender students, to condemn Florida House Bill 1421, and to add HB 1421 to the Legislative Agenda to oppose. **(Tabled on the floor 03.08. 03.22)**

Resolution 30 Sponsored by Senator Patel (P) Pedraja (Co)
A resolution commending the Florida State Career Center for their continuous work on student development and highlighting the different opportunities students can utilize. **(Referred to Student Life. Referred to Rules.)**

Bills Second Reading:

Bill 33 Sponsored by Senator Kariher (P)
To transfer funds from Pride Student Union account to fund Pride Prom and Lavender Graduation. **(Referred to Budget. Passed in Budget 03.09.)**

- Opening Statement:
 - These were supposed to go towards a guest speaker who ended up canceling, so now we want to use these funds for Pride Prom and Lavender Graduation, which is a special graduation honoring people who identify as queer. That's pretty much it for Bills 33 and 34.
- General Questions:
 - None.
- Roundtable Discussion:
- **Folwell moves to pass by acclamation.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 33 is passed by acclamation.**

Bill 34 Sponsored by Senator Kariher (P)
To transfer funds from Pride Student Union account to fund Pride Student Union general Pride merchandise and Pride Prom merchandise. **(Referred to Budget. Passed in Budget 03.09.)**

- Opening Statement: Waived.
- General Questions:
 - None.
- Round Table:
- **Widmann moves to pass Bill 34 by acclamation.**
 - **No objections.**

- **Bill 34 is passed by acclamation.**

Resolutions Second Reading:

Resolution 29

Sponsored by Senators Carter and Folwell (P) Bettley, Chehaitli, DuChene, Kariher, Widmann (Co)

A resolution to condemn Senate Bill 300 and defend the rights and wellbeing of all Florida State University students. **(Referred to Student Life. Passed in Student Life 03.10)**

- Opening Statement: I understand that there is a divisive nature to this bill and it's definitely not my goal to politicize the Senate, but because of the impact that this bill has on college aged students specifically, I felt like it was our job to speak out on behalf of our constituents. The bill creates a restriction on abortion that will reduce abortion access and I know we had an individual speak out on this and we appreciate him voicing his thoughts, and we welcome you to speak your thoughts as well. This resolution is not on the morality of abortion, but impacts the Florida State students we were elected to represent. This represents a turning point in the Florida Senate.
- General Questions:
 - Anderson: How do you think this will affect the Health and Wellness Center?
 - I know we don't offer abortion services on campus, but I do believe it will make it harder for individuals to find the services they need.
 - Brewer: Can you elaborate on some of the research you said went into this resolution?
 - Some statistics in states where there are already abortion bans show that talented faculty will leave, talented students will leave, and out of state students will not want to come here.
 - Seeger: Have you had any talks with the Health and Wellness Center about increasing contraceptive access?
 - I haven't had any communication with them on contraceptives because that is not what this bill is about.
 - Wyatt: How can you keep this from being political when the very nature of this bill is political?
 - As a body, even though individuals may have varying opinions on abortion itself, this bill will restrict one's ability and we felt like it was necessary.
 - Pedraja: Did you do any polling? Why did you think it was appropriate to say that 30,000 voters are on FSU's campus and oppose this bill?
 - I would be open to an amendment saying that this is how this representative body felt about this and how we feel about the effects of restricting abortions. I know we cannot speak for the entire student body, but we are the elected representatives and this is just a statement we have.
- **Widmann moves to enter Pro/Con. McMahon seconds.**

- **No objections.**
- First round of Pro:
 - Chehaitli: I personally don't see this as a political issue at all, I think it's really interesting that men have a lot to say about this. More specifically, I will speak on the 16 day rule. If any of you have ever taken a pregnancy test or read the box of one, you know that it says to wait for two weeks until after your cycle, which is four weeks. So you already have six weeks before a pregnancy test is even accurate. The 74th Student Senate passed a resolution acknowledging the importance for resources for survivors of sexual assault, and this bill requires evidence of assault to be able to access abortion past the six week deadline if you are a victim. We know how big of an issue this is on all campuses, even last week we read an FSU alert in these chambers, and I think it's nothing short of disrespectful to not be in support of this resolution.
- **Maglin moves to suspend the role and extend Pro Debate by 3 minutes. McMahon seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **3 minutes are added to Pro Debate**
 - LoBianco: This is not taking a stance on abortion, it is just stating that if this bill is passed, it will impact the student body and that is a fact.
 - Anderson: Just to clarify, this would make it a hassle to find STEM professors and faculty that we already struggle with. This would impact our students and the Women's Center. This is the tip of the iceberg of more laws that would restrict people's rights.
 - Anderson: Regardless of political affiliations, we need to show that we are prepared to represent our constituents when they are in dire need.
- **White moves to make an amendment, striking "and that the 30,000...against Senate Bill 300" and changing it to ""Which includes over 30,000 voters..." Seeger seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **The sponsor finds it friendly.**
 - **The amendment is added.**
- First round of Con:
 - Pedraja: It's important to acknowledge the diverse views. The Student Senate should not be speaking out on behalf of all students on such controversial topics like abortion. Certain language like 'archaic' can be seen as overly partisan. Representation is a core value, and I don't think this Resolution represents the entire Student Body.
 - Brewer: In case anyone wasn't aware, I just want to talk about what happens between week 6 and 15 after being conceived. You grow more than 10x in size, you start to develop unique facial features, you grow limbs, including fingers and toes, and you develop fingerprints. All of that happened to each of us, and it happened to every baby born today. This resolution supports the death of those babies. There are plenty of ways

to support women on campus that don't support killing babies, such as healthcare and providing post-birth resources. I'm deeply convicted in my faith, and I personally believe that all abortion is wrong. The level of development that occurs between 6-15 weeks is significant, and I think that
(RECORDING INAUDIBLE) thank you.

- **Widmann moves to call the question. McMahon seconds.**
 - **No objections**
 - **Closing Statement:** This is a student issue, not a political issue. I think that this Senate bill will so profoundly affect Student Life that we have to stand up for our constituents and that's what this bill really stands for.
 - **Voting Results on Resolution 29:**
 - **31 yes, 11 nos, 4 abstention.**
 - **The resolution passes.**
-
- **Brewer motions to place Resolution 31 on first reading. Birdsong seconds.**
 - Anderson objects.
 - **Voting Results on the motion:** 25 yes, 13 no, 7 abstentions.
 - **The motion fails and the resolution is not place on first reading**

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Statements of Dissent: None.

Closing Announcements:

- Diaz: This was my first time missing a role call and it won't happen again.
- Brewer: If you felt like I created a political response, I apologize and that wasn't my intent.
- St. Hilaire: I just wanted to make sure that I express how important it is to take care of yourselves. Get plenty of sleep, and if you need anyone to talk to, I'm always available.

Advisor Announcements: None.

Final Roll Call and Adjournment:

- Conducted.
- Verified.
- **President DuChêne adjourned the Senate at 9:22 p.m.**