

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH STUDENT SENATE

Calendar: July 26th, 2023

Location: THE Senate Chambers

Time: 7:30 pm

Zoom Link: <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/3575794213>

Recording Link: https://fsu.zoom.us/rec/play/iq9_xeVxuG-jEeUS-f9sNcacbQ5fuooCXR92OFEDIF0vP1Bt0NH740gde5d9q3lbNvWOZ5zzYtNtPSqP.baK4oVVjCedrZWi2?canPlayFromShare=true&from=share_recording_detail&continueMode=true&componentName=rec-play&originRequestUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ffsu.zoom.us%2Frec%2Fshare%2FVyCpULW8Y1dWBT1Yjk0-N-i8vxCDudyCJN-aWjNpF9ssqkU-eKej-aw8obHBcR.pL_eKfjlo9CNF3JY

Call to Order:

- President Cofer calls the meeting to order at 7:41pm.

Pledge of Allegiance:

- Conducted.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

- Conducted.

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 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:

- Refer to attendance.

Verification of Quorum:

- Verified.

Corrections and Approval of the Journal: None.

Student and Non-Budgeted RSO Comments:

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

- Samuel Diaz: I'm proud of Summer Senate and I hope it has been a worthwhile experience. I wanted to support Resolution 56. Have a great meeting.

Special Introductions and Announcements: None.

Messages from the Executive Branch:

- Jackson Boisvert: I'm speaking in favor of Bill 72. The goal is to take the Agency's individual chapters and form it into a coherent statute, giving Agencies greater flexibility.
- Jack Hitchcock: You confirmed so many candidates and we're so proud. Vote yes on Bill 72 and give some power back to the Agencies & the OGA Bill. Thank you for all your hard work.

Messages from Agency and Bureau Directors, SGA Organizations Officers and Employees:

- Luis (Dan) Muniz: Please support Bill 67 and thank you to everyone who has worked on it. I'm very excited for OGA this year, please reach out if you have any questions about OGA.
- Amanda Press: I'm speaking on behalf of my Assistant Director up for confirmation. He's a great candidate and please support Bill 72. We've worked with Boisvert on this to make sure it fits well and hope you can support it.

Messages from the Class Councils: None.

Messages from the Congress of Graduate Students: None.

Messages from the Congress of Graduate Students: None.

Messages from the Judicial Branch: None.

Messages from the Union Board and Student Engagement Ambassadors: None.

Messages from the Campus Recreation Board: None.

Report of the SGA Accounting Office: Remaining Balances: Senate Projects \$10,000, PAC \$80,000, RTAC \$80,000, and ORG Fund \$5,000

Report of Senate Liaisons: None.

Report of Committees:

- Judiciary
 - Did not meet.
- Internal Affairs
 - Did not meet.
- Budget
 - Passed Bills 68 and 66.
- Finance

- Did not meet.
- Student Life
 - Did not meet.
- Rules
 - Did not meet.

Senate Confirmations:

- Daniel Ferraro – Jewish Student Union Assistant Director (1 Applicant)
 - **Candidate passes.**
- Sarah Toole – Transfer Leadership Institute, Director (2 Applicants)
 - **Candidate passes.**
- Roshu Senthil – Transfer Leadership Institute, Assistant Director (0 Applicants)
 - **Candidate passes.**
- *Pro Tempore Chehaitli administers the Oath of Office.*

Consent Calendar:

Constitutional Amendments:

Bills First Reading:

Bill 76 Sponsored by Senator Cofer (P) Pedraja (Co)
 A transfer of \$ 2,004.30 from Senate Projects to National Organization for Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) to fund their trip to New Orleans for their national conference.

- *President Cofer relinquishes the Chair to Pro Tempore Chehaitli.*
- *Senate enters Student Life as a Whole.*
- *Pro Tempore Chehaitli relinquishes the Chair to Chair Pedraja.*

- **Opening Statement:**

- Cofer: This is a transfer to an organization going to New Orleans for a conference on Sept. 10-15. This needed to be heard now as it wouldn't have been heard in time. Senate Projects will have to eat \$4.30 due to RTAC's \$2,000 limit.

- **General Questioning:**

- None.

- **Randall moves to enter roundtable discussion, Bevis seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Senate enters roundtable discussion.**
- **Roundtable:**
 - Gorelick: I'm in favor of this and support these students on their trip.
 - Bevis: We should support them in this.
 - Mendez to the Sponsor: Why are certain fees more than the others?
 - Those are just the conference's costs.
 - **Alvarez moves to allow the representatives from NOBCCHE, Bevis seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **The representatives may speak.**
 - Alvarez to the Representatives: How did you advertise this event?
 - Social media.
 - **Gorelick moves to call the question, Bevis seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **The question is called on Bill 76.**
- **Closing Statement:**
 - Cofer: I yield.
- **Voting Results:**
 - **26 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.**
 - **Bill 76 passes Student Life as a Whole.**
- *Chair Pedraja relinquishes the Chair to Pro Tempore Chehaitli.*
- *Senate enters Budget as a Whole.*
- *Pro Tempore Chehaitli relinquishes the Chair to Chair Burton.*

- **Opening Statement:**

- Cofer: I yield.

- **General Questioning:**

- None.
- **Randall moves to enter roundtable discussion, Bevis seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Senate enters roundtable discussion.**

- **Roundtable:**
 - None.
 - **Waldie moves to pass by unanimous consent,**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 76 passes Budget as a Whole by unanimous consent.**

- *Chair Burton relinquishes the Chair to Pro Tempore Chehaitli.*
- *Pro Tempore Chehaitli relinquishes the Chair to President Cofer.*
- *The decision of the Committees are accepted as the decision of the whole.*

- **Gorelick moves to place Bill 76 on Second Reading, Bevis seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 76 is placed on Second Reading.**

Bill 77

Sponsored by Senator Bevis (P)

Earlier money was taken from Senate Projects to help fund Seminole Nursing's banquet. This bill will transfer money from PAC to reimburse Senate Projects.

- **Bevis moves to place Bill 77 on Second Reading, Randal seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 77 is placed on Second Reading.**

Bill 78

Sponsored by Senator Bevis (P)

The Senate Projects fund is helping the Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCHE) pay for their trip to New Orleans for their national conference. This bill transfers money from RTAC to Senate Projects to reimburse it for the money.

- **Bevis moves to place Bill 78 on Second Reading, Gorelick seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 78 is placed on Second Reading.**

Bill 79

Sponsored by Senator Cofer (P) Arellano, Hellman, Pedraja (Co)

To ensure a Senator of the Month (SOTM) is voted upon each month of a legislative session.

- **Randall moves to place Bill 79 on Second Reading, Bevis seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 79 is placed on Second Reading.**

Resolutions First Reading:

Resolution 56 Sponsored by Senator Randall (P) Cofer, Gorelick, Waldie (Co)
A revision to Senate Rules of Procedure regarding Senate President and Pro-Tempore elections.

- **Randall moves to place Resolution 56 on Second Reading, Gorelick seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Resolution 56 is placed on Second Reading.**

Bills Second Reading:

Bill 66 Sponsored by Senator Bevis (P)
The Finance Code currently says that PAC and RTAC cannot fund events that are for executive boards only. However, an exception to this rule can be made by a 3/4 vote of either funding board. This bill will end that exception, banning PAC and RTAC money from being used for executive board only events. **(Referred to Finance 06.28. Referred to Budget 06.28. Tabled in Finance 07.04. Tabled in Budget 07.07. Passed in Finance 07.18. Passed in Budget 07.26)**

- **Opening Statement:**
 - Bevis: PAC & RTAC are supposed to serve a wide array of the student body and not just executive boards. This hasn't been an issue but it's important to prevent. I've spoken to the PAC & RTAC Chairs about this.
- **General Questioning:**
 - Alvarez: What about an executive board needing money for a leadership conference?
 - The RTAC Chair approved of this however I'm open to an amendment to allow RTAC to allow this. There isn't an official definition of an 'executive-board' only event. It would be left up to interpretation
 - Mendez: You said there aren't many executive-board only events, correct?
 - Correct, maybe in 2021.
 - Mendez: If that's true, why is this an issue?
 - I just didn't like the potential existing
 - Pro-Tempore Chehaitli: What are 'executive-board' only events?
 - I left this up to interpretation, I see it as events exclusive to executive boards.

- Fredock: If an RSO has an event open, but only executive board members signed-up, how does that play?
 - I would see that as okay.
- Gorelick: Can you give an example of an 'executive-board only' event?
 - Retreats you don't typically need a lot of funding for.
- **Pedraja moves to enter Pro/Con debate, Baez seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Senate enters Pro/Con debate.**
- **First Round of Pro:**
 - Fredock: RTAC & PAC have limited amounts of money so they must be able to fund accessible events to as many students as possible.
- **First Round of Con:**
 - Mendez: I feel that this isn't an issue and takes opportunity away.
 - Alvarez: I think we should allow opportunities even if it's just executive boards as they still benefit the organization.
 - Pedraja: We've never run into an issue with this.
 - Waller: I don't feel this is urgent and a minor change.
 - Pro Tempore Chehaitli: I think this is unnecessary as we're already not supposed to fund these type of events and a process is already laid out.
 - **Gorelick moves to call the question, Randall seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **The question is called on Bill 66.**
- **Closing Statement:**
 - Bevis: Thank you all for your honesty. I don't like the idea of small boards getting the benefits over larger events. Thank you all so much.
- **Voting Results:**
 - **8 yes, 5 no, 13 abstentions.**
 - **Bill 66 does not pass.**

Bill 67

Sponsored by Senator Gorelick, Randall (P) Arellano, Baez, Bevis, Cofer, Fredock, Gessner, Gomez, Hellman, Hirji, Mendez, Olsson, Pedraja, Richards, Schwartz, Shaver, Sparling, Waldie, Waller (Co)
 This bill makes several changes to statutes concerning the Office of Governmental Affairs, making Board of Directors no longer a major office,

updating the Board of Directors Selection Process, and overhauling the Legislative Agenda process. **(Referred to Internal Affairs 07.12. Referred to Rules & Calendar 07.12. Referred to Judiciary 07.12. Passed Internal Affairs 07.17. Passed in Rules & Calendar 07.18. Passed in Judiciary 07.19. Tabled on the Floor 07.19)**

- **Opening Statement:**

- Randall: This overhauls the OGA legislative process as we all found a change was needed. This is supported by OGA Exec. We overhauled a 'policy proposal' to determine what they lobby for throughout the year. This allows Senate to be involved while ensuring OGA has some control. This simplifies legislation OGA needs to lobby for to ensure effectiveness. The 'selection process' for board members is also changed. Removing OGA Board of Governors from being a major office as OGA involves some of those prominent individuals involved on-campus. This ensures representation on the board across campus.
- Gorelick: Three committees have heard this already. This ensures leaders have a voice in OGA. This also gives Senate some input, please vote in favor of this.

- **General Questioning:**

- Wallie: How does the policy proposal work with Senate?
 - It will go to Senate as a draft where Senators can make suggestions for revisions for OGA to review. Senate will then approve/disapprove.

- **First Round of Pro:**

- Alvarez: I was first against this but after a lot of communication they found a way to resolve my concerns and ensure an increase in communication. These are important issues they're dealing with.
- Bevis: This ensures quality individuals will be on the OGA board.
- Hine: I'm glad OGA has crafted this alongside Senate.
- Pro-Tempore Chehaitli: This is necessary to ensure what's lobbied for is what the students want and has our backing.
- Wallie: It's reassuring to have the OGA Director guiding us throughout this process.

- **First Round of Con:**

- No speakers.
- **Bevis moves to call the question, Baez seconds.**
 - **No objections.**

- **The question is called on Bill 67.**

- **Closing Statement:**

- Randall: Thank you for recognizing the amount of work that has gone into this.

- **Voting Results:**

- **29 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.**
 - **Bill 67 passes.**

Bill 68

Sponsored by Senator Fredock (P)

This bill provides a process for RSOs to receive money from the organizational fund, since any process is non-existent in statutes. This bill also changes who may receive the organizational fund, making the fund serve as start-up funding for newly established RSOs that have previously not received money from SGA. **(Referred to Finance 07.12. Referred to Budget 07.12. Passed in Finance 07.18. Passed in Budget 07.26)**

- **Opening Statement:**

- Fredock: This revamps the Organizational Fund. This Bill creates a process to better hear RSOs regarding this source of funding.

- **General Questioning:**

- None.

- **First Round of Pro:**

- None.
- Point of Information: Alvarez: Can you outline the process?
 - Application will open in the beginning of the fall semester. The Student Body Treasurer will communicate with Chair of Finance to write a CR to be passed by Senate.
- Point of Information: Pedraja: Have you discussed this with student leaders?
 - Yes.
- Point of Information: Pro Tempore Chehaitli: What's the reasoning behind the \$300 limit?
 - This only serves as 'start-up' funding.
- Point of Information: Alvarez: What's the vetting process?
 - As meant to serve as beginning funds it will only serve new RSOs or RSOs that have never received SGA funding.

- **First Round of Con:**
 - None.
 - **Bevis moves to call the question, Waller seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **The question is called on Bill 68.**
- **Closing Statement:**
 - Fredock: Thank you.
- **Voting Results:**
 - **21 yes, 0 no, 5 abstentions.**
 - **Bill 68 passes.**

Bill 72

Sponsored by Gorelick, Hellman (P) Arellano, Bevis, Chehaitli, Dennig, Gessner, Hirji, Kerley, Novotney, Pedraja, Randall, Shah, Sparling (Co)
 This chapter shall create uniform guidelines and operating procedures for Student Government Association-sponsored entities known as “Agencies.” The purpose of the Uniform Agency Act is to establish a common set of rules and roles for all agencies under the Student Government Association, ensuring a unified approach to serving the diverse student body. Each agency, while maintaining its unique identity and focus, will adhere to these uniform rules, promoting consistency, fairness, and transparency across all agencies. **(Referred to Rules & Calendar 07.12. Referred to Judiciary 07.12. Passed in Rules & Calendar 07.18. Passed in Judiciary 07.19. Tabled on the Floor 07.19)**

- **Opening Statement:**
 - Hellman: We’ve put a lot of work into this Bill alongside the Agencies. We’ve met with all Agency Directors to ensure one common statute across the Agencies and enable them to create their own, adaptable Rules of Procedure. This makes it easier to collaborate.
- **General Questioning:**
 - None.
- **First Round of Pro:**
 - **Pedraja moves to amend page 64, §100.5(A)(7), to read ‘nothing in this section shall be construed as to hold the Director personally responsible for any actions taken by the Agency and its board members outside the course in scope of their duties, outlined in the Student Body**

Constitution, Student Body Statutes, & the Agencies individual Rules of Procedure,' Randall seconds.

- **Sponsor finds it friendly**
- **No objections.**
 - **Amendment adopted.**
- Alvarez: I'm in support of this Bill and the work done was diligent to ensure a more streamlined process.
- Bevis: I love keeping statutes as simple as possible.
- Dennig: Clearly this simplifies statutes and clearly they have done a great job reviewing details.
- Randall: I think this ensures efficiency.
- **Mendez moves to pass by unanimous consent, no objections.**
 - **Bill 72 passes by unanimous consent.**

Bill 75 Sponsored by Senators Gorelick, Hine (P) Chehaitli (Co)
This bill provides revisions to attendance policies for Mandatory Candidate Seminars. (**Referred to Judiciary 07.19. Withdrawn 07.25**)

Bill 76 Sponsored by Senator Cofer (P) Pedraja (Co)
A transfer of \$ 2,004.30 from Senate Projects to National Organization for Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) to fund their trip to New Orleans for their national conference.

- *President Cofer relinquishes the Chair to Pro-Tempore Chehaitli.*
 - **Opening Statement:**
 - Cofer: I yield.
 - **General Questioning:**
 - None.
 - **Gorelick moves to pass Bill 76 by unanimous consent.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 76 is passed by unanimous consent.**
- *Pro Tempore Chehaitli relinquishes the Chair to President Cofer.*

Bill 77 Sponsored by Senator Bevis (P)
Earlier money was taken from Senate Projects to help fund Seminole Nursing's banquet. This bill will transfer money from PAC to reimburse Senate Projects.

- **Opening Statement:**
 - Bevis: This is the process outlined in statutes to reimburse PAC & RTAC from the Summer Senate.

- **General Questioning:**
 - None.
 - **Gorelick moves to pass by unanimous consent.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 77 is passed by unanimous consent.**

Bill 78

Sponsored by Senator Bevis (P)
 The Senate Projects fund is helping the Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) pay for their trip to New Orleans for their national conference. This bill transfers money from RTAC to Senate Projects to reimburse it for the money.

- **Opening Statement:**
 - Bevis: The same thing as before.
- **General Questioning:**
 - None.
 - **Pedraja moves to pass by unanimous consent.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **Bill 78 is passed by unanimous consent.**

Bill 79

Sponsored by Senator Cofer (P) Arellano, Hellman, Pedraja (Co)
 To ensure a Senator of the Month (SOTM) is voted upon each month of a legislative session.

- *President Cofer relinquishes the Chair to Pro-Tempore Chehaitli.*
- **Opening Statement:**
 - Cofer: This allows us to do Senator of the Month tonight and allows all of you to vote and for others in the future.
- **General Questioning:**
 - None.
 - **Waller moves to pass by unanimous consent.**
 - **No objections**
 - **Bill 79 passes by unanimous consent.**
- *Pro Tempore Chehaitli relinquishes the Chair to President Cofer.*

Resolutions Second Reading:

Resolution 56

Sponsored by Senator Randall (P) Cofer, Gorelick, Waldie (Co)
A revision to Senate Rules of Procedure regarding Senate President and Pro-Tempore elections.

- **Opening Statement:**
 - Randall: I was asked to write this and allows these roles to have a more thorough election process and changes the order of attendance.

- **General Questioning:**
 - **Pedraja moves to pass by unanimous consent.**
 - **Mendez objects.**
 - **Pedraja withdraws.**
 - **Motion fails.**
 - Mendez: What is the reason for saying if it's unexcused or excused?
 - Accountability.
 - Pro-Tempore Chehaitli: Is the purpose to ensure Colleges don't have an unfair advantage?
 - Yes.
 - Mendez: Where does this originate?
 - It ensures accountability and fair representation.
 - **Gorelick moves to call the question, Bevis seconds.**
 - **No objections.**
 - **The question is called on Resolution 56.**

- **Closing Statement:**
 - Randall: I yield.

- **Voting Results:**
 - **25 yes, 0 no, 3 abstentions.**
 - **Resolution 56 passes.**

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- SOTM
 - **Alvarez**
 - Hellman

- Senator Shaver's BDAY

Statements of Dissent: None.

Announcements: **RECORDING INAUDIBLE.**

Announcements: **RECORDING INAUDIBLE.**

Final Roll Call and Adjournment:

- Refer to attendance.
- ***President Cofer adjourns the meeting at 9:35pm.***