

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH STUDENT SENATE  
Organizational Meeting  
Calendar: November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Location: Senate Chambers  
Time: 7:30pm  
Zoom Link: <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/92325341806>

Call to Order

- Senator Duchêne calls the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Conducted.

Moment of Silent Reflection

- Conducted.

Land Acknowledgement:

Duchêne: 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.
- **Humberg moves to unlock the calendar and move to Senate Confirmations. McMahon seconds.**
  - **No objections.**
  - **The Calendar moves to Senate Confirmations.**

Election of the 75<sup>th</sup> Student Senate President:

- Hockett nominates Sam Diaz. Dale seconds.
  - Diaz accepts
- Hansen nominates Zach Schindler. Wyatt seconds.
  - Schindler accepts.
- Maglin nominates Kariher. Bettley seconds.
  - Kariher accepts.
- **Vollick motion to close the floor. Maglin seconds.**
  - **No objections**
  - **The floor for nominations is closed.**
- Sam Diaz-75th Student Senate President
  - Opening Statement: Good evening to all and congratulations to our new Senators for being inaugurated. I'm Sam Diaz, a Senator from the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy. I wanted to take this opportunity for us to take a step back and recognize the importance and

significance of this organization. This Senate is in its 75th year of operating, and that is something to be proud of. That is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a century of history, of accomplishment, and progress for the student body that is so special to me. It is also important to recognize that this Senate has seen troubling times. Just in the last two years, this Senate was seen as the laughing stock of FSU, and was marred by instability and chaos. Two Senate presidents being removed in six months, several hours of public comment, of students voicing their concerns. Thankfully, for the incredible leadership of Presidents Harmon and Hunter, this Senate has seen brighter days, and now with all of your contributions, we have been able to bring this Senate to new heights. We deserve leaders that will commit themselves every day to do the best possible job they can at leading this institution, who will represent the Senate with the utmost integrity and honesty, and who will commit themselves to being here for the long haul. That's why I stand before you all today as a candidate for Student Senate President. For those who may not know, Senate was my first ever involvement at FSU. I've loved every moment of being in these chambers, the debates we've had, the things I've learned, and the people I've gotten to meet. As for being Senate President, this is actually a position I've held in the past. Last time I ran over the summer, I dedicated myself to three key things and promises. I said that I would dedicate myself to stability, fairness, and openness, and today I re-dedicate myself to those important commitments. I know I can bring stability to this position because I've held it before, and I have pre-existing relationships with our Senate advisors, members of the FSU administration, and the executive branch, to ensure that this Senate runs as smoothly as possible. I've studied our Student Body statutes and Rules of Procedure in depth, and I know I have the capacity to hit the ground running, to serve you all, and facilitate productive debate. I will be a fair and impartial president in these chambers, I won't pick favorites and I won't take sides. I'll continue in the tradition of President Hunter, who vowed to make this place a party without party politics. At the end of the day, we are all students trying to make a difference and make this university better in whatever ways we can. Any divisions we might have should be left at the door. I think all of that ties into my goal of wanting to make this Senate and environment more open and enjoyable. Not just for us Senators, but for our guests and candidates coming for confirmation. I want to enforce a slightly less strict dress code, plan themed dress up days, continue bringing food and snacks to each meeting, and allowing recess for a bathroom or mental break each meeting. I will offer personal checkups and one-on-one sessions with each Senator as often as I can. I want to be a resource to every single one of you. Weekly office hours will be open to everyone, to ask questions, ask advice, or if you need help on writing legislation. I will be productive in recruiting a diverse, competent, and capable Senate leadership team that you can all be proud of. A clerk, a historian, a press secretary, and a parliamentarian that will serve all of you with grace and skill. To end off, I want to be your Senate president so that we can work efficiently, with empathy, and with good spirit. I know that whoever our Pro-Tempore will be, and I will serve you with all our hearts, we will lead without outside influence, we will lead with love, and make this a wonderful opportunity for all of us to leave this university better than we found it. I humbly ask for your support in building this vision for the 75th Student Senate. Thank you all.

○ General Questions:

- Maglin: Do you aim to facilitate a larger sense of community within the chambers and if so, how do you plan to do that?
- Diaz: Of course, building a sense of community is one of the most important things for me. And like I touched on in my speech, one of my goals is to really make this place an enjoyable place for all who want to come here. And again, that could involve more themed dress-up days, like Valentine's Day and Halloween, and just ensuring that the Senate President sets the tone, and the tone is one where we all get along, where party decisions don't play a big role in your voting, and somewhere we can all feel at ease. We have seen what it looks like when the Senate is divisive, and I don't want to see those days continue. I want to see us move onto brighter pastures.

- Boisvert: How was your experience as the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee and your experience as Student Senate President over the summer prepare you for this role?
  - Diaz: Being a previous Senate President speaks for itself, but I would add we didn't really have any Senate officers besides Press Secretary, so I had inherited a lot of the duties of the other jobs. I was an active clerk, an active parliamentarian, an active historian, so I know a lot of what it's like to be leading the Senate. Being chair of Internal Affairs has been a great experience. I got experience leading meetings, learning parliamentary rules of procedure, and dealt with a lot of outside communication. Sending candidates emails, being professional, and trying to make them feel as welcome as possible. Just trying to make the Senate as warm an environment as possible.
- First Round of Pro/Con:
- Marting: So I had the opportunity of serving in the Summer Senate under Senator Diaz's presidency, it was my first involvement with Student Government, and Sam Diaz helped me in every way possible. Being a new Senator and not really knowing what's going on, he reached out to me and would hop on a zoom call or phone call with me just to help me out because he really did care about each and every Senator. He just wants the best for the Student Body.
- Hockett: Sam Diaz is very fit for this role. I have gotten to know him very well in many different situations over the years, and I kept asking him when he was going to become president. But eventually, he started working on it and I'm very happy to see him go for it. His resume speaks for itself and has some great experience with a background of his caliber. He's one of the most veteran senators we have to offer so if you have any questions, he's always the one to hit up. I don't think there's anyone more fit for the job than him.
- Wyatt: Me and Senator Diaz were inaugurated at the same time last year, and he has been passionate from the get go. He knows what he's talking about and there is no other candidate fit for this role. He always steps in on PAC meetings to help us meet quorum, so I totally support Senator Diaz and I think he'll do a great job in this position.
- Birdsong: Like many of you here, I'm a new senator but for those of you who haven't met Senator Diaz yet, he's a great guy and I think he's very qualified for this role.
- Widmann: Sam Diaz is very knowledgeable and he has my full support.
- Pedraja: Sam is cool.
- Folwell: I support Sam Diaz.
- Cole Kariher-75th Student Senate President
  - Opening Statement: Hello everyone, my name is Cole Kariher and I am a Senator representing the College of Music, but I'm also a minor in Computer Science. A little about myself, I am from Pensacola, Florida and I am a third year here at Florida State University. I was elected last spring, served as Vice-Chair of a committee over the summer, and served as chair this past fall. In my time here, I have advanced gender affirmative care, updated the HIV prevention, and I have worked with student affairs administration to raise funds from our reserve accounts for the next fiscal year. If I'm elected as your next student president, my top priority is going to be to ease the burden of trying to balance work, school, and Senate. I know as Senators, we have to invest several hours a week, and it can be overwhelming. I've been talking with Student Affairs about letting the Senate count for the University-wide Oral Communication Competency Requirement. This requirement is essentially a public speaking requirement, and it could be waived once a Senator reaches a certain level for attendance, which will incentivize attendance while also allowing Senators more flexibility. This will also allow for a GPA boost and for Senate involvement to pop up on one's transcript. Lastly, if elected I will invest in a transcribing software that will assist in taking minutes, which can be a very difficult task for vice-chairs, especially when taking minutes turns into taking hours. This will allow vice-chairs to be more engaged during meetings. These initiatives will make the Senate more accessible for Senators with rigorous academic schedules, jobs, or both. I think it will also incentivize active engagement. My next priority is to foster community. The previous Senate leadership did a fantastic job of turning the Senate into a place where

bonding with your peers was encouraged. They were able to achieve this by making the Senate non-partisan, and I will continue to foster that practice if elected Senate President. If elected, I would like to encourage liaison engagement, establish an organized Senate alumni network, and to fill all 80 Senate seats. For those of you who don't know, we currently have 20 vacant seats, and many colleges haven't had representation for years, because they either aren't on our Tallahassee campus or the program is so rigorous that the students don't have time to devote to the Senate. My plan would be to work with the advisors and deans of these colleges to make sure the students are aware of these vacancies and advertise this availability. This would provide equal representation for all the colleges. I have fought for you and will continue to fight for you as your next president, so I appreciate your time and thank you.

○ General Questions:

○ Maglin: Do you feel confident in your knowledge of the Rules of Procedure and Student Body Statutes?

■ Kariher: Yes, absolutely.

○ Walden: With the GPA boost, is that set in stone or just an idea?

■ Kariher: I've talked with some people in academic affairs and student affairs, and there are a lot of courses provided at FSU that you can take for 0 credit hours.

○ First round of Pro:

○ Bettley: For those of you who don't know, I have been here for a hot minute, and I have the honor of serving on the Rules & Calendar committee with Chair Kariher. He has been advocating for a Senate image outside of the Senate. He speaks with the administration and he really is trying to get the Senate's image out into the field so that people respect the Senate and respect Senate leadership. He has ensured with so much time and dedication that people are being met with and voices are being heard that have been not heard in the past.

○ Maglin: I had the privilege of serving as Chair Kariher's Vice-Chair, and if there's one thing I know about Senator Kariher, it's that he's dedicated. If there's a problem on campus, he will work to find a solution. He is very passionate about student government and I have seen him skyrocket with his accomplishments and his dedication to the Senate and if elected or not, he's going to represent our Senate and Student Body to the best of his ability and I highly recommend you vote in favor of him.

● **Zachary Schindler withdraws his candidacy for Student Senate President**

● **Voting Results for 75th Student Senate President**

○ **Senator Diaz is elected as the 75th Student Senate President.**

○ *Duchêne administers the 'Oath of Office'*

Election of the 75<sup>th</sup> Student Senate Pro Tempore:

● Hansen nominates Patrick Duchêne. Maglin seconds.

○ Senator Duchêne accepts the nomination.

● **Bettley moves to close the floor for nominations. Boisvert seconds.**

○ **No objections.**

○ **The floor for nominations is closed and Senator Duchêne is elected as the 75th Student Senate Pro-Tempore.**

● *President Diaz administers the 'Oath of Office'.*

Corrections and Approval of the Journal 11-2-22: None.

Student and Non-Budgeted RSO Comments: [https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_b9EVvRotPr4y03r](https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b9EVvRotPr4y03r)

Special Introductions and Announcements:

● DuChêne: Thank you, and I did not expect to be the only candidate nominated and I did prepare some remarks and flyers, but I look forward to working for you and being a resource for whatever

you need, and if you are curious for what I have planned or want to give me your feedback or suggestions, please come and find me I have forty flyers so I do need to get rid of those.

Messages from the Executive Branch: None.

Messages from Agency and Bureau Directors, SGA Organizations Officers and Employees: None.

Messages from the Executive Cabinet:

- Savannah Stewart: I did just want to say congratulations to our new Senate President and Senate Pro-Tempore. So proud of you guys and I was able to serve with you guys when I was in the Senate and you are really lucky to have such great people representing you. However, there is a project I am working on and will be back in a couple of weeks.
- Jack Hitchcock, Administrative Director: It is really refreshing to see so many new faces, and utilize us as a fresh resource. If you want to get something done, there are lots of different categories we serve under, feel free to ask someone for my number, and congratulations to the new Senate President and Senate Pro-Tempore, I'm extremely happy for you. You'll see my face more often so thank you.

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 Student Engagement Ambassadors: None.

Messages from the Campus Recreation Board: None.

Report of the SGA Accounting Office: Remaining Balances: Senate Projects \$24,480, PAC \$65,849, RTAC \$33,447.32, and ORG Fund \$0

Report of Senate Liaisons: None.

Report of Committees:

- Judiciary
- Internal Affairs
- Budget
- Finance
- Student Life
- Rules & Calendar

Senate Confirmations:

- Andrea Alvarez, College of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Seat 1
  - *Pro Tempore Duchêne administers the 'Oath of Office'*
- **Maglin motions to return to the Order of the Day. Widmann seconds.**
  - **No objections.**
  - **The Calendar returns to the Order of the Day.**

Consent Calendar: None.

Bills First Reading: None.

Bills Second Reading:None.

Constitutional Amendments:None.

Resolutions:

Resolution 1                      Sponsored by Senator Duchêne (P) Barrett, Bettley, Burton, Carter, Folwell, Gummerman, Hockett, Kariher, Mantilla, Salazar St. Hilaire, Vasquez (Co)  
This resolution recognizes and honors National Native American Heritage Month this year and every year, and reaffirms its commitment to advocate for the development and completion of an established on-campus interdisciplinary Center for Native American Studies.

- *President Diaz places Resolution 1 on Second Reading and reads the resolution in its entirety*
- Opening Statement: Hi everyone, I want say a lot because President Diaz already read the resolution in its entirety, essentially, one of the legislative avenues that I have taken as a Senator specifically is regarding Native American and Indigenous issues, especially since Florida State is the largest university in the country to use Native American imagery, as well as the fact that we do not have any major or minor dedicated to the study of Native American or Indigenous culture, nor do we have any indigenous faculty, so there's just a lot of ways that we can improve. In my two years in the Senate, I've worked with administration to just expand what we can do as students and student leaders to advocate for Native American and Indigenous people. This resolution commemorates Native American Heritage Month of November and I hope you will vote in favor.
- General Questions:
- **Senator Schindler moves to enter Pro/Con Debate. Kariher seconds.**
  - **No objections**
  - **Resolution 1 is moved to Pro/Con Debate**
- First round of Pro: None.
- First round of Con:
- **Hockett moves to pass by acclamation. Carter seconds.**
  - **No objections.**
  - **Resolution 1 passes by acclamation.**

Unfinished Business: None.

Statements of Dissent

- **Pro-Tempore Duchêne moves to place a resolution on first reading for immediate consideration. McMahon seconds.**
  - **No objections.**
  - **Resolution 1 is placed on first reading. President Diaz forwards the resolution to second reading.**

New Business: None.

Closing Announcements:

- St. Hilaire: Hi y'all, I served as the BSU liaison and hoping to do that again, Bridge the Gap is coming up, hopefully it's not on a Wednesday and we'd love to see y'all there. It's a great experience, a lot of fun, and tons of talented people, thank you.

- Hockett: Congratulations to all the new Senators, I hope to be friends with all of you. Two big things, if you have any questions feel free to reach out. Secondly, I am a fitness trainer so if you need workout plans, just meet up with me. Thank you.
- Folwell: Congratulations to the Senators that this is their first meeting. I think it's a lot of fun. I just wanted to say thank you who helped during Voting week, you all are great for that and I appreciate you guys.
- Casiple: Hey guys, if you have any questions please direct them my way, I would love to answer them. In the 74th I served as the AASU liaison and just some quick updates, this coming Sunday we'll be having fall formal. Also, we're also doing a digital fundraiser for organizations like Second Harvest and the Food for Thought Pantry from November 14th-18th.
- Maglin: I'm a Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences and in the 74th I was a liaison for the Mental Health Council, and I want to reiterate that they are still taking applications for their executive board, so if you have any friends interested, please tell them to apply. With that being said, I will offer myself as a resource so if you have any questions or just want someone to sit next to, please reach out to me. Thank you.
- Schindler: I wanted to reiterate the message from the Executive Cabinet earlier. I work directly with the Cabinet and they are a great resource to go to with any ideas, as well as the Congress of Graduate Students, they have a lot of committees, and if you guys need help with anything, feel free to reach out to me.
- McEntyre: I just wanted to say that I'm on the executive board for the Diversity & Inclusion Institute, and we just opened our applications for the executive team and so if you guys are interested and want to learn, feel free to apply. Thank you.
- Bettley: I make this announcement after every Inauguration, but I also want to offer myself as a resource, and Pro Tempore Duchêne and I are the most senior Senators in these chambers, and I would love to transfer some of my knowledge to these new people. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please reach out to me. Thanks.
- Carter: Real quick, just wanted to say that I love you guys and but I do want to encourage you newbies to read the Statues, they're going to help you. And now that you're all Senators, political parties should not matter. Thank you.
- St. Hilaire: This is not BSU related, but I really like the energy in here and I hope it stays this way. I'm looking forward to working with all of you guys and again, everyone in here wants to help everybody. It's ok to be nervous, but put yourself out there and make sure you attend every meeting.
- Widmann: I'm in the Office of Governmental Affairs, we are a non-partisan party on campus. We are looking for a new campaign so if you see any injustices on campus, please reach out to me. Thank you.
- Boisvert: Hi Senate. I would like to bring our attention to something happening in the College of Theatre. Next weekend, Pro-Tempore Duchêne will be starring in their winter show.

#### Officer Announcements:

- DuChêne: Yes, I am a BFA actor. Next semester, I will not be auditioning for any shows so I can fully dedicate my time to this position. I really do appreciate it so much. But, I am currently in a show and I go to do that show every day that isn't Wednesday. But if you have any free time next weekend, it's the show where we bring Leon County Elementary Performers, we have multiple showings, you can come and see it. Other than that, thank you so much and I look forward to serving you the rest of the semester and all of next.
- Diaz: The Pro Tempore will have conversations with Jaclyn and Dr. Williams about when our New Senator Orientation will take place. Our office hours will not be available until we get onboarded, however we will be hosting informal office hours where we can speak to all of you about committee assignments. Hopefully, we will get Canvas working so I can get all of you on Canvas, and I will send a link to our GroupMe where all our announcements will be. Just a reminder that as Senators, you all will be handling a lot of money, as such you are required to take your financial certification exam within the next 15 school days. If you do not take that exam within the next 15 days, you will be placed on temporary suspension and will not be able to vote or take part in committee meetings. More information to come. Another thing I will be sharing in the near future is a Qualtrics where you

can request committee assignments. I will be sharing committee assignments before next Wednesday. We will also be electing committee chairs and vice-chairs. This can be a great learning opportunity, we will also be having elections for RTAC Chair and PAC chair. Chair Wyatt will be continuing the role of PAC chair, but we have a vacancy in the position of RTAC chair so if anybody is interested they can talk to me or the Pro-Tempore about it. Speaking of committees, I will be reinstating the ad-hoc committee on Sustainability. If you are interested in student-led initiatives to support environmental sustainability at FSU, get in contact with me or the Pro-Tempore. I will share my personal contact information in the Canvas announcement. As for the next few meetings, we will be meeting next week (11/16/22) at 7:30 p.m. We will not be meeting the Wednesday after that for Thanksgiving Break, however we will be meeting one more time before the fall ends, Wednesday, November 30th. I know it's a lot to take in, but I'm very happy to be facilitating this and I thank you all for the trust you have placed with me. Senate leadership positions are also open, if you have anyone interested in applying, have them reach out to me.

- Duchêne: If you have any questions about the attendance policy or if you are going to miss, be late to, or anything, I'm the person you need to come talk to.

#### Advisor Announcements:

- Jaclayn: I do want to say thank you all for coming tonight. It's evident you want to do the work, but I will say if you cannot commit to the Senate, you need to let us know now because there are people who want to be in your seat, who want to do these roles. It is a time commitment between Wednesday meetings and committee meetings. The work is everywhere, it's not just in these chambers, and it should never be for your own purpose. You should be meeting with your college and bringing legislation from your colleges. If you already have legislation you want to do, please reach out to me. I want you to think about what you want to get out of the Senate this year, and how you are going to be here and participate fully. You have to enroll in two courses, one in the RSO course and the Senate course. You are taking those to know the rules. Make sure you read the email I will send to you because it has a lot of information and links. Come ready to review expectations, other than that I'm good.

#### Final Roll Call:

- Conducted.

#### Adjournment:

- **Kariher moves to adjourn. Widmann seconds.**
  - **No objections**
  - **The Senate is adjourned at 9:07 p.m.**