

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

March 1st, 2022

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 9:22pm and announced that the meeting may be filmed or audio recorded and may be available to the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Associate Justice Kylee Neeranjan swears in all new senators.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was called and quorum was established with a total of 79 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Aldazabal
- Cuello
- Flores
- Gay
- Jafry
- Karim
- Machado
- Miller
- Rocker
- Smith
- Turner
- Thompson
- Varidin
- Verville
- Welsh

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Senator Santiago:
 - Wants to congratulate all who have won their seats.
 - We are all elected to advocate on behalf of the Student Body.
 - Reminds senators of their duties.
 - You have the power of your senator name to advocate for legislatures and staff and faculty at UF.
 - Use this opportunity to make a difference that you can look back upon.
 - We were elected with the trust of the student body, not for personal or private gain.
 - Let's be good public servants.

*****If you wish to hear any speeches given during public debate please request the recordings from senatesecretary@sg.ufl.edu*****

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- There were none.

We are now in line to break the tie on the CLAS Seat 8. We will begin with Mohammed Faisal to present for 5 minutes.

- Mohammed Faisal:
 - Thanks senators for listening to his claim for the CLAS seat today.
 - A third year Sustainability Studies major, attended high school in Saudi Arabia.
 - Freshman year, I decided that UF is an amazing school but I wanted to make it better.
 - Won as a District C Senator.
 - Covid made inconveniences in serving because of time differences, but I persisted and was there for every roll call vote.
 - I served as the assistant cabinet director of International Student Affairs from 2020-2021.
 - I was able to learn a lot about the legislative and executive branch of Student Government.
 - Able to make connections with different cabinet directors.
 - Believes that his major in sustainability studies is an added quality for senate.
 - I bring nonpartisanship, like when I voted across party lines.
 - I understand both the executive and legislative branch, and I want to bridge the divide between the two.
 - Lastly, I want to work on code revisions. I think cleaning them up and making them more accessible to the average student would be beneficial.
 - Sees senate chamber as his home, wants to make it back.
- Justin Lanzuela:
 - Thankful to stand here today with the chance to join senate.
 - I am a first generation Filipino American born and raised in Connecticut before coming to UF.
 - Wants to “aim for the moon.”
 - In high school, I was involved in many clubs.

- The various positions I held were huge responsibilities, as I put on several events for my student body.
 - In these roles, he found passion for being a part of organizations that enhance student experiences.
 - The most important voice you should listen to are the students you represent.
 - I owe it to everyone who gave me advice and support that has allowed me to stand here today.
 - Joined Pi Delta Psi and obtained opportunities and leadership experiences.
 - Believes he can be a key component for his fellow senators and Gator Nation.
 - Together, we can all aim for the moon.
- There were five minutes of question and answer for the two candidates.
 - In a roll call vote of 58 to 18, Senator Lanzuela has filled the Seat 8 CLAS Senate permanent seat.

SENATE ELECTIONS:

- The floor opens for nominations for Senate President.
- Chairwoman Hartzog is nominated.
- The floor closes for nominations for Senate President by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Hartzog presents 5 minutes for Senate President Candidacy.
 - Speaks of experience in the senate.
 - I want to implement ways to connect with constituents.
 - Go to constituents instead of having them come to senators.
 - Reintroduce senate-on-the-road
 - Collaborate with IRHA
 - Will have committee presentations for in-depth understanding of the processes.
 - Finally, I want to foster relationships within the Senate. We are all in this student organization together, and I want to foster that in this term.
 - I want to work alongside the I&C to enhance the mentor/mentee program.
 - Wants to bring back senate intramural sports.
 - I want to continue to work to build relationships in and out of the chambers.
 - Working collaboratively will only grow this senate in a positive manner.
 - Thank you for your time.
- There were five minutes of question and answer.
- A vote was conducted by roll call. In a roll call vote of 79-0, Senator Hartzog is elected as the new Senate President.
- Senate President Hartzog is sworn in.
- The floor opens for nominations for Senate President Pro-Tempore by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

- Senator Green is nominated.
- The floor closes for nominations for Senate President Pro-Tempore by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Green presents for 5 minutes for Senate Pro-Tempore Candidacy.
 - Introduces herself to the senate chamber and provides background on her credentials.
 - I want to do something, and not just say it, actually do it.
 - As a finance and economics major, I have gravitated to the budget and appropriations committee. I have voiced student concerns through authorizing resolutions.
 - Empowered student orgs \$23.7 million budget within the Big 5.
 - Increased lighting in the Norman Parking Lot through Internal Affairs.
 - Hosted “Power, Identity, and Privilege” workshop.
 - Organized recharge days.
 - Wants to continue her work as Senate Pro-Tempore going forward.
 - I want to redesign Docutraq.
 - Navigating the 800 codes is a difficult task. I want to make it possible for organizations to get the most funding in the easiest way.
 - Want to help form and host a bi-annual senate information session.
 - Finally, I want to improve senate tabling specifically by showcasing open seats.
 - When people have a tangible thing to look at during tabling, like a flier, I believe we will get more awareness.
 - Ultimately, I want to thank you all for giving me a platform and being such great people over the years.
 - Thank you for your time.
- There were five minutes of question and answer.
- A vote was conducted by roll call. In a roll call vote of 77-0, Senator Green is elected new Senate President Pro-Tempore.
- Senator Green is sworn in.
- The floor opens for nominations for first Member at Large by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
 - Senator Locasio is nominated.
 - Senator Corbett is nominated.
- The floor closes for nominations for first Member at Large by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Locasio has five minutes to present.
 - Introduces herself to the senate chamber.
 - Loves UF, grew up in town and loves the community.
 - In this first year, the Gator Nation has shown me what being a part of a family really is.

- Wants to explain why she wants to be a member-at-large.
- Since the short time I've joined, I have already learned so much in the senate.
- Wants to help this campus grow, and will be able to do this as a member-at-large.
- I want to give back to this university as much as I can.
- I have met so many people throughout several clubs.
- Involvement in organizations taught me how much better things go when insight is contributed from people of all different kinds of backgrounds and perspectives.
- Continue to expand involvement in other organizations throughout the rest of the year.
- In the past I have also served in a leadership council.
 - Position gave me collaborative skills and gave experience in interviewing.
- I believe my past experiences will serve me well in this member-at-large position.
- I know that actions speak louder than words, and I will work for the students' best interests.
- With this position, I will dedicate my time and energy to choosing the most qualified candidates, especially ones that bring new perspectives into a committee or senate as a whole.
- Since I have a fresh outlook on senate, I will be able to focus on the people and their ideas.
- I want to make sure that each and every committee and open seat is filled with a candidate that will bring something new and different to the table.
- There was a 5 minute question and answer period.
- Senator Corbett has 5 minutes to present.
 - Introduces herself and displays her credentials.
 - I have knowledge in parliamentary procedure through my various experiences.
 - I have effectively communicated with Senate President and Pro-Tempore.
 - Hold myself to high standards in regards to transparency.
 - I have learned that these are crucial parts of work.
 - Worked as Reitz Union Liaison and as a Caucus Task Force Head.
 - I was able to ensure alongside Emma Towler and Annabelle Groux that information I presented is as accurate as possible.
 - Within judiciary, I found that resolutions are means of information, and that it is up to us senators to provide information sources to our public and constituencies.
 - I make sure to detail the inner workings to the public and to the senate, both in and outside of the chamber.
 - Met with many senators in regards to legislation and projects to make sure that all the information I had was accurate before that legislation met the senate floor.
 - I would hope to use my title as a vessel.
 - Purpose of a member-at-large is to sit on R&A and communicate their interests and priorities of all other senators.

- I would like to shift to transparent and informative communication within R&A.
- There is a gap between R&A and the rest of us.
- I would create a dynamic of action on your behalf. I will make sure I am always at the expense of all of you.
- Demonstrated that I am willing to reach across the aisle, leaving biases and affiliations behind when I enter this room.
- I work greatly towards bipartisan goals as a senator.
- I would be granted a more secure seat to communicate with this title.
- I would also love to have the support of you all behind me as I start new goals and initiatives.
- I pride myself in how much I have been able to accomplish.
- I hope all of my experiences suffice and show that I am the utmost qualified for this position.
- Thank you, and go Gators.
- There was a 5 minute question and answer period.
- In a standing vote of 54 to 15, Senator Locasio is elected as First Member-at-Large.

ROLL CALL:

- Senator Fineberg motions to use the voter record as final roll call by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Fineberg motions for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. That motion passes.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:58pm.