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## GM minutes 12/4/2013

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**General Business Agenda**  
Wednesday, December 4th, 2013  
6:00 PM

- I. Attendance
  - a. List Guests
  - b. Announce Absences
- II. Additions/Deletions to Agenda
- III. Additions/Deletions to Minutes
- IV. Open Forum
- V. Judicial Reports
- VI. SGATO Report
- VII. New Business
  - a. Introduction of newly appointed Justices
    - Alexis Sacasas
    - Fatima Somarriba
  - b. Trip Recap
  - c. Dissolution of Travel Committee
  - d. Spring Semester Training
  - e. End of semester recap
- VIII. Announcements
- IX. Adjournment

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Bryan Buenaventura (BB): I call this meeting to order. The time is 6:06pm. The day is December 4<sup>th</sup> 2013. And I will now go into attendance: present is myself Bryan Buenaventura, Sammy Hamed (SH), Michael Kalmowicz (MK), Corey McCance (CM), our clerk Brandon Telchi, Katherine Burkhard (KB). We have as guests the newly appointed justices: Alexis Sacasas (AS) and Fatima Somaribba (FS). We have also as guests: Evan Brown (EB), senator Aziz, Abdool Aziz (AA), and walking in right now is Adam Aldrich (AA2). Excused is Daniel Shapiro. And are there any additions/deletions to the agenda? I do have some minutes that I just sent out from the travel committee that I would like to add on there so is there a motion to add it to the agenda though-the minutes.

SH: motion to add the travel committee minutes.

BB: okay and those will be the dates from September 25<sup>th</sup>, October 9<sup>th</sup>, and October 22<sup>nd</sup>. So those will be added to the agenda. And now is there a motion to approve these minutes?

SH: so moved

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, these minutes have now been approved from the travel committee of these dates. Okay, is there a motion to move out of additions/deletions to the minutes and move into open forum?

MK: so moved

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, we are now in open forum. Does anyone have anything to say? I would like to welcome our new justices and looking forward to working with you guys for the spring semester. And you guys will have time to introduce yourselves a little bit later. Is there anything else in open forum that anyone wants to address? Seeing none, is there a motion to move out of open forum and into judicial reports.

CM: so moved

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, we are now in judicial reports. I'll briefly just state that today I worked with senator Cocco on researching more honor court stuff that I'll talk about a little bit later in our trip recap; but I looked over some of the honor codes from University of North Florida, Florida Coastal School of Law honor code, and I'm also going to research some more into University of Denver and as well as Duke University's honor code to see what kind of- their codes that we can implement to ours when we try to establish the honor court here at USF. But that's all I have to report for right now. Mr. Hamed do you have anything to report?

SH: sure. Earlier this week I met with Housman and Brian and Shapiro to work on our budget request draft for the upcoming year, and so I think next week we'll be meeting with Mr. Manka and Katherine as well to discuss that and finalize that before we put in that request; I think it's due the 20<sup>th</sup> or something- December 20<sup>th</sup>. Me and Shapiro are sitting on the memorial ad-hoc committee now so we're looking forward to working on that with Senator Brown. We're going to start compiling the training material for the new justices so come spring we can have a training that probably the whole court will go to and

probably also planning for the workshop that we'll be doing with our judicial branches from Sarasota-Manatee and St. Pete as well. And yeah, that's it; I'll be here over winter break working on that.

BB: okay, perfect. Mr. Kalmowicz do you have anything to report?

MK: so yeah I had a couple of ideas that I took away from our trip to Tallahassee, or Jacksonville, I'm sorry. And I noticed we're talking a lot about the honor court which I think we should continue to work on; however, I looked into FIU's statutes and looked at what the judicial branch does, and they actually have organizational representation for organizations. Say there is a grievance within an organization or a grievance against an organization that the supreme court can have oversight over that case. And it is actually defined pretty well in their statutes and I'm thinking about potentially- or I'm thinking that maybe we should potentially head to south Florida next semester as a trip to see the schools there: FIU, FAU, and University of Miami, and maybe potentially NSU which is a private school; and they also have a law school at NSU so we could potentially check them out. And I think that we can get a lot from that and also continue possible service that we can provide to students and student organizations. And also I had an idea that we could potentially provide a new service to PATS: I noticed that a lot of the tickets that we see are resident students that park in S lots before 5:30 and vice-versa. So I have an idea about potentially suggesting to PATS an R/S permit for students living on campus, but for example who works on campus and needs to drive around; we can park in the student lots and also park in the resident lots and pay the extra amount: instead of 250 you'd pay 350 and this is- this way PATS can benefit from us since we are a student representation as well, and they can get our feedback as students. Right now, currently, while working on potentially trying to host a golf tournament under judicial branch and we have student organizations participating and possibly fraternity/sorority participating with prizes to give away. I got an inquiry on a price for playing at The Claw and it's roughly \$3000 and I know that's expensive obviously we don't have the budget to pay for that, but with sponsorships I think it's a doable thing; and I want to work on this upcoming semester, after we get back from break, to see if we can get sponsorships to do things like this, and see if this is an actual and feasible thing; and if it is, we can make this into an actual annual event of outreach not only for the judicial branch, but for student government as a whole. Besides that, if you guys have any ideas please feel free to talk to me after the meeting or throughout the semester next semester and we'll discuss it. And that will be it. End report.

BB: alright, those sound like really good ideas. Yes, Adam Aldrich?

AA2: just real quickly for justice Kalmowicz is that something that would be in addition to the current S and R permit or would you replace them?

MK: no it would be in addition.

AA2: okay.

BB: okay. Those all sound like really good ideas so hopefully we can implement some of that stuff in the spring semester. Now, Mr. McCance do you have anything to report?

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CM: yeah, I just wanted to let you guys know that after the trip Madeline Pipman, the attorney that gave us our tour, will be in touch with another judge, one that we were supposed to meet with, but wasn't able to, and a couple of other attorneys that operate both within Jacksonville and locally, and they're interested in coming by and seeing what we do and giving us some feedback on our future careers and stuff like that as well, so I'm going to keep working on that and also I spoke with the dean from florida state college again and they're very, very interested, in us mentoring them in how what we do here and how they could implement it on their campus; they're very impressed by us so I'll keep in touch with them and hopefully over winter break work out something. Maybe some of them can come up during winter break. That's it.

BB: cool, sounds good. Is there a motion to move out of judicial reports and move into SGATO report?

SH: so moved

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, we're now in SGATO report.

KB: okay, just two things tonight: one is just a reminder that when you guys do travel, if you're going to be missing a class remember to get an email sent out from Gary to your professors ahead of time, rather than the day of; and then my next announcement is just next semester Gary will actually be the one that will be attending your general meetings. Unfortunately I will have class at this time so I want to thank you guys for a wonderful summer and for a wonderful fall semester; you guys have been, just absolutely wonderful to work with and I think so highly of each and every single one of you.

BB: well thank you very much Katherine, and likewise, it's going to be sad to see you go, but we'll still see you around the office and hopefully you'll check up with us and likewise with ourselves. As far as that goes, is there a motion to move out of SGATO report and into new business?

SH: so moved

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, we're now in new business. And the first item under new business is the introduction of the newly appointed justices. So if you guys can just tell us a little bit about yourselves and what you guys like to do as far as being a part of the court so... Alexis you can start.

AS: okay. Well my name is Alexis Sacasas. I was previously a senator for the college of arts and sciences. I'm a political science major, pre-law; also double majoring in mass communications. Law is what I love and what I want to do in life and just hearing all of your ideas just makes me excited for the future and I really want to be a part of making a difference here at USF and I think judicial branch is where it should start because I think we should have a really good connection with the students and with just every different branch and really just promoting ourselves the best way we can. And I know when you came into the senate meeting and you said how this branch wasn't known as well as before and I want to tell you guys that from the senate perspective, we see you guys really stepping up and are really proud of you guys. I'm happy and very honored to be a part of it now; so I just want to make sure that now that I'm here that I can, you know, use my girl power to kind of give a different perspective on things; and I'm

glad that there's another girl now on the court too. I'm just ready for some fresh ideas and a new start so if you guys need anything just let me know.

BB: okay, thank you for that Alexis, and we look forward to working with you. Fatima you can...

FS: hey guys, I'm actually a business major. I'm a junior and I was a senator last year with the college of business. And I likewise, everything that she just said, I'm not going into law in the future but I definitely think that law is applied to all areas so you know it's something where I just want to dedicate my time to the school and really grow myself and help you guys grow too.

BB: okay, thank you for that guys. Now we'll move onto the next item under new business which is the trip recap. So Corey if you can please guide us through the recap of our wonderful trip that we took to Jacksonville.

CM: yeah so I think it was a huge success. I don't know about you guys, but I had a lot of fun. We actually managed to go to an extra college that wasn't on our agenda when we left which was pretty exciting just because we had a cancellation. So we did end up going to University of North Florida, we did manage to meet with them twice; once for a tour of the campus to see how they operate and then again for a meeting with their judicial branch to sit down and see exactly how their student government is set up, which was very eye-opening and interesting to see a much more liberal campus at play; it was very interesting to see the contrast between the different schools. We also went to florida coastal school of law. We met up with their mock trial, their moot court, their student bar association, a dean of admissions, and a couple of other missions directors which was really exciting. And then went to my old campus, florida state college, and met with their, their version of SGATO, the person who oversees their campus and also with their dean who was so impressed by our university that he literally broke into tears which was really, really exciting to see somebody who cared so much about his job and what we do. And then also my personal favorite part of the trip was the tour of the court house which Jacksonville has a magnificent courthouse-

MK: terrible football team

CM: we did meet with there with a judge there who gave us a tour of the courthouse. And we actually got to sit in on some trial proceedings which was really exciting to watch the attorneys battle, and I use the word battle lightly, back and forth. But a special thanks go out to Madeline Pipman and Mr. Bruce the attorney who set most of that portion up; they're excellent people and hopefully they'll be working with us again in the future. That's it.

BB: okay, good. I would also like to state that it was a very informative trip. I just want to run down some of the actual things that we did at the campuses. At University of North Florida their student government office is very nice, a little too nice if you ask me, but- we want to try to do some of the things they do so I got some of the copies of their forms that their judicial branch uses; such as the judicial review form that we might try to implement. I also thought it was interesting that university of north florida has first level appeals for parking appeals and we actually recommended to them-

suggested to them that they use our system where they should review the second level of appeals so they can save some of their caseload, which was one of the issues they had. Florida coastal school of law: we had a great time meeting with all of the people from mock trial and court, the dean for students, and as well as the admissions, but I think the most important thing that we got out of it was the honor court meeting that we had with their chief justice that they have at that campus; and I'm going to be in contact with them to implement a lot of the stuff for honor court and hopefully implement that in the honor court that we're trying to establish here at USF. Those were just some of the things that I wanted to implement as well, but overall it was a real good trip and hopefully we can plan something along the lines in the future possibly in south florida or something along those lines; but other than that, we now move on to the dissolution of the travel committee. So, is there a motion to dissolve the travel committee?

MK: so moved

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, the travel committee is now dissolved. Great job overall Corey and hopefully you can do this again next time. Now we move onto spring semester training. I think Sammy mentioned something about that...

SH: yes, justice Shapiro and I have been using some of the material from last year as well as some new material from this year and putting that together for the new justices; so come spring, probably within the first couple of weeks, we'll get that training done.

BB: yeah just to let you guys know: anytime a new justice(s) comes onto the court we do training, but we all participate in it just so we are all on the same page and usually it's the ranking and senior justice, but I'll be a part of it as well in doing the training and so that you guys can be accustomed to what it is that we actually do; the mechanics of everything. So be on the lookout for that in spring. But as of right now, you guys are acting justices so you guys can technically, you know, do the duties that we do up until you are confirmed. So I assume that JEC and senate will ask you what you've done since you've been on the court; and that would be a good time to try your best to implement yourselves into what it is that we do. I know we're coming up to a break, but you know, depending on when JEC and all of that stuff is, you guys can try to be in the office if you can so you guys come around and see what it is that we do.

SH: I'll be here, just to add on, I'll be here over break so if you guys are here and want to come in that's fine.

AS: I have a question: since we obviously don't know how things go do we just pop in and say "hey, do you need our help" or "what are you guys working on" or...

BB: that would be fine.

AS: okay.

BB: you guys are now a part of the court as far as that orange sheet goes, and you know, you guys can- you guys are part of this court so don't feel that just because you're not past sen- or JEC or senate that you shouldn't be implemented. So yeah, definitely work, like Sammy said, we're going to be here during the break, and if you guys want to come in, mostly anytime, any given time somebody is in that office.

AS: is that the office?

BB: yeah, that's our office. So you guys can pop in and do anything.

SH: it's your office now too.

AS: so do we get like a chair?

BB: we'll work on that.

SH: we're a really close court so we share.

BB: did you have a question?

FS: are there any specific things you think we should focus on or that would be good...

BB: yes, what I would recommend to you, and we can talk about this a bit after the meeting is to familiarize with the constitution, more the statutes, and familiarize yourself with parking rules and regulations. And one of the things that we like to tell the new justices is to go on a ride-along with one of the parking enforcers

MK: that's actually required

BB: it's actually required, but it would be a good way to start- a great way to learn more about what we do since we do mostly focus on parking appeals. And you can do that by just- I can set you up a meeting with the enforcers at parking and transportation services, and you can literally ride along with the parking enforcers and ticket cars, and you get to see the whole process right there. So we'll talk more about that after the meeting, and I'll accustom you guys a little bit better. And as far as that goes we now move onto the next item in new business which is the end-of-the-semester recap. I want to remind you guys that this is the last meeting of 2013. We had a great year this year as far as- as well as a great semester. I just wanted to recap some of the things that we did and then if you guys have any more things to add please do so. But it is this fall that we finally got our parking video to be shown on movies on the lawn, through the help of the office of student affairs. And we drafted our attorney general/solicitor general proposal to PATS, which they are currently reviewing. And of course we did our UNF trip, as well as held our first trial in over two years. And so I think that was very, you know, a very productive summer- or I'm sorry fall that we had, and I'm looking forward to this spring. Does anyone else have anything that I might have forgotten that we did?

KB: you guys did the leadership summit with the campuses.

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BB: that's right, we also had our leadership summit where we- it first started as reaching out to the other judicial branches in St. Pete and Sarasota, but then it lead to having students from all of student government under one roof and talking about what we, what we could accomplish. Corey did you have something to say?

CM: and competed in a chili cook-off as a court.

BB: yes, that was also a really good thing. Good job. Other than that, if there's nothing else then we can go ahead and close new business and move onto announcements. So is there a motion for that?

MK: so moved

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, we are now in announcements. I did want to announce something as far as just housekeeping stuff. Sammy and I cleaned up the office so make sure to keep the office cleaned at all times. I also, there was an issue, there was nothing bad that happened, but an issue with the timesheets that happened; so from now on I'm going to put the timesheets in every one of your mail boxes, you sign them, and you take them to Tammy so you'll be responsible for your own timesheets. If I'm there I'll take them all to Tammy, but this is a way so that if a folder gets lost then all of our timesheets don't get lost at the same time. So we'll just implement that. And now that we have seven justices I'm going to no longer accept any sort of Skype or telephone conference since quorum is not going to be an issue now that we have two extra justices, so if you can't make it, you know, we have two other people; you can always just email me and I'll excuse you if it's a valid reason. And it's just better for the recorder, better for the quorum and everything, and it's just one day out of the week so you know, Wednesday nights you came into the job you know what day you're supposed to be here. So we'll just leave it at that. And that's all I have to announce. So is there any motions to close announcements and move into adjournment?

CM: <sup>so moved</sup>

BB: are there any objections? Seeing none, we are now adjourned at 6:27pm.