

10-6-2011

University Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes 10/06/2011

University of South Florida. Student Government Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/sg_leg_pubs



Part of the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#)

Scholar Commons Citation

University of South Florida. Student Government Senate, "University Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes 10/06/2011" (2011). *Legislative Branch Publications*. 295.
https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/sg_leg_pubs/295

This Senate Committee Meeting Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Government at Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in Legislative Branch Publications by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usf.edu.



University of South Florida
Student Government Fifty-Second Student Senate

FALL SESSION
October 6th 2011

Meeting called to order by Chairman Scott Sandoval at 4:02PM.

Sandoval- Beginning with roll call. As I call your name please say present. I am going to go from the top.
Mr. Aziz?

Aziz- Present.

Sandoval- Mr. Aldridge?

Aldridge- Present.

Sandoval- Mr. Bearden?

Bearden- Present.

Sandoval- Mr. Henry?

Henry- Present.

Sandoval- Ms. Wright is not here. Mr. Torres?

Torres- Present.

Sandoval- Mr. Colon?

Colon- Present.

Sandoval- Ms. Merilien?

Merilien-Present.

Sandoval- Ms. Rivera?

Rivera- Present.

Sandoval- Perfect. As our guest we have Ms. Morgan. Hi, how are you? That's great. The agenda and the minutes were both sent out. Are there any motions to the agenda?

Motion to accept the agenda by Senator Aldridge.

Sandoval- Are there any objections? So, the minutes were sent from the last meeting and the 22nd.

Motion to accept the minutes by Senator Aziz.

Sandoval- Are there any objections? Seeing none. The minutes have been approved. Open forum.

Open Forum

Sandoval- Okay, we have the food drive until October the 14th. I hope you bring in some cans and some cereal. I'm going to call my mom and have her bring in a bundle of stuff. That being said I hope you all bring some food.

Aziz- Monday is the town hall with the mayor. Bring in your friends and organizations.

Sandoval- Are there any other announcements for open forum? For new business, we have the tent day at the rec. center and we have the poll working on Tuesday and Wednesday. Monday is tent day. Here's a sign up sheet. Just put your name a and put a check mark. If you don't have this I can just send out a Doodle. It would be outside the recreation center from 10 to 2. That's five hours and it's one of our shorter tent days and they will be giving out the things about athletics, all kinds of stuff.

Bearden- Did you just say 10 to 2? That's four hours.

Sandoval- That's an extra hour and that's in my mind because I'm so good at time. On this list, it's 9:30 to 10 and 2 to 2:30.

Mr. Henry enters at 4:06PM.

Sandoval- I was just talking about tent day which will be the 10th. Do we have a pen? Just put your name and a little check mark. Okay. That's pretty much it. Bulls Radio is coming and we have DJ Chill. So, we're going to have a lot of fun. Is there any other questions?

Aziz- We'll be playing dance music.

Sandoval- Is that a question or a statement?

Aziz- Statement.

Sandoval- It should be pretty fun. Any questions? Any statements? Any concerns? I also have street team signed up so we have four people on there. You'll also be working with street team. I'm slowly trying to bring in more entities of student government inwards. That is the tent. Okay. Poll working. As you might have heard. The committee that wins will get baked goods. I'm talking something along the

lines of cookies and brownies. So, right. For the future, we're going to try to hold down the snapping and move to applause.

Applause.

Sandoval- If you could put a name and check, but remember baked goods and a free t-shirt and a bundle.

Aziz- You forgot to mention the competition that we have as JEC.

Sandoval- Our competition is JEC with Shyam Patel and Karim Hussein. I'm going to be pretty upset and angry just keep that in mind. Is there any questions? You only have to sign up for 30 minutes. It's an hour. You get a cool staff shirt. Disclaimer is that you can't sing up openly to do someone's campaign. Questions? Concerns? Signup sheet for the oncoming week. You guys are the best, where would I be without you. Okay, so. Between the 11th and the 20th, I think we're going to run a survey regarding Bright Futures, which we'll talk about next. There's a lot of options you can choose from. Just pick a day and I will meet you here with the iPad. We are adding the UWC's and I'm going to have their information ready for next committee and they'll be sending you their information. Next week, we might now have committee. Next week is going to be a little busy. I don't want to bog you guys down too much. Any questions? Let's get to the heart of today; the discussion of bright futures. You should have three documents in front of you. First one is the Bright Futures Scholarship program. What it says is it is the renewal qualifications. I'm from sickles high school. I have a 2.75 with...yeah that's how much I have to get and take at least 12 semesters of completed hours. Any questions? Yes? Good. Next document. This is the initial eligibility. What I had to do to qualify for this is I had to have the Florida Gold Seal...Yeah the Medallion Scholar. Pretty good. Okay. I know. Underachiever here. That being said, the last document is what UF has proposed regarding the changes of the renewal requirements; we can determine if we want to change or keep requirements. Does anyone know why we aren't changing this?

Aziz- The changes are already in place?

Sandoval- Yes.

Aziz- And what are we doing?

Sandoval- We're writing a change to the memorandum. The first page is this:

COPY PAGE FROM SCOTT.

Sandoval- So, what does that mean? It means the Bright Futures is running out as more students are accepted to the program. So, right now here's bright futures and here's the people that keep growing until it basically eats itself. It means we have to change the requirements to be eligible for it or to recede it.

Aziz- They gave out 400 million and they're only allotted 350 million?

Sandoval- Correct.

Aldridge- Where are the polls going to be held? I'm sorry I forget?

Sandoval- Out in front of the Marshall Center. They're going to send out emails when we get closer to Tuesday and Wednesday. You know the usual places. That's okay. So, basically we'll be over the next week come up with it or run a survey about how people feel about it and what they think is a better idea. It's completely up to you.

Aldridge- Are you wanting to change it from Florida's idea or what it is now?

Sandoval- We can just change the wording and I can read to you their reasoning. So, here's UF's idea.

Aldridge- This one that is in landscape is the past requirements to renew. Okay never mind.

Sandoval- Okay, so this is what UF says: Bright Futures was established in 1997 for Florida high school seniors with academic merit to earn a scholarship to attend college in the state of Florida; and since its inception in 1997, the scholarship has ballooned from 42,000 scholarships at a cost of \$70 million dollars to in the 2009-2010 fiscal year over 170,000 scholarships at a cost of \$426,278,452 million dollars; and the Florida Lottery was established in 1986 through a constitutional amendment to enhance public education in Florida; and in the 2009-2010 fiscal year Bright Futures accounted for 30.1 percent of the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund through the Florida Lottery; and the Bright Futures scholarship has changed numerous times to meet the budgetary demands in Florida such as cuts to public education; and many students have seen Bright Futures drop substantially since arriving at their respective state institutions just a few short years ago; and for the 2011-2012 fiscal year the legislature only budgeted \$350 million dollars for Bright Futures scholarships; and a new solution needs to be developed to save the Bright Futures program; then the Student Senate of the University of Florida proposes the following changes to the Bright Futures program; then that the Bright Futures scholarship keep in its mission to be merit based; then the grade point average to stay qualified for Bright Futures rises from a 2.75 to 3.0; then students attending a private institution no longer receive funding from Bright Futures since it does not contribute a significant proportion to their tuition, therefore Bright Futures is not a primary reason they chose to study in Florida; then the State of Florida and universities investigate the need of students such as Florida Opportunity Scholars will also receive Bright Futures to determine if they need both scholarship to attend college; then students who receive the Bright Future scholarship must continue their education or work within the state for a certain amount of years or pay the state of Florida back for their scholarship; then the student body of the University of Florida supports the planned increase to the standards to receive a Bright Futures scholarship; then the state focuses the money received from the Florida Lottery to enhancing the public education like its original mission stated.

Sandoval- So, that being said, the changes are this: great GPA increases to renew. Private institutions are no longer able to receive. The universities investigate the needs to bright futures and once they're finished their degree, they have to pay the state of Florida back for that scholarship.

Aldridge- Question: the bottom one is stricken from their resolution.

Sandoval- That's from Hassouneh. He marked that one out. So, the final one is the requirements to originally get it. So, how do you feel about what I just told you. Here's a better way on a different note: Who has bright futures? We're going to have a very bright future. So, how do you feel? Do you want to run a survey? Do you want to revisit it? He wants it in three weeks which is the 20th of October.

Aziz- We can talk it out and see what works. We don't have to follow what they're doing. We can make our own thing.

Sandoval- Khalid says we have the full realm to work in and deviate.

Bearden- I think that we should still run a survey to seek what they think because making decisions without hearing what they want is not good without their input, but I also think that then we can discuss and work on a happy medium.

Aziz- For these proposals, do we have to know how much money would be saved if we did XY and Z. Like an estimate or something.

Henry- Who is this affecting?

Sandoval- This is from UF but this is what they're submitting to change it.

Bearden- Will this be applied to people in school now or people entering.

Morgan- it would be up to the legislator but they would keep it for the same year. They would grandfather you in but it may change for people who need the renewal requirements. They might change that.

Sandoval- Thus far we have survey right? We'll write the memo on the 20th of October.

Aldridge- I don't want to sound cynical but I think if we have a survey there's a darn good survey that you're going to have an overwhelming majority oppose this. I'm saying this is what you're results are going to be 9 out of 10.

Sandoval- This is going to be like...

Torres- I was thinking one of the questions could be, "Are you an out of state student?" I am not opposed to this because I pay 20,000 a year to go here.

Sandoval- Why don't we come up with questions. We could say if you had to change one of the requirements, they could change to a lesser evil. So, choose one ruling. Okay, any other ideas? And then I'll probably work with one of you with a memorandum. Any other ideas?

Bearden- On the survey, we'll break it down with questions for each part that's change. That's what I would thing for the portions and then say how you feel in general towards the whole thing. I still think that it's important that we have evidence of the whole thing.

Aziz- TO propose and think of other things for the Florida Lottery...

Sandoval- You can think of alternative ways to exclude in state residents. So, are there any other questions? Is there anybody that wants to work on this? Okay, I get it...Mr. Colon, would you like to work on this?

Colon- Yes.

Sandoval- Any other things?

Aziz- I'll help you work on it.

Sandoval- I will make the decision next Thursday if we are going to have a meeting. UWC's, we'll work on that next week. Does anybody not understand the UWC process? Okay good.

Aldridge- Can you describe the UWC process?

Sandoval- Yeah. This is a UWC. No. That's a bad way to put it. Yeah that's fine. Starting from the top: it goes down and people sit on it. We have people on student affairs. I went and there was a person from student affairs, pride, some teachers and two students: myself and Simon Sanders. Say you have me, I intern write a report, which goes to Briana Jones who is the direct of University Affairs and then in turn, Briana send out a report to me. Say we have the gender identity committee. I delegate it to you and you write a one or two sentence about what's going on and you get this little paragraph and its going to be something along the lines of oh I don't know what came up today. We talked about funding for one of the events we have next semester and how they need more money. We would talk about it and create a survey on how they feel about the LGBTQA. So, we'll see how they feel about that and PRIDE to better bridge their committee with University Affairs. Okay? Are there any questions? Are we all on board? Perfect. Okay, now I'll make you a promise. I rarely make promises and fulfill promises: if you go to the poll working and the tent day, I'll buy pizza, even for you Theresa. Next Thursday, I won't force you to drive here, a week from Thursday, but pizza. Okay, are there any motions? We're all done with announcements, right? Do we have announcement?

Aldridge- I wouldn't announce in senate that we're going to have pizza.

Sandoval- Well, it's Scott Sandoval funded. I know how ASRC works. What's going on?

Motion to adjourn by Senator Aziz.

Sandoval- There's a motion on the floor. Are there any objections? Seeing none.

Adjournment called by Chairman Scott Sandoval at 4:32PM.

Transcribed by Senate Secretary, Theresa Rivera.