

Summer 7-19-2011

Budgetary Practices Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes 07-19-2011

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University of South Florida
Student Government Fifty-Second Student Senate

Ad-Hoc Committee on Budgetary Practices
Summer Session
July 19th, 2011

Call to Order by Chairman Gao at 4:04 PM.

First Roll Call:

Present: Gao, Brinkworth, McNeal, Galchenko

Absent:

Guests: Senator Aziz, Senator A. Saunders, Rules Chair Kiger, JEC Chair Toro, Jessica Morgan (SGATO)

Additions/Deletions and/or Clarifications to the Agenda:

Chairman Gao – Next thing on the agenda is additions/deletions to the agenda. Any?

Senator Brinkworth – *Motion to approve the agenda, accepted.*

Chairman Gao – Any objections? None, sweet.

Additions/Deletions and/or Changes to the Minutes:

Chairman Gao – Next thing is approval of the minutes, again we are running late on the minutes, so I'll give you guys some minutes soon.

Senator Brinkworth – *Motion to postpone the approval of the minutes to the following meeting, accepted.*

Chairman Gao – Any objections? None, ok.

Open Forum:

Chairman Gao – Alright, open forum. Alright, short meeting today. Just got to go over one thing, and if it's all good, keep drafting up the bills, um. For the whole thing to go through, we have to draft up new bill for new committee, change pretty much Chapter 809 in terms of Homecoming and EXPO grant programs, we'll put a clause in there that instead of Appropriations taking care of it it will be the grant committee. Um, and I'll be able... this draft will be the Travel Grant that is going to be inserted into Chapter 809. Anything else?

New Business:

1. Travel Grant Program Legislation

Chairman Gao – This is the Title (inaudible) legislation that Nikita drafted up. You guys, I didn't get a chance to send it out cause I got it last night, since I was in New York City I couldn't really send it out. Just, um, take a look, let me know, and I'll just scroll down...sorry.

Ms. Galchenko – So the budget line shall fall under Senate's budget?

Chairman Gao – That's the way she wrote it.

Ms. Galchenko – Is the interim under the Senate's budget?

Chairman Gao – No, the interim is under their own separate account.

Ms. Galchenko – That's where I think it should be on its own, too.

Chairman Gao – Ok. No, but you think about it, the Homecoming Grant and the EXPO Grant are all under Senate's budget.

Ms. Galchenko – No.

Chairman Gao – No? They're all under their own budget?

Ms. Galchenko – They're all their own, they're by themselves. They're grouped by themselves as a line, but they're compiled together with the Interim because the process for them is essentially the same.

Chairman Gao – Oh yeah. Ok.

(inaudible)

Chairman Gao – And now, that's it. Questions?

Senator Aziz – Um, who's performing a travel audit?

Chairman Gao – They are.

Senator Aziz – Oh, the organization.

Chairman Gao – They're auditing, they're pretty much filling out their own audit form themselves. So, when they come back, they have to fill out the forms saying what they learned and all that stuff like that.

Senator Brinkworth – Maybe we should add that to that, um, sub-clause, saying (inaudible) by the student organization.

Chairman Gao – What clause is this?

Senator Brinkworth – 809.15.1

Chairman Gao – Adam?

Senator A. Saunders – Um, for 809.15, there's no, like, there's no, um, like, fore-day, like in terms of when they can request travel and they can request travel like four months or five months in advance, right? Just like limiting it to 25 days before their travel.

Chairman Gao – Yeah, no later. Christy?

Senator Brinkworth – Um, 809.14.1, right up here, seems like really vague, (inaudible) Travel Grant (inaudible) sustaining roles, or relationships put forth by Student Government including, I mean yes, including Proviso, but what is the not limited to, what does that mean?

Chairman Gao – We have restrictions on travel, but I think the only restriction on travel in terms of funding is on 809, 804 Proviso. That's it. Any other things, any other Student Government regulations that we set forth? I can't think of any, we don't have any restrictions on travel, really, except that's it.

Ms. Galchenko – Well, you have to abide by the University Policy.

Chairman Gao – Oh yeah, University Policy and...

Ms. Galchenko - And state policies, so...

Chairman Gao – So, instead of Student Government, you have Florida State policies and Student Government policies. You don't have to include Chapter 804 since it's already one thing really that's governing travel. Yeah?

Senator A. Saunders – Um, it's more of custodial, but um, so I think 809.15 is more of a requirement that's like what 809.14 is talking about. Maybe we should be like 809.14.2...

Chairman Gao – For this one?

Senator A. Saunders – Yeah, instead of being 15.

Chairman Gao – Ok. Anything else? Um, should we instead of having this clause right here, removing the whole Chapter 804 clause for travel and limitations on travel to this one, and just eliminate whatever is in Proviso. Like, you know how Proviso has that little clause, like maximum money request for travel for student organizations. We can take that out of Proviso and put it into this instead.

Ms. Galchenko – Well, doesn't Proviso limit how much you can fund?

Chairman Gao – Proviso limits, yes.

Ms. Galchenko – So yes, it's really doesn't go to this. They can request this kind (inaudible), but it doesn't mean that you can't fund it.

Chairman Gao – Yeah.

Senator Brinkworth – I agree, since this, since you're separating funding for normal things from travel, I think that's appropriate, but I also thought, similar to Adam's thing, all of these 809.14.1 on all seem like they should be a sub-clause of 809.14, like as opposed to starting over at 809.15, I feel like they should all be under...under the following requirements, and these are the requirements.

Chairman Gao – So, this will be after travel for travel, I don't know what I'm saying, or just things before and after travel.

Chairwoman Kiger – Um, the way, the reason I formatted it this way was based off of how all of the other grant programs are formatted in Statutes, and basically, went almost line-by-line and formatted it all from the other ones, so that's kind of why it is the way it is, and instead of having 809.15 under 809.14, um, because it was a separate clause for, like, the Signature Events and wasn't actually even part of the other two, but I kind of combined different formatting styles for the different grants to put this together.....this is tentative.

Senator A. Saunders – We're going to move things from 804 into, um...

Chairman Gao – Since Masha mentioned that 804 is how much we can fund, (inaudible), we'll just leave it there. Yeah?

Senator A. Saunders – Cause I see, I was just looking at 804.2.12, I see, um, might actually really nice to have it right there. I can read it, or you could?

Chairman Gao – Alright, read it.

Senator A. Saunders – Um, travel may be funded with proper justification that includes how the trip directly improves the organization, the University, or the state of Florida. Individual travel for students to present papers, literature, or personal academic work is not considered eligible for organization funding.

Chairwoman Kiger – 804.2.12?

Senator A. Saunders – Yes.

Chairman Gao – (inaudible). The way I look at it is if we have to approve this one, we have to approve three other ones, because to approve the one, the Committee one, 804 Proviso is changed, we'll have to change this one, so that's three other ones, like three total ones that we have to confirm altogether. Yeah?

Chairwoman Kiger – Well, my suggestion for this is, I mean obviously this is tentative, this is just something to have, and obviously there are things that need to be added into it, I just wanted feedback on this to see what you guys wanted added in, but, um, I definitely think this has to wait until after the committee for grants is put together, if that is put together, because like, for now I had 809.13 so that Committee on Appropriations, because we don't have that other committee yet, so I wasn't sure what we wanted to do on that just yet, but I feel like this really goes with the committee and the other legislation, and it all kinds of need to come at one time before...

Chairman Gao – Also, um, for this part, Masha was mentioning it shouldn't fall under Senate's budget, she said it should fall under its own separate line item, so (inaudible) requested under, um...

Ms. Galchenko – Um, the Homecoming Grant has its own request, and Engineering EXPO has its own request, and the Interim Budget has its own request, so this should be its own request.

Chairman Gao – Don't they all request it under Senate? But Senate puts in the request, right?

Ms. Galchenko – Yes.

Chairman Gao – For ASRC? Yeah...but its own separate, separate entity account, yeah.

Chairwoman Kiger – If I may, if you scroll down to Engineering EXPO or any of them, um, it's right there for all of them, so...

Chairman Gao – So is it actually in Senate's budget?

Ms. Galchenko – It's not part of Senate's budget, that's why (inaudible).

Chairman Gao – No, when we request it, it's in the Senate's budget, but its problem is it's a separate account, one that's allocated (inaudible).

Ms. Galchenko – No, even when you submit the Senate's budget, it's not part of the packet; it's in a packet by itself.

Chairwoman Toro – Um, I have a question for Masha, is it its own line item then, would it be an appropriate way to describe it? Would the Travel Grant be its own line item?

Ms. Galchenko – I don't know how it's been done in the past, but in this last year that we just, that we are going into, it's been a request has been made for this much money, the recommendation has been made, and in discussion, it was approved. It was not brought up the Senate's budget application, it was not there at all. We could put a line item in there in Senate's budget packet, but then putting the budget in it would have to be part of Senate's budget.

Chairman Gao – Yeah?

Chairwoman Toro – Okay, I think since this sounds complicated, let's just take that out, it doesn't need to be there, just, um, the budget line, that second sentence there, the budget line shall fall under Senate's budget, just take it out, and then we can just put it (inaudible) what we've been doing, because Senate, that only says what we can't do, we can't fund, we can't do, so it doesn't specify, it just continues the way we've been doing it.

Chairwoman Kiger – The only issue I see with that is all of the other grants programs are set up that way, they all have that line in the Statutes, so we would have to change all of them and make them different.

Chairman Gao – Sam? Yes? Um, so technically they're just their own separate accounts at this point, right? Ok. Ok.

Ms. Morgan – I mean you could phrase it in a way that makes it so that you know that Senate is the one proposing the budget.

Ms. Galchenko – Senate is the one that's requesting, making the request, but it's not part of their whole budget.

Chairman Gao – Ok, so I'll put any language that Senate doesn't request based on, ok...

Chairwoman Kiger – We can think about this more later.

Chairman Gao – Yeah.

(laughter)

Chairman Gao – Any other comments? Um, definitely a lot of changes to be made, but we'll work on it, but other than that, there's really nothing else to discuss, I mean we pretty much decided everything, right? Sweet.

Announcements:

Chairman Gao – Any other announcements? Yeah?

Ms. Morgan – If you have not RSVP for PLUNGE, please do so, and if you are an alternate this Summer, you may still go to PLUNGE. I know there was some confusion about that, but we would love for you to attend if that is your situation this Summer. Please come and RSVP by Monday. Everyone in this room.

Chairman Gao – Any other announcements? None, ok, (inaudible), you don't have to motion, we are adjourned at 4:19.

Adjournment called by Chairman Gao at 4:19 PM.

Transcribed by 54th Term Senate President Pro Tempore Adam Aldridge.