

Fall 11-10-2011

## University Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes 11/10/2011

University of South Florida, Student Government Senate

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University of South Florida  
Student Government Fifty-Second Student Senate

Committee on University Affairs  
SPRING SESSION  
November 10, 2011

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**Call to Order by Chairman Scott Sandoval at 4:04pm.**

**First Roll Call:**

Present: Aldridge, Henry, Colon

Absent: Jackson (unexcused), Merilien (unexcused), Wright (excused), Bernstein (excused), Aziz (excused)

**Additions/Deletions and/or Clarifications to the Orders of the Day:**

Sandoval: This is the committee on university affairs. Today is November the 10<sup>th</sup>. Today is November the 10<sup>th</sup> it's a fall session and were being called to order at 404. For the first order of business were gonna do roll call I'm going to pronounce your name as soon as I say your name say present, from the top.

Sandoval: I guess include Jessica Morgan who will be coming in a few minutes late. She's our SGATO member. So moving on... Next order is additions or deletions to the agenda. The agenda was sent out last night, are there any motions?

*Aldridge motions to approve agenda.*

Sandoval: There is a motion on the floor, any objections? That's the agenda, it has been accepted.

**Additions/Deletions and/or Changes to the Minutes:**

Sandoval: The approval of the minutes, there were no minutes sent out because they haven't been finished yet but as we hire two new secretaries those will start to become done so before our last meeting I'll try and send a bundle out so we can get them all approved at once. Also were gonna start uploading them to the website so that if you feel... compelled you can go on the website and checkout the minutes from this meeting. Any motions right now?

*Aldridge motions to postpone minutes.*

Sandoval: Motion to postpone any objections? None seen the minutes have been postponed until our next meeting.

**General Business:**

Sandoval: Which if you know our next meeting isn't next week because we have thanksgiving and the week after that is our final senate meeting, wait is next week thanksgiving? No, next week isn't thanksgiving so we'll have a meeting next week. No meeting on thanksgiving week and then our last

meeting so we have two more meetings yet. I was getting so excited I thought thanksgiving was next week. So open forum... anything going on? No? Nothing? Ok, we have international festival coming up next week on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup>. I implore you all to go it will be very fun; it's over at the MLK lawn and it is from... I'm not sure I think its 11-3. And we'll have all the cultures there so it will be pretty fun. So diving into this... tent day review yesterday was tent day at Juniper Poplar. We had 15 people come, we gave out flyers on jobs and ifest and for the responses on the survey we got 350 surveys which is the most we've ever done. I'm proud of you guys. Khalid also says thank you to everybody that came to tent day and also to the committee for doing such a great job, he wanted me to tell you. So be proud. Bright futures memorandum, real quick before we get into this, does anyone need to see the resolution that was created by the University of Florida? Do you remember this? This was what we based the survey on, do you remember seeing this? Ok, this right here... he's got it right there if any of you need to see it. So diving right into this... The memorandum is regarding bright futures and it begins with, pretty basic, the committee on university affairs can (inaudible) on the topic of bright futures. The bright futures survey was run between October 17<sup>th</sup> and November the 2<sup>nd</sup> and there were 434 surveys given out over the (inaudible) which is the most we've ever done, good job guys. The survey was given out all over campus and at the Juniper Poplar tent day on November 9<sup>th</sup> which was yesterday 2011 at Juniper Poplar. The survey comprised of 4 questions including multiple choice and fill in the blank, the questions were based on proposals form other universities to keep bright futures sustainable. Of the students surveyed and I will pull this up real quick, Can I borrow someone's...

Aldridge: Was the tent day, yesterday's tent day, factored into the results?

Sandoval: Yes. Can I get... one of the memorandums? I'm going to read straight from this and I'm going to put up here what each one is. So I did this like the future to make it easier on the eyes. So first is (inaudible) I kinda like it so for the first one... so for the first question, 87%, which is right here, 87% of 433 is 377 stated that they have been or are currently receiving bright futures. Basic question, are you or have you ever been a recipient of bright futures? If you have any questions or concerns or want to add anything just let me know. So here's the longest proposal, I guess... for the second question, 44% entered that if they had the choice they would raise the grade point average from 2.75 to 3.0, as you can see at the top, none of the options which were grade point average to stay qualified raises from... stated that they would choose none of the options which were... and the its all of the options. Grade point average to stay qualified rises from 2.75 to 3.0, exclusion from bright futures if other scholarships cover costs... yes?

Bearden: Can you change it to which included?

Sandoval: Yes. Which included... Ok, private institutions no longer receive funding, recipients must continue their education or work within the state for a certain amount of years and pay the state of Florida back for their scholarships, and finally, smaller allocation to each student. One, two, three, four, five, five options. The two of those choices were recipients must continue their education and... (Inaudible) were just going over the bright futures. Also thank you for going to tent day yesterday, I appreciate it. So were just going through this real quick, the first... one is 87% say that they had been or are currently a recipient of bright futures. And then we basically just went through and for the second

question, 44% answered they would choose to raise the grade point average from 2.7 to 3.0 which you can see here and a quarter chose none of these and I included each of the 5 which is grade point average, exclusion from bright futures, private institutions, recipients must continue their education in Florida, and smaller allocation for each student. So that's basically what we've done so far... and the two lowest choices were recipients must continue education in Florida or smaller allocation to each student, both having under 10% responses. Which is right here, recipients must continue education and smaller allocation to each student. Is everybody happy with that?

Unknown female: I think that maybe if we take out, finally, like I don't know because it makes it a little easier to read because the two lowest choices were this and this and (inaudible).

Sandoval: Ok. Alright so were all good with this one? This was the longer one. So for the third question, 40% chose to not change bright futures on top of other scholarships, I don't really like the wording... chose to not change... chose to not change... I guess the option... chose to keep... yeah, chose to keep bright futures on top of other scholarships. That makes sense. And the two other top choices to not be changed were grade point average to stay qualified and students receiving the same amount of tuition. This is 40% and the remaining two were grade point average to stay qualified and that students receive the same amount of tuition. Makes sense... that for the third question it's the ones that they would keep and the second it's the ones that they would change about bright futures. And finally, the last question were based off of 98 responses. So if you'd like we can go through those? No, okay. Which basically include increasing tuition, making it harder to qualify, higher SAT and ACT scores to qualify, community service at all levels to qualify, and reinstate extent period of time for students who are economically deprived, so that's pretty much... So that's the memorandum now this isn't a resolution as you can tell. Khalid says he wants a memorandum right now but in the future we might have to make a resolution so if you guys want we can make a stance right now? Right now we'll make a stance. Yeah right this second so how do you guys feel about that? Everybody that wants to take a side and say that we want this, this, and this to happen and we want to keep this, and this, and this. And basically when we write the resolution next semester it will be easier. So all who want to do that right now raise your hands. Ok... one... who doesn't want to do it? Wow, two, do you two abstain?

Unknown female: Undecided.

Sandoval: Undecided? So basically it will be really quick were basically saying...

Unknown female: So are we putting together our views on this like as a united stance on bright futures or are we saying what we think and later were going to combine those thoughts into one thing?

Sandoval: The second one, I think.

Unknown female: So you want us to provide our stance on this object?

Sandoval: Were going to make a stance as a committee right now and when we write the resolution it will be more like this. Because this is a stance, this second page right here is a stance. This is going to be like one sentence, were not talking like a small paragraph here, maybe a couple sentences. It will

basically help with next semester but I mean if you're not going to be on this committee next semester it won't really matter but I mean if you want to come back... Were good? You guys want to do it? Ok so the best way to do this, I think, would be just to go from the second question which would be... the major questions are what do you want to change, what do you think needs to be changed?

Unknown Female (13:30): Can you pull up the survey again?

Sandoval: Alright, what do you think changed?

Colon: I think we should raise the GPA from 2.75 to 3.0.

Sandoval: Ok.

Unknown: Second.

Unknown: Third.

Sandoval: Ok, anybody else who wants to raise GPA? Ok, raise GPA. Any other ideas?

Unknown female: Raise the...

Unknown male: The second one.

Sandoval: Also you can pull from the second one for ideas.

Unknown female: I was gonna say raise the SAT/ACT scores to qualify.

Sandoval: Ok, raise SAT/ACT.

Unknown female: Maybe not at the same time or doing both but... maybe not imply that that has to happen together.

Sandoval: Raise GPA and raise SAT/ACT.

Unknown female: Maybe raise GPA... would it be (inaudible) or these... 3.0 and these test scores...

Sandoval: It's up to you, I mean... you could do either or, you could do both together...

Unknown female: You could say and/or.

Luis: I think you should do both.

Sandoval: You think it should be both?

Colon: I think they should be two separate resolutions.

Sandoval: So we'll do 'and', everybody like 'and'? Ok, are there any other ideas? Pretty much just raise GPA and raise SAT/ACT? Here, I'll go ahead and put this final section in here and I'm going to send this to Mr. Khalid.

Aldridge: I had a question about up top. I know this is completely nitpicking the top there but can we change the sentences to where it says it was given out on campus first and then those numbers (inaudible). Because I didn't know if the surveys were added into the amount. Change it to make the second question, make the second statement the third statement and vice versa.

Sandoval: Ok, so just move it?

Aldridge: Well... no, actually I mean the third statement.

Sandoval: There were 434... Ok real quick, were just saying we the committee on the university affairs, we... bright futures sustainable... we recommend an increase in GPA from 2.75 to 3.0 and requirements for the SAT/ACT be... not instated it would be... be... we the committee on university affairs to keep bright futures sustainable, we recommend an increase in GPA from 2.75 to 3.0 and a requirement for the SAT/ACT be... it's like established I guess... it would be like, it starts with an 'I'...

Unknown male: They already have a requirement for it so it would just be increased. It would be the requirement not a requirement.

Sandoval: Do you need to have your SAT/ACT?

Unknown: Yes.

Sandoval: Oh you do, don't you... I didn't know that. I forgot about that. And an increase...

Aldridge: We need to specify the difference, maybe, maybe not, because to get in you need a 3.0 but to stay in you need a 2.75

Sandoval: Correct.

Aldridge: So I think we need to say that...

Sandoval: It's like to be reinstated.

Aldridge: Right I'm just saying we recommend to state an increase... something about staying qualified needs to be raised. To stay qualified...

Bearden: Can you put believe that to keep bright futures sustainable...

Sandoval: Believe...

Bearden: Believe that to keep bright futures sustainable.

Henry: Can you say qualify attending college not in college?

Sandoval: Of course. Hi Ms. Morgan.

Bearden: For the GPA requirement its recommended (inaudible). What is the word, the adjective to describe the GPA that keeps you like...

Unknown female: Cumulative?

Bearden: No, sorry... but the one... because this is not the GPA... it's already a 3.0 to get bright futures but this is the GPA to stay in it so can we say an increase in the qualifying GPA...

Unknown male: GPA required for renewal.

Bearden: Yeah, renewal GPA. Just put like renewal GPA...

Aldridge: An increase in the required GPA for renewal...

Sandoval: What are you saying now?

Aldridge: The wording they use is cumulative GPA required for renewal.

Sandoval: We recommend an increase in the cumulative GPA required for renewal... right? Am I right or am I wrong?

Unknown male: The minimum institutional GPA required for renewal.

Sandoval: The minimum institutional cumulative GPA required for renewal... Renewal and... minimal institutional.

Aldridge: Then you need to, after the 3.0, take a period and have another sentence saying in addition we recommend an increase for...

Aziz: Are you going to increase SAT scores for college?

Sandoval: Hang on a second. Everybody chill for a second. Mr. Aziz you are present, welcome. We have two guests over there, Karim and Sean. Let me do this real quick, Karim and Sean Patel. Ok so were on the second statement now, correct? So in addition the committee recommends an increase for SAT and ACT scores to qualify for bright futures...

Unknown male: while in high school I supposed?

Sandoval: No because then (inaudible). Alright, do you want me...

Bearden: Can you put a comma after in addition?

Sandoval: Of course. Ok, any other comments? I'm going to read the last statement, we the committee on university affairs believe that to keep bright futures sustainable we recommend an increase in the minimum institutional cumulative GPA required for renewal from 2.75 to 3.0 and in addition, the committee recommends an increase in SAT/ACT scores to qualify for bright futures.

Aldridge: I do want to ask what the committee thinks about the private institutions part? Because I think that may be one more thing that we could recommend.

Henry: You're talking about the giving bright futures to students who attend private universities? Yeah, I agree because why would we... why should we allow it if students are going to a private university that have bright futures.

Bearden: For this one they said they would take away bright futures for private institutions, for your information.

Aldridge: I have a point of information, it says resolved; students who attain a private intuition no longer receive funding from bright futures since it does not contribute a significant portion to their tuition. Therefore, bright futures is not a primary reason they choose to (inaudible).

Bearden: And we disagree with that right? Or are you guys saying that you like them to have bright futures? Or you don't want them because you agree with their stance?

(Inaudible – multiple people talking)

Sandoval: Ok... hands, hands. One at a time. Ok, everybody hang on. Do you guys want to discuss this so we can meet a common ground? Ok, Mr. Aldridge do you want to go ahead and begin real quick? And by the way if you have anything to say just raise your hand real quick for the recorder; it's a lot harder without a secretary.

Aldridge: I think that, I just think... in terms of what we need to recommend, if we just recommend those two things I don't think it's enough. I mean there's, in this example there's seven things here and I'm looking through what we would need to cut if we were the BoG or whatever the group is that's going to do this, what would we need to cut. That seems like the most... plausible reason that private institutions only make up about 10% of the college students of Florida. In other cases, (inaudible) a bigger percentage of students in the state of Florida; that is the reason for that.

Sandoval: Does anyone disagree? Does anyone have any comments? It's okay to disagree; I mean this is a hot topic, obviously...

Colon: I want to agree with him because on the first page it says it went from \$7 million to \$426 million and I doubt just raising the GPA and SAT scores is going to make that much of an impact for them to decide their going to keep it in place.

Sandoval: Any other comments? By the way, this is just to help us for next semester, this isn't the resolution. Because first we draft a resolution and then it will go to senate and then senate will make the additions or deletions to it and then after that then it will be all ad hocs so don't get distressed don't get worried.

Aldridge: Can they amend resolutions?

Sandoval: I think they send it back to the committee, sorry I misspoke.

Bearden: This is separate, doesn't fourth have a 'U' in it?

Sandoval: Thank you. So, how does everybody feel about the private institutions?

Merilien: I feel that maybe it could be something we could discuss but at this moment in time I feel that maybe we could come to an agreement that it's maybe something we could talk about later.

Sandoval: Ok, so do you want to put it in here or...? No, just leave it out for now?

Henry: I think we should just because it's another hot-topic to talk about.

Aldridge: As a common ground can we put in there saying we recommend discussing the possible option of taking away private institutions into that...

Sandoval: We'll put that at the end... the committee recommends the discussion of the topic... what's the name of it? Private institutions no longer receive funding. The committee recommends the discussion of the topic; private institutions no longer receive funding. Comma? Ok, so this is what we have. Everyone satisfied? Ok, so I'm going to go through this real quick, we'll vote on it and send this to Mr. Hassouneh and next semester or maybe next year we'll revisit this or maybe down the road they'll find this and say look what university affairs was doing in 2011. So real quick, the committee on university affairs conducted a survey on the topic of bright futures and it lists the dates of when bright futures occurred there were 434 surveys given out. Questions were based on proposals from other universities. The first question said that 87% say they have been or currently are receiving bright futures. The second goes over the changes that would be made to bright futures. The third question is what would be kept in bright futures which 40% chose to not change bright futures, to not change bright futures on top of other scholarships so they are able to combine them. And the 4<sup>th</sup> question gave a couple other recommendations that students have regarding how to make bright futures sustainable and then the last section is our stance as a committee, right now, to help found a resolution that will be written maybe next semester or next year. So that's that, your all voting members who are able to vote. So all in favor of passing this memorandum raise your hands. Alright, 6, all opposed? Zero, I abstain, 6-0-1 this memorandum passes. Good job guys. And you know this is a really hot topic people can't really talk about this, I'm really proud of you guys. So signup for the last survey, I'm not quite sure what the last survey is going to be, here's a signup sheet. But it's going to be something not dry, it's going to be something fun. I don't know yet, maybe about the skypad, something to get people going... but it will get people energized for USF. So that's going around, it's over the next 2 weeks, actually no its not because thanksgiving I don't want any surveys done, I want you to have a fun thanksgiving with your family whether you go home or you're here like myself. So this week and the week after and then were done, two more meetings left and probably the last week maybe we'll have a party or something, who knows? Are there any announcements?

Morgan: I just wanted to make an announcement that SGATO is hosting a workshop series this year as a way for us to kinda continue the training and leadership development opportunities that we started at Plunge so next Thursday November the 17<sup>th</sup> Winston Jones from student rights and responsibility is going to be hosting a session on conducting investigations and its open to all of the senators, there's just a signup sheet outside of my door. If you're interested it's from 5-6PM and it will be in MSC room 2708,

it's going to be going out in an email to y'all but your welcome to signup anytime and I encourage all of you to attend.

Sandoval: Yes, I agree. It's a great experience. We need more leadership and someone needs to take the reins of university affairs when I'm gone. One final announcement before I let you guys all go, there's no more tent days. It's the last survey, were almost done we've got 3 weeks left. I'm very proud of you guys, I don't know if you understand but there's never been this many things come out of this committee, like ever, so it's a big deal. Good job. Khalid says good job that means a lot. Ok, I'll see you all next week, any motions?

*Aldridge motions to adjourn.*

Sandoval: There is a motion, any objections? None seen we are adjourned at 4:35.

**Adjournment called by Chairman Scott Sandoval at 4:35pm.**

*Transcribed by Senate Secretary Stephen Strenges*