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Appropriations and Audits Committee Meeting Minutes 06-03-13

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University of South Florida
Student Government Fifty-Fourth Student Senate

Committee on Appropriations and Audits
SUMMER SESSION
June 03, 2013

Call to Order by Chairwoman Kattih at 12:04 PM.

First Roll Call

Present: Kattih, Abraha, Hartmann, Imam, Morejon, Persaud-Sharma, Many, Munroe

Absent: Scharon (excused)

Chairwoman Kattih: We do have quorum. We do have Katherine Burkhard and Masha Galchenko in the audience. We have members of the judicial branch. Daniel Shapiro, right? And Abdool Aziz. We also have our secretary, Stephen.

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

Chairwoman Kattih: The second item on the agenda is additions or deletions and approving of the agenda. Does anyone have any changes? Are there any motions to approve the agenda?

Unknown Senator - *Motion to approve the agenda, accepted.*

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any objections? Seeing none, the agenda has been approved. The next item on the agenda is approval of the minutes. No minutes were sent out yet. Are there any motions to postpone?

Senator Hartmann - *Motion to postpone approval of the minutes, accepted.*

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any objections? Seeing none, the minutes have been postponed.

Open Forum

Chairwoman Kattih: Next is open forum. Does anyone want to say anything?

Ms. Burkhard: Last Friday, Adam Aldridge and I attended our first Plunge planning meeting of the summer. We would love to get some feedback from everybody on what they would like to experience from Plunge. Just for those who don't know what that is, Plunge is a Student Government retreat that is held in August. It doesn't have to be right now. If you want time to think about it and adjust everything, that's perfectly fine. But in the coming week, like I said, if you have any input—whether you want training on Student Government, or if you want it to be more team-building, feel free to let us know.

Chairwoman Kattih: Thank you. Anyone else? Seeing nothing.

New Business

1. Vice Chair Elections

Chairwoman Kattih: We will move onto new business. First, we have vice chair elections. I did get a few emails from people who are interested in the position, so I will also put that out on the table if there's anyone still interested who wants to be considered right now.

Senator Morejon: I'll do it.

Chairwoman Kattih: So, we have Mr. Imam, Ms. Abraha and Mr. Morejon. What we're going to do is— anyone else? Okay. So what we're going to do is I'm going to give each one of you guys a chance to speak for two minutes to committee. Just tell us about why you think you would be good for this position, and then we'll rotate out. So you guys leave, come back and the other person will tell their little spiel. After that, you guys will come back in for questioning. After that, we will have discussion and vote on who will be the vice chair. We will do this in alphabetical order, so Ms. Abraha, you're up first. Mr. Imam and Mr. Morejon—

Senator Morejon: Can I remove my candidacy? I don't have anything prepared.

Chairwoman Kattih: Yes. You don't have to have anything prepared, but... I guess Mr. Imam, can you step out for a second? Thank you.

Unknown: Chairwoman, we are going to step out for a second.

Chairwoman Kattih: Sure.

(inaudible)

Senator Abraha: Hi everyone. My name is Bana Abraha. I'm a fifty-fourth term senator, and I wanted to be in the vice chair position because I think I can learn a lot. The first things that interested me to this position, or to being a senator, was the University and Government Affairs, because that is what my major and what I'm really interested in. The second thing was this, because the first time I saw something about budgets was in the Oracle. The first thing I remember seeing was five percent organizations, sixty percent dean of students—and I was like, what does the dean of students do? We were all discussing this, and I really wanted to learn. I think I'd be good at this position because I've been asking Zein and many people in the Senate to see how things work. I've been getting a lot of explanations. I think I would be good for this position. Thank you for taking the time to consider me.

Chairwoman Kattih: Thank you. Can you send Mr. Imam in?

Senator Imam: Ms. Abraha is a very fine candidate. If she wins, congratulations to her. But as vice chair, I wanted to put an emphasis on funding to student organizations. An example is the University of Florida, the largest student organization gets \$200,000, and several organizations are over \$100,000. Here at USF, one organization, Society of Automotive Engineers earns \$50,000. But the one after that is \$10,000, and the one after that is \$6,000. The majority of student organizations get under \$5,000, a very little amount. I want to put the focus on student organization funding. At the same time, the process of the interim budget process, I want to have it speeded up if possible. Speeding it up requires communication with student organization leaders and the interim budget committee, which is us. If the process is speeded up, more funding can be

approved, and more funding can be allocated. At the same time, if we continue to fund student organizations and their leaders, active organizations make the university better. If an organization's active, and there are several active organizations—organizations do what? They fight for student's rights. For example, if the Black Student Union is well-funded, they can fight for their student's interests. That's my thing. That's pretty much—I know all the rules for the... I'm very well-versed in appropriations rules. I know what can be funded and what can't be funded. These sheets were also released last year, too, so I'm a little familiar with the rules.

Chairwoman Kattih: Thank you. Can you step back in for questions? So this is how it works. You can ask any questions that are relevant to this position to the two candidates, but it has to be able to be answered by both of them. You can't direct your question to one person specifically. If you guys have any questions for these two candidates, then go for it. Come on guys, you don't want to know anything about them?

President Patel: What do you believe is the purpose of the vice chair?

Senator Imam: The purpose of the vice chair is to assist. For example, if the chair cannot be here, the vice chair must substitute. The vice chair is responsible for keeping track of the minutes and keeping the committee in order.

Senator Abraha: Similar to what Mr. Imam said. It's not only assisting the vice chair, it's being second in command at any time that they can do anything. Also, to be another voice for the chair, or give out ideas if the chair needs help—just another feedback, I guess, not just as a committee member, but as a direct (inaudible) when they need to.

Chairwoman Kattih: Anyone else? I have a question. What would you guys do to help the audit system that we have? You know, our committee is Appropriations and Audits. Focusing on the audits side, what vision do you have the audit system?

Senator Abraha: Well you already have us set up twice a week to do audits, so to encourage other senators that are on board as well as our committee. So to find a system that encourages them to do more and tell them that the more that you're participating in this, it will result in this. The same thing we have coming into meeting as senators, it's something that will benefit you, as well as the organizations, because we want to help our students as well.

Senator Imam: If you have communication with the organization leaders, it makes the audit system much easier. A lot of times, they change dates of events; they change the dates to adjust for whatever adjustments they need. Obviously, if every senator goes to the thing, we can audit them but if we have communication with these people, I'm sure they will be on top of their stuff.

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any more questions for our candidates? Seeing none—

Senator Hartmann: What have you guys done to become better prepared for the position of vice chair?

Senator Imam: I'm a financial officer of two organizations, so I know how exactly that A&S office works. I've actually helped other organizations fill out interim budgets. I know the financial officer handbook. I've read it all. I've helped train other organizations. A lot of questions. Some people ask me, and I know the answer.

Senator Abraha: Well, by no means, I am no financial officer, but I am willing to learn. I've gotten some information from the budgets that we've discussed previous weeks, and I've got some information from the previous chairman and chairwoman that we currently have. I believe with learning, we can accomplish anything. No prior experience with numbers, but I'd like to learn.

Chairwoman Kattih: Thank you. Any other questions?

Senator Aziz: How do both of you view viewpoint neutrality? Viewpoint neutrality. What's your view with that?

Senator Abraha: Within which departments?

Senator Aziz: Within funding this committee.

Senator Abraha: I feel like I'm completely neutral. Just because I was in an organization or I don't attend anymore does not give me the inclination to give them any more money, or less. If anything, I'm more critical if I've seen that, because I know what they do and what they are supposed to do and how things are supposed to be run. I will be completely neutral. I am sure of that.

Senator Imam: I was with the JEC committee when viewpoint neutrality was discussed. What viewpoint neutrality is independent of the number an organization has. It's more about the events and what they need for the events. Viewpoint neutrality focuses on that. The universities have to be careful in ensuring viewpoint neutrality, because in a lot of cases, they can be sued. There were several cases that were discussed in the JEC meeting, but viewpoint neutrality is the basis for appropriations.

Chairwoman Kattih: Anyone else? Seeing none, can you guys step outside as we discuss? Are there any motions for discussion?

Senator Persaud-Sharma – *Motion for a ten minute unmoderated caucus.*

President Patel: In committee, you don't really have to do that. It's very informal.

Chairwoman Kattih: So, what do you guys think?

Senator Persaud-Sharma: I think experience is good, and people who know the system would be able to guide it better.

Unknown Senator: I have no basis, but I feel like Senator Imam was throwing out numbers. He doesn't seem to have any kind of backing to it.

Chairwoman Kattih: Anyone else would like to share their opinion? Come on, guys. Everyone has an opinion.

President Patel: I guess a point of information, those are accurate numbers. We don't like to bash senators. I don't really have anything against it personally, just because at the end of the day, if you can't judge their ideas, then what's the point of meeting? Just remain respectful. That was completely fine. But when you guys are talking pro/con with someone you work with, I guess we'd like to maintain a healthy work environment. But that was fine.

Chairwoman Kattih: Mr. Hartmann, what do you think?

Senator Hartmann: I want to hear what you think, since the vice chair would be helping you most.

Chairwoman Kattih: I'm kind of chairing this meeting, so I... I think both candidates would be perfectly adequate for the job. It's what you guys think.

Senator Many: I think either one of them would be pretty good.

Chairwoman Kattih: But you have to vote on this, so tell us: what are you inclined towards?

Senator Many: Not quite sure.

Chairwoman Kattih: Ms. Munroe, do you have an opinion?

Senator Munroe: I would say go with experience, just on the fact that I don't know either of them.

Ms. Galchenko: Do you want to ask them more questions to make up your mind? Would that help you?

Senator Munroe: I would rather go with experience than with someone who just came in. He had more background information that I was not aware of. The other candidate, she kind of... put her purposes before—I'd rather work with the organizations. It was more like a, "I want to learn," I want to... that kind of thing. I would rather go with experience over that.

Chairwoman Kattih: Just as a point of information, the vice chair's role is to assist the committee, to take over the chair's position when the chair's not there, but also at the same time to be—if the chair is not able to, for example, meet with a student organization, then the vice chair does have some of that responsibility. So when you consider which candidate is better, consider who would be more likely to fall into that role as an assistant, as a vice chair.

Senator Hartmann: Have either of them reached out to you?

Chairwoman Kattih: They have both emailed me with their interest in the vice chair position. In terms of specific appropriations or audits, neither of them have expressed specific interest. It's still early on, too. We haven't really started the interim budget process. If you guys would like to bring them back into questioning, we can do that. If you guys would like to move on to voting, we can do that as well.

Senator Persaud-Sharma – *Motion to end discussion and enter voting procedure, accepted.*

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any objections to voting? Seeing none, we are going to vote. I'm just going to go down the list and see who you guys want to vote for.

Abraha: |||

Senator Imam: ||

3-2-1, Ms. Abraha voted in as vice chair.

2. Transfer Requests

Judicial Branch

Chairwoman Kattih: Next item on our agenda is transfer requests. We do have a member of the Judicial Branch here to provide insight. I did send out the transfer request. Just real quick, to go over it, they are

requesting a transfer from payroll of an amount of \$2,700 to be put into food and other, which the other is encompassing an outreach video about parking appeals. The food is—they'll talk more in detail about that.

Chief Justice Buenaventura: Thank you Ms. Chairwoman. Hello everyone. My name is Brian Buenaventura; I am the acting Chief Justice.

Justice Shapiro: I'm Daniel Shapiro, acting Senior Justice.

Chief Justice Buenaventura: And we're before you today to do a budget transfer request. The purpose of this, in our efforts for outreach, we feel that the transfer of these funds will excel the service and the integrity that we provide to the student body. This is a breakdown of our judicial payroll detail. We are working on still the 2012-2013 fiscal year, because it ends July 1st. Our current budget is \$52,397. We spent a total of \$27,145.46. Our remaining projected payroll is \$8,732.52. With the remaining funds, aside from that, we have this remaining, which is \$16,519.02. That's current as of last week when we did our budget meeting. What we are requesting is \$200 for food. We usually do Bull Market in the fall. We just want to stock up on some snacks we can give out during Bull Markets. We usually order doughnuts, so we do purchase orders during those weeks, but in the times that we can't do that, go to the corner store and buy stuff, we have some stuff on reserve so we can disperse during Bull Market. This is pretty much the main thing that we are requesting. It's a projected amount of \$2,500 for a parking video. To explain, we have outreach to Student Government Marketing. They did create a video for us, but it became the consensus of the court that we wanted to move in a different direction than in the video was provided to us, in a more professional manner, because the video provided to us did seem a little more lighthearted. We want to make sure the students see that, because we do deal with their final decisions and parking appeals, it's a serious matter. We want to make sure the video translates that pretty well. The total request for this is \$2,700. This is what will be remaining for the rest of the fiscal year, of the 2012-2013, before we move on to the next fiscal year. That is our budget transfer request. Are there any questions, which I'm pretty sure there are?

Senator Abraha: How did you come up with that projected amount?

Justice Shapiro: We've been doing some research on how much a parking video would cost. We're looking at probably around \$2,000, but we left \$500 in there for possible cost overruns and to leave us some negotiating room.

Chairwoman Kattih: I have a question. Why am I raising my hand? You said you went to Marketing and they made a video, and you didn't like the direction it went in. Have you guys tried to reach back out to Marketing and see if they could edit it, or work with you guys more to take it in a more serious direction?

Chief Justice Buenaventura: We had our outreach meeting that we had last Wednesday, where we invited Marketing to come to our meeting. We told them how we felt about the video, just so it was on record. They came, and they were fine with it. We told them we wanted to take the video in a different direction. We want to outsource this, because it will give them the initiatives that they need to do, and it will let us keep going with our initiative as well. We sat down, we told them our feelings about it, and they said they are fine with it. We will still outreach to them if we still need original footage that was shot with the camera they use. They were willing to work with us in that respect.

Senator Hartmann: What has been the student feedback on the video that Marketing provided?

Chief Justice Buenaventura: This video has not been published because we need to get Parking and Transportation Services' approval before we disperse this out publicly. Right now, it's in a private YouTube link that Marketing provided to us. It was originally a really big file that we couldn't view it properly, so we had to get a private YouTube video link. The only way you can get to it is if you click the link. Only the court members and Student Government Marketing has that link. Because of that, we have to respect PATS' request in viewing this video, because it does pertain to them. Until we get a final product, we send it to them for approval. That's when we plan to disperse this video to the students. If I could just mention: when we do have this video out, we do plan on outreaching to CSI so that they can have it playing before Movies on the Lawn, possibly, so students can see it when they are out watching the movie. It's like a little commercial before watching the movie.

President Patel: No one can see this video right now?

Chief Justice Buenaventura: No one can see this right now because it's in planning stages, and PATS has made it very clear that they want to see it before we show it off to students.

Senator Many: How long would the video be?

Chief Justice Buenaventura: The video that they created for us was under two minutes or three minutes? We're going to keep it around two minutes to keep the student's attention span.

Unknown: What does it include?

Chief Justice Buenaventura: It includes the parking appeals process. It's not going to be about rules; it's not going to be us going to parking lots saying where to park and where not to park. It's the appeals process.

Justice Shapiro: To advertise to the students that they do have a right of peer review.

Chief Justice Buenaventura: Exactly. I can't tell you how many times the students are surprised by us when they see us students dressed in robes, and they are thinking they are going before a panel of adults in PATS. There's something there that's not being—that the students don't know, because when they get their final appeal, and they walk in and see some kid that's in their class with them, judging on their final parking appeal... there needs to be something that lets students know this is the process that we do in Student Government.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: Is the \$2,500, whatever the contract how much it would cost—is there a contract you're having with an outside group? How is the expenditure going to be...?

Justice Shapiro: We're going to bring outside people and interview them. We have three outside sources and possibly a USF department, of film. So that's just the amount of money that we've estimated. Justice McCance, who's done some research, says that's how much it will cost. It won't be over that. It's a guarantee. We put that \$500 aside to have some room for negotiating and cost overrun.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: So if you're going to meet with these outside areas or USF departments, are you planning on finalizing and giving them the money before they work on the contract, or do you want to get the money to them after the video is finished?

Justice Shapiro: We have to see what kind of contract we're can negotiate with them first. That's going to drive which group we pick. We're interviewing so many, so we can kind of play them off against each other,

so we can get the best contract. That's going to be part of our contract negotiations. We're doing this right now because we need to have money out of payroll out of our other category. The deadline is, I believe, next Monday. We're going to try to get this done.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: I just want to follow up with this. When would you, provided you meet within the next week and get some sort of deal, when would you want the video to be out by?

Justice Shapiro: It's a summer initiative, obviously, so we'd like to have it done by the end of summer.

Senator Hartmann: Have you received any estimates from companies themselves?

Justice Shapiro: Not yet.

Chief Justice Buenaventura: That's what we're trying to do. We're trying to get interviews with resources and see what their prices are. We have researched and we have seen that and the average cost of a video this length would be around that.

Chairwoman Kattih: You said that you originally had about \$16,000 left in the funds that were allocated for the 2012-2013 budgets. What were those initially supposed to be used on?

Chief Justice Buenaventura: That's the payroll reserved for the nine justices and the clerk, but since we haven't had a full court in a while, that's the leftover amount.

Chairwoman Kattih: Anyone else?

Senator Persaud-Sharma: Would it be possible to present quotes for the different individuals that we have, just so that we have details of where the money is going in the process?

Justice Shapiro: We can't really do that because we have to have this done now so that it's transferred over. What you have the option of doing is sitting in our outreach committee. That's where we'll present our findings and the quotes, where we'll debate it amongst ourselves... if you want to take part in the discussions, that's something you can do.

Senator Many: If you didn't transfer this money, would it just sit there basically unused?

Justice Shapiro: Yes.

President Patel: So what happens is any money that's not used by respective SG branches, orgs, or departments—you're going to learn more about those people—but any money is swept back into our accounts in the next year. If they don't spend \$16,000 in the next month, we get it next year.

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any more questions for the judicial branch?

Senator Aziz: If this doesn't get approved this time around, would you guys still do it for the fall?

Justice Shapiro: This is definitely something we want to get done in the summer, because in the fall, we have a lot to do in the fall, with obviously full semester schedule. This is something we want to get done now while we're all off. We're all here, we're all in the area, and we all have a lot of time to devote to this. This is definitely one of our main summer initiatives that we really want to get it done now over the summer.

Chief Justice Buenaventura: It would be ideal if we got it done in the summer.

Senator Hartmann: Did Marketing say they were willing to give it another try at least, or...?

Chief Justice Buenaventura: It's not that they didn't say they would give it another try. They will cooperate with us. Like I said, we brought them to our outreach committee last week. They said they came to the committee just to say what they want us for them to do. They said they would work with us, that if we need original footage that was shot, that we need to implement it to the video, they are willing to work with us.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: So when would you expect to have the—let me just go ahead and preface. The fiscal year ends in the end of June. Do you have any assurances that this couldn't be purchased and everything can be reconciled by June 30th?

Justice Shapiro: We'd definitely like that. The plan is get this approved today, and then start scheduling interviews this week and next week. Then deal with it in two or three weeks' time.

Chief Justice Buenaventura: We were actually going to interview people last week, but...

Justice Shapiro: Yes, we had people scheduled to come in last week, but one of our justices had a personal problem. But we definitely want them in here this week for the interviews and especially once we see how much money we have available, if any.

Chairwoman Kattih: If this budget is not approved for this fiscal year, what kind of action plans do you have? Would you, you know, request it again in the 2013-2014 fund? Or would you look back at Marketing? What kind of...?

Justice Shapiro: If this wasn't approved we would probably honestly request it again in the future. We'll definitely consider working with Marketing again to see if they can—with the technology that they have, try to make a better video. But if not, we'll just work on our other outreach goals, which we've been accomplishing. We were just mentioned also in the Tampa Tribune as well.

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any more questions?

Senator Aziz: For the quotes you are going to receive, are there any fees you're going to have to pay to get those quotes, or is it all free quotes?

Justice Shapiro: No, it's going to be like a normal, standard interview process. There's no upfront fee to pay for them to come and interview for us.

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any more questions? Seeing none, are there any motions? Including moving into discussion?

Unknown Senator – *Motion to end questioning and move into discussion, accepted.*

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any objections to moving into discussion? Seeing none, we are going to go into discussion. Can you guys step outside? Thank you so much. Okay, guys.

President Patel: So I talked to Marketing about this. What Marketing's opinion was they are willing to work and make a new video. The court's opinion is that we don't have the proper recording materials, like our cameras aren't quality for shooting, for recording. Marketing just bought a brand new camera. I think it's

twenty megapixels, but it's a camera camera. It's one of those things where you have a shoulder mount and you can record it off of a camera, no different than what the film festival provides. Overall, it's just on the committee to say—to me, personally, don't ever take anything I say in committee as "I'm Senate President, vote what I say"—this is my honest interpretation of what's happening. It's one thing if you want to keep things in house, when they are bigger projects, or you want to just export them? Right now, we own a Marketing department back in the cabinet. Do you want to take something that we do and ask them to help us with it, or do we want to say, "Hey, they are not our best option, and we can find somebody better that contracts with us?" That's the question being asked in this committee, basically.

Chairwoman Kattih: I also want to say that when considering this budget, just remember that the Appropriations committee is supposed to pick decisions that are most fiscally responsible. This is student's money, so we want to put it to good use. Just based off of that, which decision would be most fiscally responsible?

Senator Abraha: Is there any way we can see the video?

President Patel: I'll do what I can to talk to PATS. I'm pretty sure PATS won't mind if it's a dry run, like we're not going to show this to students, we're just going to show committee to see what actions we can—I'm sure PATS won't mind.

Chairwoman Kattih: From what Marketing has said is because Marketing wanted to put an entertaining spin on it to where students would find the video appealing, so a lot of the content was—there was some dry humor in there, and the court did not like that, because they wanted a more serious image. Which is perfectly acceptable, if that's what they are trying to convey. To me, that's where the issue was, and that seemed easy to edit. That was my interpretation.

Senator Aziz: I saw a portion of the video when it was being done. I guess if the court wanted to be serious, they could rewrite the script and make it serious. It's not that hard if you want a serious video to tell Marketing to do what you tell them to do.

President Patel: Just something else I'd consider overall is—this is something that can apply to orgs and stuff as well—something like an org will say, "Hey, we want a camera." The camera comes through ASBO, and every org can check out this camera. If their honest problem is that we don't have a problem that is sufficient enough to serve these purposes, buy a camera and give it to Marketing, or buy a camera and give it to ASBO. That way, we can have something we can use to shoot the entire year, not a one-time \$2,500 expense that gives somebody else money (inaudible).

Ms. Burkhard: I think part of the issue, too, was that this was a project they started back in November and they just received a product a few weeks ago. I think part of their concern is that this is a summer initiative. It's a top priority for the summer. They are concerned that it will not be completed before the fall. That's one of the reason they want to look at outside vendors.

President Patel: This is where you as senators come in. You guys all play the check and balance on everybody else in this office. Regardless of if you guys aren't paid or you aren't here all the time, you can still say, "Hey, why is your video slacking?" You can go back to Marketing and say, "Hey guys, is there a specific order you guys are doing your projects?" You can ask them if they are working on specific projects, you can subpoena them to Senate if you'd like. That's, again, the more drastic route. I wouldn't object to it anyway, because we did it in JEC. That's one of those things if you guys honestly are concerned with the way a branch is getting

put on the backburner of other branches, we take our own initiative and check and balance system and apply it to other branches. Checks and balances overall not just works in one direction, our favor. It works in everyone's favor.

Senator Hartmann: I do agree with the points that have previously been stated, I feel like we have a Marketing department for a reason. Why are we not making use of them? They are here and nobody is giving them any tasks, whereas the need for them is there, so.

President Patel: Point of information, they have a lot of tasks.

Senator Hartmann: I understand, but I feel like that should be the first route. If something didn't come out the way you wanted to, at least ask for changes, and not immediately go to an outside source. They could have asked, "Can you try one more time, but a little bit more professional?" Instead, they were just like, "No, we got it." I don't know how you guys feel about that.

Senator Abraha: And then the thing to (inaudible). The way I saw it is—the issue I have that it's \$2,000 for a two minute video. I feel like the pricing can be somehow brought down, that's one thing.

Chairwoman Kattih: I think that pricing is standard, from what we've seen. The price isn't an issue; it's whether or not you'd like to outsource it.

Senator Abraha: But the outsourcing thing, going back to what she said, if they put this in November and it took this long, and they only got it two weeks ago... if they do it as a summer initiative, and as we have more freshmen students coming in in August, they would be able to see it, and know what their rights are, and know what USF has to offer them. But if it's going to take that much longer again, then...

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: Can I ask the Business Office—if or when this transfer proposal is made, under which schedule would it go under? Because if they are sounding like they are going to purchase a contract, that would go under schedule C, but the way they put, I want to make sure they don't put it under schedule D, because schedule D is much more flexible and, I would say, not the best choice...

Ms. Galchenko: You want to make something specific, it can be done.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: Okay. Because for the committee members, scheduling D is much more a flexible schedule. It's usually for food and materials and programming, and if we wanted to make sure it went specifically to the video, provided they had the month to do it and get it all done, schedule C is a much more stringent schedule to transfer it into.

Chairwoman Kattih: My question is to the Business Office as well. Assuming this does go through and they do get a contract by the end of this week, would it be possible to go through the process that fast before the end of the fiscal year?

Ms. McNeal: Deadline is June 10th.

Ms. Galchenko: June 10th is the last day to put into a request into the system. June 17th is the last day to give us a receipt for whatever it is that you are purchasing.

Chairwoman Kattih: So that's also something—

Ms. Galchenko: With the contract there might be more negotiations, because they can't sign the contract. The contract has to be signed by the university itself, which takes another few days on top of that.

Ms. McNeal: Or seven days from the deadline.

Chairwoman Kattih: So that's also something to consider, would it be more prudent for them to come back again next fiscal year, and/or whether it would be better for them to pursue a different route. That's up to you guys to discuss.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: Just—I'm not picking a side or anything, I'm just objective here—it doesn't necessarily mean we don't have to do it. Even if you do transfer this, they still don't make the expenditure, it still gets swept back in the same funds that everything else gets swept back into. If it gets done or not in time, I would say maybe not make that the biggest concern. Now if you think it should be in Marketing or not, I would say that's a completely different situation that you guys should discuss. But if it doesn't get spent, it still gets swept back into the same account.

Chairwoman Kattih: Anyone else would like to add anything? You guys want to—

Senator Aziz: Marketing has a camera that's almost a thousand dollars. It has the same software a production company would use. So you're paying \$2,400 for something they could technically do for free.

Unknown: Was it in a timely manner?

Senator Aziz: If it was Marketing (inaudible) they should be done on time. I know Marketing did a video for some other events, and they went pretty quickly. If you give them a deadline...

Senator Morejon: Mind you, we have deadlines and everything, but I feel like a lot of the discussion is about how good the camera is. How can we tell without watching the video, if the quality of the video is what we're talking about?

Chairwoman Kattih: From what I understood, the quality of the camera was not their biggest issue. From my interpretation, it wasn't quality; it was just the spin of the video. That was just my understanding. So if there's no other points of discussion, would anyone like to make a motion to vote?

Unknown Senator – *Motion to vote on the Judicial Branch transfer request, accepted.*

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any objections to voting? Are you guys sure? Okay. With that, we are in voting procedure. We are going to roll call voting. "Yes" is to approve the transfer. "No" is to not approve the transfer.

YES:

NO: Abraha, Hartmann, Imam, Morejon, Persaud-Sharma, Many, Munroe

0-7-1, Transfer request is not approved.

Chairwoman Kattih: I guess...

Senator Hartmann: Can we give them a recommendation to use the camera for...?

Chairwoman Kattih: They have the camera—

Senator Hartmann: Like a video camera shoulder...

Chairwoman Kattih: I would suggest that the Judicial Branch does go back and re-talk, re-discuss with Marketing. If time becomes an issue that we as the Senate go look into that and see why this video is not being pushed, because it is summer, we have fewer things to worry about. So the Judicial Branch parking appeal video can be pushed for. That's just my recommendation.

3. Off-Campus Requests

African Students Association

Chairwoman Kattih: With that, we can move onto the last item on the agenda, which is the off-campus request. For this... my screen went black. So for the off-campus request, I just actually brought this forward to committee because I wanted you guys to see what an off-campus request looks like. You'll see why this is an immediate decision once we go over the papers I have before you. This is African Students Association. They are requesting an off-campus request for an event that's...very soon. On the seventh, so on Friday. The thing is, they told us how much they were given; they wanted to use the remainder of the funds to host a fundraiser event, so they are having a summer bash. If you read that little paragraph, it tells you what the event is. I did give you guys each—I hope you all got this—the A&S proviso reference guide. It tells you what we can and cannot fund based on proviso. First of all, for fundraising events, we can't really fund those. But I do want you guys to notice that this is an off-campus request. For that, it's kind of up to committee to decide whether or not we want to make a precedent of approving off-campus events or not approving them. So this case aside, I would say once we get into more approvable off-campus requests, that we either stick to a strict or loose kind of decision and stick to it throughout the committee, just so that we don't confuse anyone. I hope that makes sense. For this, do you guys want to discuss this?

Senator Abraha: You said it automatically can't be approved, because it's a fundraising event, right?

Chairwoman Kattih: We have to vote on it. So we can.

Unknown Senator – *Motion to vote on off-campus request, accepted.*

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any objections? Seeing none, we'll vote on this off-campus request. "Yes" is to approve the off-campus request, "No" is to not approve it.

YES:

NO: Abraha, Hartmann, Imam, Morejon, Persaud-Sharma, Many, Munroe

0-7-1, Off-campus transfer request not approved.

Chairwoman Kattih: Just in general, I wanted you guys to see what an off-campus request looks like. I know last semester, last year, there were maybe two or at most five or six off-campus requests that were approved, because that's what the committee saw fit. It is up to you guys to decide how you're going to go about approving or not approving off-campus requests. That's something to keep in mind.

Senator Abraha: Is the organization aware that A&S fees cannot go to fundraising events?

Chairwoman Kattih: I don't know if they are or they are not, but that is something that I will inform them of once they—in reply of their request, and then if they have more questions, I'll definitely be more than willing to sit down. As vice chair, that's kind of where we come in. We're trying to bridge the gap between Senate and student organizations, so I think student organization outreach is an important part of that.

Senator Morejon: Will we have a student organization representative, or is it just the request?

Chairwoman Kattih: They can come in. Most of the time, they don't. But if you guys would like to have a representative here, then that's something we can definitely go for. If there are no more questions, we can go to announcements.

Announcements

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any announcements from anyone in the committee? Anyone in the gallery?

President Patel: When JuSenEx meets, they are going to decide on the final SG handbook, so you guys are all—we'll give you guys copies as soon as it's revised. You just read it and have to sign it. Also, Pro-Tempore Aldridge gave me this thing, which is the commitment to honor and living the commitment. This is something you have to sign, but I'll compile it with the SG handbook. That way you can sign it at the same time and feel extra special.

Senator Abraha: When is the SenEx meeting? I remember the last handbook had a lot of spelling errors.

President Patel: JuSenEx is, I want to say, Wednesday, this Wednesday at four.

Senator Abraha: Okay.

President Patel: SenEx meets I don't know when.

Senator Abraha: I meant JuSenEx.

President Patel: Probably five.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: Also, I wanted to make sure and let everyone know—I know you meet next Monday, but next Tuesday night's Senate, I think we're going to have Marketing come. I know we had a discussion about their cameras. We're going to take pictures for all of the senators for the website and update that sort of stuff. If you guys want to come... it's just a snap of the face, so it's not like a... wear shorts and wear whatever you want on the top.

President Patel: You can't wear shorts.

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: Okay, the point is we're going to have pictures next Tuesday night. That will probably be about thirty minutes before Senate, so if you guys want to come early and do that...

Senator Hartmann: Quick question. So as they asked for \$200 for food. Is there any way that, in cases like that, we can still grant that, or do we deny the whole request?

Pro-Tempore Aldridge: You can—yes, you can approve some of it and go down to the parts, but it's up to the committee to decide how much or in what areas.

President Patel: No Senate tomorrow. I know it's pretty soon, but there is no Senate tomorrow. So don't come here and be like, "Hey, where is everybody?"

Senator Imam – *Motion to adjourn, accepted.*

Chairwoman Kattih: Any objections to adjourning?

Senator Abraha: Objection, I'm sorry.

Senator Imam rescinds.

Senator Abraha: What he said. Do we do that now, or some other day? What Mr. Hartmann said?

Senator Hartmann: Regarding the food...

President Patel: Just to teach you guys the order of things... once you fail it, you can't go back to it. It's already done. But during, let's say, you saw it and were like, "Hey, \$2,500 that's a lot of money. Let's give them \$1,000 and call it a day," you can approve \$1,000. Then if you want, you can get specific. You can line item this for only this, and if they spend it anywhere else, you can be like "Hey, no more for you."

Chairwoman Kattih: Now, are there any motions?

Unknown Senator – Motion to adjourn, accepted.

Chairwoman Kattih: Are there any objections? Seeing none.

Meeting adjourned at 12:57 PM.

Transcribed by Senate Committee Secretary, Stacy Dolan.