

Summer 5-21-2013

Senate Meeting Minutes 05/21/13

Adam Aldridge

University of South Florida, Student Government Senate, aldridge1@usf.edu

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



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

Scholar Commons Citation

Aldridge, Adam, "Senate Meeting Minutes 05/21/13" (2013). *Legislative Branch Publications*. 469.
https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/sg_leg_pubs/469

This Senate General 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-Fourth Student Senate

Summer Session
May 21st 2013
-MINUTES-

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

[Gavel]

Patel: Call this Senate meeting to order for the 54th term on May 21st 2013. It is now 6:08 PM and the first order of business is the Pledge of Allegiance. If I can have everyone stand? Cocco, if you would like to lead us off.

Senate: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands. One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

First Roll Call:

Patel: The clicker...the way we are going to do...does everyone have their clickers on them? Hopefully. Cool. What we'll do for now is we're gonna do an old school roll call vote because the actual clickers system...like the USB portion of it is back in the office and there is enough of us where we can just familiarize names this way. So I'm just going to run down the list, (inaudible) I'll say your name, or your last name hopefully and, um, you just hit present and we will move down the list. And this will all be recorded and typed and then we will formally send out the minutes afterwards for this thing. Alright?

Patel: Alright, so Senator Aldridge is excused, cuz he's back in Illinois.

Patel: Aziz...just walked out he's present.

Patel: Monteith.

Monteith: Here.

Patel: Sacasas is excused.

Patel: Abraha.

Abraha: Present.

Patel: Hartmann.

Hartmann: Present.

Patel: Romero.

Romero: Here.

Patel: Fernandez.

Fernandez: -

Patel: Cano.

Cano: -

Patel: Canton

Canton: -

Patel: Lopez.

Lopez: -

Patel: Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: Present.

Pate: Fatima.

Fatima: -

Patel: Or her proxy?

Hussein: Present.

Patel: Zituni.

Zituni: Here.

Patel: Your proxy is...

Zituni: Oh he went to go get his glasses.

Patel: Alright.

Patel: Cocco.

Cocco: Here.

Patel: Bolz

Bolz:-

Patel: Ali-Mohamed.

Ali-Mohamed: -

Patel: Priest.

Priest: -

Patel: Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: Present.

Patel: Hassan.

Hassan: Present.

Patel: Rum.

Rum: Present.

Patel: I am present...Patel.

Patel: Lee.

Lee: Here.

Patel: Colon or her proxy.

Strenges: Present.

Patel: Kattih.

Kat: Present.

Patel: Larkins.

Larkins: -

Patel: And for the record Mr. Aziz present.

Aziz: Yep.

Patel: Ulloa.

Ulloa: -

Patel: Bader.

Bader: -

Patel: Sorry for this one...Belizaire.

Belizaire: Belizaire.

Patel: Belizaire thank you.

Patel: Harvey.

Harvey: -

Patel: Bogart.

Bogart: -

Patel: Rustan was removed.

Patel: Antar.

Antar: Present.

Patel: Sharma...Persaud Sharma.

Sharma: Here.

Patel: Sorry...Cruz.

Cruz: -

Patel: Adeel.

Adeel: -

Patel: Richards.

Richards:

Patel Cook.

Cook: Present.

Patel: Devivo.

Devivo:

Patel: Ober.

Ober: -

Patel: Fernandez...this one is Francisco.

Fernandez:-

Pate: Vaughn.

Vaughn:-

Patel: Shari-Ann Myers.

Shari-Ann Myers:-

Patel: Taylor Myers.

Taylor Myers:-

Patel: Burr.

Burr: Present.

Patel: Little

Little:-

Patel: Osteen.

Osteen:-

Patel: Scharon.

Scharon:-

Patel: Rameseur.

Rameseur:-

Patel: Brown.

Brown: Present.

Patel: Cox.

Cox: Here.

Patel: Morejon.

Morejon: Present.

Patel: and Stine...

Stine: Here

Patel: How do you pronounce that..

Stine: Stine

Patel: Stine. Perfect. And with that I believe we have a total of 20...25...I count 25. We will amend that as soon as, I know it is quorum, we'll take care of that in a second.

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

Patel: Moving down the list we have the new orders of the day. Essentially, you have to motion to approve the orders of the day or change or present any changes you would like to present this. These are the orders of the day. So if I can get a motion. Mr. Hartmann?

Hartmann: *Motion to approve the orders of the day.*

Patel: Any objections. See none, they will be approved or they have been approved.

Additions/Deletions and/or Changes to the Minutes:

Patel: Moving on to the minutes. Any...the minutes were not sent out because obviously we didn't have minutes yet. Umm, so if I can get a motion to postpone those until next meeting?

Patel: Mr. Strenges?

Strenges: *Motion to postpone.*

Patel: Any objections? See none. They are postponed.

Legislative Branch Report:

Patel: Alright, umm. What we'll do is, we're going to move on to the branch reports. And they'll be a very fast pace (inaudible)...like...especially for Legislative's since their going to be doing committee presentation afterwards, later into the general business area. So if they will just like to stand up, say there name, that's

pretty much it... or what chairperson you are. And then we will move on to executive and then we'll actually present yours more definitely in the committee presentation. Sounds good? Cool. So go ahead...

Antar: Hey everybody my name is Ali Antar and I'm the chairman of the Committee on Rules. Nothing else to report.

Patel: Thanks sir.

Kattih: Okay My name is Zein, and I'm the Appropriations and Audits chair.

Aziz: My name is Abdool, I'm the chairman of Judiciary and Ethics.

Alqasemi: Hi, my name is Hiba Alqasemi; I am the chair of Special Funding.

Cocco: I'm Jean, I'm Government Affairs.

Executive Branch Report:

Patel: Cool, and umm...we'll move on to the executive branch reports, if they would like to now...

Warmke: Good evening everyone, for those of you who don't know me, my name is Will and I am your Student Body President.

Sandoval: And I am Scott Sandoval, your Student Body Vice President.

Warmke: Ever since we took office we've been busy at work. Our hard working transition staff has been working, ugh, diligently for orientation so we are going to get all those set up, making the contacts, getting them materials, (inaudible) orientation. So that will happen in a couple of weeks so we are working hard to get that ready. So when orientation comes we are prepared, ready to go. Another thing is, ugh...Senator Aziz was fortunate enough to sit on our hiring committees for our first four positions for Chief of Staff, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Solicitor General. You will see those appointments coming through committee either the next week...hopefully on the floor next week. And that's pretty much it.

Sandoval: Finally we have our structure going up next week for your approval. And after that then we'll start hiring, which you'll be approving and/or applying for. So, we'll look forward to seeing you over the next month or so. Not to poach your senators, but such is life. Any questions? No. Alright.

Sandoval: Thank you so much.

Warmke: Thank you very much.

Senate: [Applause]

Judicial Branch Report:

Patel: Judicial Branch Report?

Buenaventura: Good evening everybody. To the senators returning, welcome back. And to the new ones we will like to formally introduce ourselves. My name is Bryan Buenaventura and I'm the interim Chief Justice, until that position is filled.

Hamed: My name is Sammy and I'm an Associate Justice and I also serve as the conduct court liaison and marketing liaison for the court.

Shapiro: I'm Daniel Shapiro, I'm the acting Senior Justice and the Chairman of the Outreach Committee.

Buenaventura: And, uh, we are the Supreme Court here for the Student Government. There is two other people that are not here, and that is Michael Kalmowicz, who's the associate justice as well as Corey McCance, who is the current parking liaison and the Vice-Chair for the Outreach Committee. We would like to just formally introduce ourselves and get a name to a face and we would like to let you know what exactly it is that we do. Ugh, our purpose is to uphold the SG constitution and maintain integrity and confidence in our jurist prudence. Just to give you an idea of what exactly, uh, the things we do, we review parking appeals, which is most of what we do, and we do it here in this room. We arbitrate conflicts within SG, and hold appeals process and election grievances. We also have the ability to clarify Statutes. Any SG officer, anyone here in this room, can go ahead and file a petition for Declaratory Judgment, which we have just recently established with the Court, and that includes myself, um, Mr. Sammy Hamed, and Michael Kalmowicz, who is not here. Uh, the petition is online, and any SG officer can petition for a clarification on a certain statute, on which the panel will render a legally binding opinion. We also want to talk about our meetings. We usually meet on Wednesday nights. Over the Summer, we will be meeting every other Wednesday night. We will be having one next weekend, or next week, and, uh, we meet at 6:00 for our general meetings, and you all are more than welcome to come, it's open to the public. We also have an Outreach Committee, and our Chairman can explain a little more about that.

Shapiro: Yeah, we have an Outreach Committee that we formed this last semester to foster, um, just kind of coordinate our outreach efforts to the students who are usually at a Bull's Market and (inaudible) parking forum. Um, we have our meetings every other week, usually right before our general meeting, so if you guys can come out Wednesday, probably 5:00, in the Conference Room, that would be great, if you could make it.

Buenaventura: And now on to our report. Every, we'll try our best throughout the summer to have at least one member of the Court to give a report, give you guys a little bit of insight of what we are doing and what we're working on, so here we, um, just decided to come all together, but we have a report for you today, and here are some of the things we've done. Mr. Sammy Hamed is, uh, has been appointed by the Court to be a representative for the PLUNGE Committee that is being taken place, so he will be a representative of the Judicial Branch and take part in that. As, um, some of our summer initiatives that we like to try get accomplished throughout the summer, we will be forming another ad-hoc committee and that is to, pretty much, clarify, clean up some of the ROPs that we have, make them efficient. We're also gonna be trying to outreach to student organizations, explaining what our services are, what it is we do. We're also working, currently working on our website, and, uh, we also plan to outreach to the Judicial Branch in University of South Florida St. Pete and Sarasota Manatee, because they also have their, um, Student Government, and we would like to unify with their Judicial Branch, see how they do it. Uh, the associate position is live, and once the Court is filled, we're gonna, um, then go on to judicial training, and then, last but not least, like I mentioned earlier, Corey McCance is our new parking liaison, he actually has the relation with Parking and Transportation Services, which they update us on all parking matters and any updates and rules. And just to leave you guys with this, please review parking rules and regulations so you don't come before us, and with that said, we have nothing else to report. Are there any questions?

Patel: Thanks.

Senate: [Applause]

Open Forum:

Patel: Alright, moving on to Open Forum. Is anyone in the gallery or any Senator want to address the body? Mr. Cocco?

Coco: Yeah, I just want to recognize the Big East golf team and the Big East softball team for their efforts in making it as far as they did, and, um, happy summer.

Patel: I'd like to apologize for all, like, the craziness in Senate right now, Adam is obviously away for, um, until Sunday, and for the lack of audience, it's kind of throwing me off, but that's just for now.

General Business:

1. Senate Presentation and 2. SGATO Presentation

Patel: Um, and so we'll go on to now is, um, General Business, the first thing I was gonna do is present what Senate is to all of you, and what we can do is make a motion for an unmoderated caucus so we can actually, I guess, get a little bit more informal, loosen the tie, and just figure out exactly what you guys are gonna learn from Senate, at least for today. So can I get a motion for an unmoderated caucus? Mr. Hartmann?

Hartmann: *Motion for an unmoderated caucus.*

Patel: And you just gonna have to state the amount of time.

Hartmann: 20 minutes.

Patel: (inaudible) Any objections? Seeing none, we are now in a 20-minute unmoderated caucus at 6:22 PM.

(Unmoderated caucus ensues. No minutes shall be typed for an unmoderated caucus.)

Patel: Alright, we are back in session at 7:23 PM.

[Gavel]

Patel: Um, we were gone for a good, when did we get out of here...?

Kattih: 6:22pm.

Patel: 6:22pm. Thank you, so it's been over an, eh, it's been about an hour, a good hour. Um, in that time, Ms. Abraha left once, and came back in two minutes, she didn't miss much. Any, any, like, what I'll do is actually, in the minutes proper, I'll, like, I'll have a little footnote of what actually took place in the unmoderated caucus, because right now it's just, um, and we met, unmoderated caucus, adjournment, and see you never really know what happened, but I thought it was so dumb, like, we're just gonna have some way of figuring out what we're gonna put in there. Ms. Abraha?

Abraha: Do you keep track of, wait we're still on the minutes, right?

Patel: We're, uh...

Aziz: No.

Patel: We're in the minutes right now.

Abraha: Um, do you keep track of only the Legislative Branch, or the Executive Branch as well?

Patel: We only track the Legislative Branch, we can hold them accountable for not taking minutes because it's a Florida law, it's not just us, so like, everyone has to have some kind of minute taking. Ours is verbatim, I like verbatim because you can tell me what I actually said, and put it in context, not just "he said this thing, he said it, I swear he did" but you, you have no evidence, or if it's just a minute, err, if it's just a three-hour recording, who's going to sit there and listen to all three hours, you know, so it's, it's really good to have just typed out minutes, but, I'll take the motion that someone had for a recess.

Alqasemi: Cocco?

Cocco: Yes, yes, please.

Patel: For how long?

Alqasemi: You have to motion.

Cocco: Just two minutes. I just want to hop in the restroom.

Patel: Two minute recess. Any objections? Seeing none, we're taking a recess at 7:25.

[Gavel]

3. Committee Presentations

[Gavel]

Patel: We're out of recess at 7:33 PM. Um, we're going back into the business that we were currently in, or that we were previously in and that was Mr. Antar was going to present his Rules Presentation to the Senate. Any objections with continuing on with the business? It'll turn back on. Cool. All right, same process, you guys saw the way we structure things, dude, you did this, not me. Um, you saw the way we did this, we do presentations, then questions, then you can close if you like to. You can discuss, but not really, like, it's up to you guys honestly you want to do this, and then we move on to, we don't ever vote on this kind of presentation. Overall, if you guys like to go back into unmoderated caucus, you make a motion to do it. If you guys like to see what it looks like if we did a formal presentation, you're more than welcome to stick with that way, so if I get a motion for an unmoderated caucus, I don't mind. If no motions, we will continue on with business like this. Alright, well?

Aziz: What?

Alqasemi: Are you talking about for this?

Patel: Right, for this. Would you guys want to...

Alqasemi: Yeah, I think...

Patel: ...we'll just conduct this as normal business? Alright, go ahead Mr. Antar.

Antar: Alright, hey everybody, my name is Ali Antar, like I said at the beginning of the meeting, I am the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules, so as you guys know mostly what we do, what I expect of the members, and, uh, yeah, so let's do this. Okay, so who we are? Like I said, we are the Senate Committee on Rules. Uh, standing Senate committee, which is different than an ad-hoc or a, uh, temporary committee like ASRC, I think that's the only other outstanding committee. Anyway, uh, we're responsible for amending and updating Senate documents as necessary. Uh, we will meet during the Summer every Monday at 3 PM, um, that's only for the Summer. Once we hit Fall and Spring the times will change, so you might have to change committees as well. Yeah. So, let's delve into more of what our duties are in terms of updating standard documents.

Patel: It's also not called SCAA.

Antar: Whoops! (laughter) SCR, Committee on Rules.

Patel: Thank you.

Antar: Okay. So the Committee duties will include reviewing all constitutional amendments, non-budgetary bills, and resolutions submitted to the Committee by the Office of the Senate President, so if Shyam wants

something to be reviewed, any kind of amendment, any kind of statute, he can send it over to me, and be like, tell your Committee to take a look at this, and if something has to happen, we'll take it (inaudible) to Senate. Um, we have the power to amend any legislation given to the committee for review, so we can make whatever changes we feel necessary as Mr. Patel asks us to review it. The committee can review standing legislative documents and recommend improvements when necessary, so if we see something wrong in Statutes, like, hey, you know, this isn't working so efficiently, I think we should, we should change things around statutorily, so they can be official. We can do that, cuz we're awesome. Expectations of members, so when you join the Senate Committee on Rules, which I know you all want to do, um, I will be expecting you to remind the assigned, err, review the assigned Statutes each week, not statues, we don't send those out. Um, but essentially we'll eventually hit slow points where we're not going to have any changes to make, you know, be like "oh, we're satisfied with Statutes as they are", so what we'll do is we'll be like, "maybe we're not", so alas, we'll go title-by-title and review each of them, uh, within the Committee, so I'll assign you guys a certain set of Statutes and you'll be like, read that, summarize it, come back, and if there are any changes you wanna make, go ahead and make those changes, any part that you think is faulty, uh, we can talk about that and see what we can do. Uh, to make suggestions for changes in Statutes, why does it keep saying statues, um, but anyways, so to make any suggestions, so if you see something wrong, you know, like I said in the last slide, uh, and to read all legislation sent out with the agenda and be prepared to come to Committee with any questions or comments, that's just expected in Senate, so if I sent out something for Rules, I'd expect you guys to be prepared, and then to present at least one piece of legislation per semester in front to the Senate body, that's just to keep our members active here, because even though you may be active in Committee, being active in Senate is just as important, if not more important. Um, and then to write or help write at least one piece of legislation per semester, so it can be as something as simple as a resolution, uh, which we just used to commemorate, um, coaches and the accomplishments and things like that, or people retiring, we'll write a resolution for them, um, or an actual piece of legislation, what you actually wanna change Statutes in, but that's what I would expect from my members, and that's what we do, but I expect from my members, and that's it. Does anybody have any questions for me?

Patel: Um...

Antar: Ok.

Patel: I know Cocco had a suggestion for a resolution coming up.

Cocco: Yes, if you're interested, Chairman, uh, the golf team...

Antar: Golf team.

Cocco: ...and sports and softball.

Antar: You can recognize USF Athletics, that's one thing we can write a resolution for, it'll be official recognition from Student Government, saying, "hey, you guys are awesome, good job".

Patel: So if you guys want to get your feet wet in, in writing legislation overall...

Antar: We can totally write that resolution together.

Patel: Exactly. It's really easy.

Cocco: Positive points.

Patel: Huh?

Cocco: Positive points.

Patel: Right. Positive points for it because, you know, it's on the list. Alright. Ma'am?

Senator: What's a resolution?

Antar: What's a resolution? A resolution is a type of legislation, um, that we will consider in front of the Senate to make a statement by the body, so if Senate wanted to say something about, "oh, we made it into the men's national tournament, we wanted to recognize Athletics", so as a part of the University, we want to be, like, "wow, we're awesome", um, so that's what we'll do, or, "wow, you're awesome", cause we didn't do it, Athletics did, um, so we would write a resolution, it would be point, bullet points as to recognizing what they've done, and at the end, be it resolved that Senate congratulations our team, and so we pass that by acclamation, considering that if any of us are not proud of an accomplishment that USF has, they should reconsider what school they go to, but, um, but yeah, so at the end of it we just pass it by acclamation, it'll be an official recognition, and we'll send a copy over to whoever we pass the resolution on, so...

Senator: So where does the actual, the actual resolution, um, oh, was I supposed to stand up?

Patel: Please.

Senator: Okay, um, where does the actual resolution, like, go...

Antar: Where does it go?

Senator: ...Like, as far as a document, does it go into the Constitution?

Antar: Well, it becomes filed away with Student Government as an official resolution that has been passed, it's official legislation, and we make a copy, we frame it, and we send it over to, um, whoever the...

Patel: Recipient.

Antar: ...recipient is. There you go.

Patel: Right, and we also post online on sg.usf.edu, so a constituent comes to you and says, "hey, we want to recognize this teacher", so we had Dr. Kaw last year who was Professor of the Year of, in, in the nation. We recognized him, it goes to him, it goes online, and essentially we just celebrate his, his, his awesomeness.

Antar: Our collective awesomeness, it's a university, come on guys.

Patel: All right. Thank you.

Antar: Okay

Senate: [Applause]

Patel: Um, before we continue onwards, do you guys like it this way more, or do you guys like the informal setting? It's up, it's honestly still up to you guys, we can continue on this path if there is nothing against it. Nothing against it? Cool. Next presentation will be Appropriations Chair.

Kattih: Okay, um, so my name is Zein Kattih, my last name is pronounced Kattih...

Aziz: Kitty.

Kattih: Um, and I'm the chair for the Appropriations and Audits Committee. Okay, so what we do, what we are is a standing Senate committee. We're responsible for \$150,000, um, in interim funding, and this kind of is a mini-ASRC, and ASRC deals with about 14 million dollars, give or take, so this is kind of a sample of what you would be dealing with. Um, and we meet every Monday at 12 for the Summer. It'll change over the Fall. Okay, so, there are two parts of this committee: there's the appropriations side and the audits side. And so, for appropriations, we deal with the money, and that is interim budget requests, off-campus event requests,

and transfer requests, and so for interim budget, if you're a student org and you didn't apply for annual funding, and you want to get money for your organization, then you would request some money, and we would approve it or, um, not approve it. For off-campus event requests, if you want to have an event that's not at USF, you have to put in a special request, because, um, we usually don't fund that type of event, um, just because it's not what's (inaudible) usually, and then transfer requests, if you have extra money in payroll that you want to use for something else, or, um, vice-versa, then that's what that type of request would be, and then for audits, it's a completely different side of the committee. Um, last year it wasn't really a help, but we hoping to incorporate it more this year, um, because it is useful if applied correctly, um, and what I want to do, my goal for this part of the committee is to find a way to incorporate audits in a way that, um, that's useful, and so, that students aren't going around and, like, doing audits, like all you Senators are not doing audits for no good reason. We want to do audits, and we want to incorporate them into the ASRC, into the funding process every year, and so what we do here is we go to events, we go to, we go to A&S funded events and entities, and sometimes even to SG, um, departments and, like, bodies and people, and we audit them. We see how good their events are. Um, sometimes they say we have 180 people showing up. You go to the event, only 20 showed up. We paid for 180 people's worth of food, so you kind of try to figure out are they being accurate in their descriptions, and, like, are they having what they expect, or, like, do they have what we expect them to have, or kind of like that, so that's what we do.

Patel: Thank you.

Kattih: Okay, so for my committee, what I expect from everyone is to attend, participate, you know, the usual. Um, I expect you guys to give your input. A lot of this is going to be, um, "you go to the committee, you see an event, and you're like, 'is it worth it to fund this amount of money for this event'", and I, like, I would like your input on what's important to fund, what's not important to fund. Also, for audits, I kind of, like, as soon as Fall starts, this is kind of be, going to be a little bit more, um, stringent, but kind of two audits, one or two audits a week is ideal as soon as we figure out how we're going to incorporate it. Um, and finally, you know, just make sure you're reading everything, make sure you're up-to-date, if you have any questions, feel free to email me, ask me, ask any one of the committee chairs, ask Shyam, ask, you know, each other, and that's it, I think. Are there any questions? Yes?

Senator: Can you elaborate more on transfer requests?

Kattih: Okay, so, um, sometimes, I guess, like last year, there was a Judiciary Branch request where they had extra money in payroll and they wanted to move it to...

Patel: Travel.

Kattih: Travel. So they wanted to go somewhere, and they didn't have money for that allocated, but they did have extra money in, you know, payroll for their people, so they gave us a request for, you know, transferring a certain X amount of money from payroll to travel to go to this thing, and we approved it, I think, because it seemed necessary for them, and it was, you know, money that they weren't going to use that they could put to better use elsewhere, so that's kind of an example. Anything else?

Patel: Mr. Hussein? Or Mr. Fatima's proxy?

Hussein: How did you audit events? Did you just, like, go and then say, "oh, this's what happening" and then you put it back to the committee, or did you have, like, a little form that you fill out, something like that?

Kattih: Okay, good point. So I forgot to mention that audits are as they were done in the past, there was a form, it was two pages, you fill it out, basically asks you what the organization is, like what their mission is, how many people showed up to their event, where their event was, you know, kind of, like, interview a couple of students at the event to see, um, what they're feeling, like, how they heard about it, um, that, that sort of thing, um, I do think that it's gonna be changed this year to kind of incorporate it into what JEC does and

kind of, um, what ASRC does, but it's generally, you go there, you have a specific form, you fill in these questions, and you bring it back to the committee. Yes?

Scharon: Do we have to find our own events to audit, or will we be told what to audit?

Kattih: Each week, I can give out a list of events that are A&S funded, and then, um, you can pick any one of those events. Usually, it's 50 to 75 events a week, especially in the Fall, so you have a lot of choices. Anything else? Yes?

Abraha: Um, since we're figuring out if what, if what kind of money they should be spending, is their mission and all that necessary to figure it out, or do you need that to know what kind of money they should be spending?

Kattih: Well, that comes into play during the appropriations side when, um, you're looking at their separate events, and so, they are wanting to have an event for, um, I guess, like, if their event is for, uh, scuba diving, and their club is for biology, is it relevant, should we fund it for this specific club? And that's kind of where it comes in. Anything else? Cool.

Patel: Thank you ma'am.

Kattih: Join my committee, please.

Senate: [Applause]

Patel: Let the record state that Mr. Ibrahim walked in at 7:43 pm. Can you state whose proxy you are?

Ibrahim: Khadra Ali-Mohamed.

Patel: Thank you. All right, next presentation will be JEC. This is the best committee, by the way.

Aziz: Hey guys. I'm Abdool from, uh, Chairperson of JEC. So, last year JEC was Committee of the Year, so we have a high bar to keep for this year, so...just one of those quotes, "Ethics is knowing the difference between what you have a right to do and what is right to do," so think about that. Going to go to the next slide. So, what is JEC? In the statutes, our goal is to maintain the integrity of Student Government, and one of the things we'll be doing a lot during the Summer is confirmations of Executive and Judicial Branch nominations, and, another one of the unique authorities that JEC has is we have the power to subpoena and investigate grievances of anything that, like, overall within Student Government, that's one of our, um, unique powers, compared to the other committees, and subpoena power. And one of the new things that we started last year was, um, department reviews, since JEC pretty much confirms all of the people that are, um, gonna get hired, they make, uh, they have goals and accomplishments that they want, and the mid-year review kinds of this, like, keeps track and lets Senate know, Student Government knows how, uh, what their roadblocks were, what their accomplishments were, and how to improve the position for next year. Next slide. So expectations for JEC, one of the things is, um, since we're the Judiciary and Ethics, we have to, in the committee, uphold a high level of ethics, which is, um, stated there, and one of the things for the committee that we need is, um, be on time, since pretty much people's jobs are, um, pretty much in our hands since we have to confirm them, we need quorum, we need our Committee members to be there, to be professional, and be ready to go from the get-go, and also, in committee, they're basically doing another interview process, so, kind of, you know, re-interviewing them before they come to Senate for the positions, so we have to ask relevant questions that are not biased, or, and relevant to their position, and also another power that we have is, um, student organization constitutions, reviewing them, some of you may be in student orgs, they may have, like, some issues, or, um, that blocks them from funding, and our job is to fix them and review them, so they can continue to get A&S funding. Next slide. So, one of the goals is, uh, having most, having all of the members educated and engaged in the committee, um, streamlining and reforming student org constitutions, and having, um, nominees presented on time with good questions and healthy discussion before voting, so all

of the committee members know what the position is, what the candidates are, if they're qualified, and pretty much create a good atmosphere where, um, everyone's held accountable. Next slide. So, our regular, um, meeting times are Wednesdays at 3 in the Conference Room, and we're going, uh, this week we're gonna have a special session, so this is for our regular meeting. And that's it. And I have another one for confirmations if you want to do that.

Patel: It's up to you guys, or would you guys be okay with listening to the confirstate, err, confirmations...

Aziz: Because we have them next week, so, (inaudible)...

Patel: You guys want to say yes? Alright, you guys have any questions for, um, for whatever he's presented so far?

Abraha: Oh wait, that should goes with confirmations, ok. Um, whenever you, uh, have candidates that you, or nominees, sorry, that you're, uh, interviewing, how many come to you for each position, and, yeah...

Aziz: Well, um, all director levels come, they have a choice either to come to JEC or Senate directly, but most of the times they come through JEC, but all the lower-level ones, like Associate Director and under, have to come through JEC, and all the Judicial, um, Branch, um, like their Associate, their Justices, have to come, come through JEC, and this is pretty much explain it. Alright, guide to confirmations. So, what are confirmations? Each year the Judicial Branch starts anew, we have to hire people all over again, so we hire the cabinet departments, the agencies, and also for the Supreme Court, and, next slide. So how it works, like it says director, director, director-level positions can either come to JEC or Senate, they can, if they fail JEC, they can still come to, to Senate, and if the below fails JEC or pass, if they fail JEC, they can appeal to go back to Senate...

Patel: Well...

Aziz: They can appeal to Senate.

Patel: The middle one, this goes to JEC first.

Aziz: Yeah, they go to JEC, they have to go to JEC, for the Associate Director and under, and Judicial, and...

Patel: Right, so there's just a typo in the "no, optional" part of it, they have to go to JEC.

Aziz: Oh, yeah. Next slide. So here's, um, the streamlined way it works for, um, when they present. They get five-minute speaking times, and the committee members ask questions, then there's a discussion period, and if the committee feels that they didn't get a clear understanding of what the person said or they have (inaudible) complications they can bring them in for a second round of questionings, questioning, then they enter voting, then the committee either passes or fails the candidate, so, questions? This is, um, one of the main things that we try to focus on and try to, like, avoid, like, repetitive questions, to get relevant questions, to get thoughtful out, answers out of the nominees, because they're all trained to, like, answer these questions, but, so the most important thing is to be relevant and ask thorough, critical-thinking questions, basically ask them why they want the job, because there's 40 other thousand students that could have also applied for that job, what makes them, what sets, what sets them apart and qualified for the job, and also the main thing is, um, time commitments and extracurriculars, which is great if you're qualified, but then, like, if you don't have any time for it, if you're, like, in 500 other clubs, it wouldn't make sense, but that's for you guys to decide. Ask about their skills and qualifications, and ask about their, um, past job experience, how it applies, pretty much what they learned from that job and what not, and, um, ethics and conflicts, basically ask them, like, if they were in a, if there, (inaudible) conflicts, how they dealt with it, and their, like, decision, and their behavioral outcomes for that, and also initiatives that they want to get accomplished for the position, because every position, they obviously, they have goals that they want to get accomplished, and, um, don't be afraid to

vote no if you don't feel comfortable, and remember in Student Government we aim for the best qualified candidates, not just like bare minimums, so aim high. And that's it, you guys have any questions? Go ahead.

Morejon: Um, if a candidate doesn't get confirmed, do they just appoint another candidate and start the process all over again, or what's the...

Patel: And really quick, that's Senator Morejon.

Morejon: Yeah.

Patel: I'd just like you to say your names.

Morejon: Oh, yeah.

Patel: I kind, it kind of slipped me because we weren't on the minutes, but now we're on the minutes, so whoever's typing these minutes, they don't know any of your voices yet, because they haven't acquired..., so just say your name before you get up. Cool, thank you.

Aziz: So, there's a hiring, hiring committee, they have to interview at least three people, and choose out of those three at least one, and if that person that's chosen fails, they have to re-, um...

Patel: Open the applications.

Aziz: Reopen it again and put it online for, like, five min, five business days and get three more applicants and choose from that pool again, and nominate another person.

Morejon: Ok, thank you.

Morgan: (Inaudible) the Executive appoints someone from their pool that they interviewed from, but if there's not another qualified candidate they want to send up for confirmation, then they'll have to re-advertise the position (inaudible).

Patel: And that was Ms. Morgan.

Morgan: Yes.

Patel: You're fine. Any more questions about confirmations? Ms. Morgan?

Morgan: May I just make a comment, just to keep in mind to you that these are students just like yourselves, so, um, you know, they're not all going to be experts in these areas that they're applying for, they're here to learn and to gain experience just like all of you, so definitely properly vet so that we have the best people for the position, um, but also know that they're not going to come in as, you know, professional staff members from the community, you know, able to just handle these things here, vetting them to see, (inaudible) asking you these things, do they have the basic skill sets that you're looking for and that's almost within the job description, and then some of the things that, uh, Senator Aziz mentioned, such as do they have the time availability and some of those things, so I think he's given you guys good questions to really look through, um, and think about before you hit confirmations next week.

Patel: One thing is, uh, expect their nominees to be coached, so whoever they send to you has been told what we're gonna ask, cause all of our questions are on minutes from years past, right, like, how many questions can you possibly ask, so they already know what you're gonna ask. Make sure you have better questions than what they expect. Always improve on, or even, like, when we send out the resume, you could look, you could look through the list and see what they did for X number of days, if they only worked at, I guess, a law firm for a week, you can ask them, "So what made you want to work there for a week?", or you know, you could ask them questions based off of any fact they give you, you can't, you know, like, just go outside, pick an

apple from a tree, and be like, "Why is this apple red?", like, you can't ask them something they didn't, they didn't give you directly, nor can you ask them something based not on facts, so just try to stay on the facts. Try to make sure, um, when you ask them a question, that you remain appropriate, you don't want to, you don't want to attack this person, but you also want to make sure it's the most qualified out of the pool they put up, like, the reason why we have confirmations is cause, like, everything we do, if you just think about the purpose, you'll know it better where to direct yourself when you're going about doing it, so why do we have confirmations? To make sure it's not just, I guess, me and all my friends running that side of town, so you want to make sure that a good group of qualified students who will all, because at the end of the day, we're all representing SG regardless, like, that person's paid to do it, you're here to represent people, whether or not they're there or what, they're here, whether or not you're there. If that kinda made sense, ma'am?

Scharon: Um...

Patel: Could you just state your name?

Scharon: Uh, Camilia. Does everybody participate in confirmations; or just the Judiciary and Ethics Committee?

Patel: Perfect, uh, Abdool, if you would want to clarify?

Aziz: So, um, most nominees go to JEC, let's say like there is a holiday and there's no way that the Committee can meet, it will go straight to Senate. But usually it goes to JEC first, then the Committee votes, then it goes to Senate.

Patel: Right and so that's namely if you have a Director, once Will presents his structure next week you're going to see his Director positions, which are directly underneath him essentially. It's no different than my Chairs, these are my Directors and you'd all be Associate Directors to me. In this reference, right, I'd be Will, these are my Directors, they would all go before Senate as a whole because to actually confirm this larger scale person, you would want all 60 people hypothetically, 60 people to confirm that person like at a grander at a grander position. And then anybody underneath my Chair, so like a Vice Chair, a Coordinate position, an Associate Director or an Assistant Director, however they are termed, they go before JEC. And in JEC they get the same amount of questions, nothing would be different except it would just be less people, because people can just split up tasks when it's a smaller position. The one thing is that if they fail in JEC, Exec still has the ability to push them through to Senate, like to appeal the decision to Senate. And so Senate as a whole, which also has JEC in it, if you think about it JEC is in here somewhere, they would just ...like they would go through the same confirmation process, pass or fail, once you fail Senate there's nothing else you can do. You can't apply for another job for a year, or at least not for that job for a year. Alright, and then Judicial Branch, all Justices go before JEC and Senate. If you fail JEC that's it, there's no more future for you in the Associate...or in the Judicial Branch. Alright, umm just one big thing, there's a handout that Abdool will be giving people; I don't know if you have it on you today, the little booklet.

Aziz: I do but it's in the office.

Patel: Can you go get them? Like once you're done with your presentation.

Aziz: Yeah.

Patel: And just he'll hand you these booklets, it has a good breakdown of what you guys should expect for next week. Because we have four hard hitting confirmations next week. It's going to be Chief of Staff, which is their second...or third in command essentially over there. Chief Financial Officer who is the primary liaison of all money through the Executive Branch and then Attorney General and Solicitor General. All four of those positions are coming next week. We'll send you out...we'll send out all of the relevant material to you people, and you guys should be able to read it at least bring out good questions. The job description itself we'll tell you exactly what their roles are, the best bet make a question based of their roles. If their roles are

hey umm you should be able to interpret law, have you ever interpreted law? Or like you shouldn't just hold that as the only judgment but what is your scale of interpreting law, like you can base it off of other things. One key thing to keep in mind, none of you were screened for your job. So you can't just say oh they are not the most qualified because who's to say we're the most qualified in our jobs. So overall just keep that mindset in your head. Overall SG is a giant classroom, like whatever happens in here I hope you just learn something from it, like regardless learn anything. Hopefully if you're in the...if you're in the Appropriations Committee, you'll learn how to budget yourself and you won't go broke in the future when we all go to grad school and whatever. If you're in JEC you'll know good interview skills, you'll be able to get a job quicker. Just overall those kind of things I want you to learn from the things we are doing in here. Alright, next...next Committee will be Special Funding. Ma'am?

Abraha: Bana Abraha. Ugh...my question was, is there any way we could...I know we get the job descriptions and stuff like that. But is there any way we could get an idea of any like past problems that would (inaudible). Not to include...not include any names or anything but just any past issues that occurred with any of the four positions we will be confirming, just so that we have the right...

Patel: In what sense? In what sense?

Abraha: If anything that they do or we don't know a lot about the Executive Branch and what they do, will we be able to get more information, aside from the job description, of what they did right or what they went over. I don't know if that makes sense.

Patel: What if the person is brand new, like that's the problem. Like one of these people are going to be coming as a second round type of thing.

Abraha: No, no, no but from the old people that did it. So if any problems that arose with that, you can ask...you know? I don't know how to ask it.

Patel: I see what you're saying. I know we had...we had a good Department Review for that situation to see what else they were encountering and how we could like relieve them early on. Or how they could have driven over the speed bump kind of thing. Umm honestly, the top four positions, like I'll just tell you right now on the record. Umm Chief of Staff, you just want to make sure that they could Chief of Staff. You want to make sure that they have some kind of... in their person they should have like some kind of managerial skills. Like they should be able to delegate tasks, like if you just look at the title and look at the rules, you should be able to see in them like yeah they could probably do that. Moving down Chief Financial Officer, you'd want someone who is savvy in budgets, someone who's probably seen a budget or two. Like you wouldn't want me to just walk over there and be like I've never made a purchase order before but let me try this. Like you want to kind of see like gauge their experience but always know it takes like a week to learn max, it's not hard, like none of this stuff is really that hard. But umm the biggest thing you should look out for the two other positions, Attorney General and Solicitor General. They haven't been advertised in anyway...like...so a good amount, 40,000 students don't know we have a Solicitor General and Attorney General, that is something we need to look for in our next candidate. Make sure you ask them that question, how they plan on announcing or how they plan on marketing their position to students. Like sure we'll pay this person their entire salary, will they be able to tell students that this is their job, or will they just sit behind the counter and say, I'm here whenever you need me, and no one knows that they are there, like you know. So that's something you guys should look for...we'll probably get a good set of questions up for you guys, just so you...because it's your first time of asking questions, we'll work with you guys really well and try to figure out if we could get a good number of questions out. So anyone in JEC, probably on Friday, you guys just make sure you guys at least what you're feeding these questions. Because those four positions are going before JEC only for your practice. Like they don't need to go before JEC at all, but we're doing it so those people who are applying for these jobs get a feel of what confirmations is, and so you guys get a chance at asking a question. Alright, so if you guys are going to join JEC, probably going to ask questions. Alright, sorry about that, go ahead Ms. Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: Hi guys, my name is Hiba Alqasemi. I'm here to tell you about the Committee on Special Funding. Contrary with what was said before, it is the coolest Committee. Next, so basically what we do in Special Funding is we fund travel for organizations, for homecoming events, for the Engineering Expo, if you guys have heard of it and for Signature Events that the organizations want to do. So we're umm giving money essentially by ASRC and we have about \$140,00 for travel, umm about \$40,000 each for homecoming events and for Engineering Expo, and then another about \$20,000 for Signature Events. All of which we have to look at the request that come in from different organizations, and ugh see what they want to do with that money and see if we're going to allocate them that amount of money that they ask for, less, more, whatever it is we send them. Next. Ugh so expectations if you're one the Committee is to come prepared. I send out the documents and the requests 24 hours in advance. So basically you want to come in, like Mr. Patel had said from before, you want to come in already had seen what they're asking for, that kind of thing. So that you're informed and you know whether like they're asking for something that's ridiculous, like why do they need this, well we don't need to pay for that, you know that kind of thing. We don't want to just throw away money like everywhere, right; we want to make sure that we're spending it wisely. Umm also just being engaged during the Committee, don't be afraid to ask questions, just like in Senate same thing with the Committee. The more you ask, the more you talk, the more you learn and that's always a really good thing. And if there is something that you see that you don't agree with, please say it out loud. We'll talk about it, discuss it, tell us why you don't agree with it, the chances are there's probably someone else in the Committee that agrees with you so that's important. Umm and just before the end of the Committee or the end of the semester, we're going to try and get, so that every person in the Committee can present ughh a request to the Committee. So you'll learn how to do that and kind of ughh so you know exactly what is going on through the person. So alright, my goals for the Committee is umm like I said before, make sure that all the Senators know exactly what is going on, all the different stages I guess of getting travel requests together, and umm allocating money and all of that. So all of you guys hopefully will know, if you have to take my place, you know exactly how to do it, so that's cool. And the problem that we had last year...we ran out with money. So usually we had like let's say this amount of money for let's say travel requests. So we split it up half for Fall, half for Spring, but we'd run out of money let's say...like earlier on in the Fall or earlier on in the Spring, we would have to shut everybody down. And that's fine but then there are only some organizations that would have an event later in the Fall, they can't...or they didn't think to request early enough. So what we're going to try and do is to make it quarterly, where is...some we'll split it up to four actually rather than half, so that everybody can have an equal chance of getting money, so just to make it full. And umm just the goal to be fiscally responsible, to make sure we allocate...we use the money that we're given right, we allocate the right amount. But don't over allocate, right, we can't spend money that we don't have, that a big thing we want to make sure of. And that's going to be like a joint effort by the Committee, hopefully. And any questions?

Scharon: When do you guys meet?

Alqasemi: Oh yeah, sorry. Thursdays at 5pm, anything else?

Patel: Like one of the key things about this Committee, the previous Chairperson is now your Pro Temp. If you have any questions about anything about the Committee like if you want to see like what went wrong last year, you have a completely viable...like a really I guess viable resource at your disposal that you could ask like hey, obviously in conjunction with Ms. Alqasemi the Chairwoman, you could figure out what direction to go in now that it's a brand new year, it's a brand new system, it's a brand new cycle. Obviously all like...whoever wants to be in her Committee can all sit down with the Pro Temp Aldridge and figure out what direction you guys want the Committee to go in, since it is a brand new Committee, it started last year.

Alqasemi: We work closely with the Business Office too, umm with SGATO often too. So there's a bunch of people that you could ask questions, don't hesitate at all, email me ask me, email everybody else ask them. Any other questions? Okay.

Patel: Thank you. And last but not the least, Senator Cocco...or Chairman Cocco. Would you like University first or...And just give a brief explanation as to why you have two presentations.

Cocco: Alright, I'll make this quick so we can get the hell out of here. Ugh so ugh 52nd Term at the end of that term they split...oh I'm sorry. Before the end of that Term the Committees were split. So it was University Affairs, it was Government Affairs. Abdool chaired Government Affairs and Scott was chairing University Affairs. So the leadership at that time felt that they did such a fantastic job together, that it would be a prudent decision to combine the Committees and form me. So last year I was the Chair of the newly formed Committee and this year I am grateful enough again to be Chair of the combined Committee. So I split it up to ughh make things a little easier on what exactly realms we'll be covering and what not. So, Alright. Ugh this is what I feel the mission of the University Affairs portion should be, is we the students gather to provide services and programs that engage students an active learning, we build a supportive and inclusive community, support the emotional growth and personal development of students, and we try to make a positive contribution to student life here on campus. Ugh our job here is to educate, engage and empower. And to educate the students on what exactly University Aspects are and to ughh engage them within their community at the University, and to make sure that they feel empowered here on campus. Alright, I'm going to ask a few of you what y'all think the mission should be. I'm going to start with Senator Rum, what do you think...what do you feel University Affairs should do?

Rum: Senator Rum. Umm I think University Affairs should engage with the students more. Umm kind of like...hmm...get the...get the school to be more developed, more united in a sense. To get people to speak up, have everyone be engaged, rather than everyone kind of like in little cliques on campus. You know we should be a union. Yeah...

Cocco: Alright, let's go to the other side of the room. How about Imam, what do you think Senator?

Imam: I think there should be more phone chargers on the first floor...on the third floor. I use the third floor and I'd like more phone chargers on the third floor.

Cocco: Alright, we can definitely incorporate with our mission. More phone charges. Ughh let's see, how about in the back, Senator...who do we have in the middle? Camilia, you've been talking, Senator Stine, what do you think?

Stine: I think the Committee should be the link from President Genshaft to the Student Body. I think that we're the perfect intermediate to relay conversations on the highest level to the lowest levels, to all the Colleges across the board at the University.

Patel: On the record, there's no lower level, everyone is equal.

Cocco: And (inaudible) I'm going to call on you, fine I'll call on Hartmann. Senator Hartmann was on my Committee last year, so if you could just tell some of the new folks what your experience was...

Hartmann: So basically on the Committee we tried to umm...Senator Hartmann, nice to meet you. On the Committee we tried to like I guess discover new options and ways on how we could improve the school. So like one of the most popular ways is to survey, like a specific area. So one of the Senators was really close with Housing, so he would try to go to the residents, and set up a Tent Day at JP, Juniper Poplar Hall and ask them how do you feel about Housing, what do we need to improve. So stuff like that, so we want to see how do students feel about a certain issue and where they think the University can improve and then address the improvement.

Cocco: Thank you. Alright, Cool. Thank you guys for participating. Alright, ughh this is some of the main components, surveys as he said, we like to use surveys on students and what they're thinking about the campus in regards to SG as a whole, how we're doing as a job, regards to parking meters, regards to financial aid, just a whole breadth of surveys we could do. As mentioned barely, Student Affairs, we are here to help foster that relationship with Student Affairs and make sure that there is communication. So that would be the Dean of Students, would be the Vice President of Student Affairs, who is unfortunately leaving, and stuff of that nature. Ughh another component that I'm adding that we started last year is the Council of Colleges. I

worked with Greg Berkowitz in the Executive Branch last year, and we came up together with this idea of the Council of Colleges, incorporating each of one of your colleges and having you guys sit on this. So not only can you guys...not only talk about student life but also talk about academic life with your Deans, with your Teachers, and what not. So that's something I'm going to do my best to push forward to ensure that the Senators are also engaging academically as well as students affairs...whatever. Ughh University Wide Committees, these are the Committees that directly report the President on University wide issues. So like it ranges from the Committee on Black Affairs, to the Status of Latino Committee, the Woman Committee, there's Ethics and Integrity, Athletics. And students have the opportunity to serve on these Committees and engage in dialogue, and eventually if you serve on one of these Committees you get to report to the President herself and ughh to develop that relationship that way. And of course just Outreach, we need to do as much Outreach as we can and connect with as many students as possible to rid the campus of apathy.

Patel: You had a question?

Cocco: I'm sorry. Yes, Camilia how are you? Senator.

Scharon: Do I have to stand?

Patel: Yes ma'am.

Scharon: Umm so I know there's an office on campus, like New Students Connection. Is that part of what you do with your Outreach, Outreach, Outreach?

Cocco: We work in conjunction with them, yes. We work with all of Student Affairs, whatever ideas that they have, we can help out and hang stuff up, and stuff like that. Are you with New Student Connections?

Scharon: No.

Cocco: Oh you just heard about it?

Scharon: It was the first think I thought about when I saw Outreach, Outreach, Outreach.

Cocco: Perfect, exactly, we're all doing Outreach. So yeah we definitely work with them in that regard. Any other questions?

Patel: On a side note, the snapping is because you don't always want to clap so you muffle the talking of somebody, so we snap in Senate. Just so you guys know. Alright.

Cocco: Alright, survey says. So we want to focus on broad questions, so if we do a survey for example on let's say parking. So we want to talk about parking, the possible new garage that's going up near the Sun Dome. So we'd focus on parking and then we'd go and get more condensed on those questions, get more specific on the parking Sun Dome questions. Again we're going to focus on specific areas on campus, which...ughh so there's some examples. And ughh here's a map if you mind...ughh alright I'll get to the map in a minute. But ughh here for the surveys, I'm going to ask at least one of y'all to complete a survey on your own on what you feel...on what you want to ask students about, by the end of the term. Ughh for Tent Day, I'm going to ask at least you guys at least spend half an hour out there with us, just talking to people and getting their story. Ughh there's a Kiosk Day. So Tent Day is our Outreach day outside, we get pizza and food and sometimes we have a little tent, sometimes we don't. And we just talk about SG issues and stuff like that. And Kiosk Day is inside the Marshall Center at the Atrium and ugh we also do that their. Ughh and we use the iPads, there's six iPads that we have and we take the surveys on the iPads and what not so. Okay here's the map, this is a map that Sandoval developed when he was Chair. So these are the six sections of campus that are split. SO you have the Health Sciences in A, you have the Chemistry and Math in C, Marshall Center and Bookstore in B, etc., etc. So based on your majors and where you guys are taking your classes, would be in one of those areas, and y'all could do Outreach. Did I miss a question? My bad.

Belizaire: Senator Belizaire, my College isn't mapped out.

Cocco: Where are you?

Belizaire: Florida Mental Health Institute.

Cocco: Oh you're way up there

Belizaire: Yeah.

Cocco: Okay, alright, we'll head up there. We'll make it...Thank you for that. So you Public...what is that, Public Health?

Belizaire: Umm no I'm Behavioral Commun...

Cocco: Behavioral Community, okay. Alright, cool, yeah we'll take care of you. Alright...

Patel: You have another question, Ms. Rum.

Cocco: I do, what's up Ms. Ruba.

Rum: Ms. Rum. Umm...

Cocco: I'm sorry, Ms. Rum, Ms. Ruba Rum.

Rum: Umm what time do you meet?

Cocco: Tuesday's at 1pm is what we're shooting for. Just kidding, Ms. Rum, I'll remember that name next time. So yeah so the UWCs, so let's just ugh explain that a little more. I'll be working in conjunction with the Executive Advisor on University Affairs and reporting on the UWCs. Ughh this is some of the stuff that we're going to be doing, so Tent Days, Town Halls, we're going to try and do some Student Org visitations. We're going to talk to some residence life, Housing, talk to the Dining Halls, because we don't want anymore bloody chickens. And of course Administration, we'll talk with Provost and if we want to consult him in what we're doing, so ughh and of course the Council of Colleges. So I look forward to that. Yes it's on the minutes.

Patel: Yeah that's fine; he probably won't ever read this so it's okay.

Cocco: Probably not. Alright, so that's University Affairs.

Patel: To see a big way this plays in is that you guys, you 60 hopefully one day will represent...do represent all 40,000 students, 45,000 students on this campus. And unless it's a matter that is being brought to you by Exec and you have no time to really consider it or there's not function...or no feasible way to get student input. This is the Committee that actually gets student input for those things that we can actually get student input for. Like we're going to try and do another partnership with the Bucs okay, where they get Bucs tickets and we're trying to pick a game and we're trying to see how many students will actually go. So something like that we could probably get a good survey out there, like would you guys go to any of these games. You guys could walk around and say hey guys, like I'm a Senator. Would you guys want to go...or would you guys be interested in these Bucs game, just pick one of these dates, and we'll figure out a good ticket setting. That's something we can actually do because their games are later in the year. But something like let's fund the Marshall Center elevator, like you wouldn't have time to actually get a survey done for that, or it's not feasible. So that's where you guys actually like actually do represent directly these students. Because you would have to take your own judgment, that those students elected you to use your judgment and vote on this kind of thing. That's how really it fits in, so this Committee another pinnacle Committee. None of these

Committees are useless at all; they're all equally weighed because they have all their own purpose they serve. Ma'am.

Scharon: Camilia again. Umm I have a question about how Committees work overall. So let's say that I joined the Special Funding Committee but then I was at the (inaudible) Engineers and they were upset about something. Where would I bring that? Do I have to go to this specific Committee or what I do it here, or can I even do anything if I'm not in this Committee?

Patel: I would say everywhere. Honestly, because you have a voice here, you have a voice in a Committee; you could go to the Committee. You could email Senator Cocco, I'm pretty sure he would be more than happy to help you out in your situation. You could email me, you could email Adam, you could even email your Dean, you could email Jessica Morgan, she's more than happy to help you I'm sure, even though she looks really sleepy. Sorry.

Morgan: I'm listening.

Patel: Overall just because you're in one Committee, doesn't mean you can't do other Committee work. Like if you're not in Appropriations and Audits, you could still run through audits. Like you could do more audits than like I could count. And you get all the positive points for it and you will be serving the purpose of a Senator. Because regardless of what Committee you're in your purpose as a Senator encompasses all of those Committees. Which is why all those Committees are comprised here, so you guys do directly represent all of those Committees. Did that answer your questions, at least hopefully a little bit?

Scharon: Yes.

Patel: Just cc everybody, essentially everybody you could think of. Any more questions for his directly...we'll answer all the general questions afterwards. Go ahead.

Abraha: Yes. Hi, Bana Abraha. Umm my question is you...he said umm it's kind of hard to get a survey out to all the students especially when it's about funding and stuff like that. Do we already have an online database that we can actually have the surveys in so that students can take them online if possible? Ugh do we have a system like that?

Cocco: Yes, it's called umm polldaddy.com, and that's how we do our surveys and Danica Patrick...no I'm kidding. SO that's how we do it, so I'd be happy to you know get the link to you to give to students who are interested in doing the survey. Did I answer your question?

Abraha: Yes, yes. I wanted to know if they could do it other than just coming to the Tent. If there was a way to...

Cocco: And we'll put in on our website too, yeah.

Abraha: Yeah I wanted to know like, not just the only like that special Committee but if other Senators could actually advertise for that so that people could answer questions and they could do it fast too. If it's online they could do it about elevators or anything random that umm the University has to fund. So that they could voice their opinion regardless of how big or how small.

Cocco: I agree.

Patel: Perfect, any more questions?

Pelegrino: Pelegrino. Could you elaborate more on the Council of Colleges?

Cocco: The Council of Colleges okay. So this is brand new, we just...we met a couple of times this past Spring. Ughh but the Council, our vision was for to get just people on this Council, some Senators. So you're

Arts and Science right? So the goal is to get someone like you on the Council with representatives from Arts and Sciences. So like a Dean or like a faculty member or something like that, so we could talk more about what's going on in Arts and Sciences specifically. So it's a way to engage academia in the process with Student Government.

Pelegriano: Okay so...

Patel: It's a follow up.

Pelegriano: Okay so umm would you have like meetings or stuff...right?

Cocco: Yeah, yeah. So there's, there's an application process...there was an application process, but whoever is open to joining will come and we'll have a meeting and we'll discuss issues regarding Arts and Sciences. And then we'll discuss issues regarding Engineering, and we'll discuss etc., etc.

Pelegriano: Okay, so do you have like a limited number of representative Senators per colleges or something like that?

Cocco: Right now it's open.

Pelegriano: Oh it's open.

Cocco: I'm just trying to see...just trying to get yawl's feedback, there's no specifications per say yet.

Pelegriano: Alright, thank you.

Cocco: No problem.

Patel: Perfect if no more questions, we'll move on to the second part of his presentation.

Cocco: You have something? You sure?

Patel: Now is the best time.

Belizaire: Umm okay, Karline Belizaire. One of my questions was, umm like what's your basis behind the University Affairs is to survey for the students, in what ways has the surveys helped? Because I took the surveys and I asked people to take the surveys but I don't think I've seen an improvement from using the surveys. So I wanted to see what your experience was.

Cocco: Well ugh, for the Bucs tickets there; it was certainly really helpful because it helped pick the game that students wanted to go to, the majority. Ughh for example, another survey that we did was the parking meters for parking garages. We're trying to see ughh if we could get these parking meters to these parking garages to let you know when the floor is full. So that way you don't have to go all the way up top and there's a spot and you get it. Another thing is financial aid, we had a financial aid survey in regards to people...students taking loans and whether they knew about the income based repayment plan, which is a plan that helps you pay back your loans based on income. So it's...we're not going to reach everybody but it's a way to at least judge the student's opinion from that point in time and then also just to spread the word of what we're trying to do. So in essence it works and sometimes it doesn't work, it all depends on what kind of survey we're doing.

Patel: Go ahead.

Scharon: Camilia. For the Council of Colleges, do I have to join that specific Committee to be a part of it? Or could I be in one Committee and be a part of Council of Colleges?

Patel: You could be a student anywhere and be a part of the Council of Colleges I believe. You don't have to be a Senator, you don't have to be paid, you don't have to... you just have to be taking...I don't even know if you really have to be taking classes because we don't have a formal process of judging people or like you're taking classes, so probably anybody could join.

Cocco: There's no formal process right now. It's just trying to get people involved, so once we get people actually involved, then we can start laying out a formal process.

Scharon: Is that Tuesday's at 1pm as well, or is that going to be a different time.

Cocco: That's going to be a different time.

Patel: Alright, without further ado.

Cocco: Right, Government side. How many of y'all are Poly Sci majors and stuff? Alright, so our mission here is to engage with local state and federal and government activities. We are to review all state, local and federal legislation. Of course a lot will be coming to the state in regards to tuition, and in regards to fees, and in regards to BOG, Board of Governors. For the federal legislation we're talking about student loans, and the loan rate doubling July 1st. How many of y'all are taking loans? Undergraduate loans? Raise your hands come one. Man, just three. Gallie. SO right now y'all...y'all made it. So we have loans and right now were paying a 3.4% rate on the interest. By July 1st, it's going to double to 6.8, which is roughly an extra thousand dollars tagged on to our loans., So that's the stuff that we're monitoring and were hopefully we...that doesn't pass because that's very expensive. We want to create relationships with our local people here in Tampa, and you know go from there. Always, engage, educate and empower that's the vibe. Ughh I want to prepare this year to have the Gubernatorial Debate for 2014. Just so you know that's coming up, Governor Tricky Ricky Scott and whoever the Democratic nominee is going to be, possible Charlie Christ, I'd like to have that debate here on campus. We had the President debate for the Republicans in 2010...oh I'm sorry 2011.

Patel: 2012.

Aziz: 2012.

Cocco: 2012, whatever. And ugh we actually had the Governor Debate here in 2010 as well, as well as the Senate Debate, so I think we could get those here. Count Commission, City Council, the Mayor's Office, we want to try and get those people involved this year as well. Again relationships, I want to let you guys know about internships that are going on with these people, these politicians and other law stuff, and stuff like that. Government Affairs, networking, there is a lot of networking going on. Voter Registration, I want to get you guys registered to vote. The Florida Student Association, is this body that represents us here in Florida and with ughh going to get people involved in that and ensuring their voices are represented with other State Universities across the state, State Universities across the state. I want to educate you guys about...more about SG and how we do Government here in Student Government. Ughh attend all meetings, be respectful, be open minded. I'm going to ask each one of you for a report on just what you guys are working on. So you remember Senator Hartmann, I asked you what you're working on, what kind of stuff is going on this week. So just always be doing something for SG and for the mission. And ugh, just have fun, you know.

Patel: Any questions about this portion of the presentation? And...Ms. Camilia.

Scharon: What time, what day?

Cocco: Same time, 1pm.

Patel: It's one Committee.

Cocco: It's one Committee, I just split up the presentations.

Scharon: Oh.

Patel: Cuz its UGCA.

Cocco: UCGA.

Patel: UCGA, sorry. So it's just one Committee.

Cocco: I just split it up to make things easier just to understand the two aspects. Does that make sense?

Scharon: Yeah.

Cocco: Okay, cool.

Patel: And to understand how Committees play together very well, you would take a survey. If a majority...if a good number of students say hey we want this or we recognize this or we don't feel strongly about this. You could take that to Rules, Rules would right you a nice little...like a...not a referendum...a...

Aziz: Resolution.

Patel: A resolution, thank you sir. A resolution about this specific topic. Like students on... USF students through a poll says...said this and then that would get published on our website and now would get sealed with the Senate Seal and signed off by all of us essentially, through proxy of me but same concept. But yeah, that's a good way to get your purpose out there, a good way to interact with students. Again any questions for him?

Cocco: We have food too when we do Tent Days.

Patel: Right, you don't have to be on the Committee to do Tent Days, remember that you go on the Tent Day. Because you want the hoodie, like I'm going to be...I'm going to be the telemarketer that says remember back in elementary school they come to you and be like this is our fundraiser, do you want this jump rope, so you sell chocolate, so that's the concept. Like work for senate and you'll see, yeah world's finest. Alright, now do you guys have any...ma'am.

Pelegrino: Pelegrino. Umm will you inform us...would you let us know about when this Committee is having like Tent Day and stuff like that?

Cocco: Of course not. Kidding, of course, yeah I'll send information to the Pro-Tempore and he'd be happy to send it to you.

Patel: Alright, thank you. Alright, guys. Do you guys have any more questions about Senate overall. This is a good time to ask questions. One thing is that in our Legislative Branch report...they will present what happens in the Committee. So even if you didn't go to the Committee, you'll get some fill in of that Committee. There's also their Minutes being published online, so you'll know exactly what they talked about if you ever have free time to you know read it. And then overall, umm Adam will present...Adam will also have a Chair report; I will have a Chair report. I just want to know to what degree did you guys want my report. Because essentially I knew a lot of people that we interact with and I am more than happy to tell you about every little thing, like all of our inside jokes, or all of our...all of the situations we are put in, everything that we do on that side of the town, I'm all about it like just open door, come in and I'll talk to you about anything. Umm...just see one problem is everything being recorded, people kind of take it offensively if they do something towards us and then we can't really react back. So overall those are the kind of things we can talk about later. But in my Branch Report I'll talk to you about essentially ...like the Bucs. If we do the Bucs thing, I'll tell you guys how the Bucs are talking to us or right now they're offering...like if you guys are interested in those kinds of things, or if you're interested in what the Bucs said to us?

Aziz: Yes.

Patel: Cool. So the Bucs wanted to offer us I think...or they wanted 1,000 tickets. Because in the history of the Bucs, a 1,000 tickets was the largest group ticket selling ever, and we got an award for it, we got a ball signed by like Doug Martin and somebody else, I forgot who. But it's a really nice Ball, it's in a...or it will be put in a trophy case in SG sooner or later when we start earning all the awards we possibly can. But the Bucs obviously with their whole season, they usually only sell about 200 tickets in a group and we bought 1,000 in total, right. At last year, we bought it at \$30 a ticket and we sold them back to the student at \$15 a ticket. The big fall back there was we had to sell them directly to students, so we were distributing them...like we had hard tickets, and let's say we sold 1, that whole section had 8 left in a row. You know it was really hard to configure people if you're selling hard tickets, it's really hard to keep up with the numbers. This year, they're proposing an online system, and again this is all for you guys to...when the Bill comes before us, if we move forward with it, this is the kind of information you will have with your persons. You'll be able to like actually discuss this, think about it, but ugh their promising us right now a system through ughh Ticketmaster where you can buy them online with USF ID, like you just sign up with Ticketmaster, use your U Id, you can sign in. Essentially what they told us is tickets cost \$35 now and we get a whole entire section, instead of rows. And the system they proposed to us was like if we subsidized \$15, students will pay \$20 a ticket to go to a national...like a national...like an NFL game.

Cocco: To a Bucs game?

Patel: And then...see that's the laugh I had, because I was like guys they're blacked out. But the one that they...well there's a lot of options. One was during Homecoming Week, so we're going to kind of stick away from that one, but it was on the NFL network, it was against the Panthers, it was a night game, so like it would have been fun. But they wanted...they said students would pay \$20 right, and they would get a \$10 food voucher that they could use in the (inaudible) so they could buy like whatever...they said to stay away from beer but they couldn't stop it so it's like whatever. Umm but yeah, those are the kind of things that you'll have...like these are the kind of information that we'll pass on to you guys, so when those Bills come on, it's not just like...Like I really like the Bucs, just a preview guys, I'm not all about that kind of stuff. So I'll fill you in as much as I possibly can about anything and everything we have before us, umm...we're a fun bunch, all of us. I'm sure all of you guys are well, any inside jokes, just come to us and we'll fill you in, their pretty funny. But yeah, other than that, I assure you my next Legislative Branch report will be a little more full, a little more girth to it. Hopefully Adam will be back by then as well and hopefully your counterparts, your colleagues will actually be in the room. But honestly I appreciate like...usually don't get this in a Senate Meeting, no one is paying attention, no one is interacting no one is engaged. I'm just really appreciative of all of you guys being engaged and interactive. Alright, anything else? Alright, and the way it works essentially, once it's approved you move down it like whatever the pace you want to go by. So we'll have now is the final roll call, if there's no more...Mr. Aziz.

Aziz: Don't you want them to like pick their Committee and sign up before?

Final Roll Call:

Patel: I'll do that after the minutes, so they don't have to type...there's no like fumbling in the minutes. But don't leave, you have to pick Committees. So umm yeah, if I can get a motion from somebody who is brand new that has never made a motion before. Just say motion to final roll call. Motion for a final roll call.

Imam: Senator Imam. And I motion for a final roll call right now.

Patel: Thank you, you have to get recognized by the way. Don't you just jump up and say like raise your hand.

Imam: Does the Senate recognize me?

Cocco: Could you say your name again for the minutes though.

Imam: I'm Senator Imam, I'm sure the secretary will have a fun time writing my name.

Patel: Proxy for Mr. Zituni.

Zituni: *I motion to...*

Patel: Final roll call.

Zituni: *Final roll call.*

Patel: Thank you. Any objections? And this is the time where you object, because once you're in roll call you cannot object. Once you're in a voting you cannot back out, you're voting, that's it like even if you wanted more information you're voting. So any objections? Seeing none, we're now will be taking a final roll call. The clickers weren't still on; I don't know what's wrong with it.

Aziz: You got to like turn it on.

Patel: Well no there is no power coming through it either.

Aziz: It's in your P-Drive.

Patel: Guys just really quickly umm...keep it down because it is all recorded, and every little sound that is audible has to be typed out regardless of what it is.

Aziz: May 21st.

Patel: Thank you sir.

Aziz: You have to enable everything.

Patel: And then it has to be open to...

Aziz: Yeah.

Alqasemi: I think you had it open, this is the original. You had it open and then you closed it.

Patel: But no it's not...there you go.

Alqasemi: This is the same on you opened before, you opened the other one and it had an extra slide.

Patel: But where did it go through? Guys, I'm just going to do it the old school way because Adam is not here yet. Adam is the one who knows this stuff. Alright, ummm. Alright, here we go. So...

Patel: Mr. Aldridge.

Aldridge: -

Patel: Mr. Aziz.

Aziz: Here.

Patel: Mr. Monteith.

Monteith: Present.

Patel: Ms. Sacasas.

Sacasas: -

Patel: And if you're a proxy you just say proxy and then say your name. Ms. Abraha.

Abraha: Present.

Patel: Mr. Hartmann.

Hartmann: Present.

Patel: Mr. Romero.

Romero: Present.

Patel: Christina Fernandez

Fernandez: -

Patel: Mr. Cano.

Cano: -

Patel: Mr. Canton.

Canton: -

Patel: Mr. Lopez.

Lopez: -

Patel: Ms. Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: Here.

Pate: Ms. Fatima.

Fatima: -

Hussein: Her proxy present.

Patel: Thank you. Mr. Zituni.

Zituni: Here, present.

Patel: Cool, you're a proxy.

Zituni: Proxy Present for Imam.

Patel: Thank you. Cocco.

Cocco: Here.

Patel: Bolz.

Bolz: -

Patel: Ali-Mohamed

Ali-Mohamed: -

Unknown Proxy: Proxy (inaudible).

Patel: Thank you sir. Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: Present.

Patel: Hasan.

Hasan: Present.

Patel: Rum.

Rum: Present.

Patel: Patel, I'm here. Lee.

Lee: Here.

Patel: Colon.

Colon: -

Strenges: Proxy, Stephen Strenges.

Patel: Kattih.

Kattih: Present.

Patel: Larkins.

Larkins: Here.

Patel: Ulloa.

Ulloa: -

Patel: Bader.

Bader: -

Patel: Belizaire.

Belizaire: Present.

Patel: Harvey.

Harvey:-

Patel: Bogart.

Bogart: -

Patel: Rustan is no longer in Senate. Antar.

Antar: Present.

Patel: Persaud-Sharma

Sharma: Here, sorry.

Patel: Thank you. Cruz.

Cruz:-

Patel: Adeel Hassan.

Adeel Hassan: -

Patel: Richards.

Richards: -

Patel: Cook.

Cook: Present.

Patel: Devivo.

Devivo: -

Patel: Ober.

Ober: -

Patel: Francisco Fernandez.

Francisco Fernandez: -

Patel: Vaughn.

Vaughn: -

Patel: Shari-Ann Myers.

Shari-Ann Myers:-

Patel: Taylor Myers.

Taylor Myers:-

Patel: Burr.

Burr: Present.

Patel: Little

Little:-

Patel: O'Steen.

O'Steen:-

Patel: Just keep it down please. Umm Sharon.

Sharon: Present.

Patel: Ramseur.

Ramseur:-

Patel: Brown.

Brown: Present.

Patel: Cox.

Cox: Present.

Patel: Morejon.

Morejon: Present.

Patel: and Stine.

Stine: Here

Patel: With that...right now we have 27.

Adjournment:

Patel: And I'll take a motion to adjourn. Mr...Mr. Romero.

Romero: *Motion to adjourn.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none, we're now adjourned at 8:46 pm.

[Gavel]

Adjournment called by Senate President Patel at 8:46 pm.

Transcribed by Senate Clerk Nadima Ally.