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Senate Meeting Minutes 05/28/13

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University of South Florida
Student Government Fifty-Fourth Student Senate

Summer Session
May 28th 2013
-MINUTES-

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:

Patel: I call this meeting of Senate to order on May 28th, 2013 at 6:22 pm. First order of business on the Agenda is the Pledge of Allegiance. So if I could have everybody rise. Senator Rum, if you could lead us off.

Senators: 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.

Patel: Thank you.

First Roll Call:

Patel: Alright, First item...or the next item is First Roll Call. So the way it works is I'll start the session and then you just click one if you're here. It's also Wi-Fi base so you don't have to point. One more person...

Abdool: It's actually RF based.

Patel: So you're here and...alright.

Kattih: Oh it worked.

Patel: And everybody else is here, so with that we have 30 people present today, so thank you. Alright, we'll try that one more time, come on. One more person, alright

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

Patel: Moving down the list Additions and Deletions or Clarifications to the Orders of the Day. Can I get a motion to approve unless there are any problems? Ms. Kattih.

Kattih: *Motion to approve the Agenda*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none.

Additions/Deletions and/or Changes to the Minutes:

Patel: Moving on to the Minutes, the Minutes were not sent out so if I can have them postponed until next week. We're working on it; we're trying to hire a clerk as soon as possible. SGATO graciously asked Ms. Greenberg to type out our Minutes for last time, so when they get sent to us, I guess we'll send them to you. Mr. Hartmann.

Hartmann: *Motion to postpone the Minutes.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none, it will be postponed until next meeting.

Legislative Branch Report:

Patel: Alright, Legislative Branch Report. Your Pro Tempore is back but I'm sure he's kind of caught off guard so Mr. Antar if you would like to present.

Antar: Okay everybody, so today we had our first meeting which was a Special Session. I know we're supposed to meet Monday's at 3pm, but today due to extenuating circumstances we had to meet Tuesday at 2pm. Ended up running a little bit later than expected, but you know we got the work done. All we had to do was look over the Executive Branch Structure Proposal, which was the first item on the Agenda. It basically is...well they'll talk about it...it's the layout for the Executive Branch for the upcoming year. We approved it with a small change and that's about all we did. So yeah, I have nothing else to say, any other questions?

Patel: Any questions for him regarding his Committee or any work? No, thank you. Ms. Kattih.

Kattih: in my Committee we met today at a little bit later than expected, but we did get the Executive Branch Interim Budget Request in, so that will come up before you guys today. Also, Committee usually meets at Monday's at 12pm, but today was a Special Session. I also wanted to thank all my Committee Members for staying for the extended period of time. It was really appreciated. Does anyone have any questions?

Patel: Mr. Aziz.

Aziz: So JEC had a Special Session last Friday at 3pm, and we went over the four confirmations that are coming up today, which are the Chief of Staff, CFO, Solicitor General and Attorney General. Committee voted Chief of Staff yes, Chief Financial Officer yes, Attorney General no, Solicitor General yes. And also that was a Special Session; our regular meetings are Wednesday at 3pm. Also, a great thank you to our Committee Members, they asked a lot of great questions, it was really fun. So see you guys on Wednesday.

Patel: Thank you. Ms. Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: We'll be having our first Special Funding Committee Meeting this Thursday at 5pm. We'll be going over just like a little welcome about the Committee and we'll actually be doing our first Travel Grant, so that's exciting. We're getting ready to put out there the Signature Event Grant and the Travel Grant, so those will be out there soon and we could get the Committee started. Any questions?

Patel: Okay, thank you. Senator Cocco.

Cocco: Hello, we met today at 1pm in the Conference Room. I want to give a shout out to my Committee Members because we got the ball rolling. I want to give a shout out to Ms. Burr, you're already meeting with the Dean, that's fantastic, we'll get that going. Cook and Malik are working on getting new student connections and getting the fun event here in the Summer. Mr. Imam you're going to be working on ULS and the SGCS hours. Mr. Romero, Financial Aid, you're going to get that going. Ms. Lee...where is Ms. Lee, there you are, you're getting the PowerPoint going. And who am I missing? Is that everybody? And Brown of course, you're going to be working on getting the Government and Local City Council involved. So I want to thank you all for having ideas and getting the ball rolling and I look forward to getting through that this Summer. In addition, we're going to be electing a Vice Chair next week, and I encourage all of you to look into that and be the Vice Chair. What Committee are you in?

Unknown Senator: Appropriations.

Cocco: Appropriations, there you go, be the Vice Chair for that. So that's all I got, so any questions?

Patel: Alright, for my Branch Report. We had a pretty demanding week last week. We met with the Provost, we met with the...we went to the Board of Trustee's Committee Meetings, we essentially just did our normal things trying to make sure we could lead of to the Senate Meetings a little bit more successful and bring you guys much more as possible. For the pressing time again, cuz it's going to be a longer meeting tonight, I will fill you guys in on an email. Other than that, do you guys have any questions for me directly about anything that we've done? Senator Cocco.

Cocco: Would you like to mention the survey now or later?

Patel: We could do it...it's up to you.

Cocco: It's your call.

Patel: It's on your Committee...It's on UCGA to handle...

Cocco: Well could you explain the background and then...

Patel: Sure. Well what we're doing right now is we're trying to take a joint stand as an SG to say that...let me just lay the ground work. So what's happening is the Provost is proposing INTO USF comes into the Marshall Center and essentially takes some office based on the first floor. The two proposed venues are one being CLCE and the other being the retail spaces. What it looks like right now is that it's pressed towards CLCE. CLCE will be relocated to another portion of the Marshall Center, and everyone will get pushed around because of that. And so what we're trying to say as an SG united, is that we don't know if that's in the best interest of students overall. We would like to be on the table for discussion for where they would like to put these...essentially the people that are being displaced. We want to be on the table to say hey this is how we feel about this. This is especially the student opinion because the 40 of us...30 of us right now, represent 40,000 students and we want to know what our constituents say, because regardless of what I think or what the majority of us think, we want to have concrete evidence saying this is what students think about this proposal, about this actual changes demand. So we're proposing doing a survey first to lay the ground work to see if students even care about their Marshall Center's future. So the survey should probably include things like what INTO USF does for them, what their interpretation of it is, where they believe...or how successful the current operations in those venues are right now. So CLCE, do you believe CLCE needs more room, do you believe Marshall Center Student Affairs have enough room for their own activities. Do you think the Marshall Center has more room to fit more people in it? So those are the kind of things we are trying to survey for. But again that will be left up to the discretion of the Committee itself, to do the surveys, but I expect everyone to do these surveys because it's a pressing thing. Cuz as soon as somebody comes into the Marshall Center that opens flood gates for anybody to come into the Marshall Center and we're trying stay...and we're trying to hold on saying that these are our student work spaces...like our student affairs. We don't have enough space for them as it is, so we rather at least strengthen our own opinion of it...or at least say hey you can't just push our people around, but we will tell you where you can go or where we can locate you temporarily, or however we want to stand with it. But essentially we're planning on doing a survey to do that, and passing a Senate Resolution in correlation to that, to whatever the Survey reads. But because it's the Summer Session, I don't know how many responses we're going to get, but I expect every one of you to fill out the Survey, minimum...like you and four friends so we get a good amount of responses out of this. But yeah, so any questions? Ms. Abraha.

Abraha: When is the Provost trying to pass this by?

Patel: Well those are all tentative dates still, because BOG will meet in our building...so I expect all of you guys to be there by the way. BOG, Board of Governors for the State of Florida, so these people are the ones that voted on...or that determine things for the State of Florida overall, all the Universities, all Public Universities. And so right now they're trying to use the Capital Improvement Trust Fund to move people into here, it costs about a million dollars to move people into here. Overall, they're meeting on June 18th, and the proposed project should be completed by the end of this year and so they'll be moving as soon as possible as soon as he could push them out and push them into here. But that's just the way it's looking right now. So essentially we're trying to take a stand saying hey this is what our students feel like, and if there is no other better solution, let us at least be there and have our student voice on the table and say hey we don't know if just placing this population will solve your problem, cuz it may make a problem for us. It's just a trickle down affect of relocation. Ma'am.

Scharon: What are they trying to move into the Marshall Center? INTO USF?

Patel: It's International Students...it's a program for International Students essentially. Ms. Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: What is the reason behind trying to move INTO USF into the Marshall Center?

Patel: Well these are the things we're trying to talk to the Provost about. He believes that international students are not...they don't feel welcomed and the Patel Center is very far from campus. These are obviously the claims they're making so they believe international students should have a welcome center on the first floor of the heart of campus, which is the Marshall Center. Because regardless of what anyone says is the newest building or the nicest building, the Marshall Center is the heart of campus just because of you guys. Everyone that walks in and out of this building makes the heart of campus. If we all decided to just have our meetings in our garage, I guarantee that would be the heart of campus, so it is because of us that this is the heart of campus. Mr. Imam.

Imam: What's going to happen to the Student Organization offices?

Patel: Those are all bumped down...what's it called? Tentatives is essentially the way he's putting it...they're trying to limit displacement but as of right now, you tell me...if you shove things that can't fit, things are going to get really squished.

Imam: So Student Organization offices might disappear?

Patel: Well we have no idea they're going to break it down, we're just trying to take a stand saying hey we understand that things are tight, things are getting pressed but at least let us have our own say in all of it. Cool? Cool, we'll talk more about that later. For now let's handle the pertinent business within our own problems so we'll fix...like always fix yourself before you fix others. So we're going to try and deal with our own Senate issues, we're going to try and make sure we get this Committee...or this Meeting done the most efficient way as possible. So anything else directed towards either of the Committees itself. Senator Aldridge...Pro Tempore Aldridge.

Aldridge: Well let's see. SenEx has met a couple of times to excuse those that are gone for the Summer Semester, obviously that's why it's a little bit small in here than usual. I know it's been mentioned already, but the Vice Chair elections will be next week for all of the Committee, either this week or next week. So if you really want to get involved in that, please be sure to ask, that's the biggest thing is to ask about those sort of things. I don't have a lot because we've tried to get all this stuff set up for tonight, but ...Okay, couple things I want to just go ahead and sort of bring up. First is Senator of the Month, for Senators that have been here...but for the new Senators every month SenEx, Senate Executive Committee, meets and...we meet every other week but one of the meetings every month is to elect...or not elect...to decide on a Senator of the Month for that month, obviously. So what I would suggest is that if you guys want to sort of compete for

the prize we give out...well you only get it once over the course of the year, but definitely work for that goal. I know that...I know in terms of positive points that me and Shyam are going to work on bolstering up quality of our prizes so that you guys will understand how much this means to you guys will participate in it as well as frequently and as superb as you guys do. So I know that's important. Tonight, let me just briefly say and then we're going to Open Forum and then presentations and Bills, if you have a question don't be afraid to ask. If you have an opinion don't be afraid to...or feel free to say it. Obviously that goes without saying but tonight probably is a really important night. So if you have any questions just let me know.

Patel: Alright, any more questions for any of us? Okay, thank you.

Executive Branch Report:

Patel: Executive Branch Report. Student Body President Warmke.

Warmke: Alright guys, good evening. As Senate President Mr. Patel said, we've had our hands quite full with the Capital Improvement Trust Fund with dealing with the Provost. Like he said we're just kinda going to work together to come up with the best approach for the students. We'll kind of keep you guys informed as we come up with more information, depending on what the Provost provides us with. On top of that Orientation starts June 6th, so we've been hard at work preparing for that. Today our Transition Staff, SGATO, and even a Senator, not sure which one, actually helped us stuff 5000 Orientation bags, so we've been at that all day today. After that, I do see the bulk of the Executive Branch work has become your work, so first up is our Executive Branch Proposal, which went through Rules today at 2pm. It was amended and you'll see the amended version tonight. Our Interim Budget Request is also on the floor tonight that went through the Appropriations Committee today at 3 o'clock, a little bit after because things ran over. And finally our four confirmation for the positions of Chief of Staff, Chief Financial Officer, Attorney General and Solicitor General. So that's all we have, are there any questions? Alright, thank you.

Patel: Senator Aziz.

Aziz: Have you all started hiring for Associate Justices or any other...

Warmke: The position is open, we're currently accepting applications. So wish you tell your constituents to apply. We're hoping to fill four Associate Justices positions, but we have not formally started our Hiring Committee until we get more people to apply to the positions.

Patel: You guys can't apply, I need all of you.

Warmke: Alright, thank you guys.

Patel: Thank you.

Judicial Branch Report:

Patel: Judicial Branch Report. Justice Bryan Buenaventura.

Buenaventura: Good Evening.

Cocco: How are you doing?

Buenaventura: My name is Bryan Buenaventura, I'm your acting Chief Justice until that position is filled and I have a report for you all today. First and foremost I attended a meeting this morning with Gary Manka and Scott Sandoval with the representative of the Alumni Association to discuss the possibility of establishing a

non-academic Alumni Association for the Alums of USF who were previously SG members, so be on the lookout for that if you're interested or know anyone who was in SG before and was an Alumni. Today at 5 o'clock pm, just prior to coming to Senate today, the court leadership and the current court leadership created a new Ad-Hoc Committee that is going to pretty much essentially review the ROPs and we're going to be having those meetings in place of our regular general business meetings, which is every other Wednesday. You'll see in the SG office of a memo created that states the members. The Members are myself, Bryan Buenaventura, Daniel Shapiro, Michael Kalmowicz, Sammy Hamed and Corey McCance. They are pretty much all the Judicial Branch members that are on the court right now. We will be meeting for our regular business meeting which is tomorrow May 29th, 2013 at 6 o'clock pm, followed by parking appeals right here in the chamber at 7:30pm. We're also going to be having our Outreach Committee meeting, tomorrow at 5 o'clock, right here in the conference room where we will be discussing the remainder amount of our allocation and our budgets so that we can fund our efforts for Outreach and possibly office supplies. We're also going to be sending our Representative Sammy Hamed to the Plunge Task Force meeting, which is going to take place on Thursday May 29th, 2013. And lastly, our monthly Judicial Budget Review will take place tomorrow at 12:30pm in the SG conference room. Both myself and the Interim Senior Justice Daniel Shapiro will be in attendance. That's all I have to report, are there any questions for me?

Cocco: It's at 12:30pm?

Buenaventura: It's at 12:30pm yes.

Cocco: Conference Room?

Buenaventura: Conference Room yes.

Cocco: Thank you.

Patel: Thank you.

Open Forum:

Patel: Moving on to Open Forum does anyone from the galley want to address Senate? Guy's I'm proud you guys came, I was expecting half of you guys not to show up. Like we went to the first meeting, it was so boring and long, so I'm glad you guys all came back. It's going to be kind of a longer meeting tonight so just be weary, so what we're going to do is push your way through as much as possible. I'm sure we'll need at least one recess so we'll time for it, we'll try to get everyone on the same time, just so everyone is here for all important business. Alright, if nothing else in Open Forum...oh also, Sergeant in Arms is...I already got a couple applications but if anyone else wants to apply for Sergeant in Arms, they essentially serve a critical role in Senate overall. They take care of the clickers, they sign in, sign out clickers and they also...it kind of sounds like the job you might not want or might want, they usually sit in the back and make sure that everyone is paying attention, they are not just like...like they could actually look and say hey you're on Facebook and they could tap you and are like get off Facebook, or someone walks in or out, we usually have someone walk in or out that door. So just those kinds of things, so I mean just shoot us an email if you want to apply for it, it is a nice position if you...if you plan on moving up in Senate it will help you build your way up, you'll learn a lot. Thank you.

General Business:

1. Executive Branch Structure Proposal

Patel: Alright, General Business, Executive Branch Structure Proposal. I don't know who from the Executive Branch wants to propose...or explain this Structure, but there was one single amendment that was made by

rules and that was right here. 306.3.1.1 and that was...it's a single deputy now, I know that the email sent out before said it was two Deputies, but now it's a single deputy.

Warmke: Alright, I feel bad for you guys in Rules; I'm going to repeat myself. This is both Scott and I's fourth year in Student Government. So we've seen various different administrations, different new Executive Branch Structures, so we've kind of seen what's worked, what hasn't worked. We've kind of tweaked some things to come up with our current Structure Proposal. And so we'll begin with the departments. We really liked the previous administration structure in regards to how they structured their departments, their agencies and all their advisor positions. So we just tweaked it a little bit. As far as the departments go, we've expanded their names to expand the jurisdiction, so it's more specific to what we want them to do. So we started with the Department of Marketing and Advertising. I was previously the ... the Department of Marketing, so we added to the Advertising part because we want to put the strategy behind who we're targeting, what we're targeting for and really get our message across to all the students at USF. So that new approach will have to take to that department but in doing so what we did was we took some of the Orientation Obligations of this department and moved them over to our Public Relations and Communications Department. That way now our Marketing and Advertising Department can now create the graphics, come up with marketing and advertising plans for all our initiatives and programs that we do to carry out those. Our second department is the Department of Public Relations and Communications. Previously the Department of Communications, we wanted to add a Public Relations aspect, because when Scott and I campaigned we campaigned at the idea that we're breaching the gap between the students and Student Government, so it was a huge PR push on our end. And when I view Public Relations I view it in two parts, one to get the word out to the students and two getting the word from the students to us to really get their feedback. So this is really part one. We really wanted to carry on with this department; we revamped it so that they'll do all the Student Government Orientation Sessions. So they'll kind of be the face of Orientation, handing out promotional materials, letting students know what services we have to offer, and that way they're trained and this way they are aware of what Senate does, what the Judicial Branch does. That way they are able to answer those questions on all Student Government, not just the Executive Branch. And so with the third department, Programming and Traditions, we wanted to expand it to be a more collaborative entity. In the past we've kind of created our own program, which competed with different programs across the University of South Florida. So our approach for this one is to really create a department that will collaborate with other programs and enhance the traditions we do have to make them bigger, instead of trying to make our own to compete with different events. As far as the structure goes, each department each has a Director and Assistant Director, and Programming and Traditions has two coordinators. Marketing and Advertising has two coordinators and Public Relations and Communications has one coordinator, and again the work load is what we've seen in the last four years. Going on the previous administration had advisors on specific topics; we've changed them to the Secretary of so and so, so it's more clear and more in line with the federal structure of the government. We also have advisors and SGATO, so we don't want to give people mixed signals as to who is advising who, so we changed the names to Secretaries in them. So first formation of a Secretary of Student Life, last year advisors of Student Life was very successful, I'm kind of breaching that gap between the students and the student body...or the Student Government to the student body, so we want to really enhance the position to further build upon what they had created. So now we have a Secretary of Student Life and a Deputy Secretary of Student life, and we're hoping they really could work with each other and bring something good to the table, let's say we do a graduate student and an undergraduate student, they could feed off of each other's energy and really engage the Student Body that way. Also we want to bring a new aspect to Student Life by surveying, so we'll have these two individuals work with Cocco's Committee...Senator Cocco's Committee and so they could really engage the feedback, so if this situation with the provost continues moving forward like it is we do have a survey. Our Secretary of Student Life and our Deputy Secretary of Student Life will spearhead the initiative, go out to student organizations, gauge student feedback and make people really aware of that initiative. Alright, our second secretary is the Secretary of Student Success. Every other University in Florida, bigger Universities, has an academic entity and there are Student Government structures, and after all we are here to complete a degree and graduate and get jobs afterwards. So we really wanted to put an emphasis on student success as a Student Government, and really breach the gap and carry out all our

academic initiatives. So we're hoping to do collaborations with the Career Center, do job fairs; look into different research opportunities for undergraduate and grad students alike. So that's one of the new initiatives that our structure has that the previous administration did not, that we think will be successful. Alright, next one is the Secretary of University Advancement, which is the same position as the Advisor on University Affairs, except we want this position to have a more hands on role with the University wide Committees. So we want them to help, you know, manage and coordinate all these meetings, so they are actually carrying out the purpose that President Genshaft wants them to. So it will help them assist in any way that we can. We're also hoping that with the feedback collected from Secretary of Student Life, the Secretary of University Advancement can create a taskforce to address those issues that students have overwhelming said or did not say, to really fix those, meet with administrations and handle it dead on. So we're hoping that this Secretary of University Advancement, will work hand in hand with all the University officials. Our next secretary is Secretary of Community Engagement. This Secretary will be in charge of anything that we do that really engages the community. So our Busch Gardens pass, we're looking into having a USF Day at Busch Gardens, this is the person that will help coordinate that and help come up with ideas for it. They're also going to be in charge of Rays Game, coordinate that, busses, and in charge of the Bucs and the Lightning and any other partnerships we build, to continue that on like the previous administration has done, so that the future administration's will have the same opportunities that we have. And our last secretary position is the Secretary of Governmental Affairs. Essentially they'll work with our Political Consulting Firm, who will let us know how to best handle our...our governmental affairs. So what they do is they're going to range USF Capital, they're going to range Rally and Tally and we are hoping this year to actually bring some politicians to campus. A lot of our local politicians our consulting firm have connections with, so we're hoping to tap into those connections and have them here, a meet and greet so you don't have to go to Tallahassee to meet your representatives, you could just go your Marshall Center and meet them right there. So that's kind of a new idea we're entertaining with that position. Alright, continuing on. The Attorney General and the CFO are...they are already created in other chapters, so we added a Deputy Attorney General to help carry out the mission of the Office of Attorney General and a Deputy CFO to help carry out the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. These are two big positions and in the past they have always been Deputies, we think that the workload is justified to make sure the job is accomplished. One thing new we're adding...the previous administration had Deputy Chief of Staff, who's kind of like their clerk but provided some questions as to the hierarchy structure, where everything goes. So what we did we just renamed it as Executive Clerk so that way their duty matches their job description. So what they'll do is they'll take Minutes, they'll organize our cabinet meetings and make sure that we're complying with Sunshine Laws and Public Reg Laws. And that concludes our proposal. Do you have any questions?

Patel: Senator Canton.

Canton: Concerning the...I'm sorry I forgot what it was called, but you said they were going to be handling surveys in conjunction...so they will be able to initiate their own surveys and carry them out, independent of the Community Government Affairs Committee, correct?

Warmke: They could but that's not our intent with it. In the past, University Affairs, whatever they're traditionally and the other structures had their own surveys that they ran, and sometimes they didn't necessarily go with the Chairman of University Affairs and so they don't necessarily have to be together but it's always nice when they're collaborating, because you get more surveys, you have more people that are having an effect on it and so it's a lot easier at the end of the day, but it can run concurrent.

Patel: Any more questions about the structure. I know a lot of you guys weren't in Rules and Rules had a lot of discussion, are you sure, even the smallest question? Senator Antar.

Antar: I didn't have a question, just had a point for the Senate. We did spend two hours on this so I mean yeah, maybe you guys are like oh yeah we've got nothing but, Mr. Canton, Ms. Pelegrino and I were in here for 2 hours bouncing. So make double sure you guys got nothing else to say.

Patel: Senator Brown.

Brown: You did talk about how change from advisor to secretary, exactly how many new positions have you created?

Warmke: Just one.

Brown: Just one?

Warmke: The Secretary of Student Success and...well actually, we altered one, the Deputy Chief of Staff we turned into the Executive Clerk. We added a Deputy Secretary of Student Life, so now there's two people in that position as opposed to one previously, and we added a Secretary of Student Success. Now we did add more positions but what we did was we cut pay for some of the hours of top positions to reduce the workload for them so that we could have more people in there and that way they would have more time to mitigate their classes and other activities.

Patel: Ms. Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: What other responsibilities did the Deputy Chief of Staff had.

Warmke: As far as I know, take minutes; organize cabinet and any other duties delegated by the Chief of Staff.

Pelegrino: Alright, one more question.

Patel: Sure a follow up.

Pelegrino: So basically...whose actually under the Chief of Staff, who would the Chief of Staff control?

Warmke: It's essentially our hierarchy proposal. It's Scott and I, and then the Chief would be the third in command essentially, with the jurisdiction over the entire Executive Branch as their primary manager. The way we see it working out is I'll directly advise the three departments, Scott is going to directly advise the agencies and then I'll work with the Chief Financial Officer and the Attorney General, and then the Chief of Staff will work directly with the Secretaries. So that's how I've kind of scaled working out on like a day to day basis, to kind of make sure everybody's on top on everything and make sure everything is going smoothly. That way the three of us will meet and make sure everything is on par, but other than that in the grand scheme if something were to happen to the departments, the Chief of Staff will be able to handle it as the primary manager of the Executive Branch.

Sandoval: Going back to your question, the Clerk...typing minutes is a very difficult process and so we tried to change the Statutes a little bit to make it easier. We've always had an issue in Senate about just the turn around on the different Clerks on the different Secretaries because it's a hard...it's grueling work just to type every single word that...especially that's going on right now, so it's a necessary position, it really is. And it's one of the hardest positions in both of our eyes.

Patel: Mr. Imam.

Imam: Hi, Chairman Cocco and I and the rest of the UCGA, we're discussing bringing Nobel Prize Winners to campus, which position would help with that?

Sandoval: I would say, how about University Advancement because I say that for this point. In faculty Senate they decide which honorary degrees we give away and your Pro Tempore, as well as the University Advancement person should be attending those meetings because they are the ones that are ultimately improving the University and bringing the outside in.

Warmke: Kind of going off that, because it's not really a typical thing to bring in a Nobel Peace Prize here, we could actually collaborate with many different entities within our Executive Branch to make it a cross position initiative. Cocco's Committee kind of covers a lot and kind of ours breaks that up but we would have no problem working together with the Community Engagement along with University Advancement, and Cocco's Committee when you all get that initiative done. So we're all about working together.

Patel: Thank you. Ms. Abraha.

Abraha: My question was, I guess elaborate a little more on what Secretary of Student Success is because you said it brings local events regarding something that would actually go with academic. So you're saying bring in Careers and something like that, but I was wondering can't you merge that with Secretary of Student Life and just have it Student Life and Academics and kind of work that together? Because they will both be holding events, and they'll both be doing some other things and that person of student life also has a deputy, that will help them do things, so can't you do that with...

Warmke: Well when analyzing last year's Executive Branch Structure, we thought that the Student Life position was overlooked. They had too much potential and so much to do that the one person couldn't physically do it, so that was kind of our rationale for adding on and adding a Deputy Secretary of Student Life. But when we looked at the University's Structure, its split to Student Affairs and Academic Affairs, so they really kind of cater their administration to managing both realms. And we thought if we were to remove the Academic side out of Student Life and put it to Student Success that you really capture that, move that forward. At the same time capturing the experience students have outside of the classroom and Student Life to really improve it. So we wanted to keep them separate so that we can address each one in our own way. Student Life has a Deputy of Secretary because we are a lot more heavily involved with student and the life of students, but at the same time we didn't want to hinder the academic initiatives that we have in the future, because right now we are way behind all the major Florida Universities who already have Secretaries or academic initiatives and things like that. So we wanted to kind of add this position to catch up and feel it out but at the same time this position we're hoping to collaborate, like you said, for Career Fairs, also work in the Marshall Center for the study breakfasts during exam week, hopefully we're looking into our Bulls Radio Program to offer internship credit to the Mass Comm people going into broadcasting, so to really navigate that route. We're hoping to with our Community Engagement to build partnerships and then our Student Success can kind of talk about how can we really turn this into an interesting opportunity for students. So we're hoping they could really work together with other positions to really utilize the Student Success aspect.

Patel: Senator Priest.

Priest: Can I have the opportunity to a question for the Rules Chair?

Patel: I don't see why not. Go ahead.

Priest: My question to you was...I know you said that y'all were in there for 2 hours, so what were some of the bigger concerns that you had with this structure?

Antar: I think that's not a bad idea for me to tell you guys about that. The biggest issues that came would be with the Secretary of Student Success as well as those Deputy Secretaries of Student Life. Now when it was initially presented to us and the attachment that was sent out to everybody else, there was two Deputy Secretary of Student Life. At the end of the day we figured that was about 4, 5, 6 people, all giving up things

that were very closely related and we figured that we didn't want to have communication errors bogged down by what they do, so you can throw as many people as you want but if you're not talking to each other properly they won't get the work done, and we were really afraid that if we put that many people, the communication would start to break down. So we figured one option would have been to take the Secretary of Student Success, take that out, and make one of the Deputy Secretaries of Student Life assigned to Student Success. Because previously as we were told the student...the responsibilities of Secretary of Student Success were under the Secretary of Student of Life last year, if I'm not mistaken, and it was really much for him because he was doing a lot of work with Organizations. So we said if we give him the Deputies, we could make one of the Deputies dedicated to Student Success, but when we went to discussions again with Mr. Sandoval he said that Academics have said it's always been something that has been put on the back burner here in Student Government, and we didn't want that to be a continued theme throughout the year. So even if we do give them the Deputy Secretary position, we don't give them that title, then we'll consistently keep putting the academic aspect on the back burner and we didn't want that. So we agreed that we take out a Deputy Secretary of Student Life, keep the Secretary of Student Success and that would be it for our proposed changes. There were other little changes regarding consistency of the document and there were a couple other options that came up in terms of consolidating other Secretary positions, but at the end of the day if they wanted all these different things that had a focus, a dedicated focus in Statutes, that meant something and that's very good for their vision, and that's why we decided to keep that. But that's pretty much what we were discussing, just bouncing those ideas trying to come up with good options.

Patel: Thank you, Ms. Abraha.

Abraha: To the Rules Chair again, might be random, but how come you didn't rename it to Academic Success instead of Student Success?

Antar: Go ahead.

Sandoval: Well not only is it an Academic Success okay...I admitted to the Rules Committee earlier that I liked to go to other Student Government University websites, and I like to look at what they have going on and some of the thing they had, was not only did they have an Academic Success at most Universities but they also have like a wellness, an Advisor on Wellness. So this is not only the academic aspects but it's also...to be successful, so your health your mindset, everything...for example you brought up the student sessions that occur right here in the Marshall Center, that would fall right into Student Success because its time management. There's all things that could basically get you so that you could go into your exam well prepared so that you're not stressed out so you're obviously going to be succeeding. So that's where we're going with it. We didn't want to necessarily go into one realm, we wanted to go into a couple because last year we had an issue where tried to work with wellness, but just like academic initiatives it got put right on the back burner and we weren't able to do anything with that. And I understand that there is a thin line between Student Life and Student Success, and I can see how both of them can make you a successful person. But as the story I gave during rules was that I commuted my first two year and I wasn't involved in student life at all. But yet the other things of student success were the things that helped me get along and helped me get through my two years, to be where I am today. I wasn't a Senator until my Junior year, and even now as a graduate student, I still have both of those entities still affecting me.

Patel: Senator Canton.

Canton: I just want to clarify one relatively minor point. You said that you changed the name from Advisor to Secretary in order to more closely mirror the way...the structure of the U.S. Government, do you ...is there any other significant changes in the responsibilities is entailed of these offices and one follow up question for also definitional clarity. The department...in the departments the lowest level positions are listed as Coordinators, do you think you might be able to give just a little bit more information on exactly how do you envision their roles within that department as opposed to the Director.

Warmke: Well the way that it has always worked in the past is that it's entirely up to the people that hold those positions. Some people have different strengths, other people have different weaknesses. So a Director who's really good at something, will delegates these tasks to an Assistant Director. So I mean we've left the roles pretty flexible because we want to give somebody an assigned role, as like you're a webmaster, and then you know you have a Director who's better at that kind of thing. So we wanted to do it flexible so it's kind of...except for the Director, it ultimately comes down to that's the best way we thought to manage departments.

Patel: Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Okay I have one question related to the...back to the Student Success. Can you just sort of outline ways...let me preface with this. One of the problems with Academic Affairs is that when we want to reach out to them seems like the first thing they are always concerned with is money. So, I would like to ask in what ways would you like to get into Academic Affairs to explore avenues we could actually benefit students without requiring the request of dollars from academic departments.

Sandoval: College Days. That was the big thing last year, College Days. The education, the College of Education, Cocco put together with Greg Berkowitz the College Days, in which there was a way to reach out to the Dean so they could develop that relationship between both the academic and Student Government. Unfortunately it did not go so well, because they had too much on their plate and they just focused on Student Life. And there's nothing wrong with that, that's not what I'm trying to say. Student Life has honestly changed my life and will probably change your life in the next couple of year. But what about all the graduate students or what about the people that are in those majors that go into...that are accepted as an undergraduate but don't start until their Junior year. We don't have that connection, that's why they are not really represented here. I look around and I don't see College of Education, is there any College of Nursing.

Patel: Point of Information. Is no one ran in the College of Nursing, and in the College of Education no one ran, there were three people that ran but there were five seats, so it's not technically anyone fault.

Sandoval: Right, it's not anyone's fault, it's the reason why they didn't run. And that's the reason why those councils were put together last year...or why the College Days were put together, so that we could get them to run and we could get them to be involved. But yet it didn't happen because there was too much else going on and there's nothing wrong with that. And I'm not saying it's anyone fault, but it's just that I would like to see Academic Affairs maybe at least take a step forward so maybe we can have it incorporated in our vision even if it doesn't change the role this year.

Cocco: I have a point of clarification.

Patel: Sir. Senator Cocco.

Cocco: Thank you. Contrary to what the Vice President has to say, Council Colleges did go well. We did meet with the College of Medicine; we met with Student Affairs, Berkowitz met with the Dean of Nursing and we also ventured off to the College of Business. So there were plenty of stuff that was happening. Yes people didn't run because unfortunately we started around February, and that was when the election was happening, it was a spring term idea. So we're just now getting our feet wet in getting people involved. Like I said we went to Medicine, we went to Nursing, and he want involved in Senate last year so he could have had his input in as well.

Patel: Thank you, thank you. Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: I got from both...hold on let me say what I just got from that really quickly. It's not that necessarily that they did a bad job but it was the hours that were placed on them last year they were required to do this were not enough. However, I still don't think the 15 hours, which is off to the side, that's what you guys have for the Secretary position...other thing is besides the College Days, to be honest I don't know how they can take up 15 hours a week. So are there other specifics...obviously there going to be ways of initiatives of their own person but are there more than just College Days that you guys have outlined for.

Warmke: We've had direct conversations with VP of Wellness the Executive Vice President and Provost; a candidate approached them, if we had a position dedicated specifically to this would you be willing to listen. We told you know that in or out...

Patel: Excuse me, please.

Warmke: We told them in and out that we were not willing to give them any more money that we don't believe that these academic entities should be funded by A&S Fees. So we told them that right off the bat. But even though they still seemed more willing to work with us in creating new initiatives moving forward, so that's where this position would be great. We originally had it Secretary of Academic Initiatives, which was kind of our original plan like you mentioned Senator Abraha, but what we did is we wanted to expand Student Success to make the position more of a success. Because it's new, but we want to start something new, we want to give it more flexibility in the characterization, but we seemed to have the support of administration with us to come up with new initiatives to really further the academic side of Student Government.

Patel: And just for the record can you also state what the Deputy Secretary of Student Life's role was. That you brought up in rules. Scott.

Sandoval: So if you go up to the Student Life, they will be the one that is going to be attending the different meetings that will be going on, that are having to do with organizations, that are having to do with different things that are going on, on our campus. For example Graduate Professional Council, MCC, Greek Life Organizations, and so forth and so on. So the Student Life and the Secretary...or the Deputy are going to both be working together, so they could be hitting these different organizations and beginning surveys so forth and so on and be basically leading the way for Student Life is, having gauge the students.

Patel: Ms. Belizaire.

Belizaire: Okay, so would these Secretary positions fall under the departments? Like do they belong under the departments or is it separate?

Sandoval: No, it's separate.

Patel: It is two separate positions.

Belizaire: Okay, well then I have a follow up question. So would Secretary of Student Life kinda be...would it be clashing with the Director of Programming and Traditions?

Warmke: No. They do have some cross over with idea of programming, similar in that Student Life has a lot of programs. But the Department of Programming and Traditions has their already set in stone different events that they are already doing, programming. The way we envision it is that if Student Life, the Secretary of Student Life comes across an opportunity for Program under a student organization or collaborative opportunity they would bring them to the Department of Programming to carry it out. So it is really just kind of taking an idea and taking it to the department to make it become a reality. So they'll work hand in hand, that way there is no crossover of who does what.

Patel: Any more questions about structure? Ms. Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: It's more of a concern, so Secretary of Student Life was essentially one position, which was now split between Student Success and Student Life, correct? So do you think there is a need for a Deputy, since essentially it was one person's task, to now being split between three people, do you think...is there a justification for three people to have to split it?

Warmke: Absolutely, I would say so. I think that Student Life is the heart of the Marshall Center, of Life at the University of South Florida. I don't think last year it was given adequate attention, I mean that the one person at the position, Mr. Berkowitz did a phenomenal job in that position. But there just wasn't enough physical bodies to actually carry that. At the end of the day we are all students we all have different ideas...or different...other commitments, on top of that family commitments. So we wanted to expand...I even wanted two Deputy Secretaries of Student Life, I can see the reason behind that if we eliminate one, but I still think they will have their hands full with just the two of them, regarding different initiatives in Student.

Patel: Any more concerns? Senator Kattih.

Kattih: Can you clarify the difference between the Secretary of Student Life area and the Department of Public Relationships. You said that it was...they were both outreach to the community of students, so how are they...you have six people on those two committees, or departments, so how are they different?

Warmke: Absolutely. When I said we wanted to do a huge PR push, like I said I want to split that two different ways. You have the people that get the information out to the student body and people who get the feedback from the students. So the Secretary of Student Life is going to be the one who goes into student orgs, conduct the surveys and gets that one on one relationship with the student body to really let them know what's going on. So we can hear what they want from Student Government. Our Public Relations Department and Communications is responsible for making the website, the Twitter, well not advertising, but getting the word out there to the students, so Secretary of Student Life can go in there and get there feedback for us.

Patel: Thank you. Senator Scharon.

Scharon: Scharon. This question comes from being a first term Senator, this is my first time. So who are going to fill this position, are they paid, unpaid, are they volunteers like we are?

Warmke: All these positions are paid, with the exception of the Street Team Volunteers. But what they'll do if this structure is approved tonight, what we'll do is create the job descriptions and put them up on the website...or HR and we'll hopefully have these jobs posted by next week. And any student in the student body can apply for these positions and what we'll do is that anyone that applies, the top candidates, at least the top three, and then we will make our formal selection and then they will be back to the Senate for approval.

Patel: Senator.

Belizaire: I know the Vice President talked about the Secretary of Student Success being also involved in the wellness of the student so should that be included in the description as well? Cuz right now it only talks about academic affairs.

Patel: And that was Belizaire.

Belizaire: Yeah, Senator Belizaire.

Warmke: I would consider wellness and the health of the student an academic initiative. It's loosely defined, we kind of left it open because of that. So I don't think it would hurt to add that in there, but you can't edit it on the Senate floor, I don't believe, so you would have to send it back to Committee.

Patel: Unless you guys would like to suspend this specific Statutes.

Antar: Any specific Statutes?

Cocco: ROPs

Antar: Is not an ROP it's a Statute.

Patel: I'm pretty sure you can suspend a statute.

Kattih: It's not recommended.

Patel: We'll deal with that if it comes to that. Any more questions regarding the structure? Ms. Abraha...I mean Ms. Pelegrino, sorry.

Pelegrino: Could you scroll up to...

Patel: Yes ma'am, to what?

Pelegrino: You mentioned something about the Department of Public Relations doing some advertisement, so honestly to me, that and the Marketing and the Advertising sounds kind of the same thing. Could you make a distinction?

Warmke: I meant to correct myself. They don't do advertising, what they do is they'll carry out part of the Marketing and Advertising plan. So what they'll do is they'll come up with you know...we want this posted here, we want this posted here, so Public Relations should be targeting...you know Cooper Hall, make sure flyers are posted there. So we could focus on getting the communication part out of it because a lot of the Marketing and Advertising work is in graphic design, which is quite time consuming. We have a lot of initiatives a lot of programs, and so in order to accomplish all of that they don't really have the time to do everything. So we kind of broke off some of those responsibilities to the Public Relations and Communications Department, to help them get the word out. So Marketing and Advertising will come up with the plan, they'll order the materials, they'll come up with everything, the designs. The Public Relations is going to carry it out. And so the way we have it is so if you submit a Marketing Request, so let's say you have a Student Organization that is doing (inaudible) that wants to meet with Student Government, you will meet with our Marketing and Advertising Director and our Public Relations and Communications Director and come up with a plan, then they'll figure out the details and carry it out together. So they will work hand in hand but their roles are defined.

Patel: Do you have a follow up?

Pelegrino: No.

Patel: Okay well then, Senator Canton.

Canton: Something you may want to look at clarifying. So the Department of Marketing and Advertising is going to be overseeing the creation of the general plan and making of the actual materials, and the Public Relations Department is going to go out and handle advertising, whatever programs and events that are going

to be going on. But you also said they're going to be handling the orchestration of some of the events, like they'll be physically out there and doing the ground work. But doesn't that mean that overlap with the Department of Programming and Traditions, since they are supposed to execute and oversee all the program initiatives and traditions?

Warmke: I think there is a difference between someone who plans an event, I mean someone who is at the event greeting people and handing out stuff. So we wanted to define the line between Programmer and Public Relations Officer, because right now our Programming Department can actually do all of the above so but kind of eliminating some of those resources back to the Public Relation and Communications Department, Programming can now focus on the more details, reconstructure of an event planning, making sure everything is in line. That way Public Relations and Communications works with Marking and Programming to kind of figure out what needs to be at the event, who we're targeting at the event, what we're giving out, the Public Relations will be the ones handling promotional items, greeting people, welcoming them to the event while the Programmers are making sure that everything is running smooth and everything is running on time, making sure if something goes wrong and handling that kind of crisis. And Marketing will be the one kind of doing the graphics and the designs. So they'll work hand in hand but they'll each have their own distinctive roles.

Patel: Senator Scharon.

Scharon: You said that they are paid positions, correct?

Warmke: Yes.

Scharon: Well compared to other structures is that as fiscally efficient or more, like will it cost more to have these different departments with different Deputies coming into there?

Warmke: We were actually allocated the same amount as previous administrations.

Scharon: Okay so financially, it won't cost more to have more Deputies then? Oh okay, thank you.

Patel: Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Just a point of clarification, yeah...Okay they received, the prior administration and the prior...like the 52nd Term ASRC, which is the committee that makes all of the allocations, they funded the same amount as our ASRC did last term. And so what they're...what you guys have been able to do is when you...you'll see in the Interim Budget Request in a moment, the only thing they're asking from the Interim Budget Request is the Payroll Reserve, which always gets added in at the Executive Branch. Last year, in addition to the Payroll Reserve, there was about I think two positions that were also brought up before the Senate. And so the reason how that is the case, is that they sort of lowered the hours of their top people, so I think the Attorney General, the Solicitor and couple others went down a couple hours so that they had more positions so that they have (inaudible). So that's how they are going to get two more positions without necessarily being fiscally irresponsible.

Patel: Any more pressing questions or we can move into the debate with a motion. Senator Romero.

Romero: Can I motion to approve the proposed structure?

Patel: Well I believe a debate would be more, I guess rigorous or actually justifiable. Any questions though? Senator Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: One last question. So regarding the Executive Clerk the previous position was the Chief of Staff, correct?

Warmke: Yes ma'am.

Pelegrino: And that person was in charge of taking the Minutes and stuff like that right? But that person as the Deputy Chief of Staff was also...did that person, did that position assisted the Chief of Staff as well? Well my concern is that now just having an Executive Clerk that person will definitely be able to carry out the Clerk responsibilities, but the Chief of Staff wouldn't have anybody there to assist as before.

Warmke: If you go back to Executive Clerk, we still have it so if duties need to be delegated to the Clerk to carry out different things, it was just the nature of those duties is what we wanted to be cautious of. So Chief of Staff has a direct job to accomplish a certain task and then delegate it to the Deputy Chief of Staff that we view as kind of a cop out. So we wanted to hold the Chief of Staff accountable, so by changing the position...so if the Chief of Staff has paper work or something that the Executive Clerk could do to lighten their load they could easily delegate that to them, that way the Chief of Staff is able to perform in that position, but we didn't want to provide that loophole where the Chief of Staff would delegate everything and not have that accountability factor.

Patel: Final question, like if it's not pertinent or if it's not pressing then...go ahead.

Unknown Senator: I think it is pressing, when it comes to University wide events that unite the student body and increase the sense of belonging and community among us. And I don't mean to compare us to other Universities but when you have, for example, the University of Florida that has their stadium, their football stadium on campus so that whenever they have games, you literally see your whole campus walking towards the game. Or at UCF where...I see it all the time where they post the pictures of some kind of fountain event and they all can get in this fountain and it's like a campus wide event...that's something I was certainly looking for as a freshman, is the...you know where is the big event as a whole school, kind of like a pep rally kind of like...

Patel: This is a question pertaining to their structure?

Unknown Senator: Right, well what I'm getting...yes. What I'm getting to is that those kind of events and those kind of efforts, on top of putting our you know University on the map nationally in terms of...in all kinds of ways via academic rigor and everything, who is in charge of these...you know these efforts that are really important to the University and who we are in our name. So which departments and which Secretaries are in charge of that? Like University Affairs?

Sandoval: I say Programming, this sound like Programming Events.

Warmke: It's really depending on the event, and the nature of the event. So I mean traditions can vary in all different type of aspects so if it was kina like a program that the Student Government ran, it would fall under Program. If it was kind of gauging student feedback as to what traditions they want to have, that would be Student Life. So connecting the surveys, gauging the feedback and those overall supports for tradition, it's about us taking the Secretary of Student Life, talking to Program and Traditions and making it happen. Because we don't have any of those, we don't have any position that necessarily cater to them directly, in the future we might. But for now we kind of have the availability for that situation to occur.

Unknown Senator: Okay, I just want to make sure.

Patel: Thank you. Senator Antar.

Antar: *Motion for discussion.*

Patel: Sure what's your forum?

Antar: 15 minutes with one minute speaking times...10 minutes with 1 minute speaking times.

Patel: Okay, any objections? Seeing none, thank you for...For the comfort of the Senate we can ask them to leave, they don't have to, but then again just know that they can't do anything to you if you guys talk against them, like I have a gavel. Senator Antar.

Antar: Since I motioned for the discussion, I guess I can start with it. Personally, like I said, before we started this discussion, or this whole questioning period or this whole presentation, we did spend two hours sitting on this, like two hours ago. And quite frankly and problems we had, we brought them up and we had them...what's the word I'm thinking of...they were wiped away and they were alleviated and they were no more worries. One worry was the Executive Clerk, it was like oh no now there's no Deputy Chief of Staff, but that was good there was little bit of confusion as to who they would respond to, who they would...

Patel: Report...

Antar: Report to...Who they would report to. And now with just the Chief of Staff the Executive Clerk can do all those other little things, without any confusion. They could actually expedite the processes. In terms of the Secretaries, we had that answered. Mr. Sandoval was gracious enough to come to our meeting and actually answer our questions, which I thought was great, after our initial question period. Secretary of Community Engagement and University Advancement, there were a whole bunch of things we wanted to merge together, but when we talked to them we realized that they reach separate goals, and they all had a purpose, and there was a reason to have them. So we liked all of them. So Programming and all of the Departments, they all came and reported to me, last year when I was Appropriations Chair for Department Review, and they did awesome. Like they didn't even hesitate, they were like oh you guys want us to do a review, there was little bit of qualms from the Executive Leadership but after that they were like yeah we'll be there at seven. And they came and they all reported on it, and they did a good job, and they were not doing a good job before they reported their good jobs. So, I mean I don't have any problems with it.

Patel: Thank you sir.

Antar: So you guys go ahead and fight each other.

Patel: Any more points of discussion? Alright, no one has a problem with anything, so essentially...let me tell you guys how this works. Once you guys approve this structure, they hire people based on this structure. And those people report to them. So you'll have the four confirmations that are coming tonight, they report to them but they are directly impeached by Senate. These people however are fired or terminated by them, so just know that's the difference between like...the four positions right now that are coming before us are all statutorily mandated, which is why you didn't have to actually look at their positions, Chief of Staff, Chief Financial Officer. But these are all positions that are flexible on however they want to propose them and however you believe they should be interpreted, or however you believe they should be presented or structured. Senator Sharon.

Sharon: One concern I have personally is with a lot of the Secretary positions, there's a lot...I feel though that there is a lot of overlap. And I would be a little concerned with there being too many gray areas. Like people not knowing exactly where their...or how much they can do. What would be their department I suppose, but most of the Senators I don't know if there is already a way that's dealt with. I mean that's the one concern I have with seeing all the different Secretary positions and even the descriptions, like how will someone know when it's still their area?

Patel: Go ahead.

Antar: Frankly, that would...I know any of these positions they could do whatever they want. Like you know they could say the say the Secretary of University Advancement, but if the President asks I need you to do this thing, it doesn't necessarily fall under these statutes, but there's nothing wrong with them doing it anyway. So in terms of keeping them separated and doing their own work, I think that if we have strong leadership in our President and Vice President, and our Chief of Staff to be nominated or hired, those overlaps really won't be a problem. I think that oh yeah look Community Engagement and Governmental Affairs they are both kind of engaging people outside of the USF, well if you have a good Chief of Staff to be like alright well that's not necessarily community. Community want people to go out and get good deals for students, we want them to get things for alumni. And Governmental Affairs we're directly dealing with the municipal offices of Temple Terraces. So that wouldn't be community engagement, so as long as we have that strong leadership up there...I'm pretty sure we do...I think that would be fine.

Patel: And also...go ahead. Senator Brown.

Brown: I just want to clarify a few things. The budget for this will remain the same as last year and generally you said that this is...you agree with everything that has been done here.

Antar: Yeah I agree with it...

Brown: So...

Patel: Again guys, don't every just take a Chairman's word for everything, or else I could just...

Antar: Yeah feel free to just read it. Like if there is something that somebody brings up, I could agree with you. That's another possibility.

Patel: Let's maintain the debate though. Senator Canton.

Canton: I was concerned about that; I was on the Rules Committee. I was concerned about the same problem, like you were, about having too much overlap. It was one of the reasons that I supported...at first combining the Secretary of Student Success, but later after...or with Secretary of Student Life. But after talking with Mr. Sandoval, supporting the removal of one Deputy. But I'd also like to point out that really there is only one new position being created here, the Secretary of Student Success, I believe. So they have guidelines from the previous administrations, they have a series of precedence, for which to relay the objective of responsibilities. So I think that...that realization went some way towards swaging my fears of having too much overlap in the administration. They already have a really successful model to follow.

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you, anybody else? We still have a good 6 minutes left. Senator Hartmann.

Hartmann: In addition regarding the Secretary of Student Success, it is nothing we have done in the past but it's innovative and they based it off of other Schools. And I think it's a great way to address one of USF's biggest issues which is having students graduate within four years, which is not up to par with some of the other state schools. So if this position can address that, I think that would bring much more prestige to this school.

Patel: But just remember guys, A&S Fees, not academic fees. Thank you, anybody else? Senator Abraha.

Abraha: My question was they said that for the addition for...I forget...with I think for Student Life they said they wanted to have more bodies, so they could have them interact with students, and something like that. But isn't that what street team is for and as well as they have the other one, so how many bodies do you really need to make the job effective. And my second question that I had was for...oh wait I lost it...crap I lost it...

Patel: It's just addressed to the body and anyone could...Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Sorry I didn't mean to....ah...it's sort of...Okay the whole department of...well okay I guess under the structure they're wanting Street Team to be under Program. Basically what Street Team...first of all Street Team is unpaid volunteer work. Basically Street Team does...they do the labor of putting everything up together and getting everything out there. That is different from both the Department of Public Relations who coordinates the plan and sort of oversees it as well as maybe talking to higher ups regarding maybe Student Affairs administration, Academic Affairs administration, whatever the University...they may deal with people higher up than the Street Team who may be dealing with just a staff member...let's say they are going to do something in the Breezeway, they are going to talk to a staff member while the Department of Public Relations will go talk to someone higher up. Do I have some time?

Patel: Five seconds.

Aldridge: Oh.

[Gavel]

Patel: Senator Canton...oh is it a follow up?

Aldridge: No I was going to continue.

Patel: Senator Aldridge, do you mind?

Aldridge: Okay, sorry. To finish where I was at, what Street Team does that is different from Student Life is that Student Life is going to actually meet with the President of the organizations, with the leaders of maybe the University electors here, the departments which Student Life is most impacted. And Street Team their going to be working on getting maybe the flyers out there of an event coming up, helping to coordinate maybe Mr. and Ms. USF, I believe there is a Street Team worker for that. Especially Bulls Market, it's a big thing that I know Street Team workers work for that. So one thing you will notice...you guys were right, there definitely some areas where there is going to be some collaboration between the two, but there is also going to be different...or clearly defined areas in terms of Student Life is going to deal with overarching goals for Student Government or goals for the Executive Branch. And Street Team is going to more or less put it together.

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you. Senator Canton.

Canton: One of the ways I got involved with Student Government, is that I got involved in Politics generally and been involved in (inaudible) and organizing that for about three years now. Just one general observation that I want to make is that the only way that you get a successful Street Team together, because from what I understand, the Street Team of previous years have not been as effective as many in Student Government has hoped, is that you do need a core of dedicated...of dedicated people that you have this as a job. The only way you get the man power that Street Team should be providing is if you give the appropriate resources to the leadership at the top. So I think that we need a significant amount of people working to organize the organizers in a sense. I hope that makes sense.

Patel: Thank you, anybody else? We have 2 minutes till this is exhausted. Alright, I'll take a motion to move into voting if everyone is content. Senator Antar.

Antar: *Motion to close discussion and move into voting.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none, get your clickers ready. One is yes to approve this structure. Two is no to not approve this structure. And three is to abstain and only I should be abstaining unless somebody else wrote the structure and didn't want to vote on it. And just a point of the clickers, you could click one and then change your mind and click two and then two will override the one. The last button you click is the one that trumps the other buttons.

Unknown Senator: What about three?

Patel: You can't click three. Everyone is good? I have 30 responses, okay. **28:1:1 the Structure is confirmed.** Moving on down the list is the...Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: I just have a point of information, one thing that I noticed when I was looking through Title III regarding the Executive Branch, if it comes a point...I know we had one discussion about Student Success...if there comes a point where that's two thirds of what they're doing and the Student Body President is okay with changing it, You guys can change Chapter 305...Chapter 306 throughout the year. Obviously it has to go through the same process, pass Rules, pass Senate, gets signed by Student Body President, but if that instance occurs, there is an avenue for us to fix it. Just wanted to point that out.

2. Executive Branch Interim Request

Patel: Moving on, the Executive Branch Interim Request. The Interim Request was again amended by Appropriations...in Appropriations. I'll have the Executive Branch, Mr. Sandoval come and present what happened. But just know the two things that were cut compared to what we presented to you...look at what the first email was, there is no more line item for President Elect, and Vice President Elect, so there's not that \$4,000 bumper. But again it will be put in discussion with (inaudible).

Sandoval: Chair can you hit the payroll for me.

Patel: Yes sir.

Sandoval: Thank you so much. Alright, so as he has stated they cut the President Elect and Vice President Elect, and so they shifted it over. So, earlier today what had happened is we came to a compromise in Rules that we would give up one of our Deputy Secretary of Student Life, so that money was moved back in to...no, no, I'm sorry. So we were allocated...can you give me some numbers? A hundred and sixty one and we're using a hundred and fifty seven. So that extra money is going to be there for the Vice President Elect and the President Elect. Okay so we wanted to...I mean that's pretty much it. The fact is we didn't get allocated the Payroll Reserve during ASRC, and so they basically they just held it and its 10% and it would be for overtime throughout the next year. I mean do you have any questions?

Patel: Okay let me elaborate. The way this works is in ASRC, that's our official funding committee, that's the overarching one, and what it does is it'll approve their proposals, but they aren't here yet because of the last proposal. So who ever was before them, the term before them will propose hey this is what we think the next term will be. And if they need anything else they have the Interim Request. This is their Interim Request; they have until the third Senate Meeting to request this money, so the next meeting is the last one. Essentially what they are asking for is their 10% over...their 10% reserve, which is...like we have it Judicial has it, they have...they should had have it, but what happened is in ASRC I believe we postponed it...or we said that

they would just request it in Interim because it gives you a more concrete way of figuring out how much 10% actually is, when they show us how many positions they have. So let's say if they cut positions, 10% would be different than if you cut the money. So that's the reason why it is here today. Again, in discussion we just cut President Elect and Vice President Elect because they were allocated \$161,000 and of that they only officially need \$157,000 roughly, so they have a \$4,000 buffer that was already allocated to them. Thus, the committee said you won't really need it because you already have \$4,000 and we'll figure out a way to statutorily incorporate the fact that President Elect and Vice President Elect will have money to transition. Any questions?

Sandoval: Any questions?

Patel: Senator Imam.

Imam: Do they usually use the Payroll Reserve?

Patel: The Payroll Reserve, the way it works is that it has to get approved by whoever their CFO is, he's in charge of all the money. On our side...let me just give an example of our side to kind of better...so if Abdool clocked over 20 hours a week and he was like hey I clocked 25 but this is why. He would send it to Adam and Adam is like sure why not, that's fine, as long as it's relevant. Same thing with them, see let's say their Chief of Staff clocks in 40 hours in a week, and that's the threshold of the University, you don't really clock higher than that. But she would have to get approved through the CFO and probably Will and Scott as well, because its 40 hours. But the money would come out of the 10% Reserve, in case she clocked in for every one of her hours. So essentially it just buffers so none of us goes into the red, in case something happens. Cool, Ms. Abraha.

Abraha: My question was why were they trying to have a separate budget for President Elect and VP Elect? Did they not have it in previous years?

Sandoval: I can answer if you'd like.

Patel: Sure.

Sandoval: Thank you. We wanted to add them because when they're not there, the President and the Vice President can take control of the spending, and if they do it irresponsibly they could end up not properly allocating money for the transition. So for example in previous years, Presidents and Vice President have been paid the standard 39 hours at the pay rate of \$10.25. Whereas Will was allocated 15 and I was allocated about 21 or something just crazy. And so I didn't want the next President and Vice President to be at Will and I's mercy. I wanted them to be able to move forward without us having a say in their transition or their funding. Like we're more than happy to help even if necessarily we don't see eye to eye, so that's why we wanted to give up a little bit of control so that they can still get paid. And we're going to do that through Statutes I hope, because I think that it's necessary and I don't want any one of our numbers for next year, because I don't think it's right.

Patel: Senator Imam.

Imam: That Payroll Reserve is \$15,752, why isn't it \$15,700 or \$15,753?

Patel: It's 10% of the money they need. Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Okay the total amount was \$157,519, that's how much their Executive Branch Proposal is coming out to be. The only thing is if you take 10% that's \$15,751.90, the only reason we rounded it 10 cents because A&S business dollars has to have full dollar amounts so they could be able to just do the process as quickly.

It's going to be sort of odd if they end on a 90 cent, you can't finish on 90 cents. So it's exactly 10%, except for the 10 cents difference.

Imam: So everyone gets 10%, Senate, Judiciary and the Executive Branch? So everyone gets 10%, why not 5% for everybody? Is it really necessary for an extra 5%?

Patel: That's not something we're discussing right now, we're trying to just make sure that this gets done, that's a Statutory thing. SO if you'd like you can meet up with Senator Antar, and present that to Senate. Alright, any more questions about this Interim Request? \$15,000 that's a car. I mean I'll take a motion to discuss if no one has any more questions for them. Senator Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: Okay, I'm just not really clear on the whole issue. Question for the Chairwoman of Appropriations and Audits. What exactly...what was the decision you guys reached in your Committee.

Patel: This is the...

Pelegrino: Right, yeah that's what I'm trying to figure out. What did you guys do with the President Elect and Vice President Elect?

Multiple Senators: It got cut.

Kattih: Okay so what happened is every year the Exec Branch goes in front of ASRC to ask for the amount of money they expect the next year to need. So that was \$161,000 and a couple other dollars. What ended up happening...what ended up happening was the budget that you guys just approved falls a little bit shorter of that money. So it falls to \$157,000, give or take. So there is a \$400...a \$4,000 buffer that is kind of there, that they have now, but they are now going to use for their Structure. So they also requested that they wanted about \$2,000 for President Elect and about \$2,000 for Vice President Elect, just for when they transition into next year, those people have money in case...you know to payroll and stuff, that's why it says 39 hours for 5 weeks. So that's the transition period, about May...that time of period. So what we decided in Committee today was that because that total was \$4,000 and then they had \$4,000 buffer that they did not need to have that extra money. And it worked out well, so that's why you have Payroll Reserve 10% which was now allocated in ASRC, so we're giving them Interim Funds. So next year they will get or hopefully we'll try and find a way in Statutes where it says President Elect and Vice President Elect, etc. I hope that kind of clarifies.

Patel: Senator Canton.

Canton: So, I have a question, likely a follow up question. So as I understand that all we're voting on right now is whether to appropriate them the \$15,752 that forms the 10%. That is Statutorily mandated that they have the 10% Reserve, correct? Or is that a matter of...

Patel: I believe it is in the Statutes that all of us have 10% Reserves.

Canton: So what...If Statutes say that we have to allocate them this money and that's all we're voting on is to allocate them the 10% they are mandated to have, what are we actually voting on?

Patel: You also have the Structure proposed...like their...even though we approved their Structure Proposal, you still have to glance at what hours we approved through Committee, and so if you guys are not satisfied with the hours we approved then it goes back to Committee as well. So I can pull...I sent it out to everybody, I can pull it up again here as well, if you guys would like refreshments.

Canton: Would you mind? Just for the sake of reviewing it.

Patel: That's fine. Any more questions for them while I pull this up? Senator Imam.

Imam: What happens if we as a Senate say...

Patel: Stand up please.

Imam: Senator Imam speaking.

Patel: Thank you.

Imam: What happens if we as a Senate say no? Like you're not going to get the Payroll Reserves, what happens?

Patel: Senator Antar.

Antar: Then we're running a very big risk. If they run into the red, where are they going to get the money from? They're going to have to borrow cash; they're going to have to get the money from somewhere, if they run over into the red. This is a stabilizer.

Housman: Could I give an answer to why it may be confusing? Normally...

Patel: This is your acting Chief Financial Officer David Housman.

Housman: Normally in the past the Interim Funding is used to request additional positions and additional events and new initiatives that the administration wants to take in. So last year they requested money for like a Summer Week of Welcome to welcome the new students. Those are the things that weren't allocated during the annual funding process. So that's normally what you guys would be looking at. You guys would be looking at a little more than this. But this administration sees no new need for a new event based on what was allocated annually, so they're just requesting the bare minimum, the 10%.

Patel: Senator Belizaire.

Belizaire: Yeah, Belizaire. How did you guys decide how much you guys would get paid? Like who comes up with that amount? Like the President gets paid \$10.25 an hour for 39 hours.

Patel: I mean JuSenEx; the Chair of JuSenEx is actually Gary. In JuSenEx is where they decide the pay rates and the tier structure of where people land and what people are paid. And the line item by say Secretary, they decide where they want to put the Secretary in the structure, I believe.

Sandoval: So you have your different B's as you can see. One, two, three, four, these already have been predetermined. And then the hours to reflect where necessarily we though...so necessarily where we wanted to have them...so we kind of used... you can see a common occurrence between them. So CFO, Attorney General and then the Programing Traditions as well as Marketing and Advertising are all 20. So it goes down from there, it's a tier system. So you can tell by the B's.

Patel: Senator Strenge.

Strenge: Just as a point of clarification regarding the hours and pay rate. This was a big discussion that was brought up in ASRC last semester, as why did they figure out this pay rate and this amount of hours. And the justification was that the pay rates for student government are set on a tier system. The Director levels are on the top and then the Assistant Directors, Coordinators, etc. So if you change one, everyone has to move, of course accordingly. And the justification for the hours were based on the job duties, the descriptions and the

fact that with some of the higher level positions you wouldn't be able to work a part time job to necessarily cover your finances as well.

Patel: Alright, Senator Imam.

Imam: My wallet currently has \$30. When...when...My dad gave me this money, I didn't get a Payroll Reserve...

Patel: Please stop...thank you. Any questions pertaining to this request, not pertaining to the ethics of what we're doing or pertaining to our Statutes, those things are all discussed on a different...like I understand your concerns but we can discuss those not in this venue, in a different proper setting. Senator Cocco.

Cocco: Director Manka can you explain the JuSenEx, how they set the pay rate for that. Thank you.

Manka: It was SG derived during Juan Soltero's term of office. And actually the proposals back then were in the \$12 ranges and things like that. So our office got with HR, Human Resources and looked at the job duties and the titles, and a negotiation with Student Government came up with that pay structure. We wanted to have a fair amount of pay structure that had a hierarchy of pay from top positions to lower positions, that the job descriptions and the rate of pay matched the jobs they were doing. For Example you JuSenEx officers, in particular your President, Vice President and your Senate President and Senate Vice President Pro Tempore are at 39 hours, but a lot of them work 40, 50, 60 hours and only get paid for 39. And they volunteer time above and beyond their position. So each of the jobs are derived and they were approved by Human Resources, here on campus. So each pay structure is built in for that there is a level A and a level B, minus the Political Branches, because you are yearly appointments, there are nor raises built into their, it's a onetime appointment. If you're running for a position next year, you could be doing a whole different thing based on what you're doing right now today. With the Agencies and the Bureaus most of them work in the Computer Lab or in Safe Team over a four or five year period, so there are graces built into that structure because they're like a regular job, it's not an appointment. So we have two structures, and they're really heavily negotiated about three or four years ago. The only thing that is technically optional up there is the rate of pay, hourly rate. But the hours a week are pretty close to what we think is needed for that job to get done, again they're guestimates that we do to our best to our ability.

Patel: Thank you. Senator Cocco.

Cocco: So Director, is there a chance that next year's JuSenEx can increase the pay rate, depending on what we have now?

Manka: You mean the hourly rate?

Cocco: Right.

Manka: There is a chance, I would not recommend that as an advisor, but yes there is a chance.

Cocco: Is there a way to check that?

Manka: Check as in?

Cocco: As in six people deciding how much they get paid.

Manka: When that time comes we'll have to talk about that, but again that's on the menu for discussion.

Cocco: Thank you.

Patel: Thank you. Senator Aziz. Guys again this is what we're dealing with, so any hands, any questions, this, not what I ate for breakfast. No more? Good, I mean like there is no more questions? Senator Antar.

Antar: *Motion to discuss.*

Patel: Any objections? Name your forum.

Antar: 5 Minutes, 1 minute speaking time.

Patel: Thank you. Alright, you started the discussion so you'll start with the speaking.

Antar: Like the payroll...like the Executive Branch Structure, the request is reasonable. They need 10% Payroll Reserve, so we don't go into the red, because sometimes people go over their hours and it's fair that we compensate those hours. And if we can't compensate those hours we end up having to pull money from those places we shouldn't be pulling money from, then that's just not a good financial precedence to set. We're not being fiscally responsible. So yeah, I've got nothing to say, I think it's good.

Patel: Senator Scharon.

Scharon: Where exactly is the \$15,000 coming from? Just, I'm not really sure where it is coming from.

Patel: It's going to come from allocated...not allocated...it's going to come from the actual budget that we have set for this...the Interim...well it's actually the Interim Account. Like when I presented to you last meeting the hierarchy of like the accounts we have, they're going to come out of the Interim set account, which has \$180,000, I believe. \$150,000 thank you sir.

Imam: \$150,000, hasn't that not been allocated to the Student Organizations too?

Aziz: It's dual purpose.

Patel: Not all of it, this is...Senator Antar.

Antar: So I was the Appropriations Chair last year. \$150,000 the Interim Account was given to the Committee of Appropriations and Audits by ASRC. Essentially it was given to Appropriations and Audits, but it is its own account that Appropriations and Audits is in charge of, and that goes to Exec, it goes to Student Orgs that ask, it goes to other initiatives if the President sees fit, and if the Chair sees fit as well. In terms of what it's meant for, Exec has a right to submit a request for up to 60%. So that is \$90,000 that they have the right to request for, for their programs and things like that. So they only asked for 15. It comes out of the \$150,000 from ASRC's \$14 million dollar pot.

Patel: Anymore questions?

Stine: Stine.

Patel: Thank you.

Stine: I just have a question on...I get the 10% is a good cushion so you don't go onto the red. How do you regulate...like what if the Chief of Staff consistently works five hours over their regulated, and you deplete that completely. How do you regulate that?

Patel: Sure. Well I mean the same way you would regulate anything else. There is a system of check and balances essentially in all of it built in. They directly request from CFO, who we...if we...we confirm a competent person who will keep the balance in check. And then as a Senate we can remove them if we notice things are going awry. Like we have a meeting, I believe monthly, with Account Balances and how every branch is doing and we're all...at least both of us have access to those accounts. So we'll keep it in mind and we'll present any dangers or any problems we see to you and you guys will act on it.

Stine: Thank you.

Patel: Thank you. Senator Abraha.

Abraha: Just a follow up question. Do we get those reports regularly or do we just get them if there are any dangers?

Patel: We get the reports regularly and we have meeting.

Abraha: No when you report to us, do you give those to us as well.

Patel: If you guys would like, I'm opening to giving you guys whatever information I get that you guys request. Thank you, anybody else? Senator Canton.

Canton: If I'm understanding this right, the Interim Account that this is coming out of, in total you said they could request up to 60%, \$90,000. Which would make the entire...the entire account worth about \$170,000...wait no...what I'm asking is how much is in the Interim Funding Account.

Antar: \$150,000

Canton: \$150,000. Oh okay.

Patel: Senator Strenes.

Strenes: Just a point of clarification. Part of the Interim Account is in its objective, set aside for the Executive Branch because their structure is bound to change from administration to administration. So don't look at it necessarily as you're potentially taking away from Student Organizations, because the Interim Account is set up for the Executive to request adequate for this structure.

Patel: Thank you. Gary.

Manka: I want to give you a point of historical significance. Probably in 2008, 2009 a lot of the times the Executive Branch can ask for a lot of money. And I'm not saying this Executive Branch here. But the process used to be that entire budget for operating that year came before Interim but they never requested it during ASRC. But at the request of President Genshaft, who is on the administration, asked Student Government the question, why do all the departments of student affairs, all the student organizations have to ask for all of their money in December/January and but you get to wait till May to ask for your money. So what it was, was the University asking Student Government to operate on the same plane as they asked everyone else to do. So that's why the Executive Branch budget is now in front of ASRC and things like that. That's the historical significance.

Patel: Thank you. Well we've exhausted this talking time, if you guys would like to extend the debate I would be more than welcome for a motion. Senator Morejon.

Morejon: *Motion to vote.*

Patel: Any objections? Okay, closing debate and moving into voting. Guys during voting, you cannot talk, like zero. We're missing one person. Thank you. With 28:0...who else abstained? You cannot abstain unless you have a proper reason, so state your reason.

Canton: I didn't feel as if 10% was enough and then there was an explanation given, I didn't understand the explanation.

Patel: It would have to be yes or no. Abstaining would have to be a direct conflict of interest to this matter at hand. So would you like to just state your vote for the record?

Canton: I would like to change my vote from abstain to yes.

Patel: Thank you sir. **So 29:0:1 it's confirmed.**

3. Confirmations

a) Chief of Staff Sarah Pollei

Patel: Moving down to Confirmations. The way confirmations work, again we presented last week...told you guys its ...they present the position and you guys ask the questions about that specific engagement. Then the person, the nominee, will present themselves, and you ask questions to them in regards to why they believe they are the most competent for this position. Or you can ask them questions based on an array of stuff, like subjects, but stay on point, don't be disrespectful. Senator Abraha.

Abraha: Motion to recess for 3 minutes.

Patel: This is very soon, is it very urgent? Thank you.

Cocco: Were you looking for a restroom break?

Abraha: No that's fine.

Cocco: Okay.

Patel: Cuz we kind of have a lot of work to do. It's up to you guys, if everyone...if we have a Senate consensus to take a recess, this would be the one recess.

Cocco: It's going to be a long night.

Patel: Alright, moving down to Confirmations. The first person to be confirmed, or the first position to be confirmed would be the Chief of Staff. So right now the Executive Branch can come down and present the Chief of Staff and the nominee please. And this right here is what they are referring to as the job class description. The way it works is the JuSenEx will decide...they'll actually formulate these and they will amend them in any way they see fit, but these are the ones that are Statutorily required. So all of you guys had these in your emails, this is part of your packet. You can thank Senator Abdool for consolidating all of them; most of you guys would have had nine different emails...or nine different attachments to read. These are the questions you pretty much ask to him. Alright, go ahead.

Warmke: Alright, the Chief of Staff position is the primary manager within the Executive Branch. So they'll oversee us carrying out all our initiatives, all our team dynamic. They'll also be in charge of our leadership development aspect of the Executive Branch, that wasn't previously there. Some people wanted to add...cuz

not only do we want to be leaders we want to keep enhancing our leadership. So that was something we thought that the Chief of Staff would be great at. So for this position we had over 15 people apply. Out of those 15...or over 15 we interviewed the top three candidates and we selected Ms. Pollei for her dynamic personality and a sense of leadership in experience at USF. So without further...or any questions for the position itself?

Patel: Senator Cocco.

Cocco: Mr. President what's your vision for the Chief of Staff this year?

Warmke: My vision for the Chief of Staff is someone who I can communicate with easily, someone I work well with and someone who is going to keep carrying the team dynamic. I know that as the year goes on tension gets built up and people's morale are low, so I want somebody who is going to revitalize my Executive Branch, someone who is going to bring the energy, someone who is going to keep us moving forward; so that we actually follow through with all the promises that we make. So yeah.

Patel: Senator Priest.

Priest: With that being the case, do you have any prior...prior experience working with Ms. Pollei to like make that...to like...so that you know that you guys could gel together I suppose?

Warmke: Yeah and she can talk about that more in her presentation. I've worked extensively with the candidates and Ms. Pollei has had extensive leadership throughout campus that reflects her ability. So any other questions about this specifically?

Patel: About the position? Okay thank you.

Cocco: Well his question.

Patel: Oh, Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Sorry. 25 hours, is that...on the top it says 25...was that what was in the proposed...

Unknown Senator: Yes.

Aldridge: Oh sorry, continue.

Patel: Senator Canton, is this regarding the position?

Canton: I believe...I believe so. Please inform me if this question can be answered at a later point. How many applicants did you consider for this position?

Warmke: Well before we closed the poll we didn't actually write down the number, but we had 15 to 20 people who actually applied for the position. From those we interviewed the top three after looking at all of their resumes, and cover letter; we had extensive interviews with them. And from the three interviews we made our formal appointment.

Patel: And there is a Hiring Committee for this.

Warmke: Yes and Senator Abdool Aziz sat on those Hiring Committees, along with my Vice President Sandoval and our SGATO Director Gary Manka.

Patel: Thank you.

Warmke: Alright, here is Ms. Pollei.

Patel: Would you like your presentation up now?

Pollei: Sure. As stated before, my name is Sarah Pollei and I'm currently the appointed Chief of Staff. I first want to congratulate all of you first term Senators. You guys are obviously full of curiosity and I want to commend you on...I can see it's really going to be an impressive year, so congratulations on that. And that's the date, today is the 28th. Next slide please. A little bit about me, I'm actually going to be a 5th year student. So I'm taking my little victory lap around USF. So I'm technically a Senior but I'm a 5th year. My major is Cell & Molecular Biology; I'm a Pre-Med student minoring in Leadership Studies with a 3.7 GPA. And I'm an inspiring Geriatrician because I love working with older adults. The job expectations as we pulled up before, this is directly copied and pasted from the description. Main key words to see here are Manager and Leadership Development. So what qualifies me to be in this position, I've had a multitude of experience in Management and Leadership Development. This past summer I worked in Super Runner for CNN for the RNC. I oversaw about 150 student interns that were working as runners for the event. I oversaw all the event management, all the event planning, all the logistics, all the little details that go with that position. I was also a Resident Assistant for two years in Beta Hall. And if everyone has ever held that position, that is a huge management position. I worked with 40 students that were just in my own hallway, about 300 in the building. I not only managed events, planned events, but I also...it also goes with Leadership Development where I was constantly seeing personal success in students, whether they were students I oversaw or I staffed. I moved up to a position as Residence Life Mentor, which was a part of my Resident Position position...my Resident Assistant position. I was basically the Supervisor underneath my own Supervisor. When my Supervisor wasn't around I ran staff meetings. I collaborated with her to see the...to pull out the best success I could out of my staff, with the events that we targeted for students. We always looked at the big picture, as I will as hopefully in the Chief of Staff position. Tutoring Lab Coordinator, I did it for the Chemistry Society where I again a lot of logistics, a lot of time management, where I would collect large groups of people, pull all of their hours, organize things, and collaborate with them to make sure that everything was going as planned. I also worked with Mr. Cesar Fernandez, who was our Student Body President two years ago, and the Haiti Recovery and Development Company where I oversaw about 6 students that worked in the academia department, where we were doing research for specifically for that company so they could help rebuild after the earthquakes happened. And it goes without saying, I was the campaign manager for Mr. Warmke and Scott Sandoval, and I also ran my own campaign for Student Body President, last year. Leadership Development, I am a new member educator for the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, so if you are in any kind of Panhellenic IFC, PHC, UGC, you know that leadership goes hand in hand with Greek Life. So I'm continuously inspiring our new members to push forward in their own successes. Orientation Team Leader, same idea. It also goes with Management; we all worked together and collaborated to just build leaders amongst each other. I worked as a Chemistry Organ, Chemistry Tutor and Math Tutor, and that in itself is inspiring a lot of students, whether it's time management, stress management; you're continuously building leaders by inspiring them to do better in their academics. And lastly I was lucky enough to attend the Hesselbein Local Leadership Academy, this past...this last Summer. I was one of fifty students in the world to attend this Academy, where I learned so much that I could apply to this position. And I also have my Minor in Leadership Studies. Some of my strengths, this is a question that comes up with all interviews, and I'm sure you would ask me about it later, so I went ahead and made a sign. My strengths, I'm great at organizing, whether it's organizing events, organizing meetings. I am also great at time management, stress management, and I could share those skills with people I work with. Collaboration is one of my favorite things to do, when I have a group of people that I could pick their brains, take their ideas, and pull out the best ideas out of everyone to make the greatest success out of the team. My adaptability makes me a great person to work onto a team because I have the ability to, not necessarily change, I would just say adapt my leadership style, depending on who I'm working with. Which is very important especially, have you seen this group of people, it's incredibly diverse. It's very important. Motivation goes hand in hand with my dedication

towards something. I give 150% to everything, which also goes into my weaknesses because they tie hand in hand. I would say I am very good at balance. I have a good balance whether it's social life, my academics, my work life; I'm good at juggling multiple things. So my weaknesses, I'm a firm believer that your strengths are always your weaknesses also. I can be incredibly impatient when it comes to being prompt, being on time, getting things done efficiently. I also invest...I tend to invest a little much into people and too...I just... I give everything, I give 150% always and sometimes it's not always reciprocated. And then, too kind question mark. I feel like I give that a lot from that people haven't worked with me in a professional setting. I tend to be very bubbly, very excited, I like to have a good time, like to stay positive. But at the same time I'm very assertive, I know how to make decisions and if you've worked with me in a professional setting you know that I know how to say no also; which I think Will and Scott both need. Next slide please. My availability, this Summer I'm just studying for my MCAT, which I'll be done with in July. And I will be taking my Orgo II Lab in Summer B, which is only a two credit hour class. And then in the Fall I'll be taking ten credit hours, on top of some extracurricular activities. But even though I do have extracurriculars and I'm only taking ten credits, which is not a lot, I have had enough experience in leadership and management in...to know how to balance this job on top of the other things I am committing myself to. Next slide please. Questions?

Patel: Alright, we'll have the floor open to questions. It'll be questions directly related to her, not to each other. Senator Canton.

Canton: You mentioned that you had other extracurricular activities going on in the Fall Semester. What specifically are those?

Pollei: I'm a Facilitator for the Emerging Leaders Institute, which I'm very excited about; we meet once a week. We'll be planning an event in the upcoming January. I'm also a New Member Educator for Gamma Phi Beta. And then I'm doing undergraduate research, that's volunteering; that could go anywhere between one to four hours depending on what I have.

Patel: Follow up?

Canton: Yeah follow up. Could you also say what you expect the time commitment from those would be in hours per week for all of them?

Pollei: Sure. With ELI, the Emerging Leaders Institute, it's going to be two hours a week every Wednesday Evening, I believe. My Goggle Calendar tells me where I'll be, but it's about two hours a week for that. For Gamma Phi Beta for New Member Ed, I would say, just to give it a maximum cap, I would say 4 hours week. This is going to be my first semester taking anything below 15, so I've had a lot of experience in balancing. And I've also always worked a full time job, while keeping 15 hours a week and being heavily involved on campus.

Patel: Any other questions for the nominee? Senator Hussein.

Hussein: So one of your duties is to assist the President and Vice President in overseeing the Student Government agencies. Can you tell me what those agencies are and pretty much what they do?

Pollei: This question was brought up in JEC and I unfortunately did not research that over the weekend. I can be completely transparent with you all and tell you that I've never had experience with Student Government, but I have faith in my ability to absorb information very quickly, and my motivation to learn about the position. I would never commit myself to something, I didn't feel like I would be able to handle. So I'll be talking to a lot of people and learning a lot.

Patel: Alright, thank you. Senator Kattih.

Kattih: You were the acting Chief of Staff right now?

Pollei: Yes ma'am.

Kattih: So how long have you been in this position?

Pollei: It's been about two weeks.

Kattih: So what have you accomplished in these two weeks that...like you know, what have you learned, have you taken the time to look at what the agencies are for example, or what have you accomplished so far?

Pollei: Thus far, I haven't been in the office too much. But with Will and Scott we've been doing interviews for the new Directors, because we are cleaning out Student Affairs right now. So I've been helping give a student perspective on those Committees. I've also been helping Will to pull together presentations that he's been doing. He did a presentation for the Peer Advising Leaders, and just kind of seeing faces around Student Government. You're right I didn't, and I take that fault for not taking the initiative yet, but I also didn't want to put too much into it until I knew it was going to happen.

Patel: Senator Aziz.

Aziz: So as Chief of Staff you're basically the Manager for all those positions we just confirmed and passed. So could you describe a situation in your work experience where you had to discipline a team member or an employee underneath you?

Pollei: As Resident Life Mentor, again I...so there was a situation that came up when I was the RLM, that's the acronym, my Supervisor actually quit halfway through the semester. And it was right before we had to plan our annual event Beta County Fair, and we...everyone basically felt the need to just kick back and take their shoes off because their Supervisor was gone, but we still had this event that we had to plan. We didn't have an Interim Supervisor, I was taking that responsibility. So we had a staff member who...he was graduating, he really didn't care unfortunately. So I reached out to him and had to have a one on one conversation about his lack of commitment. It was something we were planning for all year, but he kind of just brushed it off. Again we've talked about this in JEC, all the other interviews that I had to get here in front of you guys, it is always about having the face to face conversations. Not about emails or text messages, where things could be misinterpreted. I'm very direct, I'm very black and white, yes or no, this or that. I don't like gray areas, and that was the situation with him and it had to be directed fact to face.

Patel: Senator Belizaire

Belizaire: Why did you choose to apply for this position?

Pollei: I have been seeking experience in Student Government. I've been in many departments on campus; this is the one I've been lacking. It's not...I plan on going to Medical School, so it has nothing to do with my future career. It has to do with getting experience in Student Government, but also having the outreach to students. I would have the outreach to all of you to inspire you all to do great in your academics, whatever you do in the future. I also worked really closely with Will and Scott and I believe in them and their administration and what they stand for.

Patel: Senator Hartmann.

Hartmann: What do you understand the position entails and what is the legacy you want to leave behind for future applicants?

Pollei: Good question. I have seen a position in the past as kind of paper work guy. The guy that kind of just manages...somebody that just manages, but according to Will and Scott and of course my own personal belief, we're looking for this to be more of a leadership building experience. Something...like as Chief of Staff will be planning Plunge this year. That is something that I would absolutely love to do, because it's an opportunity to see people's vulnerable sides, see people out of the suite and the tie, to see people's real personalities and that helps you work better together. And my vision before I leave is just to create cohesion amongst all departments, not only in Student Government, but within the entire Student Life tower and just across USF.

Patel: Senator Stine.

Stine: I'm new to this Senate so I'm not sure about this but I'm concerned on the ethics here because you were appointed to this position but you directly worked with two of the votes for you to be appointed to this position. Do you think there is a conflict of interest or is that okay?

Patel: Just to lay the groundwork for all of this. Usually you're...regardless for who you worked with in your campaign; you should be able to keep an unbiased mind in all of it. This is for you guys to determine if it's unbiased or not. That's what you guys are here for, for this process. Senator Scharon did you have a question still.

Scharon: You said your minor is in Leadership Studies, and that you attended the Hesselbein Local Leadership Academy but this is also your experience in Student Government. Would you say any of those experiences have taught you the significant amount of management you will need to jump in to an organization at such a high position.

Pollei: Absolutely. Hesselbein, if anybody can ever apply for that Academy, please do, it will change your life. I was able to work with people that, I couldn't even put into words how much I learned. I worked directly with the Executive Chief...the Executive Chief Director of the American Red Cross, where we literally went in and were supposed to be man power. We managed this even where we were pulling in volunteers to work for that particular American Red Cross Center. There we went over...my leadership minor was like 5 minutes of that Academy. I learned so much, not only about team dynamic, about myself personally as a leader, about how other people's dynamics may clash, how to make them cohesive. But understanding leadership styles is just a tiny part of management. I'm also a very diligent person, I take the time...when it comes to my own finances, when it comes to just my own personal life, if you've seen my calendar, I'm extremely organized. I don't wait till the last minute to do anything; I am a planner to the max. So everything, all the...if you read my resume, all the positions have built me to who I am today.

Patel: Senator Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: Ms. Pollei, what do you think set you apart from the other candidates that were up for this position.

Pollei: That is a great question. Unfortunately I don't know who the other candidates were, so it's hard for me to specifically target what they stand for. But for me personally, I think what sets me aside is my...I've been told, I don't want to say...I have a positive outlook on everything. That sets me aside from a lot of managers who tend to take that manager, boss position, when really I think that this position is more of a leadership building opportunity. So I'm looking for the best interest of all individuals not just for a large group.

Patel: Is it a follow up?

Pelegrino: Yes.

Patel: Go ahead.

Pelegriño: Do you think a positive outlook is enough to be such a high leader in Student Government this year?

Pollei: I think it depends on my experience and all different jobs that I have held. It pushes me through stress, it pushes me and it inspires others to stay positive. Because positivity is one of the first and foremost things we need to get through anything. If you have a negative outlook we're not going to be able to get through this.

Patel: Senator Canton.

Canton: You said earlier, and described as one of your biggest strengths, that you give 150% to everything that you do. Yet you also said that you held back from putting that much into this position up to this point because you didn't know if you were going to be confirmed for sure or not. Do those two statements not contradict each other?

Pollei: I think you're taking it at face value, to be honest with you. I hear what you're saying, I've been in the office, I've been doing what is necessary to...just to make myself familiar, but I don't want to invest myself in something that is not going to give back. You know what I'm saying? Like If I'm going to push myself towards something, I want to make sure it's actually going to be worth my time. Not saying that the position isn't worth my time, just want to make sure I'm actually going to fulfill it.

Patel: Senator Romero.

Romero: Ms. Pollei, like you said earlier one of your greatest weaknesses is your impatience. Also, being Chief of Staff you're going to be the person getting your hands into everything, you're going to be working with people on a personal level, every single day. That being said, I can tell already from your presentation, you are a very upbeat person, you like to get things done very organized and very...the most quick process to get everything done as fast as possible and to get it done as best as possible, and I can tell that from your presentation. But with that being said, obviously not everyone has the same skill sets as you. More have different skill sets and different strengths. When someone else doesn't necessarily meet the expectations that you are looking for and you get impatient with them, what would be the steps that you would take to not do that. Or a better way to put the question is have you ever...can you give me an example of a time you did get impatient with someone for whatever circumstance and also describe in which way you went to amend that situations.

Pollei: That's a great question.

Patel: Thank you.

Pollei: So as stated one of my greatest weaknesses is impatience and it is something that I've been working on since my Freshman year in all these leadership positions that I had. Orientation, if anyone was an orientation team leader, you worked, not only worked with them. You worked and lived with other student leaders for 60 hours a week, and you live with them and you do training, and you spend entirely too much time together. So there were multiple experiences that I had with...so if you don't show up on time, which is a huge pet peeve of mine that I'm working on. If you don't show up on time, you get in a lot of trouble at orientation and I had one team member in my family that...you're broken up into smaller groups that just couldn't show up on time. In the end this gentleman and I, we had a face to face conversation. It didn't end very well in the beginning, but I remember at the end of the experiment...experience he told me that he had learned so much about time management. It was one of those things...it wasn't...it didn't end well in the beginning, but I knew in the future this gentleman and I would be able to hash it out. And we did, and he learned a lot and so

did I, about...I've gotten so much better with my impatience when it comes to timeliness, I'll pat myself on the back a little. I struggled with that a lot in the beginning.

Patel: Senator Hussein.

Hussein: I guess part of your job would be that if somebody isn't doing their duties in the Executive Branch, you would have to talk to them and see what they are not doing that kind of stuff. But let's say somebody in the Executive Branch just wasn't during their job, they weren't coming to work and they miss a couple of events that were to I guess make happen but they just weren't able to, and didn't respond to your emails. How would you go about dealing with that situation?

Pollei: Building relationships is the first and foremost area that you have to build relationships with people to understand why they work, or how they work the way they do. Understanding what their strengths and weaknesses are and understanding how they want to be approached, because not everybody is the same. For me, personally if I was doing something wrong, I would want somebody to tell me you're doing this wrong. But you may be the kind of person that you need a little bit more support; you need a little more questioning. So really building a relationship with not only the members I work with on staff but everyone in Student Government, to really understand where you're coming from, to understand...because their might be a bigger situation that just not coming to an event. You might have a serious issue in your family, in your relationships, and really understanding somebody as a person rather than as a position, is really important in the success of this.

Patel: Senator Burr.

Burr: Hi.

Pollei: Hi.

Burr: So you talked about building relationships, and I completely agree that building relationships and communication within the office is so important. And we already know you have a great relationship with Will and Scott, which is excellent. But how do you plan on building those relationships with your other...with your other positions you may not have such a great past relationship with? Does that make sense?

Pollei: Could you rephrase the last part for me?

Burr: Sure. So we know you have a great relationship with Will and Scott, we know you're able to work with them in a professional realm. So with the other positions we are going to be talking about tonight, how are you going to build those relationships so there could be success within each one within the office?

Pollei: I mean, anybody that has been in the office thus far, you can kind of tell that I'm the person...I just approach people, and I like to have casual conversations. It's not about hey what are you doing in Senate, what are you...what are your new initiatives. Like I want to talk about what you are doing in school, what's your relationships like, what is making you happy in your academics? Like I want to get to know people as people and I think that's something we've kind of lost in that position when it comes to...like management you're just delegating. No it's not about that, it's about making sure you're comfortable in your position so that you could be successful so we are successful.

Patel: Questions? Senator Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: As you mentioned before, you were the campaigning manager for President...current President and Vice President. Do you think that somehow you influenced your appointment that by this position?

Patel: Can we...that's kind of a gray area. She wouldn't...you wouldn't get a good answer out of anybody honestly. So that would be something you save for discussion, not for this. Senator Belizaire.

Belizaire: One of the responsibilities for being Chief of Staff is that it enhances prior leadership with the Exec and working with SGATO. Have you been in the SGATO office and learned anymore about it? Because I know you said you don't have past experience in Student Government. So in what ways...have you thought of ways to enhance the prior leadership and also what is your...knowledge and SGATO and how you can work with them?

Pollei: Well I've actually known Gary for a while. Well I've met him my Freshman...or my Sophomore year, so he's the only person I have a relationship with in that Committee. But I have a lot of plans for how we can build Student Government and the leadership aspect. Again planning Plunge is going to be a great adventure and I'm excited for whoever takes upon that great responsibility. Because planning Plunge is going to be what basically sets us up for success or maybe not, so that is first and foremost. And also just having more fun, smiling a little more in meetings, around the office when you see one another, acknowledging each other rather than making it an uncomfortable place for students that want to come down from the first floor and come to the fourth. Because that is something I've always struggled with, like if you're not Student Government you don't want to walk into the office, and I feel like that's something that can just be warmed up just a little bit.

Patel: Senator Scharon.

Scharon: I'm new in Senate so I don't know all the rules and regulations, but I feel like for you not to know all the rules and regulations may be an issue with in your experience. Do you think that you'll be able to learn quickly enough and pick up on all the procedures, because it's a pretty high, top job you're applying for?

Pollei: I understand completely. I think that anyone that knows me, whether personally or professionally, they know that I have a consistent desire to learn about everything. Whether it's about art, history, science, if I apply myself to something, I am determined to absorb it. I would look at this position almost like Bio Chemistry, right? So people say don't take Bio Chem, you're going to fail it. Well I worked really hard and I got an A. So you know what I'm saying? The lack of knowledge you would still apply yourself to it, especially if you really want it.

Patel: Senator Canton.

Canton: Is there a similar leadership experience you have, where you have had to assimilate an extremely large body of technical information in a short time and then apply that to the group you are leading, that you can point to?

Pollei: Well again I...if you look at any of the courses I've taken, Cell Metabolism, Bio Chemistry, Orgo Chemistry; I became a tutor to pass along the information to students. Large bodies of students, students that give you a lot of pressure. Have you ever been to the Chem Center? It's a lot of pressure, and they demand it from you and they want to know the answers from you right away. And I loved that job, I loved every minute of it, no matter how much it made me sweat, I loved being able to share that information that I absorbed, to others.

Patel: Final Question. Mr. Priest.

Priest: So Ms. Pollei, something that has come up a lot, I feel like, throughout these discussions is that you may lack some experience with Student Government. My question is to you, given the list of leadership positions that you held on campus, such as I believe you said Orientation Team Leader, as well as Resident

Assistant, and then you said other leadership things that you have done just randomly, such as being one of 50 people selected to attend the Global Leadership Academy...

Patel: Can you get to the question.

Priest: I have a question yeah. Do you firmly believe that you have the ability to successfully lead and succeed in the position, even with your lack of experience in Student Government?

Pollei: Again, if you apply yourself to anything, it could be done. I'm not...I don't like to look obstacles in their face; I like to walk around them, or climb over them or adapt to them. So this is just one of those things, it's a learning experience, it's a learning curve and I pick up things very quickly. That's reflected not only in my management experience, but also in my degree. I learn very quickly and that's just...

Patel: Alright, everyone's content with the questions? Are there any more pressing questions, that you would not be able to vote without...Senator Cocco.

Cocco: Yeah my bad, last question. What would be your mission statement for this position? Like what would...your vision, kind of what I asked President Warmke.

Pollei: That's a great question. Mission statement...my mission...Okay, don't correct my grammar. My mission for Student Government or in this position in general is to create more cohesion amongst the different agencies and to create more...a conducive environment towards success, whether it's toward academic or leadership. Is it good?

Cocco: Yeah.

Pollei: That's what I got so.

Patel: Senator Abraha.

Abraha: I'll make this really, really quick. I know that you have extra activities that you do, and one of them you mentioned was a sorority. You said it takes up to four hours even though you hold an Executive position within that one. And I know that chapter meetings run long, just as this one is right now, as well as I know you're going to have Executive meetings as well. And as New Member Education, aren't you going to have fall recruitment, and I'm not even Greek but I know all of this, so I feel like wouldn't you run more than four hours?

Pollei: That's why...I was...it was fluctuations of time, I was kind of averaging. Because one week it might be two hours, one week it might be six. But that's something, that's another one of my strengths is adaptability. I know how to take my schedules and mix them around and make it work; you just got to make it happen, so.

Patel: Any more pressing questions? Cool, Strenge.

Strenge: *Motion to close questions and enter discussion.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none, thank you. And if you would kindly...Name your forum. I'd like to...Just a friendly amendment only because you want to get all the points out first. So go ahead. Thank you and we could progress to ...or we could progress to pro/con later. But any objections? Seeing none, you're the first. Senator Hussein.

Hussein: In Committee I voted yes for Ms. Pollei only because I thought she would be able to be good on the job and learn as she goes. And I asked her about the job...the question about the agencies in JEC, expecting her to know answer the question about whether she is armed with what they do, because it is part of the job

description. But she wasn't able to give me the answer but you know I said it's a learning progress; we should just base our opinion on Student Government. But then asking her the same question today, she still didn't know what it is, and I feel like coming into the position, like this you need to be able to hit the ground running. You need to be interested in knowing what you're getting yourself into before you get into the position. So the fact that she's saying that she doesn't want to put the time into the job because she doesn't know if she can get it or not, I feel like it's kind of a negative aspect because you want to make sure you can be the best person for that position before you get it.

Patel: Next.

Abraha: A question for...

Patel: Well you can't...you just ask a question to the body and they answer it. Ms. Abraha.

Abraha: Your Committee meets on Friday, correct?

Patel: Just point of inquiry. Senator Aziz.

Aziz: I was just stretching.

Patel: Anybody else for this forum? Senator Kattih.

Kattih: I think that one of the main concerns that a lot of people have voiced is the fact that she does not have a lot of experience with SG. And I think that new faces are good in all and it's good to have new experience but also this is the Chief of Staff and you have twenty five, almost, people under you. And they may or may not, they should know what they are doing, but if they don't, you are the person they seek. And if you don't know what you're doing then how do you expect people to look up to you and try and figure out, you know, how to direct them. So that's kind of my concern, my reservation and I don't know if she addressed that enough.

Patel: Senator Priest.

Priest: So I personally want to say, I'll be honest with y'all. I do know Sarah outside of Student Government; I've worked alongside with her. I can tell you that everything that she said is true. She is one of the most adaptable people I have met, when it comes to work. She is one of the most strict people as well. When she sets her mind to do something, she does not fail. On top of that I do want to point out that, given that our President and Vice President did appoint here and feel like she was the best fit for it, we should also take that into account.

Patel: Senator Scharon. Scharon.

Scharon: Just lost my train of thought, I'm sorry.

Patel: Senator Aziz.

Aziz: I was on the Hiring Committee and so just like a bit of information, we just interviewed three people; that's the bare minimum. So there wasn't more than three people interviewed for the position. So far each position there was like 50 people that applied, the bare minimum is three, and three we interviewed and just selected out of those three people.

Patel: That would be a point of information but thank you.

Aziz: Yeah.

Cocco: Could you clarify for some Senators Aziz?

Aziz: So...what was your question?

Abraha: So you said that was the bare minimum, what are you trying to...so you could have interviewed...sorry. So you could have interviewed more or you're saying you should have interviewed more. Like what are you trying to say?

Aziz: Just saying that's the minimum, like three people. They could have chosen 5, 10...

Patel: Guys it's still in discussion of forum, so please wait to be recognized.

Aziz: That was just a point of information.

Patel: Senator Scharon.

Stine: Stine.

Patel: Oh I'm sorry, Stine.

Stine: I just wanted to redress the ethics because I wanted to get some more clarification on that and Senator Pelegrino asked a very similar question to mine. It just...It just...I don't know I feel like we as a Senate has to be like the checks and balances of the ethics of this appointment. So I just want to get more information on that is it ethical with her appointment?

Patel: I mean again that is just a question to the body, no one really answers it as something internal as well as like...that's something you ask yourself because you're the one that votes. Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Okay, well let me first go ahead and answer that in discussion. With the Chief of Staff there was a conflict between the language of how the Statutes is written about the Chief of Staff appointment. Because any appointment has to be made by the people that are the head of the Branch. Well as of right now, the only people in the Executive Branch are the Student Body President and Vice President. I mean I would feel like, and I think you would probably agree, that if the Chief of Staff appointment is made by the Chief Justice that doesn't make a bit of sense because they have two completely different roles and have completely different focuses. You know they focus on completely different things, so they wouldn't be able to relate to each other. The one thing that bothered me the most really quickly, as well, is that she never had any initiatives. I know that the Chief of Staff is supposed to help advance what the Student Body President and Vice President do, but she didn't seem like she was going to be trying to move on any of these initiatives further or having her own. So I would just say that's the biggest contention for me. Because the Chief of Staff, the third highest person, not have any initiatives...

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you. Speakers? I don't know if I'll recognize you yet, one second. Senator Cook.

Cook: Strictly speaking on terms about ethics. I think...okay when they decided they wanted to run for President/Vice President, it wouldn't make sense to choose someone to be the Campaign Manager that they didn't think would get the job done. So with that being said, they knew...if they trust that she could manage the campaign, manage that stuff, she obviously proved herself worthy. Now that they are in this situation right now, where they have worked well together, they're being able to progress their mission and continue

that. So in terms of ethics, I think that she has proved herself. And regardless of whether it is because of that or not, no one will ever know. But in terms of issues qualified I would say yeah.

Patel: Senator Canton.

Canton: I do personally have some doubts about her lack of experience in Student Government. It seems to be that Chief of Staff is a job that requires a large amount of technical knowledge. That being said however, I would...it would take a very, very significant level of doubt for me not to support the appointment of the Chief of Staff as chosen by the Executive Branch. Considering that their primary job is going to be to carry out the vision of the President and the Vice President, as they laid it down. I think that you would have to have a very, very strong reason to second guess or to otherwise...to impede their first choice. And I don't know if that is enough.

Patel: Thank you Sir. Senator Imam.

Imam: I've known Sarah Pollei and she has been excellent in our Org. I know some of her residents and they have...like she is very attentive to everyone she works with. Like she...and the argument, one of the arguments that is being brought up against her is that she is new and doesn't know the Student Government system. And I think that is exactly what Student Government needs, a bit of new infusion for new ideas and for...and I cannot think of a candidate who is that experience and that well in a grilling session, basically. And honestly she will be a perfect asset to the administration. And obviously sometimes the administration has difficulty conveying, but I think that Sarah Pollei would be an excellent link to our administration.

[Gavel]

Patel: Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Okay, I do want to address this. While I completely agree that it's important that we have sort of new faces to Student Government, that it just...hands down I think that's extremely important. However, there is a sense that if you want the position and you really want to become a part of Student Government, aren't you going to at least do anything before hand to say this is why I should be it. Now I'm not saying that she didn't...she shouldn't have done anything before the appointment. I understand that she wanted to make sure she had the appointment. She got the appointment and for all accounts, for the couple of weeks she's been waiting for her appointment and the confirmations, she has not spent more than 5 hours in the office. When she could spend as many hours as she wanted to, she could spend 45 hours if she wanted to each week, not saying that she should. But she definitely should be spending more than 5. So I wonder if there is this...not that she doesn't care about the position, but that if you are new and you really want to get into it, wouldn't you as a Senator be more involved than just a couple of hours in that time.

[Gavel]

Patel: Sorry.

Aldridge: Thank you.

Patel: Senator Belizaire.

Belizaire: One question I asked was how would she enhance the body of leadership. Seeing that she has various leadership positions in the past, she didn't give much of examples or initiatives of how she would, I guess, progress the quality of leadership in the Exec Board. And as far as working with SGATO, she said she had a personal relationship with...

Patel: Gary.

Belizaire: Gary, but she didn't really give an answer as far as knowing what the organization...what they do and how she can collaborate with them.

Patel: I'm more than welcome to moving on to pro/con discussion if no one has any...it's a conflict of interest, like unless you have something specific...she could raise her hand if she would like to. Go ahead.

Unknown Person: Hi guys, for those of you who don't know, I'm (inaudible). But I just kind of wanted to mention that Sarah Pollei has already been working with me, in helping me seeing if like do I need anything. To help with orientation, to help with the Our Shirt, so I don't know if you necessarily know what we do, but Marketing is a huge aspect of SG, so she has been working with me.

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you, anybody else? Senator Imam.

Imam: She has reached out to Student Organization leaders during the two...during the two weeks of her office. She's only been here two weeks and as she's...

Patel: Point of information.

Imam: Point of information...

Patel: Point of clarification, she's been here longer than that. She was actually appointed before we had to fix that situation. Senator Scharon.

Scharon: For me one of my greatest concerns is that she doesn't have experience and I know, for when I'm clueless, I wouldn't want to look up to someone who doesn't know what they're doing. But I feel she has a lot of connections, she's still involved, I think it would further Student Government and all that we are trying to achieve. And from that the person she is, she's so transparent. I don't feel that...I feel like if she didn't know she would do something about it to fix it, she has the type of personality to find out how to fix it. So I was worried about her inexperience, I feel like her personality and the type of person she is, and what she has done is more than enough to compensate, and I've never met her before today.

Patel: Senator Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: I'm kind of...I want to say on the ball, not sure which way to go, but I'll let you guys know what I'm thinking just to put things into perspective. I think that it's great that she...she has a really good relationship with the President and Vice President Elect...and I think that it is...oh okay...I think it's great and it will really help bring good things to the position and they could work together well, etc. But I think if you get appointed in a position that you know that you are going to apply to again, I think you would take advantage of that and say look like I had the position for how many ever weeks I did, and you know...I got there and I did this and this, or at least try learning. I would use it as an asset because I know I'm applying to it again. So I think that she couldn't have taken an initiative more there and done something to just make it seem like she's actually done things to really want this position. So that is just something to put into perspective.

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you.

Priest: Just a point of inquiry.

Patel: Sir.

Priest: Or question. So let's say that we end up as a body of kind of a no. What are the next steps in the process? Could she run again, or is it like...

Patel: She could not run again for the same position. They would...the Exec essentially would reopen the hiring for that position. Interview, hopefully three or more, and bring again another candidate for us. Senator Hussein.

Hussein: Isn't it, they could go back to the pool that they interviewed, and select somebody from that pool to go back up? So they don't have to open up the application again and have other interviews, they just pick somebody from those people...

Patel: As long as there are enough applicants. They need to be five applicants minimum and three interviewed. Senator Canton.

Canton: I just also want to just point out that while there are some examples of things that she could perhaps have been more proactive about the question about the agencies being one of them. As I understand the primary managerial duties of the position are going to take place with an Executive Branch administration that has largely not been hired yet, if I understand the position correctly. We just approved the structure tonight, so most of the people she would be overseeing and the line share of the work that she would have to be doing really can't be done yet, as I understand the position.

Patel: Point of clarification. Just as you guys reviewed those positions, they have reviewed those positions. I just...I don't know if that makes sense, like we got the Executive Branch Structure because they presented it to us, so you would only assume they all know the Executive Branch Structure. That's just a safe assumption I'm trying to make, I'm not leaning one way or another. It's just an objective observation.

Canton: May I clarify that point?

Patel: Go ahead.

Canton: What the Executive Branch Structure is saying is that she... the Executive Branch Structure is saying that she knows about that actual people, to my understanding that she would be managing. The actual relationships she would have to be involved in, those people aren't in those positions yet, so she wouldn't have been able to start doing any of that yet.

Patel: Thank you. Senator Hussein.

Hussein: I think, sorry. Another point that I guess was brought up today and Friday in the meeting, was that we asked her if someone in the Executive Branch wasn't doing their duties, they weren't doing the task they need to do, how would she go about the situation. And she said that she likes to know...to know peoples situation, maybe they have family issues or troubles outside of the office that they have to deal with before the job. But then if that problem progresses, how would she go about dealing with it, she just said she would like to know a person and everything. I just don't think that she would have the power to or the will to terminate somebody from their position if it need...if it came up...

[Gave]

Patel: 10 more seconds. Thank you, Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: So we could sort of move this process along, what would happen next is... what we usually do is we...we go ahead and do pro/con first so you guys could share your clearly defined positions. I know we spent a lot of time, *but I'm going to motion that we enter pro/con discussion for just three speakers each and a minute each.*

Patel: Sure, any objections? Seeing none. So the way it works is that I ask pro, I'll see hands. Can I get a pro? I'll go with Senator Cook, Senator Priest and Senator Scharon. And then a con, three cons please. Or up to three. Senator Kattih, Senator or just seeing one? Senator Aldridge. Alright two. And then the way it works is that you go back and forth and it's for a minute each, so each person has a minute. It goes pro, con, pro, con, and then if you guys are satisfied with the discussion then you can close the debate there and then if not you can go for second rounds. Clair enough? Thank you. Alright, just for clarification, Cook, Priest and Scharon. Go ahead, Senator Cook.

Cook: I think that one thing that we can all agree at from her presentation is that she is going to be extremely efficient managing her time. She's talking about how she's worked 40 hour weeks, super hard major, involved in all these other things on campus, and still came out with a 3.7 GPA. I feel like she clearly demonstrated that she could manage her time, she demonstrated that she is personable, which I think is an important quality for this position. And she also has worked with Will and Scott in the past, and has been successful in doing so. I know that one of the concerns was she wasn't going to be able to learn the material. But at the same time you have to remember that we all came into Student Government with no experience in Senate. And as a Senator you're being trusted with like a roughly \$14,000,000 budget, that's a pretty big deal too. But at the same time we're trying to...

[Gavel]

Cook: Oh is that time?

Patel: Oh no, you're fine. You have 15 seconds.

Cook: So with that being said, I feel like her personality and her sense of like go get em at 150% is going to be enough to push her to be successful.

Patel: Thank you sir. Senator Kattih.

Kattih: I don't want to reiterate all the points that have been said already, but I do think that with the assets that she has demonstrated, from her personality, from her experience with leadership, all those things they can be better put in a different positions that is kind of...is more adaptable to her personality, to her abilities, to her bubbly personality, which is excellent. But for a Chief of Staff, do we really want someone who does not know what they might be getting themselves into, just you know on the other side, just for a bubbly positive personality. Which one is kind of more significant for the position, that's kind of our area to decide? And I kind of have reservations about which side I'm willing to take. So that's it.

Patel: You have 20 seconds. You can yield...the way it works is you can yield your time to anybody else.

Kattih: I'll yield my time.

Patel: Senator Stine, you have 20 seconds.

Stine: I just think that if this position, regarding ethics; if it was unpaid I could understand it. But the fact that it's paid concerns me.

Patel: Thank you. Senator Priest.

Priest: So for me, something that I think is very important for this position is going to be the ability to work well with the President and Vice President. That Sarah has absolutely shown she can do. She has worked with them on campaigns, helping to encourage students to get involved with elections in general. So that's something I believe she can definitely bring to the position. Leadership is something for a fact I know that she can bring to this position as well. She's been involved in multiple areas, not only on this campus, but in the world in general. So leadership is something she can bring to this campus. She has the drive to do this, she's not only ran for the USF President last year but she also, like I said, assisted Will and Scott this past year in running. And just the idea to prove that she doesn't want it; she's already showed involvement while working with other areas in Student Government. She's made attempts to get in contact with Gary Manka as well, so I believe that the idea of...that she may not be qualified for it should actually be thrown out of the window, and that would be it for my time.

Patel: You have 5 seconds. I mean...Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Okay I'm not going to say...I don't have anything ill will against Sarah, she seems very nice and polite. And she seems like she worked hard for what Scott and Will tried to do in that campaign. The inability to spend time before and trying to research and get all the information down on what Student Government is and the agencies and SGATO, their Bureau first of all. They're in the Bureau; they're in Title X Student Government Bureau. I just...the lack of knowledge plus lack of ability to want to get in ahead of time and get the knowledge for the forthcoming year, I feel like those are two qualities why I don't think it is the best time for her to be the Chief of Staff. I'm sure there are other great candidates out there and that's why I would like to help see this go through and explore to other positions. But...

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you. Scharon.

Scharon: Stand?

Patel: Yes ma'am.

Scharon: So, I feel like it would be an issue of ...a hesitation a lot of people are having is a combination of inexperience and favoritism. I know I feel like a perceived favoritism is working as a biased against her and that it's almost as if she has an advantage, kind of is the thought floating around. But I feel like if you look at all she's achieved and what she is capable of, she carries the work capability, but I feel like the words more like capacity. She seems like she seems to have the capacity to learn everything she has to do, and she definitely has the will to push herself to it and catch up and just keep going and going. And she has the personality to unite people, and not to mention she does have, I feel, connections throughout campus given all of her experience out there. And if the whole point of Student Government is to further our students and further each other, why not choose somebody whose already doing that in her social life for pleasure, and who can also lead here at Student Government.

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you. And with that we've gone through the three pros and two cons, so we can open this...or we can extend the debate to a second round, we can get new pros/cons, or we can move on. So it's up to the Senate. Senator Cocco.

Cocco: *Mr. President, motion to extend debate. Ah... 2 minutes*

Patel: Sure 2 minutes, same speakers or different speakers?

Cocco: Different speakers please.

Patel: Sure. Pro/Con, pro? Senator Romero. Con? Stine, Mohamed and Cocco...Cocco, Stine, Mohamed. Alright, I'm sorry Ibrahim. Okay, we start on pro again, Romero.

Romero: I thought you had to end on pro.

Patel: There is nothing that says end on Pro. It just happened because there were only three pros and two cons to go back and forth.

Romero: I mean it doesn't really matter, I just thought that was the case. Okay there is a lot of talk about her inexperience. Also you guys Chief of Staff is a managerial position, you don't have to be Rocket Scientist to know how to manage, you just have to have experience. And I think throughout her presentation she showed more than enough experience to take the position. With her major, I'm in her same major she's in. She knows about Nuclear Molecular (inaudible), like if you can figure that out I promise you can figure out how to read an SG paper that tells you what positions are. That being said, she also showed that she has the drive to get to understand the positions that she will be managing, under her. So I believe with her ability to understand those things, and her organization's ability to get that to her in a timely manner, I don't think that it's going to be hard or difficult for her to understand the position, that she would be in charge of, and be able to accomplish it with the most excellence.

Patel: Thanks Sir. Cocco.

Cocco: I appreciate Ms. Pollei's personality, positivity and drive. But I question the drive part because if she did have the drive, why didn't she take the time to learn about the agencies, I question that. Why wouldn't she take the time to get to know some of the Senators and some of the other members of SGATO, and some of our core policies? And I'd like to reiterate what Senator Aldridge said about her initiatives. We didn't hear much initiatives other than bringing people together, which is great, I'm all about that. But again the Chief of Staff position has to have some sort of knowledge of what's going on in order to manage the staff that they're going to have; especially these brand new positions that this new administration has created. How much time do I have?

Patel: 10 seconds.

Cocco: Senator Antar, please.

Patel: You have 10 seconds.

Antar: Okay, I agree with you that it is not that complicated but then again it's not a matter of her capacity, her mental capacity. It's a matter of her attitude and she can't convey that kind of attitude to those that are under her. Her job isn't to teach you that it's to keep you in line and if you can't...

[Gavel]

Patel: Stine.

Stine: Okay. When Ms. Abraha ...

Cocco: Pro, I was con.

Patel: There's no more pros.

Cocco: Okay, my apology.

Stine: When Ms. Abraha and Ms. Pelegrino were running for the Senate Chairs, they demonstrated extensive research, drive, vision; I was won over. Even though they didn't have experience I was won over for them. And I'm not won over in this case, so I don't feel won over. Our Senate Chairs I think are all experienced, and they are Senate Chairs. Chief of Staff is above that; don't you think we should have some experience there as well? And time, she is very involved, does she have the time to put into this position?

Patel: You have 30 seconds.

Stine: I think that we could find someone else, who has done just as much as her in the past, that may have Summer and Fall more available to them to put in time here in SG, rather than across the board.

Patel: Thank you. 10 more seconds, you can yield...okay that's fine. Ibrahim

Antar: Could I just...

Stine: Sorry...

Antar: I was at the last sentence with mine.

Patel: Do you yield your 10 seconds to him?

Stine: Please.

Patel: Start.

Antar: I was just saying, a little unclear in that its not to understand complicated things, is to make sure people working under her stay in line and have proper attitudes. That's what I was trying to say, just to clarify my last comment.

Patel: Thank you sir. Senator Ibrahim.

Ibrahim: I was just kind of reiterating what she was saying. I was just concerned with someone who is in their final year preparing for Med School and studying for the MCAT. Honestly I think that is something that we have to keep in mind. I'm just worried for her; I'm concerned for her on a personal level. She obviously has something...something on her agenda that she has to focus on is very important on her life right now.

Patel: You have 30 seconds...20...35 seconds. Senator Stine.

Romero: I just wanted to prove a point of information. The MCAT she's taking is over the summer, so I mean I understand your point...

Patel: If you can stand.

Romero: But it will be done by the time that she came into office in the Fall, so just a point of information.

Patel: She comes into office tomorrow. Well she's been in the office.

Romero: Yeah but I'm saying she's going to be done before the Fall.

Patel: You have 35 seconds.

Stine: I just want to add that this is not a personal thing. I actually know her and I worked with her at the Tutoring Center. So if it was a personal thing I would say yeah it's my friend, I'll vote for her. But I'm trying to look at this at an outside view, this is not my friend, this is a person I'm choosing without bias. I think that we have to take ourselves out of that this is my friend role and just look at the position and look at what's best for that person as a person and what's best for us as SG as a whole. Because I think that she's my friend so...

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you ma'am. And with that we've exhausted second rounds. Again as a Senate you can motion to extend, you can motion to move into voting. Senator Abraha.

Abraha: *Motion to move into voting.*

Patel: Any objections? Okay, one for yes, two for now and three for abstaining. Please do not abstain unless you're...unless you're like related to her. Excuse me.

Unknown Senator: My clicker doesn't work.

Patel: Just press it with like your thumb...or your nail.

Unknown Senator: My nail?

Patel: Yeah just press it harder. I'm missing two. Can you just...I'll get yours in a second. For the record, he's the last person. Go ahead with your vote.

Canton: My vote is yes for Senator Pollei.

Patel: **With that it's 14:15:1, and this nominee is not confirmed.** Motion for the recess now, I believe.

Aldridge: Point of clarification.

Patel: Oh, go ahead.

Aldridge: There were 30 people present, that stayed...which I appreciated stayed consistent with...to get the majority needed you have to get 50% plus 1. So that's 16 votes and with him giving the yes, it's 14:15 and that's why she doesn't get confirmed. Just wanted to clarify if you guys wanted to know how close was she.

Patel: And then obviously, if you can let her know and then I can get a motion for recess, so you guys can leave. But please leave your clickers in the room, and actually put them back right there. But I'll take the motion for recess. Senator Strenges.

Strenges: *Motion for a 5 minute recess.*

Patel: Excuse me?

Strenges: Five.

Patel: 5 minute recess, any objections?

Cocco: Please do not leave Senate, come back this is very important. I'm just saying don't leave...

Patel: 5 minutes guys, 5 minutes. Any objections? We are now in recess.

[Gavel]

Patel: We are now back in session at 7:20 pm. The first motion I'll accept is to reestablish the forum, only because we're missing people. Someone please...Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: *Motion to reestablish quorum.*

Patel: And then if you can...all you do is you click yes. You can object to reestablishing forum.

Aziz: No you can't, sorry.

Patel: Right, if you don't have a clicker, please just grab...you're clicked in I think. It's like now...Guys, is everyone clicked in?

Aldridge: Hold on please.

Patel: No? Everybody's clicked in now?

Aldridge: No.

Patel: No. Alright, so just...Senator Imam is here, with that we have 26 people present right now. 26 in total.

Cocco: So we've lost four people.

Alqasemi: They're just walking in right now.

Patel: Forums have already been established, unless you'd like to reestablish forum again.

Imam: Motion to reestablish forum.

Patel: Any objections...well you can't. Again these are the points you're being...everyone who is not here this is the...You remember when we explained to you guys that you get multiple points, this is how you essentially allocate points.

Imam: Can I rescind my motion.

Patel: Yes.

Priest: Point of Inquiry.

Patel: Senator Priest.

Priest: So if we start off with, let's say we reestablished around at 25 and somebody else walk in and that makes it 26 now, what is...is it just that point?

Patel: Right, unless you motion to...go ahead Mr. Aldridge.

Aldridge: Hypothetically we should reestablish it every time we see change, but if its only one person...So let's say you're right, it goes from 26 to 26, the quorum is still going to be based off of 25, it's not going to be based off of 26. Now hypothetically those are the same...you would have to get 14 for both. But let's say its 25 and 28, the quorum would actually say what the total of 25... say they're voting on the next confirmation, instead of 28, 25 would be the actual quorum number. So you would need only 14 votes for yay instead of 15 votes for yay.

Patel: Which is why we don't object to the reestablishment of forum, just so you don't play like oh let's all leave and come back and the quorum is really low and all seven of us can approve anything. Alright, moving onwards, I mean we have another confirmation depending on how people want to take this. Would you like to proceed or would you like to postpone the rest of the confirmations. This is an idea but it's up to you as a Senate.

Aziz: Proceed.

Scharon: Postpone.

Cocco: Can we motion to vote on this?

Patel: Sure.

Canton: Can we have a discussion to explain?

Patel: Sure.

Canton: Motion to postpone.

Alqasemi: I object.

Cocco: I would like to motion to vote as Senators.

Patel: Would you like to rescind.

Canton: Point of clarification. The Executive Branch would like to reevaluate candidates and like to postpone nominations to see if the nominations are good enough because they realize Senate is very serious. That's why they would like to postpone.

Aldridge: So you don't want to rescind your motion?

Patel: So guys...

Cocco: What are you...

Canton: I want to motion to postpone.

Patel: Sure, any objections to postponing? Ms. Abraha with an objection, do you rescind your motion?

Canton: I rescind my motion.

Patel: Thank you. Guys I'm not accepting that motion.

Aldridge: Okay, okay let me clarify. Here's how it works across the board. Someone makes a motion; you have the ability to object, if you object the person who made the motion has the ability to rescind. If you do not want to rescind thus, if you really want to postpone it, which I'm not saying you should or should not...if you don't want to rescind your motion, which means you don't want to take it off the thing, all you do is say no and then we vote. So if we want to do this right now, you could...someone could make a motion, someone could object, someone could say no and we'll vote. If there's...we'll need what...14 votes, if there's 14 votes for postponing, then we'll postpone. If there's not 14 votes for postponing we'll keep going. So that's that.

Patel: So as a Senate what you could do is...actually this is very informal. Would somebody from the gallery would like to address if there are any nominees they believe are adequately prepared to endure this confirmation.

Warmke: Can I speak?

Patel: Yes sir, you're recognized.

Warmke: Ideally we would like to move forward our Chief Financial Officer nominee because he cannot attend next week. So we would really like to postpone the Attorney General and Solicitor General nominees, so we can better prepare them for the interview process before the Senate.

Patel: What we'll do is we'll move on with confirmations that unless Senate has any objections, so the next confirmation in line is Chief Financial Officer. So we are moving down the Agenda as proper.

b) Chief Financial Officer David Housman

Patel: So next confirmation please. And this is where I know some people said they had to leave for I guess emergency issues. So this is where you take your clicker, you put it down and you just email Adam the reason why you're leaving. Alright, if you would like to present the actual position.

Warmke: Alright, the position of Chief Financial Officer is the primary advisor to Student Government, on all financial matters. So they are constantly up to date on the different councils within Student Government, where spending is going. We're actually hoping to expand their powers to do more auditing of Student Affairs and Student Organizations, so we actually know where our A&S Fees are going. We had more than 50 people apply for this position as well. We interviewed the top 3 and the Hiring Committee unanimously selected Mr. Housman for this position, based on his hard work ethic and also his previous experience in Student Government and his working knowledge of how A&S Funding works. Is there any question with the position of CFO that I can clarify before we send Mr. Housman?

Patel: Any questions about the position in itself? Senator...Senator Manny. Oh, let the record show that Senator Scharon left Senate at 9:27 pm. And is he leaving or is he

Aldridge: No.

Patel: Okay and Senator Imam stepped out at 9:27 pm as well. Okay, continue with your question

Manny: I just had a question why you only interviewed three people.

Warmke: Statutorily that is just the way the process requires. What we do is we look through the resumes, we see who's qualified, and we will set up interviews with the people who have the experience relevant. In these scenarios it's just the people who were best suited for the position, for the top three selected. And then we move forward with the interview. And if we weren't happy with those candidates we would reopen the

applicant pool and start the application process all over again. But we were very confident with Mr. Housman, his presentation, his resume and all of his experience.

Patel: Thank you, any more questions about the position? Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: I'm going to go ahead and get back to my questions about how many people applied.

Warmke: It was over 15 people. We closed the job position before we know, but we know all four of these positions had over 15, probably over 20.

Patel: Thank you sir. Any more questions pertaining to this position? Thank you.

Warmke: Thank you.

Patel: Would you like your presentation up?

Housman: Sure.

Patel: One second, sorry.

Housman: Alright, so...

Patel: And I'm limiting it to 5 minutes but again the previous nominee did less than 5 minutes so.

Housman: That's fine. My name is David Housman; I am the Chief Financial Officer. I'm going to tell you about myself. Alright, I will be a Junior majoring in Accounting, coming in the Fall. This is my second year in Student Government, and I previously worked as the Program Coordinator. Just a snapshot of my availability, as you can see it's pretty open. They numbers are pretty confusing in all of this but basically I'm taking three courses over the Summer, two of those are online. I'm taking 5 in the fall, two of those are online and I'm taking some night classes. All of that adds up to a pretty open availability. You can go to the next slide please.

Cocco: Could you speak up? Point of...what is it?

Patel: Personal privilege.

Cocco: Personal privilege. I'm sorry, just for the minutes.

Housman: Of course. Alright, so I started out in Student Government as a Street Team member during my Freshman year in the Spring semester. As a Street Team member really...Street Team is not too involved with the day to day operations with Student Government. What it does do is it gives you insight in to Student Government. Really what it does or accomplishes is the opportunity to see whether or not you want to get more involved. Other than that, I assisted in various events that SG branches do. After that I decided to give it a try and I applied for a position for the last term, for the 53rd Term, as a Program Coordinator. I was hired in August and I went until this May, until the term ended. As Program Coordinator, pretty much as you guys saw, there's a Director, Associate Director and two Coordinators. And my job was to basically assist with programming and all sorts of various events. From Bulls Blitz to the football games, to Mr. and Ms. USF, the Apartment and Business Expo, the midnight breakfast in the Marshall Center the night of exams, all those things are initiatives of the Program Department. As my role in the Programming Department, I assisted with maintaining the budget of the Programming Department, following up with our previous Chief Financial Officer for purchasing for all of our events, because Programming is probably the most purchase intense department within Student Government. Outside of Programming, let's see I've been involved in a few things

from lobbying for governmental...in a governmental aspect for USF's budget last year during an emergency meeting at three in the morning, to Tallahassee. And this year to kind of...this year to our not as dire situation in the capita, but I still attended and lobbied for what I thought was right for our University. Fiscal Student Government experience, I attended several ASRC meetings throughout this past term, which is the Annual Allocation Process. I was appointed to the Lakeland Budget Committee, which established their budget, because they do go through different process than the rest of the entities. I served for a few weeks as an Alternate Senator. Go to the next slide. Objectives, okay I think one of the biggest problems encountered in past years with the Chief Financial Officer position, is really a lack of communication and reliability. Purchasing is a very communication intensive process and which feedback is needed to meet strict University deadlines for purchasing. Purchasing is not just thrown by Student Government, but it's forwarded to University offices all throughout, that have strict deadlines and regulations on all purchasing. So in my previous job, I got a lot of experience on what's allowed and what's not allowed and the various regulations associated with A&S Funds. I also gained a broad understanding...yeah wide understanding of the A&S Business office, which is the...that's the office in charge of all Student Organizations funds and Student Government funds. They coordinate all the accounts; they follow through with the purchasing at more of a faculty...not faculty...professional end. In addition, I have a few initiatives. So not only do I want to increase communication, but I want to create...

[Gavel]

Patel: You have 1 minute.

Housman: I want to create a branch wide calendar, and this would be accessible to any employee within the Executive Branch. And this would allow for people to communicate their initiatives more in advance and I would be able to maintain and follow up and make sure that we do meet those strict deadlines. Like the business office wants five days for purchase orders and all these several things, whether the events are...

[Gavel]

Housman: Okay, the calendar will allow me to...to really engage those people and see what their event needs, because depending on the event it could require a wide variety of things, and can even require much longer than five days. I also want to collaborate with Senate and hope to reach out to Student Orgs regarding A&S funding. I've already been trained in the purchasing system, I've reviewed all of the budgets, I've created the Interim Budget and I made my calendar.

Patel: Thank you. Alright, we're opening the floor for questions. Anyone have any questions to the nominee...for the nominee? Senator Aziz.

Aziz: As Chief of Staff one of the issues we had was reliability and reliability during emergencies. Can you give an example of...where you were able to respond to an emergency and be able to be that reliable person?

Patel: Point of clarification, Chief Financial Officer.

Aziz: Yeah, sorry.

Housman: Okay, well I encountered this direct last year while I was in my position. I was pretty much like a point man for programming to go to regarding our CFO. And I encountered many situations in which...whether due to lack of communication or whatever it may be, a lot of purchases never made it to the business office and they weren't aware. And there are especially a lot of items that have to be purchased with strict regulations; certain things can't be put on credit cards for this school. So I had multiple issues where I had to reach out to SGATO, I know I've worked with Gary Manka many of times and Jessica Morgan, to

really work with them. You know at 7pm and 6pm, running around the office to find Gary to solve the problem for whatever may be due for the next morning. So that has happened on several occasions.

Patel: Any more questions? Senator Priest.

Priest: You said earlier that you helped create the Interim Budget; can you explain what that entails?

Housman: The Interim Budget is pretty simple. But I corresponded with the Student Body President and Vice President to really see what they needed for the coming year, to review previous years to see what the standard is and to establish something that would meet all their demands.

Patel: Belizaire.

Belizaire: Do you have any knowledge...okay one of the properties to ensure the...so do you have any knowledge of finance code and have you looked at the SG Statutes?

Housman: Yeah. I know a wide amount of SG Statues, I know Title VIII extensively. That's kind of our...it's not our purchasing code but it's more like the code of regulations for A&S funds, the allocation process and all that; so I have wide knowledge of all that. It also includes the Provisal of Title VIII, which is the standards that we hold Student Orgs accountable to. So I do have a wide amount of knowledge on that, including Title VIII.

Patel: Senator Canton.

Canton: What would you say your primary motivation for running this office and how do you fit that into a wider vision of where the USF community needs to be going?

Housman: Well I agree with like...my main motivations going for this position is it's a position that can really help Student Government be greatly successful, whether it's working to find out sources of funding and ensure events are successful, and ensure the traditions are funded. There's a wide amount of possibilities the position could be utilized, whether it's on fees to advocate for the students in the best interest; there is a wide variety of fees in which the CFO usually...CFO is usually consulted about, the green fee, the capital improvement trust fund fee, so there's a wide amount of that directly contributes to the Student Body life on the campus.

Patel: Senator Aziz.

Aziz: Since appointed what have you been up to? What have you been doing in your position?

Housman: I'd say I have...I think it's the second slide that I mentioned accomplishments already. I went to receive training through the ASBO, the A&S Business Office on the purchase system, I received access to all the A&S accounts, so I reviewed those, and I know the current status of them. I created my branch wide calendar, although I don't really have anyone to share it with yet. So...yeah.

Patel: Questions? Senator Cocco.

Cocco: So what's your mission statement for this position?

Housman: I should have thought about that.

Cocco: You should have.

Housman: I know.

Cocco: It's a top question.

Housman: I don't know, I'm not that good with that. But I would just say that I want to... Obviously you know the goal of Student Government is to advocate for the students. And you know, especially in terms of fees and everything, I really want to be consulted. I want to make sure that students are being rightfully represented. As came up, many of you know with the Provost, there is kind of a dilemma. You know whether or not that's appropriate use, or not appropriate use of the fees but whether that use of the fees will serve the students best. And so I think that's one of the biggest there is which... I want that to be my mission, to stand up for the student regardless of what aspect, whether it be ensuring new traditions are started successfully, or fees are carefully analyzed or thought out.

Patel: Questions? Senator Scharon.

Scharon: If elected to this position, how would it benefit you and your future aspirations?

Housman: As you saw, I am an accountant major. So this kind of flows into my future path as an accountant probably, it's an exciting one I know. It just kind of goes with everything, I always liked the business end more. I was in programming, which many think is a creative department, but I was able to assist in the financial aspect and really help. So it just really flows into where I want to be in my career and it's what I'm passionate about.

Patel: Questions? Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Can you first state... okay I have two questions. Can you first state which accounts that the CFO deals with extensively.

Housman: Like with direct control over or? I mean extensively?

Aldridge: Yeah, I mean direct control over.

Housman: I mean it's going to be the Executive Branch Budget, there is a separate one which is the Special Projects, that's kind of where a lot of our initiatives come out of. So our free printing on campus, that's where that comes out of, our Bulls Blitz, Mr. And Mrs. USF. And also the agency accounts, those are kind of the direct prevue, but if needed I could really assist with... it's within my power if delegated. If President Patel needs a purchase order done for Senate or anything, I could assist with that. Same goes for the Judicial Branch, so it's a wide variety.

Patel: Follow up?

Aldridge: Yes. So my second question deals is, with Special Projects I know that there is definitely some contracts and possibly events that go on in the summer, what conversations have you had with your many parts of Marketing, Programming and Communications, to really streamline any purchases that may be done during the Summer.

Housman: I already discussed with them what they are planning to do for the Summer. So my calendar may not be implanted yet but I still know what they are looking to do. But the current Director of Marketing, the Transitional Director of Marketing, I already put a purchase order in for her. In terms of programming, I'm working with one of the Transition Staff on seeing what they will be doing for it, where to get the money for that because there might be a new initiative and other things like that. So I am seeking out and seeing what the plans are for the future to make it smooth.

Patel: Senator Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: Besides the experiences you have with Student Government so far, what kind of personal skill set do you have that you think will help you in this position?

Housman: Two things. I have logic, like I see numbers a lot it makes sense to me. And then I have...I have good communication skills. I really like communicating with people and I think that's a big aspect in making the position successful, it's just clearly communicating what you want and what you need and how to make it happen.

Patel: Senator Rum.

Rum: With being a good leader comes with the ability to identify your flaws and your weaknesses and the ability to tackle them. What do you think, with upholding this responsibility, would be your greatest flaw and how would you overcome it?

Housman: Greatest flaw with this. That's a tough question, but if I could give you a quicker answer, I could tell you one of my biggest flaws last year when being hired was like I don't pride myself in being a creative person at all, I lack creativity absolutely. And stepping into the Programming Department was like...I mean they are coming up with decorations, and themes and ideas and all those things, and that doesn't really click with me. But I was really able to like emerge myself in it and really understand what its' about. So I guess, whatever my weakness may be, I may not know like right now off the top of my head, but I can guarantee that I will be able to conquer it and figure out how to better myself in terms of that weakness.

Patel: Any more questions? Seeing none, oh Senator Hussein? Go ahead with your motion.

Hussein: *Motion to end questioning and move to discussion.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none, thank you. Name your forum.

Hussein: Three pros, three cons.

Patel: Again, I'll recommend that we start with the moderated caucus so that everyone can state both sides if they would like to, but it's up to the Senate. So if you would like to stay with your...

Hussein: *I'll motion to have a moderated caucus.*

Patel: Name your time.

Hussein: 5 minutes, 1 minute speaking time.

Patel: Thank you sir, any objections? Also what you could do is if you want to make a friendly amendment you just raise your hand, I have a friendly amendment, you can say 10 minutes with 1 minute speaking time or 10 minutes with 1 1/2 minute speaking time, just a real quick pointer. Alright, you started so you go first. You have a minute.

Hussein: I think he's a great person for this position. I've known him from...I guess last year I was in Student Government, and I've known him from working in Student Government. He really cares about Student Government, he loves Student Government and he really put a lot of time into it. I didn't sit in the JEC meeting but last year he always would be sitting in SG till like 10pm, 11pm at night, talking about Student

Government, about the funding and the process of everything. So he really cares about Student Government, he understands it more than anybody I know. So yeah I think he's the most qualified for this position.

Patel: 30 seconds.

Hussein: Oh, I yield my time.

Patel: Oh well, it doesn't really matter. We're in moderated caucus, so go ahead Mr. Strenges.

Strenges: I think David's a good candidate. I've seen him in here countless hours at night, even when he's not getting paid, talking about Student Government. I like how he's already started his initiatives, he has some clear objectives, and he is very communicative. I saw him sit in on ASRC, which is a painstaking committee, for many hours just for the sake of learning, that's the main appropriations committee by the way. I think he's a great candidate.

Patel: Senator Belizaire.

Belizaire: Okay, so...I liked the fact that he had previous experience with A&S fees and very knowledgeable about the position and what it entails, even researching it and even attending ASRC Committees. And just his knowledge of Student Government and the financial aspect of it will really be beneficial to the Executive Board.

Patel: Senator Morejon...Morejon...or how do you pronounce it?

Morejon: Either one. So I met David earlier today, and I just started asking questions. And he was just listing off all these names and stuff that I had no idea about, all these purchase orders and stuff like that. And for Chief Financial Officer, this is like a position that needs to know a lot of the nitty-gritty stuff, a lot of how to do this, how to audit for this...or not really audit, but you know how to work around the money. He's got so much knowledge in that department, just from his previous experience and just doing things like you know, sitting in on ASRC...just doing this that he doesn't have to do just for the sake of the job.

Patel: Senator Hussein.

Hussein: *I think we're making the same points, so I'd like to motion to end discussion and move to voting.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none...Oh wait one second, Senator Abraha.

Abraha: I have a question, but it's not...

Patel: Unless it's related to Statutes or Statutory, I cannot accept it because we are in voting. That's fine, thank you. Again, 1 is yes, 2 is no and 3 is to abstain. How many people are not having...or are having clicker issues? Just raise your hand. Alright, so right now we're at 26 responses, can you go ahead and state your response for the record?

Pelegrino: Yes

Patel: And yours?

Canton: Yes.

Patel: No wait, who are you an alternate for? Oh there it is sorry thank you. Just making sure it's not double vote. **Alright 27:0:1 the nominee is now confirmed.** I don't know why I was not given the Oath; I mean

it's not in the file. The way it works, you're supposed to take the Oath, so you're supposed to be up here. Just raise your right hand. Oh thank you sir. Alright, you guys he's just going to read the oath.

Patel: I as a member of the Student Government of the University of South Florida.

Housman: I as a member of the Student Government of the University of South Florida.

Patel: I state your full name.

Housman: I David Housman.

Patel: Do hereby affirm

Housman: Do hereby affirm

Patel: To uphold the office of.

Housman: To uphold the office of Chief Financial Officer.

Patel: To abide by the Student Body Constitution.

Housman: To abide by the Student Body Constitution.

Patel: To uphold the Statutes incorporated therein.

Housman: To uphold the Statutes incorporated therein.

Patel: And to represent the Student Body to the best of my ability.

Housman: And to represent the Student Body to the best of my ability.

Patel: Thank you sir. You have a motion Abraha?

Abraha: You're going to postpone the others right?

Patel: Yeah, if that's the motion the Senate has.

Abraha: May I object to that?

Patel: Yes, you have every right to object and it would go into vote. So just for the record though for my own clerical needs, Senator Imam walked out at 9:27pm and came back at 9:32pm, it doesn't really play a role but I just like to have it on the record. Alright, I'll take a motion moving down the Agenda. The next thing on the Agenda is Attorney General Confirmation. If there are no motions we continue on onwards.

Unknown Senator: Can you repeat.

Patel: The next thing on the Agenda per say is the Attorney General Confirmation. If there are no motions or objections to continue down the Agenda, we continue down the Agenda. Senator Priest.

Priest: I move to postpone the election.

Patel: Sure, any objections?

Abraha: I object.

Patel: State your reason.

Abraha: I believe when the President was saying, he said better prepare them. But I feel like if we're going to see qualified candidates we're going to see them and their qualifications today, I don't think it makes a difference whether we seem them today or the next meeting.

Patel: Two weeks from now. I mean if you ...just do you, do you rescind your motion?

Priest: I do not.

Patel: Alright, we go into voting. Alright, yes is to postpone, no is to not postpone, and 3 is to abstain. Senator Hartmann?

Hartmann: Do we need to vote on the objections first?

Patel: Well it is the...like to vote on the objection.

Cocco: Yea we need to vote on the...

Patel: Go ahead sir.

Aldridge: Point of clarification I know regarding voting which is that his motion was not to vote on, his motion was to postpone it. So if you object we go to voting on it. If for example, it was a motion to vote on postponing and she objected, then we would have to vote on the objection. I don't get why there's two votes like that but he did make the motion to...he said motion to postpone and she objected, so we just have one vote.

Patel: Is it again with the clicker?

Canton: Yes.

Patel: Has everyone else clicked in?

Pelegriano: No.

Patel: Is it again with yours as well? I do apologize but for the record, what do you vote?

Pelegriano: No.

Patel: And sir.

Canton: I motion to yes.

Aldridge: To clarify the quorum, the last time was 25, so it was 12 1/2, you have to round up to 13 and add one to 14, so with the votes...

Patel: Right so its two-thirds to postpone, I believe is that... **So with this vote we're not going to postpone**, but again I'll yield the floor for them to make their case as to why they want to postpone, if they'd like to do so. Again this is out of our grade...just because we are all students, I understand why they are

nervous, I understand all the concerns they are bringing up, but that doesn't limit the fact that this is business and it has to be conducted. So I'll let you make your case and you can I guess have a voter reconsideration for anyone.

Warmke: So in my four years of Student Government, I've never seen a confirmation process so rigorous. While it's definitely not a bad thing, I surely commend your effort and you're late at night. When I made my appointments, I told them to hold off on working. A lot of your judgment is based on the fact that they haven't done anything in their position, which is partly my fault because I wanted to wait till they are confirmed to have the constitutional power to act in those positions. So a lot of my leadership hindered their ability, so you weren't seeing the true potential. So my recommendation now is to withhold the last two confirmations so that I can really put them to work and so you guys can see the results of the potential they have. Because I truly believe that all the core people that I put up tonight were the best qualified candidates for all these positions. So that's why I'm pleading tonight.

Patel: I'm more than welcome to moving into discussion, if that's the way the Senate feels. Like this is what we're here for, so if you guys would like to debate, if not I'll motion...if no one has any motions they would like to make then we will continue onwards. Seeing none, we're continuing.

c) Attorney General Lindsay Rustan

Sandoval: Well hello. This is the Attorney General and we interviewed more than 50 people. I'm sorry; it's been a late night. We interviewed three people; we had more than 50 applicants. The same...it was the same Hiring Committee that was for the Chief of Staff as well as Solicitor General. Attorney General what they do is they give...they have a take, on behalf of Student Government in legal cases, as well as they give legal opinions where necessary.

Patel: Any questions about the position itself?

Sandoval: Alright, this is Lindsay Rustan. She was your Rules Chairman, last year.

Rustan: Chairwoman.

Sandoval: I was the Senate President Pro Tempore, we worked very well together. I thought she was great, her knowledge and skills and everything else.

Patel: Alright, would you like your...

Rustan: Please.

Patel: Alright, you have 5 minutes.

Rustan: As previously stated by Scott, my name is Lindsay Rustan and I am up for Attorney General of the 54th Term. Next slide. Me at a glance, I'm a graduate student at the College of Education. I am currently working on my Masters in Social Studies Education Curriculum and Instruction. I have a 4.0 GPA; I will graduate with my first Masters in December, and continue straight into my second Masters which would be Educational Leadership. I aspire to be an educational leader, which would also include administration, superintendent, and those kinds of things. I have two classes per semester, only 4 credit hours, because that is all that is required of a part time student...of a graduate student. So I have three hours this semester that is on site and then one hour that is...it's more of an email kind of thing. I'm helping an old teacher rewrite some curriculum. And then when I come into the fall I'm taking, again it will technically be 6 credit hours, however only one of them is face to face, because the other one is talking about my cumulative exams, so it's more of an email study kind of thing. I'm also a High School teacher, I teach full time. I teach a lot in High School. I teach AP Macroeconomics, American Government, and World History. Keep going. So my

experience, I was a Senator in the 52nd term. I came in interim, or mid-term. I was part of the Rules Committee, which I tried to run for Vice Chair but I didn't have the time commitment at that point in my life. I was also part of the Appropriations Committee, which was under Jeff Gao, for those of you who know him. Last semester, or last term, as was stated I was the Rules Chairwoman for the 53rd term. I sponsored many Legislative Bills, in fact almost every Legislative Bill that came across this floor, I sponsored. I wrote every memorial...almost every memorial, with the exception of one, and almost every dedication, again except for one. I was also the Parliamentarian, which is part of the Rules Committee job, so when you see Mr. Antar running back and forth between Mr. Patel, he's talking numbers, quorum, do you meet those kinds of things. I was also the Chairwoman of the Title VII Revisions Committee, because it was mandated by my Chair position. So last year we made a bunch of recommendations to Title VII, which we then passed on to your term. I also teach, or I taught law studies, not this year but last year. Last year I taught law studies which in that time I'm teaching law studies, I did semester trips to Hillsborough County's court house, which I think helps in my position because it helps with the court procedures aspect of my job. Keep going. My vision, so this is what I hope to do for everybody. I had wanted to educate, I want to...as an educator I would like to play and education role. I would like to help other Senators...people like you, your Senators and then other students, to learn about my job. I don't feel like the last terms did a very good job of that, so I would like to spend a lot of my time educating people on the Sunshine State Standards, the Constitution and our Statutes, so those laws don't get broken. I would also like to have a Legal Aid expansion, I think one of the issues last year was that it wasn't very dependable for students, and didn't happen very often. So students didn't know if it was happening every two weeks, every week, maybe once a month. So I would like to have it roll out this Summer where it is every two weeks so that students can count on it at this day, at this time, all the time. My job is to be the advisor to the Executive Branch, but I would like to advise all Branches. But my main job title is to advise the Executive Branch, which is what is statutorily mandated. And I would like to develop leadership. I think one of the biggest issues with the Executive Branch and with the Legislative Branch, being a part of it for two years, is that there was little follow through with the leadership. Whereas all your leadership right here has been through Senate at least once, there's a very new...all of you are new or a lot of you are new. So I would like to branch that, so next year when someone stands in front of you, experience is not a problem. Next. My tribes and my downfalls, someone stated that it was something of a good leader to point out what your tribes are and what your downfalls are, so here I am. My tribes are my scheduling abilities, as you can see I am a full time teacher, but I spend a lot of my time scheduling it. My executive map or my executive calendar also hasn't been set up, but have no many people. My communication skills and my promptness. I would like to talk about my downfalls mostly, and mostly my time constraint, because I think that was a big issue that came up in JEC. And the main reason why I did not fail, or did not pass JEC was because of my time constraint. I can promise you right now, I would not jump into this job knowing that I couldn't do it. It's 20 hours a week; I did it last year in Rules with the same hours, with the same time constraint and as a brand new teacher. This year I'm walking into the position, already taught there and teaching the exact same thing. So I'll have more time to spend on the students and on the position, than I did last year. And then why me? My experience, my dedication to SG and then my passion for this job.

Aldridge: Okay, we'll enter question/answer period. Are there any questions for the candidate? Ms. Kattih.

Kattih: Why did you choose the Attorney General position specifically?

Rustan: So I felt that the Attorney General position boated well with my Rules position last year. SO I felt that my knowledge of Statutes, my knowledge of the Constitution and my knowledge of the Sunshine State laws, worked very well in what would be expected of me as an Attorney General. Not only did I have that knowledge, I also walked in with legal experience. And so I think, although we have not seen...we have not seen a case in over two years, I think that if that were to happen I would be able to do that position and do it well.

Aldridge: Mr. Aziz.

Aziz: What were some of the challenges you faced as Rules Chair last year.

Rustan: So one of the biggest issues I had last year in Rules was a time thing. I did get to pick my own Committee time, which was great, but sometimes things come up. So maybe I had a parent teacher night that I had to go to or those kinds of things. So the way I overcame that, was that I had an amazing Vice Chair. If any of you were part of my Committee last year, my Vice Chair was amazing. And I was able to promote and foster that leadership in her so that she was able to then run my Committee. And things still ran smoothly, while I did my job behind the scenes, she got to be the face, because for that one day I couldn't make it.

Aldridge: Mr. Hussein.

Hussein: I just had a question. You said you had class once a week on campus at night and I was wondering when that class runs?

Rustan: Wednesdays.

Hussein: Wednesdays.

Rustan: 5pm to 9pm.

Hussein: Okay, thank you.

Aldridge: Mr. Aziz.

Aziz: Seeing you have a lot of commitments with class and outside, can you prioritize your commitments for us?

Rustan: Yes, so this summer I have absolutely nothing, other than school, USF School. Again it's once a week, obviously we are student's first, as part of Student Government we're students first. My priority would be my class, but I can be honest with you, I took the exact same class in my undergrad so it will take me no time at all to pass this class cuz it is the exact same thing. Which is just kind of a waste, but it's life. And so this summer my entire focus would be on SG and getting Legal Aid off the ground. And my hope would be that I would be able to foster leadership in somebody else, so that if I can't make the face time come fall, then someone else would be able to make that face time. Come fall, my time would kind of shift, because now I would have to spend some time teaching. But then again, as previously noted, I have taught in this position before. I'm teaching the exact same courses next year, and so my time commitment as it was this year won't be as heavy as it is next year. And so I will be able to prioritize, while I cannot tell you that I will put SG over my students, I will equalize them. So my students will come as equal as SG.

Aldridge: Mr. Imam.

Imam: Your knowledge of Statutes, you said is part of your credibility right? So could you explain why the Referendum was rescinded?

Rustan: Can you say that again.

Imam: The Referendum was proposed in...whether the Referendum signed by 2500 students, under what ground was it rescinded.

Rustan: It broke Sunshine State Statutes. And so one of the issues...

Unknown Senator: Point of order, irrelevant.

Aldridge: I'm not going to take the point of order because it is actually asking her a legal opinion on the matter. So go ahead.

Rustan: While I don't have a legal opinion on the matter, because I was not the active Attorney General last year, I was the Rules Chair. It did break Statutes and not Statutes with us as Student Government, but with Statutes with the Sunshine State laws. And so our legal department here at USF had issues with it. And so the problem was the wording, and so they wanted to bring that in and we...while 2500 students did vote on it, we didn't have any position to make it happen, to mandate it because of that.

Patel: You have a follow up? Okay.

Imam: So 2500...

Patel: Can you please stand up.

Imam: So 2500 students signed this petition right?

Rustan: Right.

Imam: And the Statutes, it's all under Title VII Statues; it's supposed to go to...there is nothing in it like a referendum cannot be rejected based on the content of it's...

Rustan: Right.

Aldridge: Mr. Imam is this related to her nomination to Attorney General?

Imam: Yeah so I was wondering, under...you said there was a problem with the wording, what problem with the wording is that?

Rustan: Again...

Patel: I'm sorry, that's not relevant to this debate. Sorry. Ms. Belizaire.

Belizaire: Belizaire.

Patel: Belizaire, sorry.

Belizaire: My question to you is, you served as a legal counsel for Student Government, and your hours require you at least 20 hours a week. Will you be able to...because I know you're a teacher, so teaching is basing an odd day job, I don't know the school hours...

Rustan: 7am to 3pm.

Belizaire: 7am to 3pm. And I know...would you be able to attend...would you be able to attend these meetings, because I know a majority of them may occur during the day and that would be the same time that you are teaching.

Rustan: Okay so luckily with my position, much like my Rules position, not that I make my own hours. It's very flexible, in the sense that if there's a student that needs to meet with me, I can meet with them on terms that meet for both of us. Let's say most students, and this is just out of experience, most college students don't wake up till 3pm and I can be here at 3pm. But if that doesn't work for a student, for whatever reason

they could only meet at 9 am and they could only meet at 11am, one I have this thing called comp time, which I can take off in the middle of the day, because I have two hour... I have a two hour window that I have not only for lunch but for conference; it just so happens it's in the middle of the day this year. And then I also have over 80 hours of leave worked up, and once this new year starts I will get another 6 days, so 48 hours added to that. So if there was a stringent thing that I needed to take off for my...luckily my administration is very open, in the sense that if I needed to take a day off for legal counsel or for those kinds of things, I can.

Aldridge: Mr. Priest.

Priest: So sometimes I'm not the smartest guy in the world, and in this area a legal opinion is something that is like...you will have to like slow it down and explain it to somebody. I was just wondering, what grade do you teach?

Rustan: 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th.

Priest: Thank you.

Aldridge: Mr. Hussein.

Hussein: What were some of the positive and negatives that you saw from the previous Active Attorney General from the last term.

Rustan: So the acting Attorney General, for those of you who don't know, we had one for about 4 months and then we had nobody. And then about a month or two before the term ended, the Deputy Attorney General stepped in. So the Attorney General originally A) had a very big time constraint, like much like you all thing might be the issue with me and he wasn't there, and then he decided that he was going to quit. So I don't know that he did very much, in the 4 months that he was here, to make something happen. So he didn't do anything, I guess would be the thing. Didn't do much, I shouldn't say anything. He didn't do much. And then when our Deputy Attorney General stepped up, there was no proactive. There were some initiatives but they never went through, much like Legal Aid got put on the grounds of the Solicitor General. Which I think is something that the entire Attorney General, Solicitor General and Legal staff should do together. SO had the Attorney General helped, there might have been...more things could have come out of that. So on top of the fact that there was no communication between myself and the acting Attorney General. Now I don't blame him for that, I blame both of us. I should have stepped out to him, much as well he should have stepped out to me. So my hope for next year is not only be to get Legal Aid off the ground and more dependable, but then also to bridge that gap. So I will spend...luckily I know Mr. Antar, we already have each other's cell phone numbers, so it works out that I can talk to him openly because we spent a year together on SenEx. And that was not the case for Mr. Daniel last year, but I would like to bridge that gap from the get go.

Patel: Do you have a follow up? Go ahead.

Hussein: How do you plan on bridging the gap between you and the Rules Chair?

Rustan: Like I said, me and Mr. Antar are already friends, so it works out well that we can already start talking. And so then some initiatives that he might have that he might hope that the Attorney General could take on, I can talk about. And then some of the issues that the Attorney General sees, I can talk to him about. Because there are certain things that obviously the Executive Branch does that is separate from the Legislative Branch does, so if we had more communication between the two of us, it would bridge a more efficient student government.

Aldridge: Mr. Canton.

Canton: So it seems like one of the big initiatives is that you kind of wanting to go in here with these legal aid days, and I was wondering your experience on the Rules Committee and in Student Government so far, doesn't seem like it involved large amount of organizing, in terms of events.

Rustan: No not here in Student Government, no.

Canton: So do you have significant experiences that you think will help you organize it.

Rustan: Yes. As a teacher, this year as a first year teacher I got thrown into AP and so I did have to organize 100 AP students, to take the AP exam, if any of you have ever done that. I taught AP Macroeconomics, which is not the easiest of courses, so as a first year teacher I not only had to learn the subject because I never took it in college, but I also had to rally all of them up for study sessions the days before the exam and those kinds of things. So I had a lot of time, not only securing an area, because obviously my classroom is not big enough for 100 kids...well you wouldn't know that but I'm telling you it's not. So I had to secure an area for everyone to study, I had to secure a time that everyone could meet, and then I had to show up and make sure kids showed up and then there was some kind of refreshment so they had a reason to say obviously, and they are not starving and complaining at the fact that they are not malnourished. Not only that, I also helped with two drama productions in terms of high school and also...gaveling?

Patel: No, no, no.

Rustan: And then I'm also...I also had time to...I'm now the sophomore...or I was, I'm not anymore but I was the sophomore class sponsor, and so I had time rallying the homecoming committees, the...there's a big tradition of Chamberlain to make big floats and there's a costume contest, and all this fun stuff. So I had to make sure I rallied all of that because while 10th graders are great, they are not the most organized groups and so.

Patel: Do you have a follow up?

Canton: Follow up.

Patel: Okay.

Canton: What two productions?

Rustan: Say that again.

Canton: What two productions?

Rustan: We did...there was an original production, it was called Shakespeare's An Idiot, the drama teacher wrote. And then we did the Putnam...the 25th annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.

Aldridge: I don't...sort of move back to the nominations, a little off topic there, but thank you so much for your questions. Ms. Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: Ms. Rustan, are you currently employed by the Hillsborough County, right?

Rustan: Yes.

Pelegrino: And when did you start working for them? I have a point here.

Rustan: Last December, but I did an internship before that.

Pelegriño: Okay, but just the point is that according to your application, the work experience you provided, you ended that job with them on April 29th, 2013. I just need some explanation.

Rustan: There must have been an issue...or a typo because I did not end that job; I still currently have that job. Oh that's when I applied, April 29th...Scott's telling me right now. That's when I applied.

Pelegriño: When you applied for what?

Rustan: For the position here.

Pelegriño: For the position here, okay that's not clearly what it says here in the application.

Rustan: I don't know.

Aldridge: Does...I guess Mr. Sandoval may know this, can you please clarify?

Sandoval: Yes. The way GEMS works is that when they applied she probably didn't check currently still working there. So it marked her off as April 2013, because that is when she did the application for Attorney General, so that's the issue on GEMS.

Pelegriño: So just for the record you're currently working there?

Rustan: I'm still employed.

Pelegriño: Okay.

Rustan: Correct.

Aldridge: Mr. Hartmann

Hartmann: You placed a lot of emphasis on the goal of developing and promoting leadership among the Branches. Can you be more specific, like what exactly...?

Rustan: Sure and so I think one of the biggest issues that we had last year, especially in the Attorney General position, is that there weren't many people to step up now that Daniel has left or not working, whatever the case may be. And so I would like to promote leadership within the Executive Branch by my Deputies and anyone who would like to assist me. And then I would like to, because I have so much knowledge here for the Legislative Branch, I would like to promote leadership and value. So that all starts with education, so I would have to show you because a lot of you don't know the Statutes, the Constitution or the Sunshine State laws, so I would start with that. So maybe a workshop, may an informal lunch kind of thing, whatever works better for you so that we can go over the Statutes and whatever questions you might have. Because as a former Rules Chair I obviously still hold all that knowledge, it didn't just fall out of my head. And then, I would also like to help the Executive Branch so that next year there are no questions as does she have experience or does he have experience, is he qualified for the position, because he or she would have had that experience through this term. Does that answer your question?

Aldridge: okay, I'll take one more question. Mr. Aziz.

Aziz: Some of you education goals and other goals plus educating about Sunshine laws, could have been done as Rules Chair. So I guess why weren't they done as Rules Chair and why would you want to do it as Attorney General?

Rustan: Because I spent a lot of time as Rules Chair rewriting...because as...because as part of the Legislative Branch we spend a lot of time rewriting Statutes, and so I spend a majority of my time rewriting Statutes. Because I couldn't rewrite Sunshine State laws, that wasn't my job. I wish I could have, and this is something that I step back and look at now, that I would have more time rewriting or looking at the Constitution and adding amendments to that, because there are some issues that need to be dealt with there. But now that I'm out of that position, I don't have that role; it's something you all have to take on as a Legislative Body. So now that I'm in a more advisor role, I would like to spend the time not only helping students understanding Statutes which I know much about but also the Constitution and then as well Sunshine State Standards...or Sunshine State Laws sorry. Because I believe that's where a lot of our issues here lie. Why we bring cases upon...

Aldridge: Alright, with that I'm going to end questioning. Is there a motion to discuss.

Abraha: *Motion to discuss.*

Aldridge: Any objection to discussing? Seeing none, you can step out. In the meantime while she's working her way out the room, would you like to moderate caucus again or would you like to go pro/con?

Abraha: Pro/con.

Aldridge: Okay. And anybody...How long?

Abraha: Let's start with 5 minutes.

Aldridge: Okay. And how much time for each speaker?

Abraha: A minute.

Aldridge: Okay

Patel: Okay, if I can interject really quickly and that is something that is getting stressed from the back and that is...keep in mind that this is a Student Government, student first. So regardless of what we're trying to do, I know I stressed it last week, it's a learning experience. So sure you're not going to get the pinnacle of CEOs to apply for this job, but that is because CEOs already have jobs. They can apply for something that is more for payments or actually has definition. I'm not saying that what you guys are doing is wrong or not supporting it but I'm just saying keep that in mind as in the back of your head. Like if you're grilling somebody I understand that you have questions, and that is the point of this venue. But also be considerate that these are our students as well, so regardless everyone has their own preference, everyone has their own work habits. Again it's you to judge but this is just a word of advice. Moving back to the motion, did you have an objection. She had motioned for a discussion, so you can go ahead and start. Yes ma'am, you have one minute.

Pelegrino: Okay, well I personally think...I think she has experience which is qualified. The only thing that is really I'd say bother me, is really her time management. Like I didn't see time in her schedule to dedicate to this position. I mean it required 20 hours, 20 or 25, I'm not sure. So I don't really see that happening, I don't see Attorney General fitting into her every day schedule. I know she could make some type of...she could work it out somehow to some extent. But also the thing that she mentioned was that she is willing...or she wants to rely on somebody else to create that leadership. On somebody else this summer...

Patel: 15 seconds.

Pelegriño: She wants to create this leadership on somebody else. It's just...it's not something you can rely on.

Patel: Mr. Canton.

Canton: I kind of...first of all from what I...from what I know, from what I heard last year, Lindsay did an excellent job as the Chair of the Rules Committee, which as we said is a somewhat time commitment. But more than that I'm somewhat concerned about the possibility of discriminating against her simply because she is a non-traditional student. I think one of the things that makes this University great and that makes, in a broader sense, our nation great, is that we value and try to include a diversity of people in our leadership and decision making process. I don't think that the fact, in and of itself, that Lindsay has a job in addition to being a student, should be enough to disqualify her. I also want to address the point, she said she relied on another person's leadership as one specific example as a way that she dealt with her...with her unique challenges which she had in another situation. I don't think that necessarily means that is the only method she has, but certainly fostering leadership in others and relying on your teammates is not that bad.

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you sir. Mr. Hussein.

Hussein: I got a question to the Court. When are you guy's meetings during the semester.

Patel: Again this is addressing to the general body.

Hussein: I guess I have a question for the general body. When does the court meet and how much work do they need from the Attorney General in terms of those meetings, and be able to attend those meetings.

Patel: You have a point of...or a point of information.

Buenaventura: Just a point of information. We meet every Wednesday at 6 o'clock and our parking appeals are every Wednesday...every other Wednesday, starts around 6:30 pm or 7:00 pm. And the role we want the Attorney General and Solicitor General to have, the Attorney General representing Student Government and University Policies and the Solicitor General of course representing the students. So we would need the Attorney General and Solicitor General present at these meetings to work with our initiatives.

Patel: Thanks. To continue on with our debate, Senator Aziz.

Aziz: So out of the four candidates, being on the Hiring Committee, this is the one that is the most exceptional, I guess...with split voting. And things that kept reoccurring and also with JEC with zero vote, or zero yes', it's just the contradiction between the time commitments and not just being there during business hours. Promoting the decision with not being there was contradicting to each other. And also some other things that were mentioned in JEC about passing onto the Vice Chair...I mean the Deputy in the Fall. Those are some concerns that the committee had reasoning for them to vote no. The time commitment wasn't there and also during the business hours the Attorney General wouldn't be there, and also passing on the duties to another person in the fall. Is that it?

Patel: You have 15 seconds.

Aziz: I'll yield to Mr. Hussein.

Patel: Senator Hussein.

Hussein: I think I bring up the point that yes she won't be there during office ...or yeah office hours. And also There was an acting Attorney General last year who was there for all of the time, I only saw him in the SG offices working. And so she had the opportunity to work with the acting Attorney General. And also with President Will, he talked about how he wants let them delay them 2 weeks to see that they have the potential in their positions, but she already had a position in Student Government for a whole year previous, but she didn't take on those initiatives that she could have. And that's why I feel like she is not proper in this...for this position.

[Gavel]

Patel: Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: I have a point of privilege. If...okay and maybe we should have clarified this. Moderated caucus is supposed to be for opinions that you have but you are not showing through your voting. If anyone has those opinions, I'd say get them out now. But I heard the last 3 or 4 say yes or no, so I'm going to make a motion unless Mr. Imam gives sort of a neutral point.

Imam: Yes neutral.

Aldridge: Okay, awesome.

Imam: I have a question. Like so the Supreme Court meets on Wednesdays, so she could come to the Supreme Court?

Multiple Senators: She has class.

Imam: She has class. Okay.

Patel: Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: Okay, so with no one else wanting to raise their hand, I motion to enter...

Patel: Did you have a question?

Kattih: I have one more point to make, to add to the discussion.

Patel: Is it a neutral base?

Kattih: It's a new point.

Patel: Go ahead.

Kattih: Okay. I just...I'm kind of on the edge, I don't know which side to take here. But I'm considering the fact that last year she did have a job very similar to this in time commitment and she was teaching. And she did manage to do a good job apparently of her job. So just consider the fact that she had a 20 hour job plus a full time teaching job and it's kind of what she is taking on now. So I don't know how that plays out, but just my two cents.

Imam: Why did JEC.

Patel: Can you stand please.

Imam: Why did JEC vote...what happened in JEC, like in the committee?

Aziz: Best thing for the committee members that actually voted, if they wanted to share their thoughts because they're the ones that voted, and as Chair I didn't vote.

Patel: We'll save that for pro/con because...

Aziz: Sure.

Patel: So I'll take a motion to enter pro/con.

Aldridge: *Okay I'll motion to enter pro/con with 3 speakers each and one minute speaking time.*

Patel: Yes sir. Any objections? Seeing none. Pro? Con? Wait, was there a pro? Pro? Con? Pelegrino. Alright go ahead Ms. Kattih.

Kattih: Okay so, I did know Lindsay as a Senator from last year, and I was on her committee during the Summer. And so I do know her work ethic and her management skills, time management skills, are really efficient. She's really able to carry out her job, she's really able to do what she said she will. Now the main issue her is of course a time thing. Like I said, not even a minute ago, she has demonstrated her ability to balance her two interests, her two lives I guess, her school life, her student life and her more teaching job. So I don't think that should dent her to Senate from considering her for a position that she is qualified to take.

Patel: You have 20 seconds. If you would like to yield to someone else to speak to the floor.

Kattih: To Ms. Alqasemi.

Patel: Ms. Alqasemi.

Alqasemi: I just wanted to say that...I'm sorry, I forgot what I was going to say.

Patel: I'll allow 20 seconds for anyone else to speak in pro. Senator Priest.

Priest: I just wanted to say that my opinion if she has the ability to explain AP Macroeconomics to someone which she barely knows her, and she is able to explain things to high schoolers, I think she will be able to explain things to us as a Senate, which is fabulous.

Patel: Thank you sir. Alright, first con. Senator Burr.

Burr: Hi guys. So I'm a double major in Education and that kind of sways my decision a little bit, because I know what it is like to be a classroom teacher and I know what it's like to be in education courses. I feel like I level with her a little bit on that front. She is going to be extremely organized, which is awesome, you can tell her PowerPoint. She is going to be very assertive she is going to be used to being in front of a lot of people...

Patel: You are a con.

Burr: Yeah I know. And she is going to have great management skills, which I think all are very important. However, I guess I'm wondering if she is in her full time job now where she has an opportunity for professional development within a high school, I'm a little concerned that she may be taking away another job for another student, whether it may be undergraduate or graduate, who has an opportunity to get

involved with their University, and she's already been involved with Student Government several times. And then my last little thing, I am just having a hard time supporting someone who is going to be constantly being put in a position to...

[Gavel]

Patel: I should have tapped you earlier, but that was a minute. I'm sorry.

Burr: Can I finish my sentence?

Patel: You're more than welcome to.

Burr: Who is going to be constantly be put in the position to weigh her time between her high school students and Student Government.

Patel: Thank you ma'am. Stine.

Stine: I would just like to say that being new to this Senate, my first Senate meeting here just a few weeks ago, she was speaking up. I just could tell my initial impression of her was wow, she's somebody important. I'm not sure what her role is but she knows her stuff. And my initial impression was wow, she's impressive. And I just want to say that I'm a tutor and I tutor math. So I tutor just 6 hours, not 8 hours, and I am mentally exhausted. So the fact that she in the last Senate, had the time to do it after teaching, and the fact that she wants to do it again, means that she knows she is capable of doing a great job. Or else she would say no thanks I don't need the extra 25, 20 some odd hours. But she wants to do it she's...

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you ma'am. Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: Well I think we agree that she is extremely qualified for this position, that's not in question right here. My concern once again is that, someone could be extremely qualified for a position, but if you don't have the time to apply those skills and experience then it's pointless, pretty much. I was actually present when Rustan herself said that she has only been able to make it to...the most average, she has only been able to be in the office as a Rules Chairwoman was 9, when she had 20 or so every week. She was only able to make it 9 hours of the 20 as most, as a Chairwoman.

Patel: I'm sorry, you have to have factual evidence to present data...like at least to suffice my needs as Chair.

Pelegrino: Alright, you could disregard that if you'd like to, I don't know. So basically the main point, if you don't have the time to show those skills and that experience then basically it's like you don't have them to meet.

Patel: Thank you. And finally the last con, and that's Senator Hussein.

Hussein: Anyways...so just reiterating the same voice. She is a full time teacher and teaching doesn't just take you time from 8 in the morning to 3 in the afternoon, I have parents that are both teachers. And you have to go grade papers, grade the tests and everything, so it takes longer than the 8 to 5 or the 8 to 3 that she will be doing. And also she has class only on Wednesdays, which that meets for like 3 hours or 4 hours and Court meets on Wednesdays during those exact times that she has class, the court meets. So she's not able to meet those meetings, so you know if somebody you know files something against her in Student Government, she won't be here to represent Student Government, because she has those classes she has to attend. And also she's going to be teaching till three in...she's going to be teaching till three in the afternoon so she gets here

whenever. Students are here during the day time, in their apartments, in their dorms they are in their homes after like 5 o'clock. So by the time she gets here no one is going to be here to come to her office, so no one is going to be able to know of her position and be able to come to her for assistance or anything like that.

[Gavel]

Patel: Thank you sir. And a point of clarification. Student Government doesn't get trialed...we're not trialed at the parking appeals because we are not involved in the fines.

Aziz: Yeah we are.

Patel: No like Student Government. Like he said if someone...you know like goes against Student Government or file something against Student Government. It's more like if someone files something against...an appeal against Marketing...Transportation. Just...it's just for a point of clerical needs. It's not against Student Government, it's against the parking.

Aldridge: Can I clarify this point of clarification?

Patel: Yes sir.

Aldridge: He's right in the fact that the parking appeals in deal. I think he also maybe meant if there were any other cases in which Student Government is charged in doing whatever, I don't know what they've done. So just that there is two things. Number one is parking appeals which...I'm sorry, which Student Government is not a part of and the other sort of types of decisions which Student Government may be held as a Defendant.

Patel: Thank you sir. Alright, sir.

Strenges: Is the parking appeals...aren't they Wednesday's in the midday or mornings and the Court hearing are at night during her class?

Sandoval: The parking appeals are at 7:30pm every other Wednesday.

Patel: I'll recognize you Scott.

Sandoval: Just know...

Patel: If you could still stand. Thank you sir.

Sandoval: Just know that this only goes until...it's only for the Summer, in Fall she's only taking Monday. If you let me speak more, I will, but I just wanted to...

Patel: As long as it's pertaining to the questions these people are asking, because you're asking their questions in some way.

Sandoval: Okay, I'm going to keep going then. I'm also a graduate student, and a fun fact is that I actually taught for two full weeks last semester when I was campaigning. And I think I did okay, I'm still here.

Patel: Okay. I'll take a motion to either re...or go into second round of pro/con or move into...or take any other motion to vote. Senate Antar.

Antar: I'd like to motion to end discussion and start a vote. Because I think the general pros and cons have already been addressed.

Aldridge: I have a friendly amendment.

Patel: Sure, state it for the record.

Aldridge: Thank you. I would...if it's possible for us to reestablish quorum that would be important, because I know some people came in and some people left. I know it might be the same after all it's done, but we'd like to make sure that's the case. So if you're willing to take a motion to reestablish forum before the motion to end discussion that would be great.

Patel: Sure, so would you amend you motion. Thank you sir. *So motion to reestablish quorum.* Or to end discussion. Are there any objections to ending discussion, coming out of pro/con? No more pros, no more cons that are pertinent? Okay. Also for the record can you state which clicker you clocked out.

Aldridge: Both Ms. Pellegrino's and Mr. Imam's clickers were switched out with 32 and 33 which is Mr. Harvey and Ms. Rustan, who was a Senator but then resigned. And I think they are both off.

Pelegirino: Mine worked but my name is not coming up.

Patel: Again, it's because we traded and now on this record, you are Ms. Rustan for this. Even though we know it's you.

Aldridge: You're actually Mr. Harvey and Mr. Imam you're Ms. Rustan.

Patel: Right, so did Ms. Rustan disappear off the list? Right for the purposes of this meeting, because the clickers are not working, we are changing your numbers. It's still your vote you're representing, not theirs. Can you click harder.

Unknown Senator: I clicked hard, oh there it is.

Patel: Everyone is clicked in? 28. We have 28 people. Alright, moving on to...I'll take the motion to vote. Sure thank you. Guys the voting has begun, you cannot talk because we do not want to have problems with all the influence. Thank you sir. Again one is yes to confirm her, two is not to confirm her and three is to abstain. Again, you must email a reason why you abstained, unless you are me.

Pelegirino: It's not working.

Patel: And you're Charles Harvey?

Pelegirino: Again.

Patel: Yeah, I think it's just you. Okay everyone's good. **With a vote count of 12:15:1 this nominee is not confirmed.**

d) Solicitor General Shaheen Nouri

Patel: And moving down the Agenda. If I have any motions to postponing, we'll continue down this Agenda and take the final nominee of the night for Solicitor General. Seeing none, continuing onwards. If I can have someone from the Executive Branch present Mr. Shaheen Nouri.

Sandoval: Cool. Alright, well this is Solicitor General, it's the last confirmation of the night. I had so much fun. What this...responsibilities of this position is, they will be the representative of the student before the

Supreme Court. So as you said, it's going to be very keen that he could be there Wednesday night. We had over 15 applicants, 3 interviews, and same process as the other...other 3, or other 2. So are there any questions about the position.

Patel: Again any questions addressed towards Mr. Sandoval about the position. Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: I just have a question. I know this might seem off guard, so I apologize in advance. Are there any initiatives that you and Will have...you're wanting to push for Solicitor General? Because I know Solicitor General is one of the issues, just in general as a position, where no initiatives were...it's hard to find initiatives in due, because Solicitor General is supposed to be reactive, unless a court case come up...comes up. So from an Administrative standpoint, if you can, can you state if there are any initiatives that you and Will would like to see for the position.

Sandoval: I think advertising, that's pretty much the big one. Just properly advertise. Any other questions?

Patel: Any other questions pertaining to the question.

Sandoval: Mr. Shaheen Nouri.

Patel: Seeing none.

Sandoval: And I'm going to go ahead and let him present himself. Good luck.

Nouri: Alright, how are you doing everyone? My name is Shaheen Nouri, again. I'm going to apologize in advance for pacing a little. Decided to take a break today to play some golf, I'm the only human being that can hurt his knee playing golf. Anyways, my name is Shaheen Nouri and I'm the Solicitor General appointee. Today is the 28th of May, and if we could advance to the first slide please.

Patel: Thank you.

Nouri: Thank you. A little bit about me. I am currently a Junior, going into my Junior year this fall. Although I am technically already a Junior. I'm earning my Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, and I'm minoring in Philosophy. I like to read. I've served on the Executive Boards of multiple student organizations in my past couple years on campus as a student. Those including Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, Pre Law Society, the Interfraternity Council as well as my own IFC included fraternity. And I'm currently serving as the IFC President, as my only currently role in any organizations on campus. So my qualifications, I believe this slide is going to focus on the work history, with one coming up, with some personal qualifications I believe. I was a Firm Assistant at a Law Firm downtown, Henry Hicks Law Firm. I had that position during the Summer of...well little longer, before Summer and after Summer 2011. I basically was introduced to a lot of the procedures involved with legal document drafting, legal language, and things of that nature. Also, not relevant but the different sizes that Starbucks have, every once in a while if that was a necessary run. Research Assistant and Recruiter for the Center of Urban Transportation Research on campus here. Is there any Engineering Majors? At CUTR on campus I worked as a Research Recruiter, for research study, the driving study if anyone heard of that. We did a lot with that. So there was a lot of interaction with students, it was purely interacting with students, and a lot of engaging with the students as far as that position went. And I was also a Project Coordinator for Mike's Renovations. A renovation company that pretty much focused on flipping houses, for investor usually. And it dealt a lot with tedious tasks, such as sometimes budget, mostly with codes, building codes, drafting some documents necessary for pitching the project itself to the investors. So some personal skills that I believe that I have attained over my years, in both work and other experiences. I have, as I stated, experience with legal documents and legal language, specifically interpreting that language however it may be written, and drafting the documents if necessary. So I've been able to have a hand in, not only in the positions that I've had...or the jobs that I've held, but in the positions I've had in on campus

organizations. Clarifying a lot of things for students, being there for the questions that a lot of students have regarding these procedures, regarding policies, anything that is written and sometimes a common law that may not be written. Constant communication with the USF students, whether it was involved with recruiting for the research project I worked on for over a year, or it was regarding a recruitment for certain organizations, including Greek and overall brainstorming of recruitment strategies and talking to the students about various Fraternity Councils and Greek life, things of that nature. That did entail constant communication with the students, so I'm pretty much able to at this point guess, based off of bouquet of student stand, some questions that might come up based on what they just heard, whatever that matter may be. And also, I believe I have pleasant and appropriate decorum. I like to keep positive, I like to be solution minded and I basically think that's something that a lot of people don't put right up there on a pedestal. And I think that attitude is key with a lot of the things that you do. Position goals for Solicitor General. I would say that my number one goal for this position will be, because I think it's a little different, moving forward is going to be doing a great job marketing it. The availability of Solicitor General to students, the existence in some cases of Solicitor General to the students, the awareness that students have regarding SG Legal Aid, Parking Appeals and process with that, and other resources available through SG. And I think that Solicitor General is a little different than other positions, because it's a relatively new position, compared to obviously President, Vice President of the Executive Branch. And I think that on top of the responsibilities that are expected of a Solicitor General, the first fee for the foreseeable future should take it upon themselves to...to leave more of the legacy, so to speak, than certain other position, because I believe they need...because that position needs a lot of building to do for the next Solicitor General. Next slide please. Availability. Six credit hours during Summer A, 12 doing Fall 2013, and I have some Presidency through Fall as my only other time commitment. I have great gaps between my classes, and I am free on Wednesday nights. Strengths and Weaknesses. I work well under pressure, remaining calm and collected. I operate on a strict and a strict moral and ethical platform. I do like to keep things fair for everyone.

[Gavel]

Patel: Just wrap it up.

Nouri: Okay. And my weaknesses, I take failure personally. When I'm a part of something I feel like I had a part to do with its failure. So I take things very seriously and I like to do everything in my power to make sure things go as they're supposed to, whatever it is I'm involved in. Thank you for your consideration and are there any questions for me?

Patel: Alright, any questions for the nominee? Senator Aziz.

Aziz: You mentioned marketing, how would you specifically...I mean what marketing ideas do you have to basically get the Solicitor General out there to the Student Body.

Nouri: I think that's a great question. I think that, this might seem rudimentary, but I think face time is something that's very necessary in this day in age. Simple face time engaging with the students, whether it be at Bulls Market, being the awkward guy with the name tag walking around talking to people, or a specific setup within the Marshall Center on certain days. And also maybe leading up to that face time by perhaps a Twitter, some sort of a multimedia Facebook, Twitter approach to this, by being able to make sure students are aware of the Solicitor General and what his or her responsibilities are, and what they can expect of that resource. But to answer more directly, I do think that face time is something that is important. Making it clear that we can talk to students, me personally can talk to students, and engage with them and basically continue to brainstorm some other methods that students respond to. I know mass emails are definitely one that sometimes work, hopefully, and kind of getting to the resources that Student Government already has set up for getting the word out about various issues that need the word to get out.

Patel: Senator Karline.

Belizaire: Okay, sorry. How well informed are you about the appealing process for parking tickets and violations?

Nouri: Well I think, unfortunately I think, unfortunately for students I am more informed than they are. Which I think every student should be very well informed on that and their rights that lie with that. Parking Appeals, basically I am aware of a Parking and Transportation website where you would file an appeal with. And I'm also aware of the resources, Solicitor General obviously, to defend the student before the Supreme Court in...should the matter go any further. Of course there are a lot of issues that come up with appeals. I know a lot of appeals are done with maybe the intent of, well if I appeal it I'm golden you know, but I think there is also a lot of finer area behind that, that the student needs some explaining on. And the Court is probably well versed, which is why they are the court.

Patel: Questions? Senator Hartmann.

Hartmann: Have you been able to shadow the previous Solicitor General and or attend a Parking Appeal? And if so what do you understand that you will be doing in this position?

Nouri: Good question. I have not been able to attend a parking appeal. However, as Mr. President Warmke was once the Solicitor General of Student Government, I have spent a good amount of time discussing with him some of his experiences that he faced. Some of the things that he wished he would have done when he had the position, some of the things perhaps he thought should be handled differently, and I think that's a great kind of low key way of tapping into that resource and figuring out what I should know going into the position. The appeal process, although I have not sat on...sat in/on, I would like to comment and say that I think most of the appeal process, if we are agreed, are generally similar. They start with a sort of debate back and forth of a certain type of background knowledge. So I think that's more of a...that's going to come down to the specificity of the case. So I did not sit in on any. However, if confirmed, I would love to you know...if confirmed I will be. But, I would like to sit in if confirmed or not confirmed, just for general knowledge. Because I tend to operate that way, increasing knowledge on things that may or may not be relevant.

Hussein: I just have a point of information.

Aldridge: Okay go ahead.

Hussein: The parking appeal hearings aren't public, so he can't really sit on them. If he had the opportunities before, he wouldn't have been able to because they are not public.

Nouri: And on that, I've also read into the Water Gate Scandals. So I didn't want to...

Patel: Did you have a point of information?

Buenaventura: Just a point of clarification. Just because the fact that we deliberate after parking appeals, that's why they are not public. So even if he were to sit in, he wouldn't be able to sit in for that piece. So just a point of clarification.

Patel: Any more questions to the...you have a question?

Aldridge: I actually have a question...point of inquiry towards the acting Chief Justice.

Patel: Sure.

Aldridge: When was your last Court meeting? It was before finals, wasn't it?

Buenaventura: The last Court meeting we had was 2 weeks ago. We're having it every other Wednesday.

Aldridge: Right, I didn't know how finals went if you guys had one or not. But I think that is still, just for a point of information, was before the appointment came. Yes he's not been able to attend the meeting, he's not had an appeal...I'm not saying I'm for him in any means, I'm just saying it's not...You should not take that as a judgment that he has not attended either of those two things.

Patel: Thank you, thank you. Any more questions for the nominee? Senator Cocco.

Cocco: What are some of your other outside commitments?

Nouri: My outside commitments, as where I stand tonight and going into the rest of the Summer and going into the rest of the fall. I have obviously six credit hour classes for Summer A, I have a vacation planned for one week in the beginning in July, I have no classes Summer B, and I have 12 credit hours in Fall Semester. My other time commitments include, obviously President of the Interfraternity Council. Which I think is a fantastic opportunity, having said that it is also in the Marshall Center, the office in the second level. And I think that is something I will be taking advantage of, being able to balance my responsibilities. Also, I would like to comment and say that this is a weird feeling for me because after the semester ended in Spring my other positions on other organizations aforementioned, ceased to exist due to the term being up. So I was left with one position, which was the recently elected IFC President, and not much else to do. So I kind of thrive on that commitment, time commitment, and being able to devote myself to different things at once. But to answer more specifically, my time commitments include the aforementioned academics, the IFC Presidency, hopefully the Solicitor General position, and some time with my family I think. I do...my family does live in Tampa, so I do like to spend some time with them every once in a while. But that about covers it up.

Patel: Questions? Pelegrino.

Pelegrino: I just want to know, what other organizations are you involved in on campus? You mentioned other organizations, and other organizations.

Nouri: Well they were Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, which most of these organizations are really are very dormant in the fall. And then there was the Pre Law Society that I have been up until now involved with. My Fraternity Sigma Nu, I am involved with that. And obviously IFC Presidency, I'm heavily involved with that. The only organizations that I'm currently involved, heavily involved in, would be the Interfraternity Council and for what it's worth, the Chapter meeting for my Fraternity and some intermural sport games. Hopefully those don't go as long as...

Patel: Thank you. Alright, with that I'm not going to accept any more questions. Only because the Marshall Center closes at 11pm. You guys have pushed through, almost until 11 o'clock. So I'm actually going to recommend a motion to discuss. Right a motion to discuss, that means step out. So if there's no...Unless you guys have an objection.

Priest: For sake of time can we move just to pro/con.

Patel: Sure, I mean just make your motion.

Priest: *Motion to go to pro/con.*

Patel: Thank you, any objections? Seeing none, thank you sir. Alright, how many would you like?

Priest: Three of each and a minute.

Patel: That's fine, she has a friendly amendment of two each. Do you accept it? Thank you. So two each. Two pros please? Senator Strenges and Senator Hussein. And any cons? Another thing we do is if there are no cons and I guess no pressing debate you can forfeit debate, and you can move on...close the debate and move on to voting. That's again your personal preference and however you guys want to move about this. Unless someone has something they would like to say, I'll take a motion. Senator Aldridge.

Aldridge: *Seeing no motion...or no people speaking con, I would like to move to voting.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none. Alright, any objections to voting? Alright, cool we are now in voting. Alright one yes, two no and three abstain. And then again for the record Senator Imam has Senator Rustan's old clicker and Senator Pelegrino has Senator Harvey's old clicker. Just for the record, what's your vote?

Pelegrino: Yes.

Patel: Thank you. **And with 24:1:1 this nominee is confirmed.** Can you please invite him back in? Please remain seated, he still has to take the oath and we still have to adjourn and the final roll call.

Patel: Alright, just raise your right hand. As a member of the Student Government of the University of South Florida.

Nouri: As a member of the Student Government of the University of South Florida.

Patel: I, state your full name.

Nouri: I Shaheen Nouri.

Patel: Do hereby affirm to uphold the office of.

Nouri: Do hereby affirm to uphold the office of Solicitor General.

Patel: To abide by the Student Body Constitution.

Nouri: To abide by the Student Body Constitution.

Patel: To uphold the Statutes incorporated therein.

Nouri: To uphold the Statutes incorporated therein.

Patel: And to represent the Student Body to the best of my ability.

Nouri: And to represent the Student Body to the best of my ability. Thank you.

Final Roll Call:

Patel: Alright, with that I'll accept a motion, going down the agenda obviously, to take the final roll call. Senator Aziz. Any objections? Seeing none. Let's keep it down until we try and...again its clicker we can't really talk. Is anybody not clicked out...or not clicked in, final roll call? Alright, announcement anyone would like to make? One thing guys, I'm really honored to work with a group of individuals who are willing to stay until 11 o'clock. I know we have Senates who don't want to stay for any amount of time. They are just like confirm and get out of here. So I really do commend all of you, I appreciate it. It's an honor to serve with you guys. Thank you.

Adjournment:

Patel: Alright, I'll take a motion to adjourn. Senator Imam.

Imam: *Motion to adjourn.*

Patel: Any objections? Seeing none, we are adjourned at 10:59 pm.

[Gavel]

Adjournment called by Senate President Patel at 10:59 pm

Transcribed by Senate Clerk Nadima Ally.