

2014

## JEC 11-3-2014 Minutes

Abdool Aziz

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### Scholar Commons Citation

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University of South Florida  
Student Government Fifty-Fifth Student Senate

Judiciary and Ethics Committee  
November 3rd, 2014

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**Call to Order by Chairman at 6:00 PM.**

**First Roll Call**

Present: Chairwoman Kristen Truong, Amuru Serikyaku, Frank Cirillo, Senator Gluck, Alec Waid, Pro tempore Abdool Aziz, Taylor Myers, Emily Seitz

Absent: Chris Johnson, person excused, Emily Seitz, Elizabeth Guerra (Excused), Beth Landy (Excused), Milton Llinas (Excused)

Amuru: All right good evening my name is Amuru Serikyaku I will be chairing this meeting and uh calling this meeting to order at 6 pm November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014. We're going to go down the roll, we're going to do attendance I guess Chairwoman Kristen Truong

Kristen: Present

Amuru: Oh cool, all right Frank Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Here

Amuru: Why are you excused? Senator Gluck

Gluck: Here

Amuru: Uhh senator Guerra's excused, senator Landy is excused and senator Llinas is excused. Senator Myers

Myers: Here

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: Present

Amuru: I am present. Senator Waid

Waid: Here

Amuru: Is that how you say it

Amuru: pro tempore abdool aziz

Abdool: Present

Amuru: All right umm we do have quorum, and uh the guest that we have today is uhh associate or you're going to introduce yourself.

Ruthowski: Dan Ruthowski director of marketing

Antar: Ali Antar Chairman of the committee of rules

Hamed: Sammy Hamed from the court

X: I'm just here with her

Kristen: Can you state your name please for the record

X: Eli (?)

Orr: Katharine Orr President of young Americans for liberty

Shapiro: Daniel Shapiro senior justice of the court

Gary: Gary Manka director of SGATO

Amuru: Transcriber

Cameron: Oh Cameron Moody Senate Transcriber

Amuru: Do I have any motions to accept or make additions to the agenda. Senator Seitz

Seitz: Motion to accept the agenda approve the agenda

Amuru: Any objections. Senator Chairwoman Truong I'm sorry

Kristen: I would like to I object because I want to move the confirmation for Laura Slack and Dustin Adcock before the review of past investigation because Robert will be coming later but we don't want to make the other appointees waiting.

Amuru: Ok can you do the magic with this thing. Ok do you rescind your motion Senator Seitz?

Seitz: Yes I do

Amuru: All right uh do I have any motions. Senator Truong

Kristen: I move to approve the agenda with the changes

Amuru: Any objections to approving the agenda with the changes? Seeing none. Ok do I have any motions to postponing the minutes? Senator Seitz

Seitz: motion to postpone the minutes

Amuru: Any objections to postponing the minutes. Seeing none, moving on to open forum, does anyone have anything to say anything in forum. Seeing nothing, umm we're going to move on to new business. And the first presentation that we have is uh executive Hartmann reviews office of legal affairs solicitor general.

Solicitor General: All right can I start. Good afternoon everybody for all of you who don't know me my name is Daniel Christopher and I'm the solicitor general part of the office of legal affairs. So today I prepared a little presentation on what I've been doing this semester and my goals and accomplishments. So ok so coming into this semester what I really wanted to do with the office of legal affairs as a whole was to expand its influence on campus. A lot of students really don't know exactly what the office of legal affairs does so we were looking at doing different initiatives different sorts of planning to kind of market it out to the student body. So on my end these were my major goals. I was looking to expand our legal aid program that we have umm we were also looking to implement parking appeals with an adversarial system where the attorney general and I would argue the student parking appeals to the court and they would make a ruling on it so that was one of our goals. We also looked to market the office of legal affairs to the student body and find a way to do that. We also look to connect with different departments on campus either you know through the student life tower or throughout campus and also to connect with other university wide SG legal departments. And so on those goals this is what I've accomplished so far. With the expansion of legal aid we've expanded it to three weeks a month rather than just once a month. Uh with previous years we've seen there's been a lot of demand and really time sensitive issues where students wouldn't be able to wait an entire month to you know get their issues settled out so what we've done is expand it to three times a month with two different attorneys, Brian Esposito and Denice Bartalucci and the way I organized it with scheduling them is I wanted attorneys that had a wide range of implements., so for instance Brian's expertise is more in car accidents and family law where Denice was more in cases of DUI and criminal and civil cases so that way we had a broad influence for when students would come in with their different issues. And actually next week we're organizing a tax return form with the chief of staff and the CFO and we're looking to make that kind of a overall week of legal aid. So on the second point with implementing parking appeals um attorney Johnson, Atty. General Johnson and I we were able to participate in two appeals before the court and we've also on my end have held numerous consultations with students who were looking to appeal and didn't know exactly what the proper process was or what sort of questions they had so I was able to meet with them one on one and we were able to discuss those citations and parking rules. Umm also with marketing we've also developed a flyer courtesy of the department of marketing to develop a flyer to send out to the student body umm it's all around campus we have it in the SG suites you can see it if you want and it has our promotion of legal aid and also the parking appeal system. And we were also able to attend the Supreme Court's parking forum so that way students were able to know that we were a tool that they could utilize in guiding through the process of appealing a citation. Uh now the last two points are in yellow because they're still in progress, umm connecting with different departments on campus. One of the things that I was able to do was I was able to work with president Cocco, director of government affairs at the time Ashley Garcia and general council of USF in a title 9 meeting. What we were able to do was meet with general council to discuss from a student's perspective umm different parts of sexual assault and those types of things those types of issues on campus and so we were able to work with them you know set up a baseline of different initiatives different things we can do to market out you know umm more of a sexual assault prevention uh guiding on campus. So we've been doing that and also I'm in the process now we're getting ready to start a umm how I should say judicial summit on other campuses, UCF UF and FSU to meet with their legal departments and supreme courts and just to see exactly what sort of ideas they have what sort of initiatives they do and kind of bounce ideas off

each other see what we can offer each other. So, so far in the semester that's basically what I've done so are there any questions.

Amuru: All right moving on to the office of finances thank you.

Claps

Amuru: Office of finances.

Jeremiah: Hello everyone. My name is Jeremiah, also known as money Forbes. All right so when I first got confirmation couple areas I wanted to focus on was efficiency umm at ASBO. I do want to talk about that, that's one of my biggest issues internally and one as the department head and the executive can tell you, I've been pushing that a lot. ASBO is a resource to us we should treat them that way and not as a system to abuse. The other thing I want to focus on was the personal cheat sheet, while I have that down in writing sitting on my desk I haven't dispersed that to the department heads so that's the one area I do want to continue focusing on and actually send that back to them. The other area I wanted to focus on is the audit of student organizations I want to educate them more than punish. Right now I'm on the ad hoc committee for auditing and you know we're working on that process to get that down and I think that every member of SG should be able to promote educate that's (?) for the whole year, and I think I've done a pretty decent job at that. I think one thing we should do to better promote SG is move to oracle so that we can get true statements. But prior so sometimes everything in SG may not be the greatest, like moments like that, thinking about money but there's a couple things that sets me on my way and why I continue to keep my head afloat. Is the thought of the next four slides. We...still...have...money, and that's how I look at it. We are a resource to the student body and they look at us from that way and there's a lot of things that we can provide for them but we have look at it that way and so much not bigger internally and try to have a good image outside of SG. It starts with the kids.

Amuru: Thank you Mr. Money Forbes. Umm any questions Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: Ok so since you have been confirmed what, going along with your goals what have you accomplished because I kind of heard like bits and pieces of it but not like the full picture I guess

Jeremiah: Ok, mind if I borrow that, cool that works. Ok in terms of efficiency that was one of my biggest things because I came from ASBO for anybody that's new that wasn't there at my confirmation that was one of our biggest things they have a 7 day business policy in terms of putting in a request and constantly requests coming in two days three days before an event and for me I didn't think that was just they have that policy for a reason and we should abide by it and not abuse it just because you know we have the power to. so that was the number one thing that we've done a good job this since I've been there is trying to make sure that we streamline it and be efficient with our time and be efficient with working with directives so they come to me and not waste ASBO time in terms of the back and forth and you know having to input requests. The other two like I mentioned about the personal cheat sheet that's something that I do want to distribute which I have it on my desk I just never actually typed it out and sent it out. In terms of the audit like I mentioned I am on the ad hoc committee for that so we're still in the process of trying to formulize that process umm another thing I do want to look into actually it's not up there is I want to look at possibly the feasibility of possibly of working with housing to see if we can try to implement or try to build a partnership between I don't know if you know the bull to bull financial education that we have on campus to see if we can possibly make a requirement of you know the educational aspect of housing. one of the biggest things I picked up as

CFO is hearing a lot of students not knowing about tax information or not knowing how to make a budget or you know debt management and I think that's a good way we can bridge the gap between housing and bull so that's something I do want to focus on that's not up there though, but yeah.

Amuru: Any other questions. Thank you. Moving on to office and marketing. Someone, thanks.

Dan Rutkowski: All right, good evening ladies and gentleman it's nice to see you again. This evening I will be enticing you with a presentation created by Jacqueline (?) and although the font is not present she is learning I'm teaching her and giving her little miniscule lessons in creativity and Photoshop so I feel sorry that it's not up but regardless we'll go through it anyway. So basically I'm Dan Rutkowski director of advertising and marketing Jacqueline (?) is the one in charge of uh account management as well as the assistant director of marketing and Mateo Hernandez is indeed our marketing coordinator. So we're going to go ahead and give you somewhat of an overview or a summation of basically what we've done since we've all been confirmed. So three of our big objectives at the beginning of the year were basically to increase the fluidity and transparency of our organization, now though there are three points none is more feckless than the last they actually all fall in together in seem so basically one to one reduce the waste of both time and resources through proactive communication with departments. One into two increase transparency and accountability as we did such with the online spreadsheet that shows which marketing requests were processed pending in progress and completed. Number three is to encourage one on one meetings with assistant directors and the clients to achieve an effective marketing campaign. So basically we wanted to implement this mentality where you could literally get what you want by probing questions that the assistant director Jacqueline (?) could ask you basically like what is the message or purpose you're trying to portray, how success is measured, what do you want from this and what's the scope of this project. So the current successes and opportunities that we've unveiled utilizing these three methods were one we did indeed create a streamlined marketing request process from our com departments via the online version. That was a great idea and I love the implementation of it two we increased efficiency with the addition of the cab director role that was the one I was describing Jacqueline (?) as before and basically what they would do was be the liaison between clients and designers themselves. That's actually first time we've ever implement this in SG and I thought it was a great idea and it's working just tremendously. Third is generation not to toot my horn but Jacqueline wrote this but generation for building strategic marketing (?) team of graphic designers, yes I know its pretentious but there are two things that we can still improve on, one being the turnaround time for clients including approvals and techsmart requests and two increasing ever so increasing the communication between clients regarding the two week project notice and the scope of the work, so that is all.

Amuru: Questions anybody?

Cirillo: What does the marketing department do to market itself because as a student I don't really know what services that department has.

Dan Rutkowski: That's very interesting we actually don't, we're like a hidden gem within this or a diamond in the rough in this playing field of SG basically we don't necessarily market ourselves we're one of those quiet types that sit in the back, but that is a good point because nobody necessarily even coming into SG, nobody knows what marketing does until we ourselves explain it but what we do is basically implement different design or creative suites to kind of portray an ad or marketing campaign upon the student body so we take our graphics that we implemented from our clients then hand them over to communications which would then put them up for the entire student population to see so that's where we come in. that's a good point that we're not actually marketed

Seitz: I think what he meant was are there any like if I was a student organization could I come to the marketing department and have you guys do stuff

Dan: generally most of the time yeah we don't actually put that on anyone else besides SG but there have been various instances where people seek help and we are more than willing to stick our fingers in any project we can just to add the SG name.

Amuru: Any other questions. Thank you. All right so were going to be moving on to a review of investigation, oh sorry that's right, we're going to move on to confirmations umm first one up director of programming appointee Laura Slack, is she out there?

Laura: Should I introduce myself...what do you want me to say

Amuru: All right umm just kind of go over a brief explanation of what you'll be doing. You have five minutes to present umm then we're going to go into question and answer period where we'll ask you questions and what not, just answer them and then we're going to ask you to leave and then we're going to talk about you and all that so

Laura: hey everyone I'm Laura Slack I'm the appointed director of programming currently. Just a little bit about me, my major is theater arts with a minor in leadership studies, I'm currently taking 16 credits this fall and I'm going to take 15 in the spring. Also my other commitments that I have throughout the year are bulls for kids which is previously known as dance marathon, the Florida association of residence halls and the green and gold guides here at USF. Some of my experience so I kind of start from the bottom and work my way up the Florida association for residence halls, I'm the ad for administration which means I deal with all the finances for the state board umm when it comes to res halls and so I vary in that kind of like and that kind of pertains to my position because while I have an inner budget for specific program .i can very easily go in and allocate it properly to what we are actually going to be doing within that special event so umm bulls for kids last year served on the events committee umm which planned the marathon and the day of and all the special events leading up to it and the chair serves as the marathon director, so that big day on march 21<sup>st</sup> umm me and my committee were the ones that planned it. the resident hall association I was the director of public relations and records so I did a lot of the marketing and PR. And then Cypress Hall Center so I did a lot of smaller scale programming as well within that within the on campus committee and more recently for the SG department of programming I was the assistant director starting in August and then in September I went ahead and became the interim director and so I've been interim for about six or seven weeks so I've had quite a bit of time in that position currently. Umm pretty much my vision for the department and what I want programming to be able to accomplish by the end of this year and hopefully in the future as well is partnering more with student affairs departments that we have on campus so learning how other departments run their programs and how can we learn from them and then focusing on building relationships with ones that we fund so there's a lot of departments on campus that do get funding from SG so why not build those relationships why not collaborate with them and really just become stronger with them and then enhancing our programs to go just beyond the social events so what are the learning outcomes for our programs what do we want to accomplish with them what do we want to take away from the event umm creating more programming events and then that's just a lot of again collaboration with other departments umm departments within student government and then even within the branches as well I know that programming we've teamed up a lot with the department of community affairs this year and we want to continue to do that in building new traditions and just kind of going over the ones we already have and making them even better than what we currently have. And then saving dates for major events a year prior, so figuring out like when is

umm our major traditions that are going to happen in the 2015-2016 year umm and setting them now so like when is Mr. and Ms. USF going to be when do we want to (?) so that way all those dates can be set in stone and the new department can come in and transition very easily into that and start planning accordingly and then it can also go into our student handbook and all those things prior so that way students have a lot of easy access to what SG is putting on and stuff like that. One thing that me and Katherine Berkhard so one of the grad assistants here umm are really noticing a lot is creating a detailed transition material because we haven't really had it in the past in this department and so the spring semester our main goal is really to focus on that and make sure that everything is set up very easily and very smoothly for the next people who are coming in. So are there any questions

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: motion to move into question and answer with a time limit of 5 minutes.

Amuru: Any objections? All right, moving into a 5 minute question answer period, and since you made the motion do you have the first question

Seitz: Umm so what are some specific goals I know one of the things you wanted to look at what are your outcomes and accomplishments that you want for certain programs what are some of the goals that you have for some of the programs that you're working on now

Laura: Umm so currently we have our one its real simple but our spring week of welcome event, SG always does a welcome back barbecue so one of the outcomes that we really wanted to get from that is not just the students knowing what SG is but also knowing some of the like I said in there knowing some of the departments that we fund and that we can collaborate with and so in the resources that they have on campus as well is kind of through us but it's really through a different department so we're partnering with Campus Recreation and really focusing a lot on what are the services that they offer in different things like that and just letting one because a lot of student organizations don't know that like you can go get tug of war and you can get flag football and all that and all those different types of equipment from them so working with them in that is one specific one that we have and even with Mr. and Ms. USF one of our goals is really to focus on all of our candidates run on a platform and so really making sure that they follow through with their platform at the end of it and how can we set them up for that success as well

Amuru: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: I know you already mentioned the lack of having transition document for this position but could you name another current weakness that the department is dealing with and how you plan to fix it

Laura: I think currently I think a big portion of it actually is the part that we don't have outcomes that we have set for our programs we kind of just put them on umm and its great to like have students out there and you know getting free food like getting an SG t shirt and stuff like that but there's no specific reason why we're putting on these programs so building on that is one thing that we're going to want to do

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: Seeing no further questions I move to go into a discussion period of 5 minutes



Amuru: Any objections? Seeing none everyone except for committee members if you could leave the room so we can move into a discussion period. Senator Seitz since you made the motion you want to go first

Seitz: Umm I think as someone who works with programming a lot and marketing I kind of see both sides of the coin and I think she has a really good grasp of what needs to get done and wanting to have outcomes for her programming is super super important and I'm glad she touched on that because you could have like really cool events but if they're not going towards anything its wasted money so I'm really impressed by her.

Waid: Just to touch on what she said

Amuru: Senator Waid

Waid: oh sorry, Just to touch on what she said I think if people have more meaningful experience with SG that will improve their image of SG a lot which I think is what the whole body as a whole is trying to do so I definitely think

Amuru: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Definitely as the interim director and the previous assistant director she's probably the most qualified candidate as well

Amuru: Senator Myers

Myers: Since there's no really points of question, I'd like to move into voting procedures

Amuru: Seeing no further points of discussion, umm do I motion to move into voting procedures, oh we just umm my bad. Seeing no further points of discussion we're going to move into voting procedures. Cool. Skip. Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: yes

Amuru: Senator Gluck

Gluck: yes for clarification this is a motion to vote on the candidate correct

Amuru: Senator Guerra not here not here not here. Senator Myers

Myers: yes

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: yes

Amuru: Senator Waid

Waid: yes

AMuru: And myself as the abstaining vote, its 4 to 0 to 1 and she passes.

Claps

Amuru: All right, congrats

Cirillo: Umm point of information from the chair, is 4 votes quorum, because you weren't present to vote we only had 4 0 to 1, because you were out of the room....I don't know is that enough?

Amuru: 5 yes's my bad 5 sorry and I abstain sorry

Dustin: Are you guys ready for me, Dustin

Amuru: So you're going to have five minutes to present and then uh we're just going to go into question and answer

Dustin: Ok umm as it says up there my name is Dustin Adcock, I'm here for the position of assistant supervisor of elections umm a little bit of outline of what I'll be going over in this presentation, background, I'm an international studies I'm a political science minor here at USF. Currently I'm a senior, set to graduate in May in the spring. Originally from Atlanta, that's where I went to high school as well. Class schedule currently I'm very busy on Monday Wednesdays and Thursdays, I am available on Tuesdays and Fridays. I've worked with Mr. Quiroz to work out a time that would work best with him for me to come to the office and work in the ERC. Tuesdays and Fridays I can do 5, 6, 7 hours if necessary and meet the requirement 10-12 hours for the position. Previous work experience I am currently enlisted in the Florida National guard, I enlisted July 2012, in high school I was an intern for the United States Secret service I don't have any direct experience in elections but umm these are more leadership experience that I have umm goals for the ERC I got a chance to look through the title 7 election code as well as the ROPs that we currently operate under, and I noticed that the title 7 was updated in august of this year but our ROP's are very out of date, I'd like to meet with Mr. Quiroz and get them standardized across the board so ERC has a way to operate that matches the title 7. My other goal is to build students confidence in the election process, I know that the last election was pretty publicized and I want students to have confidence in the ERC that its above reproach and its very transparent and its independent and uhh unbiased is what I'm trying to say. Uhh see uh any questions?

Amuru: Do I have a motion to move into question and answer? Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Motion to move into question and answer

Amuru: Any objections, all right we're moving into actually did you want to make a friendly amendment to that because time, length of time. Senator Myers

Myers: I make a friendly amendment to have question and answer go five minutes

Amuru: All right moving into a 5 minute question answer session. Since you made the motion you want to go first

Cirillo: Umm you mentioned aligning the ROPs since they had been updated as recently as title 7, what is your, or what goals do you have in mind to distinguish the documents of title 7 and the ROPs like what do you think should be done to make sure that they are not identical documents

Dustin: Distinguish as far as

Cirillo: Like why should we have ROPs if they're the same statutes as title 7

Dustin: I wouldn't want to make them the same document but I would make sure the wording in the ROPS at least matches the title 7 I wouldn't want to you know move everything from the title 7 into the ROPS because there is a lot of contradictions right now as far as I can understand

Amuru: Senator Waid

Waid: You mentioned that you wanted to build students confidence back up into the election process, any specific ways to go about that

Dustin: umm transparency in the ERC I want them to be aware of everything we're doing and feel confident that its a department of SG that's unbiased and really feel confident in that branch of the SG so the polling stations and every aspect of what we do is out there in the open and public

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: I hate being that guy but transparency is a word that gets thrown around a lot and I think with ERC its super important to make sure that that is like concrete word and it means something, what to you does transparency mean?

Dustin: Recognizing that the polling stations would be verified and secure and uh looking into different companies that would do that like verify the polling stations, verify and umm look at the ROPs and the title 7 that we have now and making sure that they're held to a standard, that every candidate is held to a standard, and that's what I want students to realize is that every candidate will be held to that standard

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: What specific changes in the ROPs and title 7 would you like to see?

Dustin: I would um I'd like to look at them some more before I make any decisions about what I'd like to talk to mr. Quiroz about changes, I was just looking at the discrepancies currently that I see

Kristen: Follow up

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: Could you describe those discrepancies

Dustin: Umm one of them is the major violations being processed through the senate. The ROP states that the ERC would currently handle that and I know that's been changed, so that's one of the discrepancies that needs to be changed, the ROPs as opposed to the title 7.

Amuru: Any more questions. I'm sorry, pro tempore Abdool

Abdool: my question is if I'm a student walking down to class, how will you convince me to vote the importance of voting

Dustin: Well I'd like to get to know you and figure out what's important to you whether that's tuition or whatever aspect at USF you're interested in and then figure out how a person running for a position would affect those things you care about so if that's library hours gym hours tuition or whatever thing is heavy on

your heart and talk about whatever a candidate can do to change those for the better for you and encourage you to vote for those reasons

Abdool: so during the general election it gets real busy, and you need to be flexible, and you need to be reliable can you say an example where you were umm you were most reliable and you can be counted on

Dustin: I have to go back to my previous work experience in the National Guard in being reliable umm in a platoon size organization and being there for the person next to you and just knowing that you can count on them I think that's probably my best example

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: What specific experience related to elections do you previously have?

Dustin: I'm a political science minor so I've studied elections I've studied the process. I don't have I've never worked in elections myself but I'd like to build experience with this position

Amuru: Anymore questions. Senator Seitz

Seitz: Seeing no further questions I move to I motion to move into discussion period with a time limit of 5 minutes

Amuru: Any objections to moving into a discussion period with a time limit of 5 minutes. Seeing none were going to move into discussion period if you are not part of the committee could you please exit the room for this? Thank you. Umm since you made the motion do you want to go first?

Seitz: I think his knowledge of what the ROPs are might be a little bit shaky with title 7 but I mean you can't expect him to know everything coming into the position. I know that his lack of election experience was brought up but I think his experience with the National Guard and secret service are definitely viable leadership opportunities that he's had that I think really speak to his character, I think that he seems like a very well put together organized person and would make a good fit for the position

Amuru; Pro tempore abdool aziz

Abdool: For the ROP's that committee already finished the revisions and really they should be coming to JEC and rules but I think because there's no general election for a while, we kind of just there is no changes they could make but we did merge the two together, most of it.

Amuru: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: one of the things he mentioned in his presentation is that he's currently part of the national guard is it possible to be deployed because he's an enrolled student cause if he was in this position and he got called to deploy is that something we have to worry about or is that not an issue right now

Amuru: Can I make a statement on that. I mean it's always a possibility in the National Guard but its most likely not going to happen but it is a possibility. Senator Seitz

Seitz: I don't really think that's something that should sway your decision, I think we should be more looking at his qualifications and if something happens then it happens and well deal with it then

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: I think this is a question for Abdool, so when he said that the something goes to senate...do you remember hearing that

Abdool: I think he probably meant judicial, but I know he was pointing there

Kristen: I'm not convinced there's just something that's not, I can't put my finger on what it is, I just have this feeling I guess is the best way to put it that for me like his experience doesn't really meet what I think the requirements are for this position just because elections are extremely rigorous it's really difficult and we need someone who we know that once we put them into that position they can start running right away because last year elections were terrible and I just feel like he doesn't necessarily have the election experience that we would need from someone going into this position as associate supervisor of elections

Cirillo: Is there any way because I'm looking at his, he has his resume on the file that you sent us all in the pdf yeah it's at the bottom, he doesn't mention what political science classes he's taken umm so I don't know if that might cause i know there are classes that study elections specifically like right now im in political imperial political analysis I mean if he's taken election specific classes maybe would that appease your worries.

Amuru: pro tempore aziz

Abdool: most people don't put the classes they take on their resume so, so far I don't think we've had anyone put the classes they've taken

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: for me taking classes is different than actually working it because I can take classes about sciences but then actually going and doing research and it is completely different

Amuru: Can I have a point of question or point of information. Basically who passed him on to this point to us, who confirmed the?

Abdool: So there was the hiring committee, which was myself John and Craig, those people. Not Gary we had Evan, the guy from CLCE

Gary: it was either Evan or Catherine

Abdool: no the guy from CLCE the intern guy

Gary: Chris Leary

Abdool: Chris Leary yeah Chris Leary was on there and it was between two candidates and ultimately it's the supervisor of elections choice, we narrowed it down to two. And it was this person and the girl and the supervisor ultimately picked this person

Amuru: All right we have 15 seconds left do we have a motion to extend time chairwoman Truong

Kristen: I move to extend time by two minutes

Amuru: Any objections to extending time by two minutes. Seeing none we're extending time by two minutes, Mr. Manka did you have

Gary: yeah I just wanted to, Kristen you bring up some very good points but there's not going to be too many that apply that actually have actual experience working in an elections area, most people don't, so I think what you have to look at is the skills that the person's coming to the table, are they transferrable and will they work in this context and does he have time to learn that stuff and I think that will help you a lot in making that decision

Amuru: Senator Waid

Waid: I know we were not aware of his elections based education but going off of what Gary said he has a unique set of skills from his experience with the national guard and the secret service and I think based on John's confidence in him I think he'll bring a new, new ideas to the table and I think he'd be a good candidate because of that

Amuru: Any further points of discussion. Senator Seitz. Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Umm seeing that the director, the supervisor of elections had a choice between this candidate and another candidate, it would lead me to believe that the other candidate would be either less qualified or there was some other reason why he felt that this candidate was the best choice, so if we didn't approve this candidate I don't see how we could get a better candidate out of this pool considering that the application has been opened so I think to reiterate what Senator Waid already said, he would probably be the best choice considering the applications we've got so far

Abdool: yeah we interviewed a bunch of people, and narrowed it down to two it was kind of flip of the coin it was ultimately John's choice of who we'd want to pick

Amuru: For the record Senator Guerra walked in at 6:44 do I see any other points of discussion. Senator Seitz

Seitz: motion if there are no further points of discussion to move into voting procedures

Amuru: Seeing no further points of discussion umm are there any objections I'm sorry. Seeing no objections we're going to move into voting procedures. Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: No

Amuru: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Yes

Amuru: Senator Gluck

Gluck: Yes

Amuru: Senator Guerra

Guerra: Umm I abstain

Amuru: Senator Myers

Myers: Yes

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: Yes

Amuru: Senator Waid

Waid: Yes

Amuru: And are you do you vote and its um 5 1 to 1 or 2 with myself as the abstaining vote and that's plus one correct, 50 percent plus one he candidate passes, right so he's going to go to senate next.

Claps

Amuru: All right umm that is the end of let's see where is this agenda here. Cool. That's the end of our confirmations uh sorry chairwoman Truong

Kristen: I move to enter into a 5 minute recess

Amuru: All right any objections to entering a 5 minute recess. Seeing none at 646 we're going off the record

Amuru: all right we're back on the record at 655, and we're going to confirmations. Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: I move to move the associate justice appointee Richard LaMura before the review of past investigation

Amuru: All right is there any objections to removing the confirmation or moving the confirmation of associate justice appointee Richard LaMura before review of past investigations. Seeing none, it's moved.

Amuru: All right you have 5 minutes

Sammy: I just want to introduce him before he starts. First of all thank you guys again for your time, for allowing our appointee to present. Miss Truong thank you for allowing us to present so for this position of associate justice 36 people applied, we held 3 interviews and we selected Mr. LaMura for his work experience and dedication. Since he's been appointed he's proven a fantastic work ethic, he's been to one parking appeals with us already, participated in hearings and he's scheduled his first meeting with PATS to have his ride along, umm he's in charge of the chili cook off that's happening Wednesday, so he's really fitting in nicely and I'll let him take it from there. Well first are there any questions for me about the position

Richard: So like Sammy said I'm Richard LaMura I'd just like to start by thanking you guys for accommodating me I know last week we had a reschedule and we moved it back to today so from there this semester in the fall my class schedule is a Monday through Thursday, 13 credit hours on Monday and Wednesday its 1115 to 1205, and 2 o clock to 445 and on Tuesday and Thursday it's 1115 to 1205 and 200 to 315. Past experience most recently I was an advisor and coordinator on the Tim Shock for county commissioner race in the primary stage. My job was to coordinate events, make sure volunteers were out knocking on doors and to directly advise the candidate weekly on his ground game and where we were headed in the polls. Also this summer I worked in the Tarkentin field office for the honorable justice Bill Rambis as his district intern which consisted of doing constituent casework, answering the phones, and sending people wherever they had to go whether it be social security issues, veterans affair issue which is a big

topic there and other various areas. I also spent a month working in a law firm this summer Corliss and Barfield trial group in south Tampa as an office intern. There it was also my job to answer phones and point people in the right direction I work directly with one of the top lawyers at the firm, keeping his files up to date also serving as a second set of eyes and ears in numerous amounts of his mediations depositions and other pretrial motions that he had filed at the courthouse. It was also my job to file his complaints to type those up and get them to the supervisor of the court. I've also worked in the service industry at Carpell Ice cream for four years, I was promoted to assistant manager in 2012 where it was my job to oversee each shift that I worked to take care of inventory, hiring firing and scheduling. My legal experience like I said before was this summer at Corliss Barfield where I was the office intern. I've also served as captain and legal council for the prosecution on the Sickles High School mock trial team my senior year of high school. I was elected unanimously by my team members as their team captain and led them to the district competition. Umm things I'm looking to do while I'm in this position to contribute to the already professional attitude the court has shown in the two weeks that I've been here. Uhh continue inter branch collaboration amongst the legislative, executive, and judicial branches here at USF. To continue working with other uh campuses within the USF system, between SG's and maintaining a healthy relationship there. and to take a leadership role as a liaison between the court and PATS to increase our relationship and a more vocal relationship and with that I will leave it to questions

Amuru: Do I see any motions to move into question and answer period. Senator Waid

Waid: So moved for 5 minutes

Amuru: Umm all right do I see any objections to moving into a 5 minute question answer period. Seeing none, Senator Waid do you want to start?

Waid: In your two weeks in the court I know you talked a lot about that you fit in very well, but what have you seen in the two weeks that you might want to improve on

Richard: Such as Myself or the court in general

Waid: The court in general

Richard: Umm probably making the meetings more often for appeals, getting kids in and out so they don't have to wait as long to hear the decision on whether or not they have to pay their ticket or get it downgraded umm and also just for myself just to get more up to speed on all of the different ROP's and such things like that and just making sure I am the best justice I can be for the court and the governor

Amuru: Any other questions. Sorry chair...pro tempore Aziz

Abdool: Umm my question is, let's see, oh how do you view the law is it black and white or are there shades of grey

Richard: The law is black and white in my opinion only because we should read the law the way it is and there should be no ifs ands or buts about it and I think that just reading it in that way is the only way justice can be served in an agreeable manner

Amuru: Senator Cirillo



Cirillo: Umm I just want you to have an answer to explain, cause I'm looking at your online application and then your actual resume and on your online application you had listed being an intern for Rick Scot but you didn't list it was that just a discrepancy or

Richard: yeah it must've been

Cirillo: so did you actually intern for him

Richard: I did for two weeks before I was hired by the Tim Chock campaign, so basically it was three days' worth of work

Cirillo: Also were you an actual paid staffer for Tim Shock or were you

Richard: I was I was on contract for about a month and a half

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: This might seem like a silly question but umm you worked at Carbell for four years, how do you feel like that customer service aspect of working with people one on one is going to translate into helping you on the court

Richard: I feel like just when I get in those tough situations in the customer service field you always have those customers that are going to be rude, uhh it just helped me to learn how to keep my cool and to be confident and not speak back to them and just listen to what they have to say before I make a judgment on their situation

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Truong: can you describe a time when you're in had to deal with ethics...and how you went about dealing with resolving that problem

Richard: sure when I worked for Carbell we had an employee who was stealing money and he was charging people extra for a service that we normally don't charge extra for and was pocketing the money so this was when I was assistant manager I walked in on him and caught him in the act and he tried to join in with him said he would split half the money with me and I basically had to make a decision cause this kid was a friend of mine basically I got him hired so this reflected poorly on me so I went directly to the owner, told him what was going on and the person was ultimately fired for that

Amuru: Senator Guerra

Liz: So you had about three internships over the course of one summer right.

Richard: Correct

Liz: How do you, like what do you think you can you take from that or what was one thing you took from that that you can apply to this new position

Richard: Umm just mostly working with people on all of them three meeting different people every day being able to talk to them and hold a conversation uhh listen to what they have to say if there was a problem like in the (?) office, every day we had constituent problems where somebody was suffering, they were homeless

they needed help from the government, so just to be able to be compassionate and at the same time do your job and do it the way it's supposed to be done I think that was something I really learned over the summer

Amuru: Pro tempore Aziz

Abdool: What do you hope to learn from more experienced members of the court like the chief justice or senior justice?

Richard: umm I hope to learn a better way of interpreting the law I know uhh this past weekend we did our judicial training and Daniel Spiro went over jurisprudence and just different ways how you can look at case law compared to the constitution, from Sammy, Sammy's great. His demeanor in the courtroom that I saw last week showed that the court is headed in the right direction

Amuru; Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: Do you see any changes that you'd like to make to the court

Richard: like I said the past days on would be probably be something that I've really seen so far in the two weeks I've been there. Obviously as things move along I might find more and more but as of right now, there's nothing really

Amuru: All right there's 20 seconds remaining do I see a motion to extend time. Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: So moved for whatever do you have a question

Cirillo: yeah it will literally take like 20 seconds though so

Kristen: Ok I move to extend time for Frank's question

Amuru: Any objections to extending time for Frank or uh Senator Cirillo's question. Seeing none, senator Cirillo

Cirillo: what involvement do you have around campus and organizations?

Richard: organization wise umm I was a member well I am a member of college republicans weekly umm I participated in bulls blitz not bulls yeah bulls blitz I help out over there sometimes umm I really try just to stay involved amongst all the branches if there's something that needs to be done I'm willing to help, just in that matter.

Amuru: All right do I see any motions to move into discussion, Senator Seitz

Seitz: I motion to move into discussion with a time limit of 5 minutes

Amuru: Are there any objections moving into discussion with time limit of 5 minutes. Seeing none we are now moving into discussion period, thank you thank you thank you. All right Senator Seitz since you made the motion you want to go first

Seitz: yeah, he seems like a pretty well put together person, he interviewed well I think he had some good answers for his questions umm only having been here for two weeks I think he might not have the biggest

picture of the court yet so when he answered with umm his answer on what he would want to change that's understandable that he didn't have too concrete of an idea yet but I think his experience definitely speaks to what he's going to be able to bring to the court.

Amuru: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Was there anyone here that was on the hiring committee for you Senator Abdool

Abdool: It would be Sammy, Sammy or Shapiro.

Cirillo: I was just interested that there was 36 candidates because that's a very high number of candidates that applied for one job and I think he's really qualified but he seemed to have a lot of political experience as well as judicial and I was just wondering what the committee thought about that because I don't know how much of a politically charged candidate we would want making apolitical decisions

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: That's something that we can't take into consideration because were not allowed to do anything based on that it's just pretty much on their resume and our job is to confirm them not like a second job interview

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Seitz: and going off of that most uh jobs end up having around that many applicants every single time

Amuru: Senator Waid

Waid: And also going off of his experience this summer he had three different internships which shows a great variety of professional experience and I think he can take all of that and do a pretty good job on the court

Amuru: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: I mean I think it shows that he is very motivated if he was picked off of the governors internship and given a paid internship because I don't know very many people that are given paid internships shows that he had really good work ethic that he was noticed and then left on campaign and was taken onto another so

Amuru: Any further points. Chairwoman Truong

Kristen: If there are no further points of discussion I move to enter into voting procedures

Amuru: Are there any objections to moving into voting procedures. Seeing none we are now in voting procedures. Chairwoman Truong.

Kristen: yes

Amuru: Senator Cirillo

Senator Cirillo: Yes

Amuru: Senator Guerra

Senator Guerra: Yes

Amuru: Senator Myers

Senator Myers: I abstain since I missed the presentation

Amuru: Senator Seitz

Senator Seitz: Yes

Amuru: Senator Waid

Senator Waid: Yes

Amuru: I abstain. All right with a vote of 5 to 0 to 2 with myself and Senator Myers as the abstaining vote, he passes right, I'm sorry he goes to senate my bad, he goes to senate so if someone could just yank him in here

Claps

Amuru: Congrats

Richard: Thank you

Amuru: so we're going to move into the review of past investigation. So chairwoman Truong will be presenting for that

Kristen: ok so my plan this week was to have like an investigation kind of training for the new senators mostly and so what I decided to use was earlier this semester we had a grievance submitted so we're basically just going to go over what the grievance was and then what JEC's findings were and how we got to that point so did either of you guys read ok well either way I'll read through at least through the grievance so...

Jean Cocco committed the following violations of Student Government statutes and constitution while performing in his official capacity as Student Body President. Mr. Cocco appointed himself to the Local Fee committee in direct violation of Student Government Statute 301.3.10.1 in which It states that:

Neither the student body president nor the chair of the activity and service fee recommendation committee shall be one of the three student members appointed to sit on the Local Fee Committee. Mr. Cocco failed to officially present the activity and service free increase request in direct violation of student government statute 301.3.10 in which it states that:

Officially present the activity and service fee increase request to the University of South Florida local fee committee, in conjunction with the Chair of the Activity and service Free Recommendation Committee.

Mr. Cocco knowingly violated the Third Amendment of the Constitution of the Student Body of the University of South Florida at Tampa in which it states that:

The Student Supreme Court is the final judicial authority within any case or controversy within Student Government. Any other external case or controversy may be appealed to its respective appellate board or designee.

By committing the above actions Mr. Cocco violated Student Government Statutes 103.49 and 103.51 by intentionally committing a wrongful act involving his performance of duties and performing a lawful action of appointing students to the local fee committee in an illegal manner by appointing himself.

Additionally, in a further violation of student government statutes, Mr. Cocco called a special session of the senate committee on rules in an attempt to have the statutes removed that prohibit him from holding a seat on the local fee committee. The purpose of calling the special session served to complete no other business except for the attempted removal of the statutes, therefore committing the act of misfeasance by performing a lawful action with an improper or corrupt motive. If this session of the committee had not been called, there would have been no adverse effect on the operations of Student Government or of the local fee committee. There were more candidates that were able to serve on the committee as seen by the appointment of Mr. Corey Ulloa to fill the seat of Gregory Berkowitz.

The matter concerns the student government president and his disapproval of a student government statute that outlines the duties of his job. This matter is completely internal in nature as the statute dictates a responsibility of the president and seeks to eliminate opportunities for conflict of interest. Mr. Cocco appointed himself to the local fee committee in a direct violation of statutes. Even if the decision of the dean of students was applicable to the student government, it does not make any change of statutes and merely recommends that the student government follow its internal procedures to remedy the situation. However, seeing that the decision is not applicable to the student government, the decision rendered by the Supreme Court is final. There are numerous email correspondence in which Mr. Cocco was advised that his contradicts student government statutes and he failed to act ethically and with integrity by exhibiting a complete disregard for the statutes and constitution. Upon taking the oath of office, Mr. Cocco affirmed that he would "abide by the student body constitution, to uphold the statutes incorporated therein, and represent the student body to the best of my ability." Mr. Cocco has failed all of the aforementioned responsibilities of holding his office of student body president.

Recommendation: The corrective action for this egregious violation of the trust and faith of the student body shall be nothing less than removal of the student body president from office by means of impeachment.

Kristen: so that was a grievance, any of the committee members that were there for the investigation feel free to like just chime in if I miss anything so what the committee decided was that we were going to accept the grievance in which we continued by contacting chairman Ali Antar, he is the chairman of rules. We contacted the person who submitted the grievance and president Cocco. so this is what the chairman on rules submitted to us which was his official statement and then the legal opinion of the attorney general on president Cocco issuing a request for legal opinion

Cirillo: I had a question, I didn't mean to interrupt

Kristen: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: but with this part, when was the USF statutes that further clarified the Florida statute passed that says at USF we are not allowed to like our president is not allowed to sit on a local fee committee like when was statute 3101 like when was that passed?

Kristen: April

Cirillo: Of last year

Kristen: yeah, umm Myers do you have. Johnson

Alex Johnson: Say it was the approval of the 54<sup>th</sup> term and it was the last bill that was seen and went into first reading on April 15<sup>th</sup> and was voted on in senate may 2nd signed into law on the second to last day of (?) administration

Cirillo: so how did that bill get through rules and this committee because wasn't the opinion that statute conflicted with the Florida statute because it restricted the ability like our statute went against the Florida statute

Kristen: At the time that it was passed that wasn't something that anybody had brought up, ok so moving forward that's a legal opinion oh sorry, Seitz

Seitz: I was just going to mention that what chairwoman Truong said when this decision was going through we weren't really looking at the intentions behind the statute what was going on that's something that we really parked on when we were going through this is it's not what we thought they were trying to say it's what it said so sometimes yes it's important to make sure that all these statutes are put in there with the best of intentions while we're here and revisiting those that we think have ulterior motives but when grievances are brought to us it's not our job to decide whether or not we like the statute but to see whether or not it was broken

Cirillo: but are you allowed like if we had a statute that said we could legally practice slavery at USF, even though that goes against federal law, would we have to rule in accordance with USF statutes

Atty. General Johnson: I made a very similar argument outside committee about that

Cirillo: I'm just wondering for committee purposes because so should I just go off of basically just USF like statute when I'm sitting in your committee and not

Kristen: Pro tempore Aziz

Abdool: If you made a statute to put slavery on campus it would contradict higher law like a dyer contradiction

Kristen: Senator Waid

Waid: So if it's the job of our committee to determine whether to not that statute is broken is it the job of the court to question the statute as a whole or whose job is it to question the statute as a whole

Kristen: ok so answering the first part of that, yes, our committee what we do is a grievance is sent to us and we review it what we do first is we decide whether or not we want to accept the grievance so in this situation we read through it and we decided that this is something that we needed to investigate further upon and then that's when we issued the official statements and any additional evidence that they wanted to submit and then after that is when we went through we looked through all the evidence to see if there was a merit to Cocco

actually breaking those statutes so we didn't decide whether or not we liked or necessarily agreed with the statute, it's our job to figure out whether it was broken or not...senator Seitz

Seitz: and then kind of going off of what you were saying, if there's ever a statute that you feel is not constitutional or you don't like, you as a senator have the ability to go to rules and say I don't think that this is acceptable these are the corrections I'd like to see and then that moves through its own process

Cirillo: And then that would be done through like how would I do that like I would

Kristen: you write a bill and submit it to Ali

Cirillo: So you don't you write a new bill there's no like bill revision process it's just writing a new bill to amend the old statute basically

Kristen: So also submitted was an appeal of the Supreme Court judicial panel and this is written by Dean Freeman which is what his decision was. Umm then this was a judicial review panel so the reason why this is kind of out of order is that when we receive a certain document I include them in the order that they were received so this isn't the timeline order but it's in the order that we received it so that was the judicial review, it went atty. General Johnson's legal opinion judicial review panel and then dean of students. And then this is the change that we tried to make and then that failed the committee on (?), ok then this is president Cocco's official statement which is there, the email that I sent due to housing and then his official statement in addition to the grievance that he already submitted and then also included was the legal opinion of USF council. So we had when we went through the investigation we had this entire packet, and we also had the grievance and we also have our statutes and constitution which we all took into account, and taking all of that into account the committee decided upon ok, so our grievance findings, there's all of that findings, so

The Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ethics read testimony from all aforementioned parties involved. Upon deliberation, the committee holds that President Cocco in violation of the following:

**Failure to uphold Statute 301.3.10.1:** *Neither the Student Body President nor the Chair of the Activity and Service Fee Recommendation Committee shall be one of the three (3) student members appointed to sit on the Local Fee Committee.*

Kristen: do you guys want me to read this or can you just read it

Cirillo: We can read it

Kristen: Ok so yeah so we decided to fail to uphold that one and then it was an explanation of what the committee thought failure to uphold the amendment the explanation and then the course of action, and then basically our summary so resulting from that, President Cocco has issued a notification of noncompliance and then after that it's pretty much outside of the committees purview, so are there any questions about the procedures that we went through for the past investigation. Senator Waid

Waid: How long did it take for the committee take to process all that was it just a discussion and one meeting to process it or how long is the process I guess

Kristen: ok so we had our first it was a committee meeting which we had other business and then we read over the grievance to accept it or not then we called a special that meeting was on Monday, we called a special session that same week on Friday, then we had a two hour investigation and then the Monday after that was when we reviewed the grievance findings so between that weekend was when I wrote up the grievance finding brought it to the committee that Monday for them to approve and then Tuesday is when we presented to senate about the grievance findings

Kristen: Senator Guerra

Liz: I just want to add that I think what the important thing that I took from all of this being my first time as a senator was not like they said whether you like the person whether you like the statute but whether or not it's in there and whether or not that person broke it, like it's pretty simple once it comes down to it, did they break it or not so us as a committee our job is to judge that so just keep that in mind.

Kristen: So that is all I'm presenting for the review of past investigation

Amuru: and uhh, thank you chairwoman Truong, we will now be going into the grievance section and I think chairwoman Truong would also like to do that as well

Kristen: I will actually be chairing this portion so now I'm the chair. Ok so this week we had a grievance submitted and oh I have copies for everybody so just, the reason being is because when we're going to a grievance you should have an unbiased mind going into it and also please don't take these papers with you if you'd like it you can public record request it but we wanted to go into it like a fresh mind so you didn't have any sort of discussions from outside influences because it's really important that when making these decisions and when reviewing the grievance that you go into it completely unbiased and fresh so what we always do is read through it. The official grievance form submitted on October 30th, 2014 at 928 am, umm the name was Katharine Orr on behalf of the USF Tampa student body the statement of grievance 1

**SG branches do not regularly update their calendars on the official SG website**

(sg.usf.edu) such that sufficient notice of meetings is not provided to the Student Body. SG branches do not regularly post their respective meeting minutes on the official SG website (sg.usf.edu), such that the Student Body is unable to review their official business and unable to hold their elected representatives accountable (e.g. most recent minutes available online in Executive branch's Official Documents is more than 60 days old, currently NO minutes available for Legislative branch, and currently NO minutes available for Judicial branch), SG leaders (listed) of these respective branches explicitly violating their Oaths of Office by not upholding statutes listed, and SG leaders (listed) explicitly violating the Mission Statement of SG.

**NAME AND POSITION OF PERSON(S) IN SG: Jean Cocco, Andy Rodriguez, Sammy Hamed**



TIME AND LOCATION OF GRIEVANCE: \*on-going throughout Fall 2014 semester\*

ALLEGED VIOLATION OF STATUTES AND/OR LAWS:

Article 1 Section I of Student Body Constitution.

Title 2 subsections 200.2, 204.2.2, 204.2.3, 204.6, 205.2.3.3, 205.2.5

Kristen: And then on the back so just to let you guys know what we're going to do is read through an entire grievance and then decide we can look at the statutes and then decide whether or not you want to accept it, the grievance or not in which we either accept it and move into investigation or not accept the grievance

Cirillo: Do you have to accept the entire grievance or can you accept parts of the grievance

Kristen: you accept the entire grievance and then when you go into investigation that's when you can kind of pick and choose everything. Senator Waid

Waid: And on what grounds would you not accept a grievance

Cirillo: I think the whole thing has to be not true

Kristen: Pro tempore Aziz

Abdool: typographical errors like if the date was in like 2015, the names were wrong and the statutes didn't make sense were not our statutes, and there are errors in it

Kristen: So it's like let's say for example I didn't send out the agenda 24 hours in advance, but then you pulled out a statute that I'm supposed to attend a senate meeting and that's what you said I violated so it wouldn't make sense. Moving on to the second page USF SG official grievance letter

Abdool: You missed a lot on the top

Kristen: Oh I did

Abdool: The recommended remedy

Kristen: Oh, Recommended remedy, thank you

One, Issue Notifications of Non-Compliance to each SG official listed in this Grievance, Two, Immediately update all necessary public records and calendars on official website, & Three Publish apology to the Student Body in the USF Oracle for explicitly violating statutes that directly impacts students' ability to "be equally heard and represented" per SG's Mission Statement.

Kristen: Ok, now thank you. Senator Seitz is this we're going to is it related now or after ok senator Seitz

Seitz: Umm just for the new senators, on the grievance she listed a course of action that she felt would umm be a good remedy for the solution. That isn't what we necessarily like we as a committee do not have to do the same thing, these are just suggestions, does that make sense

Kristen: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Yeah and we're only allowed to give a notice of noncompliance like we can't do anything further than that can we like we can't make SG update their public records

Seitz: No

Kristen: and we can go through all of that after we finish with the grievance, so like for example the last one we did the recommended course of action was impeachment but the committee then decided on doing a notification of noncompliance so it's what they recommend

## USF SG Official Grievance Letter

Filed by: Katharine Orr, on behalf of Student Body

Written and filed on: Thursday, October 30, 2014

### Constitutional and Statutory Violations:

1. Article 1 Section I of Student Body Constitution
2. Title 11 subsections 200.2, 203.3, 204.2.2, 204.2.3, 204.6, 205.2.3.3, 205.2.5

### Violators:

1. Jean Cocco, Student Body President and Head of Executive Branch
2. Andy Rodriguez, Senate President and Head of Legislative Branch
3. Sammy Hamed, Chief Justice and Head of Judicial Branch

### Background Information and Activity Leading to Grievance:

In light of recent controversy over increasing student fees Corey Ulloa, SG senator & member of Local Fees Committee, issued a statement to the USF Oracle (article: "Tuition bill lacks 'transparency' in student fees" 10/27/2014, and editorial: "OASIS student billing should be more transparent" (10/28/2014) stating that "he has never seen a student show up to one of the public meetings". In the 10/27 article, it states Jean Cocco realized the issue with non-transparency of student fees once "SG attempts to solicit feedback from students" — the opinions and feedback from the Student Body is readily present, but SG branch leaders are directly preventing this

feedback from being presented and heard in their respective formal meetings by violating the statutes listed in this grievance. Seeing these statements upsets me because, as a political student organization leader, I actively attempt to stay involved in SG business and frequently check the official website (sg.usf.edu) for information. I do not appreciate being accused of apathy, which occurred in the editorial 10/28 article, because I do not attend public SG business-related meetings. If SG updated their calendars and gave notice of meetings in accordance with statutes more students would participate to provide input, and not wait until upheaval ensues after an important issue, like fee increases, becomes public by a third party, The Oracle publication.

Due to each respective SG branch's poor leadership, I submit this Grievance.

Sought Relief:

- 1, Issue Notifications of Non-Compliance to each listed Violator,
- 2, Immediately update all necessary public records and upcoming meetings to the SG official website (sg.usf.edu),
- 3, Publish an apology to the Student Body in The Oracle (for maximum exposure to Student Body) for both explicitly violating the Mission Statement claiming to offer students the ability to "be equally heard and represented" and directly impacting the Student Body's ability to become active participants in their student government.

Kristen: Ok so that was the entire grievance, so now what we're going to do is look up the constitution and the title 2 subsections to see how they relate to the grievance

Guerra: Kristen can I get one of the papers that you passed out

Kristen: Umm, Senator Seitz

Seitz: I motion to extend time for the meeting by 15 minutes

Kristen: Any objections to extending the meeting time by 15 minutes. Seeing none the meeting time has been extended to 745 pm. Ok, so...going to article one subsection 1. All students by virtue of their active registration at the University of South Florida, Tampa Campus are members of the Tampa Campus Student Body and are granted all the rights and privileges of this Constitution. The Student Body shall establish a Student Government Association which shall govern and represent the interest of the Student Body. The Student Government Association which shall be governed, accountable to and maintained by the Student Body. The Student Government Association hereinafter may be referred to as "Student Government", "SG" or "SGA."

Kristen: So that's article one subsection one of our student body constitution moving into title 2, 200.2 is the mission statement shall be as follows. The Mission Statement shall be as follows:

*The mission of the Student Government at the University of South Florida is to be the premier opportunity in becoming engaged, provide the setting for all students to be equally heard and represented, and maximally enhance each students experience and development.* Moving into 204.2.2...

Reasonable public notice of such meetings must be given. Reasonable public notice shall be defined as a notice that shall be able to be viewed by all members of the public and shall be issued no less than twenty four hours for regular meetings, and no less than four hours for emergency meetings.

204.2.3...

Minutes of the meeting must be taken, archived, and available to the public.

204.6...

All Student Government Records shall be open to public investigation, inspection upon request. Student Government records, including but not limited to minutes and agendas, shall be submitted to the University Library at minimum, once a month. Responsibilities for performing this action shall be specified in the appropriate governing branch documents.

205.2.3.3...

Upon their acceptance, the minute taker shall forward the minutes to the designated SG Webmaster(s) within five (5) Business Days. The designated Webmaster(s) shall publish the minutes on the Student Government Website within an additional ten (10) Business Days.

And 205.2.5

All Legislative Bills, Executive Orders, and Supreme Court Opinions shall be forwarded to the designated Webmaster(s) within five (5) Business Days of it being signed into effect, or issuance, to be placed in their respective section(s) on the Student Government Website. The designated Webmaster(s) shall publish the documents on the Student Government Website within an additional five (5) Business Days.

ok so those are the alleged violations of statutes and or laws and I think that what is next is that the committee discussing whether or not we should accept this grievance or not and then after discussion is when we would enter into a vote. Senator Seitz

Seitz: Motion to enter discussion on the grievance

Kristen: Are there any objections to moving into discussion. Seeing none we are now in discussion, senator Seitz

Seitz: umm I have a point of clarification, I guess its two, who is currently our designated webmaster or masters

Kristen: Attorney General Johnson

Atty. General Johnson: Maggie Hall, director of communications

Kristen: Senator Seitz

Seitz: So the violators listed on the grievance are Cocco Rodriguez and Sammy Hamed but this is technically not listed as their responsibility but more as a responsibility of SG as a whole and then delegated to the webmaster am I reading this correctly

Kristen: Senator Waid

Waid: According to the grievance and up there it's their responsibility to make sure that information gets to the webmaster too so that's the responsibility being questioned

Kristen: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: I think once we accept the grievance I think would be important in our investigative process to make sure if it's a lack of the information not getting to our webmaster or if it's the webmaster who's getting the information if there's records from these 3 individuals to our webmaster And then she's not uploading the information cause there could be or it could be both, because when I was, I mean we're not in the investigative process yet, but online there are certain branches that have no information and there are some that have partial so it makes me wonder which where it's coming from

Kristen: Senator Serikyaku

Amuru: Uh yeah In regards to accepting or not accepting this grievance I didn't really see anything in there or any reason to not accept it because there wasn't any kind of umm you know they pointed to legitimate and relevant statutes and the constitution and the section in the constitution there wasn't any typographical errors so I personally believe that there is nothing wrong with accepting the grievance

Kristen: Senator Seitz

Seitz: I don't necessarily know if I agree with the sought relief that that's something that we can discuss later but I think this is something that needs to be looked into more just to see where that disconnect is coming because this is a valid concern just as Senator Serikyaku said is addressed correctly so I mean I feel like if we had just said if it breaks statutes we need to look into it you need to stick by that and investigate this not saying that I know or I think I know what should be the result cause I wouldn't as senator Cirillo said want to know where that break of information is coming from if that makes sense

Kristen: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: I think it's important too like there are, the minutes are up for certain documents but the calendars are not updated so I think it's important because the statutes don't clarify that the calendars need to be updated it talks about minutes being updated and agendas being updated but it doesn't mention the calendar but I think it's still important that we take into account the credibility of the grievance because without knowing ahead of time when a meeting would be there's no way for a student body to come and represent them self if they wanted to so we need to be a little bit more proactive as a SG to make sure that word is spread about when meetings are happening so that students can be available to them

Kristen: Senator Waid

Waid: seeing as right now we're strictly discussing accepting the grievance or not I move that we move into voting procedure

Kristen: are there objections to moving onto voting procedure, saying yes would mean that we would go into investigation and no means that we would not accept the grievance, any objections. Seeing none, we are now in voting procedures and I will do my roll call. Senator Cirillo

Senator Cirillo: Yes

Kristen: Senator Guerra

Senator Guerra: yes

Kristen: Senator Seitz

Senator Seitz: Yes

Kristen: Senator Serikyaku

Amuru: Yes

Kristen: Senator Waid

Waid: Yes

Kristen: with a vote of 5 to 0 to 1 with me abstaining as chair we have now officially accepted this grievance, ok so the next step that we will be doing is trying to find a time when we can meet to discuss this grievance last time when we had one we decided we wanted to on that Friday because we didn't want to prolong the grievance hearings and everything and kind of extending it and making it drawn out, so what we can do is either decide to make our add this to our JEC meeting next week or we can do a special session. Senator Seitz

Seitz: I think that having been there last time we moved it up just because it was such time sensitive manner but I don't think that any harm would come from just adding it to next week's meeting

Kristen: Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: after tomorrow's senate session when is the next general body is there do we have a senate

Kristen: The 18<sup>th</sup>

Cirillo: Yeah we do ok because I know there's a week in here somewhere where we don't have one

Kristen: yeah next Tuesday

Cirillo: so wait we don't have one on the 18<sup>th</sup> or no we don't have one on the 11<sup>th</sup>, so then this would come up after the investigation this would come up to the general senate if we pass the grievance on the 18<sup>th</sup>

Kristen: so what we would do ok so for example let's say we added it to the agenda next week we would have two confirmations and then we would do the investigation in which we would decide whether or not decide our course of action I guess is the best way to put it and which we present to senate on the 18<sup>th</sup> what the findings were. Senator Waid

Waid: and next week's meeting is at three

Kristen: and if we had that meeting next week I would mark off time from 3-6 pm so just to make sure that we have sufficient time because last time we had the one amendment and two statutes and all of that and that took two hours and this is I think a lot more umm so the committee any objections to adding it to next week's agenda. None. Ok so next is trying to figure out who we want official statements from. So as chair what I will do is after this meeting before the next meeting I will get official statements from whoever the committee decides that they would like official statements from and then along with any other evidence that those people would like to submit and they will have until I believe its let me double check real quick in our SOP's. They have 24 hours before committee meeting so they would have until were not open on Sunday though so they can email it right. Ok so they have until Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 259 pm for me to receive their official statements and any additional evidence because we need to make sure that we have a time stamp on it because we need we receive it at least 24 hours in advance and so now the committee needs to decide who we would like the statements from. Senator Waid

Waid: I would guess obviously the three violators

Kristen: Senator Serikyaku

Amuru: The webmaster Maggie Hall.

Kristen: Senator Seitz

Seitz: Uh I was just going to say I feel like those are the only relevant names we would need any information from at this moment in time

Kristen: SGATO director Gary Manka

Manka: Just a point of information the transcribers have a role in this too so you all need to look at either the transcriber or the position who has authority over those transcribers

Kristen: Senator Waid

Waid: Who is the person of authority over?

Kristen: Pro tempore Aziz

Abdool: So the transcribers their names, there's four of them

Waid: The person who is in charge of the transcribers

Abdool: Yeah that would be me

Kristen: ok so is the committee saying pro tempore Aziz, Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: And then maybe the transcribers themselves that way they know well just to make sure they give their information to you right

Kristen: The only difficult part with that is we would have to double check when they were hired in relation to the term and so if we did want to go that route we would just have to see when they were hired and then when the meetings were when they were assigned to certain meetings and everything pro tempore Aziz

Aziz: And also the person who filed the grievances and also for the other branches cause all three branches there's for the executive branch we got Alex, Alex and Daniel and the court is

Alex Johnson: Mikayla and Rose

Abdool: Mikayla Rose

Kristen: Ok would anyone in the committee like to add them to the list. Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Pro tempore Aziz

Kristen: So Katharine Orr the person who submitted the grievance, Alexander Johnson and Daniel Christopher from the executive branch and Mikayla Rose from the judicial branch. Senator Waid

Waid: Just a question, would this not serve as a statement from the person who made the grievance

Kristen: It can however in the last investigation we gave them the opportunity if they wanted to make an additional statement so as chair I think it's good if we maintain consistency. Senator Guerra

Guerra: Why do we need a statement from Mikayla if we have the one from Sammy?

Kristen: because she's the official judicial clerk so I think that because we're getting it from, we're not getting it from the actual transcribers of the legislative branch however Alexander Johnson and Daniel Christopher are the transcribers from the executive branch is that correct

Alex: it's not in my title but I just do it, it's not in my responsibilities anywhere but I just voluntarily do it

Kristen: And then Mikayla Rose from the judicial branch. What was your question again?

Liz: Why do we need the statement from Mikayla if we have one from Sammy but you said because she is the official clerk?

Kristen: so going off of that if we do decide to go with Alex Daniel Mikayla although we would have to look into hiring dates and everything I think it would be important to have it within all the branches then in which expanding this to the four transcribers and so within all one two three, within all seven we would have to see what the dates in hiring and all of that was to see what matches with meetings and everything. umm trying to think I for, is there anyone else that the committee believes we should include, I think the important piece of evidence would be trying to see if maybe anything was posted around the office at those times or the SG website itself, but that's something we can investigate...

Cirillo: Yeah that's not (?)

Kristen: during investigation procedures, and what I would do is send emails to all these people. I'll name them out and if anyone has any problems just let me know. We have Jean Cocco, Andy Rodriguez, Sammy Hamed Maggie Hall, Pro tempore Abdool Aziz, Katharine Orr, Alexander Johnson, Daniel Christopher,



Mikayla Rose, Cameron Moody who is one of the senate transcribers, Alison Summers, I have all of their names, Holly Imfeld

Abdool: And Yzel, Y-Z-E-L

Kristen: Yzel Borja

Abdool: B O R J A

Kristen: Borja so I will contact all of these people.

Abdool: Did you include Maggie

Kristen: yes Maggie hall is on this list. Senator Waid

Waid: What happens if one of these people doesn't get the statement to us?

Kristen: then that's something the committee will take into consideration because this is there opportunity to tell the committee there side of the story I guess is the best way to put it. What we did last time was we only requested official statements from these people because we didn't feel it was necessary to bring them into committee to speak because we do have that option where is it. Umm ok the statements much reach the committee and then any evidence if deemed necessary the committee may also request the individuals in question to appear before the committee. so what we could do is ask for all the official statements go over that on November 10<sup>th</sup> and then if deemed necessary we could call them in on November 17<sup>th</sup> if we haven't come up with a conclusion yet, so what does the committee think about that. Senator Serikyaku

Amuru: That plan that you just laid out sounded excellent

Kristen: Good. Ok is there any more discussion, nope, ok well then moving on down the agenda, I will give chairmanship back to senator Serikyaku

Amuru; hello again, umm do we motion for announcements, no so we're going to move into announcements now. Anybody have any announcements Senator Cirillo

Cirillo: Only one and I can't believe I forgot about this when we were doing the confirmation of Dustin Cockman for supervisor of elections, did John Quiroz the supervisor of elections recuse himself from the voting procedures when they voted on the final two candidates for which one would get confirmed and which one would not because I know of a potential conflict of interest

Kristen: Wait who

Cirillo: John Quiroz, the supervisor of elections

Kristen: Pro tempore Aziz

Abdool: yes

Cirillo: he did recuse himself

Abdool: I mean there was no the vote happened there was no tie

Cirillo: Ok so he didn't have a vote

Abdool: There was no tie in...at the end of the day it's still the committee only recommends and he selects

Cirillo: Oh he selects

Abdool: Same thing like the student body president the committee can recommend Kristen but it can still pick (?) it rarely happens but it's in that possibility

Cirillo: so did the committee recommend that candidate

Kristen: Are you talking about the hiring committee

Cirillo: yeah the hiring committee did they recommend it

Abdool: I was on both...I remember there was a top two to pick, this candidate and another candidate

Cirillo: You don't remember which one the candidate picked

Kristen: Senator Seitz do you

Seitz: No I was just going to say that umm I feel like if you're unsure he's still not confirmed he still has to go through senate so these are questions that you can ask in senate

Kristen: Tomorrow

Seitz: yeah because we don't have the answers

Amuru: Any other announcements chairwoman Truong

Kristen: Ok so these official grievances form that I gave you if you could keep these or give them back to me that'd be great. Also I do want to stress how we are judiciary and ethics and going into this you should be completely unbiased this grievance should not be discussed outside our committee meetings therefore if someone asks you about it you can say that like you don't want to speak about it or if they have any questions you can direct them to me because none of us should be influenced by anything anyone else says cause they're not the ones actually sitting in on these meetings and doing the investigation so if anyone asks you you are more than welcome to direct them to me also if you would like to discuss the actual grievance or if you have any questions about it you can talk to SGATO so that would be Evan Liebor Gary Mancka. So are there any questions about that. Senator Waid

Waid: So all of the discussion will be done during our meeting so we won't have a copy of that to look into it before next meeting.

Kristen: No because we're going into this completely with a fresh mind not really doing any of that cause we're going to be going through every single statute we are going to be picking at everything. While we're there, just like last time they had nice folders that had the grievance and had all of the evidence official statements printed out so you can take notes on all of that so each one of you guys will have that that's why we need everything 24 hours in advance so then they'll be, they'll look nice (?) anyways, that's, oh who wants to chair next meeting minus the actual grievance part, anybody, you already chaired though. Senator Waid. So we will have senator Waid chair the next meeting and Senator Cirillo do you want to do the next one

Cirillo: Sure

Kristen: Ok so also I'll send you how to chair a meeting kind of thing so you guys know what to do and then also does anyone want to do the committee report in senate tomorrow first person to raise their hand, senator Cirillo or wait who was first. I guess it makes sense since you're chairing

Amuru: I don't mind doing it but if someone wants to I'm not going to kill you for it

Kristen: well you chaired so it makes sense so then Waid and then I guess I don't know well figure it out when it gets there who does what but you can put your report tomorrow...

Amuru: Cool

Kristen: SGATO director Gary Manka

Gary: Composites tomorrow, if you signed up be there, come dressed, thank you

Kristen: Did everybody sign up

Gary: it's in the chambers...

Cirillo: Is there a tie for men

Gary: a USF tie

Waid: Oh you'll have one for us

Kristen: every single JEC member will be in that composite. Ok I'm done.

Amuru: Any further announcements, Senator Guerra

Liz: Thanks for the pizza Kristen

Kristen: Oh you're welcome, JEC is the best committee guys

Amuru: All right any other announcements.

Kristen: Oh good job to

Amuru: Chairwoman Truong

Truong: Good job for senator Serikyaku for chairing today

Amuru; Ok uh Senator Seitz

Seitz: Motion to adjourn

Amuru: If there are no further announcements, uh this meeting are there any objections to adjourning the meeting. Seeing none this meeting is adjourned at 755 November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015

**Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.**

*Transcribed by Senate Transcriber Cameron Moody*