## **SENATE AGENDA**

# 11/16/2021 Joslin Senate Chamber

MIAMI 1974

- I. Call to Order
- II. Two Minutes of Silence
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Announcements from the Chair

# V. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of Student Senate minutes from 11/16/2021
- b. Approval of Safety minutes from 11/21/2021
- c. Approval of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion minutes from 11/21/2021
- d. Approval of Funding & Audit minutes from 11/21/2021
- e. Approval of Steering minutes from 11/18/2021
- f. Approval of Elections minutes from 11/21/2021
- g. Approval of Academic Affairs minutes from 11/21/2021
- h. Approval of Infrastructure & Sustainability minutes from 11/10/2021
- i. Approval of Infrastructure & Sustainability minutes from 11/17/2021
- j. Approval of Communications & Media Relations minutes from 11/11/2021
- k. Motion to approve consent calendar by unanimous consent
- I. Motion is seconded
- m. Motion is approved

# VI. Student Concerns

- Parliamentarian Elghazawi: I am reporting for Secretary Manley, he is working on greater accommodations for religious transportation and will have a better answer by next semester.
- b. Senator Ryan Parker: I am reporting back on the wifi issue, the administration has been made aware of it.
- c. Senator Payne: We are trying to get a better answer on Senator Gate's concern.
- d. Secretary Agee: We have reached out to the Miller Center about the chamber's accessibility.
- e. Secretary Pallant: NPHC should reach out to Kim Vance about their concern. Senator Payne and I will be looking at
- f. Senator Roemer: IT has paused updates to the wifi until Finals are over, so the service should be better and less inconsistent
- g. Senator Hughes: It is extremely dark walking towards uptown.
- h. Secretary Sutton: I encourage you to commit that, I will work with Secretary Manley on it.

- i. Motion to commit to Safety
- j. Motion is seconded
- k. Motion is approved
- I. Senator Walker: Recently a lot more people are taking the bus, and there has been a serious decline in the timing of the buses. The buses are often extremely late and there's no way to track them.
- m. Senator Adrianna Parker: There is a different app now, both apps work but the new app (Transit) is much better
- n. Senator Walker: My major concern is with scheduling, buses are often late and there are no set breaks for drivers, furthering the issue.
- o. Secretary Pallant: I can work on this with the Parking Advisory Committee.
- p. Motion to commit to On-Campus
- q. Motion is seconded
- r. Motion is approved
- s. Senator Chima: There is an issue with F&A communications and SEAL, there is confusing wording about deadlines and when the applications are actually due.
- t. Motion to commit to F&A
- u. Motion is seconded
- v. Motion is approved
- w. Senator Chima: Professors assigned work during the holiday break, and since we don't have wellness days now my constituents are concerned that our breaks are not being treated like breaks.
- x. Motion to commit to Academic Affairs
- v. Motion is seconded
- z. Motion is approved
- aa. Secretary Pallant: I have a concern about the frequency of SEAL workshops. We were told they would be recorded and that we would be able to make it up, but neither happened.
- bb. Director Gates: The recordings are usually on the SEAL page on the Hub/
- cc. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: The original concern was responded to on October 25th. The response said that SEAL would take action about communications.
- dd. Senator Gay: I have heard many concerns about what happened at Hillcrest and the lack of carbon monoxide detectors.
- ee. Senator Harvey: The Safety committee discussed this at our second to last meeting, we'll be trying to bring air quality tests.
- ff. VP McKeon: President Jett and I have not had our regular meetings with administrators since this occurred, and we are going to ask for more relevant
- gg. Alternate Vorderer: This is an issue that has already reached parents, and there are several dorms that don't run on geothermal energy.
- hh. Motion to commit to Safety
- ii. Motion is seconded
- jj. Motion is approved

- kk. Senator Chima: I would like to commit a concern about carbon monoxide detectors in all buildings on campus.
- II. Motion to commit to Safety mm. Motion is seconded nn. Motion is approved
- VII. Reports A: Safety Committee Updates, Secretary Harper Sutton
  - a. Secretary Sutton: We are working on several things in the Safety committee. Firstly, we are trying to publicize the RAVE guardian app. We are trying to better market it to students. The lighting audit has been completed and I will send the information to the Miller Center. We are communicating with CSDI about the availability of sharps disposal. We are trying to encourage content warnings on safety bulletins sent to students. We are also working on the steps for depth initiative. We are trying to get HIV and STI testing back in CSDI, and we are looking to make it more regular. We are trying to rename the indoor field from Ben Rothlesburger. We are working on training for bars to make their experiences safer for patrons. We are working on course list accessibility as well. Next semester, we will be doing a residence hall air quality audit, testing for various things such as mold. Please come to me if you'd like to work on a Safety initiative!
  - b. Senator McLaughlin: In terms of bar training, how will that be conducted and why are they dragging their feet?
  - c. Secretary Sutton: The bars are iffy on bringing an outside source to train their teams. We are trying to not make it look like a threat; rather just an opportunity to improve. We tried to start with smaller bars, and I'm hoping with revamped communication this will happen.
  - d. Director Gates: In terms of next semester, what are the concrete steps in supporting the Nighthawks program?
  - e. Secretary Sutton: We are looking forward to working with Secretary Waugh on this. The most important thing with this is finding the right people to work on this.
  - f. Senator Tucker: Can you explain more about what SAAM is?

    TW: SIV
  - g. Secretary Sutton: SAAM is Sexual Assualt Awareness Month. We'll be tabling and raising awareness during this time. I am super interested in ideas you all have to increase our outreach. End TW.
  - h. Senator Tiefenthaler: What will the turnaround be like for the lighting audit?
  - Secretary Sutton: I will be sending Physical Facilities a concise spreadsheet about the results of the audit. I am hoping the improvements will be completed by the Spring semester.

- VIII. Report B: Embracing Differences Initiative, Senator Victoria Ogunnowo
  - a. Senator Ogunnowo: Something I noticed is an increase in bias on campus, and I want to create a space for people of all backgrounds to talk about issues. I wanted to create a more personal event and I have added short interview sessions as well. The goal of this initiative is to have spaces for students to share their issues and what they would like to see changed. I sent out a survey last week to promote collaboration. I am working with Secretary Walter, and the Comms committee will provide the medium to do this. CSDI will also help share the message through their newsletter. If you would like to help with this initiative, please reach out! Ten multicultural organizations have expressed interest so far. Next, we will finalize the interview guidelines, and there will be one interview with one community per month. Interviews will be started next semester, and the plan is to create a detailed report for the end of the semester.
  - b. Senator Tucker: I heard you got responses from the podcast, where did those come from?
  - c. Senator Ogunnowo: The podcast will be the responses from the interviews, and CSDI will send it out to students through their newsletter.

#### IX. Old Business

- X. New Business Item A: SB212206: A Bill to Update the Student Trustee Bylaws to Reflect Current Practices
  - a. Senator Davies: I am here with Student Trustee Kaur to present this bill. The bylaws that describe the Trustee selection process are outdated and haven't been reviewed since 2016. A lot of the rules have changed over time, but the bylaws do not reflect these changes. We added several changes, as reflected in the legislation.
  - b. Senator Chima: How long has this been outdated?
  - c. Student Trustee Kaur: I did not know there were bylaws for the process, and there has been a long time since someone knew about it. For about 7 years this has been outdated, but the moment we found out we tried to fix it.
  - d. Senator Gay: I had a question about the langauge in the section that describes studying abroad.
  - e. Student Trustee Kaur: As a trustee, you are not allowed to study abroad during the summer. Sometimes our dates fall on dates during the winter, so that is up in the air.
  - f. Senator Stein: I appreciate the work done by the authors on this, and it is important to reflect what we are doing in the bylaws.

- g. VP McKeon: Thank you so much to the authors and to Student Trustee Kaur, SBP Jett and I are in full support.
- h. Motion to end debate and call to question
- i. Motion is seconded
- j. Motion is approved
- k. SB212206 passes.
- XI. New Business Item B: SR212207: A Resolution to Exempt the Unity Funding Cap
  Pro Temp Payne Note: So sorry I missed the beginning of this y'all
  - a. Senator Hemrick: We are asking that the funding cap and unity cap be broken just this once. Nighthawks is incredibly important and we are happy to be pushing it.
  - b. Senator Parker: This is contingent on the Dean's Advisory Board maintaining Tier 1 Red Brick Rewards status.
  - c. Senator Grabow: Do you have any student organizations to provide support in mind?
  - d. Secretary Waugh: We're going to leave it up to DAB. In my correspondence, SASS and Hawks Peer Health Educators have been mentioned as potential organizations.
  - e. Senator Hughes: I've heard complaints about how SafeRide stops at 3 AM and that this stops between 3-6 AM, what will happen with this?
  - f. Secretary Waugh: We don't have a solution for 3-6 AM, but this is better than nothing.
  - g. Senator Parker: OPD has a similar program, but many have reservations in contacting the police. This program makes it so that students will be the ones helping students.
  - h. Senator Pollock: How will students be trained to deal with intoxicated individuals?
  - Senator Hemrick: Nighthawks will be paid student positions. Students will undergo a lot of training that we are planning right now. Please feel free to message us with feedback and/or questions at any time during the process.
  - j. Senator DeVictor: Nighthawks will complete a 2-day training session with MUPD, including policies and de-escalation tactics.
  - k. Senator Davies: Does Nighthawks apply to under 21-year-olds?
  - I. Secretary Sutton: This legislation is not about the training, it is about providing the funding for the program.
  - m. Alternate Vorderer: Do you guys have an idea about the hiring process?
  - n. Senator Parker: We don't have a ton of answers about specific things yet?
  - o. Director Gates: Is the decision to end the hours at 3 AM based on the finances?
  - p. Secretary Waugh: That is what I was told by DAB.
  - q. Senator Walker: How would this program go to address SIV that occurs on-campus?

- r. Secretary Sutton: Having a safe walk prevents things in the room from happening, it's not the end all be all but by having the extra buffer you may be preventing untrustworthy people from entering your room. This is just a start to fix the issue.
- s. Senator Chima: Is there precedent for taking away the funding cap, and do you think this will happen again?
- t. Secretary Waugh: They may make requests, but it would be a much smaller number in the future.
- u. VP McKeon: To be clear, the purpose of this bill is to waive the cap, but please know that we are not voting on making the program happen. Where would be a good place for concerns about this to go?
- v. Secretary Sutton: I or Senator DeVictor can take concerns to DAB or Dean Moore herself.
- w. Senator Davies: I am in support of this resolution. There are some small details to work out, but I am in full support of this resolution.
- x. Senator Stack: Last year, I was running point on changes to SafeRide and later to work on Nighthawks. We were told many times that we didn't have the funding for it and therefore couldn't do it. I am in full support of this.
- y. Director Gates: We have a lot of excess money and the senators did a great job.
- z. Secretary Sutton: I don't think there is a better use of our student fee dollars.
- aa. Motion to end debate and call to question
- bb. Motion is seconded
- cc. Motion is approved
- dd. SB212207 passes.
- XII. New Business Item C: SR212208: A Resolution Condemning Ohio House Bill 327
  - a. Speaker Villanueva: ASG is a nonpartisan organization. This bill is nonpartisan, as this went through several rounds of Steering. The authors will talk about the avenues that they went through.
  - b. Senator Chima: We hope you all had the opportunity to read through this. This resolution is to condemn HB 327, which would put higher education and civil rights in jeopardy. It would promote the "non-use of divisive concepts", placing harsh punishments on universities, professors, and students. Miami is committed to providing a liberal arts education. We want to emphasize President Crawford's words, in that "our legal system has failed the Black community over and over again." Miami University has the responsibility to protect the free speech of its students, and HB 327 would prevent harsh topics from being discussed. Students' right to expression is being threatened by this bill. By passing this legislation, ASG would officially condemn HB 327. Furthermore, the DEI committee will partner with Academic Affairs and Governmental Relations to host a forum to promote information about HB 327. This bill would also be used

alongside USenate's Sense of the Senate that has already been passed to show the school's stance. We will be informing and educating students about what HB 327 is, but we will not be speaking on behalf of Miami to the state of Ohio. HB 327 has been essentially tabled, but should it continue through the process members of the DEI committee will travel to the statehouse and testify.

- c. Senator Madrigal: Is there a certain number of ASG members that can go to the statehouse?
- d. Senator Bakshi: No, whoever wants to.
- e. Senator Chiapelli: Because it says ASG condemns this bill, does this mean everybody in ASG? Including those that don't vote for it?
- f. Speaker Villanueva: A condemnation insinuates that a majority of ASG supported the act.
- g. Senator Stein: Why did you choose to make this a resolution rather than a Sense of the Senate?
- h. Senator Chima: There are actionable steps to this, and we feel that if we are condemning it we should be able to go to the statehouse and testify against it.
- i. Senator Stein: Why do you believe that it is urgent to pass this now?
- j. Senator Bakshi: We would like to be prepared because we don't know if/when the bill will be progressed. We are concerned about the possibility that it could move forward during a time where ASG is not in session.
- k. Senator Constantinidis: It is better to be prepared because we are on the statehouse's time.
- I. Senator Chiapelli: If another bill pops up, would the same process this resolution undertook be used?
- m. Senator DeVictor: We don't know about hypotheticals, but this bill pertains to HB 327.
- n. Senator Grabow: This resolution has to be used with HB 327 due to the language used in the whereas clauses. It's very important to be specific and to do it right.
- o. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: What were Randi Thomas's thoughts about this bill?
- p. Speaker Villanueva: Randi Thomas is the ASPIRE office's Vice President.
- q. Senator Stephens: Essentially, he stressed the importance of being careful and moving in tandem with the university. We don't want the university to wake up the sleeping giant and to be controversial. It is pertinent that we educate students on the matter. He gave us the green light to have conversations should this pass. He also expressed the need to have dissenting opinions as a university.
- r. Alternate Jedlicka: Would this not mean that it would be devastating to the teachers that teach these subjects?
- s. Senator DeVictor: It would be, this is a part of our legislation. The passage of this bill would limit coursework and potentially lead to layoffs.

- t. Senator Chima: There will also be harsh penalties for defying this bill should it be passed.
- u. Secretary Stephens: Randi mentioned that the university is trying to stick to the Best Teaching Practices. I think we can agree that we want bias in classrooms and for a lack of subjective material being taught.
- v. Senator Chiapelli: One of my problems with this bill is that it sets a poor precedent to condemn anything the statehouse does that you disagree with. Is this true?
- Senator Chima: We are here to represent the student body, and this is our responsibility.
- x. Senator Ogunnowo: This HB directly affects the student body, and other bills may not do so.
- y. Secretary Stephens: This bill is tailored towards HB 327, and nothing else. Other universities have publicly addressed this issue, and we have not. I don't know the majority of this room, and it is up to the individuals to make this decision.
- z. Senator Grabow: This is so important, not because it is a political measure. This bill could cause extreme detriments to the university, professors, and students.
- aa. Senator Ryan Parker: Something that is said often is that we are representing the student body. They would be negatively affected if HB 327 passed, and therefore we should pass it.
- bb. Senator Madrigal: USenate has already passed this, and to vote against this would be to go against what the university stands for.
- cc. Senator Pollock: Secretary Stephens mentioned that this is a matter of education and proceeding with caution. I think proceeding with a formal condemnation would be dangerous, and I think that a condemnation as a precaution is not a good idea.
- dd. Senator Stein: I think ASG members should go to the statehouse, but I don't think it should be a blanket statement.
- ee. Senator Harvey: I think passing this resolution protects the free speech of all students, regardless of the stance.
- ff. Senator Walker: Our silence would speak volumes should we not pass this.
- gg. Alternate Vorderer: We are condemning the contents of the bill and nothing else.
- hh. Senator Ogunnowo: HB 327 is extremely vague, and I urge you all to pass this resolution.
- ii. Senator Chiapelli: If you have any questions about the status of the bill, talk to Taylor Armstrong. This bill is going to the floor of the House soon. I think this resolution expresses the will of the entire student body whereas the entire student body does not support. The Steering committee needs to reconsider their choice to condemn political topics.
- jj. Senator Hemrick: My major would be eliminated if this is passed. I disagree that the majority of the students would not support this bill.

- kk. Senator Davies: I think we should support this resolution, and we are elected by the student body to represent them.
- II. VP McKeon: I want to commend the authors of this bill. I think this bill censors our professors, and I think our university should have our back against this blatant censorship. There is no organization that has more of a mandate to do this than ASG.
- mm. Senator Grabow: I would encourage anyone that disagrees with this bill to look through and find anything political. It talks strictly about Miami's stance and I would love to hear possible amendments.
- nn. Senator Schreiber: I have a lot of families that perished in the Holocaust. I think that HB 327 restricts access to history, and I encourage you to pass this bill.
- oo. Senator Hughes: After the pandemic, social science majors took a hit because universities feel they are expendable. I would strongly encourage you to support this resolution.
- pp. Director Gates: USenate has already passed this. Miami is already cutting programs, and humanities have taken a hit during this time. I recognize the concerns with this, but we are looking at the erasure of access to information. ASG is able to represent the student body, but there are many groups left out of ASG. I think we have the leeway to operate in a way that we can say what we're doing.
- qq. Secretary Stephens: I am proud of this conversation we're having.

  Speaking for myself, much of the information in these bills build upon fear and hate that has existed for a long time. We should be celebrating diversity and welcoming dissenting opinions.
- rr. Secretary Pallant: I am concerned about this legislation in that it asks for several things. I don't feel like we should say ASG condemns something if 100% of ASG does not support it.
- ss. Alternate Jedlicka: If we were to receive the punishments, this would be extremely detrimental to the university and to the students.
- tt. Senator Madrigal: I would not want to go to a university that would lose these programs, and this would happen if this bill passes.
- uu. Alternate Vorderer: The main issue is a restriction on topics and this debate should be viewed as such.
- vv. Senator Pollock: I tried to organize a walkout in highschool which was denied because it was partisan. I still hold this belief and I think the word "condemn" is dangerous in this context.
- ww. Senator Stein: Motion to amend the bill
- xx. Motion is seconded
- vv. Motion is denied
- zz. Senator Schreiber: I'm not sure why this is seen as a partisan issue, as we are a nonpartisan body voting whether to condemn a partisan bill.
- aaa. Senator Stack: One more time, this is not about politics. It is about the ability to think and appreciate other viewpoints.
- bbb. Motion to end debate and call to question

ccc. Motion is seconded ddd. Motion is approved eee. SB212208 passes.

# XIII. New Business Item D: SR212209: A Resolution to Hold Hub-Based Special Elections Next Spring

- a. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: The Elections committee worked on this resolution. We anticipate that there will be 10 or more openings, and we believe it would be inefficient to hold special elections. Therefore, we believe we should hold the elections on the Hub. It would be a one time thing and would make things a lot easier.
- b. Senator Tiefenthaler: Do you have a concrete plan to market the elections?
- c. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: We don't have one yet, but Elections will work to create this plan over Winter Break, focusing on getting candidates and voters.
- d. Senator DeVictor: Do you think this would cause confusion for future elections?
- e. Speaker Villanueva: We can talk about this as an Elections committee. The biggest goal of this was to make sure that students are properly represented. I feel uneasy about electing internally when so many seats are being filled. It coincides with SBP elections, furthering the education opportunity.
- f. Director Gates: Do we have any concerns about the timing?
- g. Speaker Villanueva: The timing is based on precedent.
- h. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: The timing is deliberate, and the goal is to make sure we have these elections as early as possible.
- Senator Dooling: I think this is a great legislation and I think we should vote to pass it.
- j. Senator Tiefenthaler: I second that, I am concerned about the quick turnaround of the election, and I think a strong marketing plan is essential for this to work.
- k. Senator Harvey: I think we should all support this resolution.
- Alternate Vorderer: I have no idea how these elections work, but I think holding these elections online would make things a lot easier.
- m. Senator Davies: Marketing has been a large concern for me. I think the importance of voting on this now is high because we need to work on this over Winter Break.
- n. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: Having constituents elect senators is always favorable to having the Senate elect people.
- o. Motion to end debate and call to question
- p. Motion is seconded
- q. Motion is approved
- r. SB202109 passes.

# XIV. Special Business of the Day

## XV. General Announcements

- a. Speaker Villanueva: I'm sorry I spent the first five minutes yelling at you guys, I didn't like it at all. I would not have said that if I didn't think you all were capable of great things. I love you guys and this body, and I fell short this semester as well. I truly have so much faith in everyone and we would love to see you all this semester.
- b. Secretary Pallant: I got the number of meal swipes donated: Over 5,000! Huge shoutout to everyone that tabled! We have our four district outreach events this weekend!
- c. Senator Davies: The Miami University Symphony Orchestra is performing this Friday. Also there is an a capella concert happening on Saturday!
- d. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: Thank you all for the thoughtful debate on the third piece of legislation. I am the president of MESA, and there will be baklava on Wednesday! Have a good Winter Break!
- e. Senator Ogunnowo: The link to my initiative is in the Slack!

# XVI. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn
- b. Motion is seconded
- c. Motion is approved



# **Administrative Committee**

# Parliamentarian Omar Elghazawi

## 02 December 2021

- I. Roll Call
  - A. Put your name here once you've read/responded: Jack Latham, Eli Davies
- II. Announcements from the Chair
  - A. Scheduling meetings for next semester
- III. Icebreakers
  - A. Rose and Thorn
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
  - A. Looking to Next Semester
    - 1. A Break from Bylaw Updates
    - 2. Bigger focus on history collection, at least to start
      - a) Eli: I'm planning to go through the website's files and see what is stored on the website. I'd also love to go through the stuff in the office and find how we can store things better.
  - B. Achievements of the Semester
    - 1. What did you do this semester in ASG that you're proud of?
      - a) Eli: Trustee selection process and associated bylaw updates
- VI. Action Items
  - A. Rock your finals?
  - B. Have a good break!



# VII. Adjournment



# **Communications and Media Relations Committee**

Jenna Walter

2 December, 2021

# I. Roll Call

A. Present: Marissa Webb, Waverly Dooling, Eli Davies

B. Excused: Alexis Riske

C. Unexcused: Cooper Morton, Adrianna Parker

## II. Rose and Thorn

- A. Eli: Thorn: Wanted a higher grade on a paper Rose: Paper is done and didn't affect grade too much, doing well in classes Bud: A cappella concert
- B. Adrianna:
- C. Marissa: Rose: Evaluation with the prof and he was really nice and made her feel reassured! Thorn: Got booster and flu shot and afraid of side effects Bud: A Cappella Concert
- D. Waverly: Thorn: Feeling sick Bud: Upcoming job interview Rose: Cristmas party
- E. Cooper:
- F. Jenna: Thorn: Super busy week with lots of deadlines Bud: Finished projects and excited for Break Rose: Started j-term class and super pumped to be in California!

## III. Old Business

- A. Project Check-ins
  - 1. Eli: Trustee Media and DEI Podcast



- a) Trustee stuff is all updated on website, just need to finish up social media template after finals
- 2. Marissa: Senate nametags and Pick Your Portion
  - a) Will finish senate nametags by the time Spring semester starts
- 3. Waverly: Survey and marketing for multicultural orgs
  - Survey is done and on linktree, will make a social media post to advertise it
- 4. Cooper: Director of Trans Equity Template
- 5. Adrianna: Meal swipe graphics
  - a) Done

#### IV. New Business

- A. Senator Nametags
- B. Rescheduling cabinet photos
- C. Multicultural Organizations podcast (collaboration with the DEI committee)
- D. Hannakuah and Holiday Posts in General!
  - 1. Eli will take care of Hannakuah
- E. Any new ideas!
  - 1. Try something different for elections
    - a) Reaching out to different organizations and DAC
      - (1) Greek life, student athletes
  - 2. Red hawk radio
    - a) Another avenue of ways to distribute the DEI podcast
  - 3. Highlighting different student orgs

#### V. Action Items



- A. Marissa: Senate nametags
- B. Eli: Hanukkah Post
- C. Waverly: Make IG graphic story/post for multicultural orgs to let them know about our survey and opportunity to be featured on our page
- D. Adrianna:
- E. Cooper:
- F. Alexis:
- VI. Adjournment