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Abdool Aziz

University of South Florida, Student Government Senate President Pro Tempore, aaziz2@usf.edu

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Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:

Rodriguez: Okay I call this meeting of the Senate to order on Tuesday, September 2nd 2014 at 6:02 pm. um first item on agenda is Pledge of Allegiance. So everyone please stand. And Senator, hmm, Senator Lopez would you please lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance? (Inaudible) Okay. Umm… Senator Antar.

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

First Roll Call:

Rodriguez: Okay moving on the agenda, the next item is first roll call. So everyone please get out your clickers.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Click 1 to mark you are present.

Unknown Senator: (Inaudible) just walked in.

Rodriguez: Who did? I'll wait a couple more seconds.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Has everyone clicked in? Is anyone missing? Anyone el—oh. I'll wait. We’re still missing…

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Are you good? Miller, are you good? No? Okay, with the count of 32 present we will now move on.
Additions/Deletions and/or Clarifications to the Orders of the Day:

Rodriguez: The next item on the agenda is additions, deletions and/or clarifications to the orders of the day. Um. I have made one recommendation. Uh Senator Truong?


Rodriguez: Are there any objections to that motion? Seeing no objections, all three items have been striked. Uh Senator Aziz.

Aziz: I make a motion to move the VOC to after the Joint Resolution.

Rodriguez: Are there—well, he’s not here yet.

Aziz: Oh. Is he (inaudible)

Rodriguez: He’s running late. Go ahead, Alex.

Johnson: Uh Mr. Chris Johnson had a medical emergency.

Rodriguez: Do you rescind your motion or do you…


Ulloa: Um I move to move the VOC to after Fiscal Legislation.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to moving the VOC to after Fiscal Legislation? Seeing no objections (inaudible). Okay, are there any more motions? Do I see a motion to…? Senator Truong.

Truong: I motion to approve the agenda.

Rodriguez: Any objections to approving the agenda as is? Seeing no objections, the agenda is approved.

Additions/Deletions and/or Changes to the Minutes:

Rodriguez: Additions, deletions and/or changes to the minutes, there have been no minutes sent out. Do I see any motions? Senator Hiba.

Hiba: I motion to postpone minutes.

Rodriguez: Any objections to postponing minutes? Seeing no objections, minutes are postponed.

Legislative Branch Report:

Rodriguez: Um moving down, we have Legislative Branch Report and we’ll start with the Chairman of the Rules Committee, Senator Antar.
Antar: Hey, everybody. Welcome back! Or welcome for the first time if you guys weren’t here over
the summer. My name is uh Ali Antar but I just go by Ali Antar because it’s a lot easier for a lot of
people to pronounce. Um so I’m the Chairman, like Senator President Rodriguez just said, I’m the
Senator Chairman Committee on Rules. We meet Thursdays at 6 pm. Um this past week we actually
had a meeting, umm, which started a little bit early. Um for some certain extenuating circumstances
considering a bill. About six (inaudible) are being made. Uh, it’s regarding the Student Body
President seat on the local fee committee. If you guys wanna ask any questions about that um I’m
always up here and uh sometimes in the office, depends on the day. Um and upcoming for this next
week uh we’ll have that bill coming up again in addition to… The Title VIII Bill won’t come up
until November. Uh one of our new senators, Ms. Julians, has some legislation in the work that
might be up for then too but until then it’s just the Title VI Bill. Okay. That’s about it.

Rodriguez: Any questions for Senator Antar? Seeing no questions, we move on. Senator Truong
from JEC.

Truong: Hey guys, I’m Kristen Truong, the JEC Chair. So we didn’t meet this week because of
Labor Day but next week we’ll be having five confirmations and also what JEC has been kind of
doing this summer is we’ve been going over many many constitutions. Every single um Fiscal
Legislation that you see, that we ever go through, JEC has to approve it. So that’s always kind of
time consuming but they’re fun. Um we’re also going to be having Vice Chair elections since our
Vice Chair over the summer was an alternate senator. So if you’re on JEC committee and you’re
interested in running for Vice Chair just let me know. And we meet on Mondays at 3 pm. Are there
any questions?

Rodriguez: Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: Hi, everyone. My name is Corey, I’m the Chair for the Special Funding Committee. Umm so
we had an informal meeting today just to go over a little bit of Travel Grants because we’re gonna
be diving straight in next week. We have four Travel Grants to go over in our first meeting. Umm
we have Homecoming Grants due this Friday by 5pm. So I’ve gotten like 1 or 2 grants so far. Umm
and hopefully we’ll get more by Friday. We’ll also be starting on those next week. Umm Engineering
Expo Grant, I’m still waiting from the Engineering Expo Club so to see what we can do about that.
To see whether we can actually um… Set the dates and stuff for that. The final thing is the Signature
Event grant. Umm I’d like to get some… Should I do it now or later?

Rodriguez: You can mention it now.

Ulloa: Okay, um so I’d like to get some feedback for the Signature Event Grant. Umm, in the past,
we’ve had the trouble of organizations not really getting the concept of what the Signature Event
Grant’s purpose is. Umm so not only have I made it more clear in instructions on the actual grant
itself but I would like to change of the name of the Signature Event Grant. Umm, someone picked,
I guess, the most clear that we were talking about as uh the Sen Ex committee was the New
Traditions Grant. Umm, the purpose of the Signature Event Grant is for organizations to get
together to create new USF tradition. Um so I figured the New Traditions Grant and the updated,
uh I guess guidelines for the grant would make it more clear for organizations. Um so I'd like to get feedback based on that, to see what you guys think about that, because if so I have to go back and change all the statutes to make it reflect this. So what do you guys think about that name change? Is there any other ideas that would make it more clear and still sound good? Anybody? Cool, then we'll go with the New Traditions Grant. And hopefully that legislation will be back to Ally by this Thursday.

Rodriguez: Any questions for Senator Ulloa? Seeing no questions, we move on. Senator Hartmann of UCG.

Hartmann: Good evening everybody, my name is Brandon Hartman. I am the Chairman of the Committee on University, Community, & Government Affairs. We meet Wednesdays at 10 AM. So if you are available at that time and wanted to help out with Tent Days, get some positive points for prizes. Feel free to join in. Just some things coming up on our radar, our signups for UWC’s, which are University Wide Committees that umm basically recommend changes of the university to President Genshaft and Sen Ex USF. Big thing. SOP’s, we’re changing our standard operating procedures to smooth and uh basically make the committee more efficient. Voter registration working together with Government Affairs and the Exec. Branch. Then the next meeting, not tomorrow but next week, will be Vice Chair elections as well and planning for the Tent Day. Any questions?

Rodriguez: What’s up?

Unknown Senator: What was voter registration date?

Hartmann: Uh, I’m in the works on that actually so I can get back to you on that. Any other questions?

Rodriguez: Pro-Tempore Aziz

Aziz: Alright guys, my name is Abdool Aziz, the Pro-Tempore. And it’s really nice to see a full room of se- of Senate. So that’s really good. And if you guys need anything, don’t feel free to a—well feel free to ask. Email me anytime and I’ll respond and try to help you guys. Well, I mean, during summer, I tried to keep all the committees and senators involved, who have, during summer a good chunk of senators get positive points and Senate-Senate of the month. So guys keep up the good work. I’ll send out emails of like things that you can get involved in, so take advantage of that. Getting ideas from cool things that we could do, just send an email, we’ll do everything.

Rodriguez: Any question for Pro-Tempore Aziz? Seeing no questions, I'll quickly do my report. Hi, everyone. For those of you that don't know me, I'm Andy Rodriguez. Um I'm Senate President and like Abdool said, if you guys ever have any questions or anything you need help with um you can email me, call me, my office is down there, just come find me. Um besides that, I just have a couple of quick reminders. Um starting this week and moving forward every other week, you can expect to have a Senate meeting every week at Tuesday at 6. So don't make any plans, if it's ever cancelled, I'll
let you know um with as much notice as I can but we definitely won’t have any cancellations um for
the first month and a half or so. So umm, the other thing that I wanted to talk about was Senate
retreat. I know I’ve said it like three times in emails but I’ll say it one more time. Umm Senate retreat
is gonna be this Sunday, this coming Sunday at 10 AM. It’s at the ropes course. I expect everyone to
be there by 10 AM um so we can start on time. Wear comfortable clothes, bring water. Um food will
be provided. Eat breakfast… And we should be done by 5 o’clock. Oh, and wear comfortable
running shoes of some sort or athletic shoes. Um Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: Are we meeting here to take us to the park, are we gonna find rides ourselves…

Rodriguez: We’re gonna meet at the park. So if you guys wanna carpool, figure that out. Senator
Lopez.

Lopez: Is there gonna be any waivers that need to be signed?

Rodriguez: Yeah, the waivers will be signed at the actual place. Any other questions? Okay, seeing
no more questions…

Aziz: I forgot something.

Rodriguez: Okay, go ahead.

Aziz: Alright so Homecoming Grant is due this Friday so if you’re in a student org or have friends in
orgs, pass them out one of these flyers so they can get up to $1500 and they can request up to
$1550, and you can get like a float or they can buy candy or something at homecoming. So if you
know anyone, just pass on information.

**Executive Branch Report:**


Johnson: How’s it going everybody?

Johnson: Awesome! Thank you, Ryan. Alright. Umm, I’m Alex. I’m your Attorney General for your
55th Executive Term. I’m new to USF so it’s nice to see all of you who are new faces here at the
Senate. So umm just to let you know Cocco has a class during this time period so normally Rhondel
will be here to give you the report but he also had another conflict so that’s why I’m here. Alright,
so as far as the Executive Branch, Cocco, this week, has several BOT meetings in which he’ll be
discussing several issues going on the university. Also, he’s had several athletic events that, uh that
also all the Executive Branch, and Judicial Branch, and the Senate have also participated in including
the Huddle and Marshall Mayhem. Rhondel has been working with the Alumni Association, building
really good connections with them. And also, been building a strategic plan for all our three
executive agencies. Um I’m not sure if everyone has had the chance to look at the executive
structure but I’ll try to go over, quickly through it. Umm we have our Chief of Staff, Greg
Berkowitz, who has been hiring Bulls Radio Coordinators and our newest position, Auditor General.
Also he’s been dealing with some internal staff issues. Um but nothing too serious. As for myself, I have been reviewing the USA Today contract that’s up for renewal. Um finally finished with the Elections Revision Ad-Hoc. So hopefully—or actually you will see those two bills today in first reading. Um I finished several sets of minutes on behalf of the Executive Branch. Also, I’ve been uh charged from President Cocco for dealing with the Lakeland Teachout Students. So, I traveled to the Lakeland Teachout Site on the 22nd to meet with there graduate assistant, Jennifer Schneider, and then also traveled there on the 29th to audit the coffee room that they have with Chairman Johnson. Also, I’ve been bogged down with purchasing for catering of catered classrooms. Daniel Christopher who is our Solicitor General has written about four resolutions and he has set up a free legal aid network for all students here and the first session will be this Friday. Our CFO, Jeremiah Forbes, has been working on homecoming requests as well as Week of Welcome uh purchasing requests. Our Government Affairs Director, Ashely Garcia, has been working on SG’s platform concerning tuition, student loans, and textbook—or textbook affordability. Uh she has also organized and planned uh the department’s Voter Registration Day and the 2014 Fiscal Forum that will both be occurring in late September. Our University Affairs Director, Sidney Resmondo, has an event tomorrow called Pastries with the President. So if you all would like to come out to that, I encourage you to do so. It’ll be at 2pm in the office right here. And also she’s been working on what we call our UWC Expo. So uh, UWC stands for University Wide Committees, so if you’re interested in that get in contact with Ms. Resmondo. Community Affairs, our director Jeremy Redford, and his staff have been working on uh a meeting with about sixteen companies to um try to get internships for College of Business students as well as been working on Bulls Country discounts. The marketing for that is currently on hold due to some internal conflicts. But, again, nothing too serious. And also, he’s been reaching out to sports teams across the Tampa bay area so that way we can set up USF day with the Rays, the Bucs, all that nice stuff. Marketing, Daniel Rutkowski has been working on fixing his marketing requests so if you guys have marketing requests or are having problems with the application please get in contact with Mr. Rutkowski. Our Communications Director, Maggie Hall, uh just planned an event called The Huddle, in which we got to meet um the majority of the USF football team who uh had a great success this weekend. So if you see one of them, make sure you give them a pat on the back. And then, also, thank you to all the senators that came out, I know there were many of you that came out to that event so thank you for your participation. Also, Street Team Kick Off is gonna be next Tuesday September 9th at 5 pm in MSC 3707. All senators are welcome to come and mingle with those potential Street Team members as, they’re uh they’re interested in Student Government but maybe they haven’t found the right place so if you show face then possibly we can get up to 60 senator limit. Uh our Director of Programming, unfortunately, has resigned as of this morning so their AD has been working fairly hard. Working on Bull Blitz, about 700 students took the bus to this past football game. And USF set a record high this past football game with about 6,000 students at the game. So if you went, awesome. And uh I encourage everyone else to go to the next one. Also I’ve been working on what’s called AEX um, the Apartment Expo working with uh, off campus partners to make sure that students are well aware of their off campus housing options. And also I’ve been working with, um, the programing for Mr. and Mrs. USF. Student Government Computer Services, uh we reappointed uh our
Director, Mr. Fratesi, and he has hired and trained about 5 computer assistants. All doing very well. Did tons of purchasing, we also have new polos. So if you go on SGCS they have a pretty nice looking black polos. And also considered working with SGCS and the Bulls Radio stream concept. If you have any questions then you can either see Zack Kuiper, who is now the Director of Bulls Radio or Mr. Fratesi. SAFE Team, they’re in need of our Director, our current Director, Mike Hathaway, is in process of hiring Assistant Director to two dispatchers and 12 field staff. Also I’ve been working personally with him in renewing our Alert Cab Contract so that way, uh, students who are of the age to drink the alcohol can get a free cab ride once a month from an alcohol, uh, serving establishment to their home within Hillsborough County. And Bulls Radio has just recently hired a new DJ and they have done an amazing 25 events in the past 10 days for Week of Welcome. That’s all. Are there any questions? I know that was a lot, I’m sorry. I had a lot of stuff. Alright, sweet.
Thanks, guys.

Judicial Branch Report:


Hamed: Evening Senate, for those of you I haven’t met my name is Sammy Hamed, I work with the Judicial Branch. It’s nice to see you all in here, thanks for your time. Umm over the summer, we had a few declaratory judgment requests. Uh, we answered all those, you can find them online if you’re interested in reading through those. Uh recently we called the ERCR Revision Committee to order. Our first meeting is tomorrow, and basically, with that committee’s goal is to do is to get the ERCR ROP’s in compliance with the new Title VII, uh, if it’s passed. Um, our first general meeting tomorrow is 6 o’clock pm. You’re all more than invited, more than welcome to come. Uh, we’re having our, well I guess we’re all having our SG system wide summit. It’s scheduled for September 19th, 2014. It’s Friday after the first ASRC meeting. So we’ll have all three branches from all three campuses here, that’s always a great time. You guys are all invited again. Uh, the rest of our course planning and scheduling are Bull Markets and parking forms with pass for the rest of the semester. We just opened up our application for Judicial Clerk. So if you wanna be the clerk of the court, feel free to apply. Um and other than that we’re working on administrative things such as updating our judicial requests forms and other documents as well. Does anyone have any questions? Thank you guys so much for your time.

SGATO Report:

Rodriguez: Thank you, Sammy. Moving on we have the SGATO report. Director Manka.

Manka: Short and sweet. (Inaudible) All of you are so glum right now.

Aziz: There’s no food that’s why.

Manka: Just realize this is your very first meeting of the semester, right? So if you feel this bad now... what about three months from now, right? C’mon, get excited! Your senators, right? Alright, just
wanted to let you know that, everybody knows Jessica Morgan, my Assistant Director, took a job in New Student Connections so we’re in the process of gearing up this, uh, search for her next week. We have 40 plus applications and we have some members of student government sitting on that committee. And those of you that attended (inaudible), uh, a weekend or so ago. Thank you very much. I thought it was pretty successful and a good time. And just uh, sort of, follow up on some of the stuff Alex has shared regarding the contracts. Uh the contracts have currently been completed by Student Government and USF Bulls Radio. Courtman and Johnson, which are lobbyists. Prints across campus, that’s the free prints for students, and Tech Smart, we can go down and do stuff for student organizations down stairs. That has a 90 day contract that’s soon to expire. Contracts that are pending, uh, off campus housing website, students switching for off campus housing, Collegiate Leadership Program that, umm Attorney General mentioned and, again, Alert Cab, as Attorney General had mentioned. Contracts needing to be initiated this semester, SAFE Team and police that expires this year. Tech Smart, again, cause of 90 days and voting at election software expires in December. So I want to be short and sweet. Have a good night.


Hasan: Um, Chris Johnson. So he’s having a VOC today but he’s actually having a medical emergency but he will be here later. So could I motion to move the VOC to the ending and the Fiscal Legislative Reading right before that?

Rodriguez: Okay. The VOC is already all the way at the end still (inaudible). Oh, actually…

Hasan: After.

Rodriguez: Okay, are there any objections to her two motions? Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: I actually issued the VOC and I have a meeting at 9 o’clock so it’s got to be before that…

Senator: Um but he’s not gonna be here so leave it ‘til the end.

Rodriguez: Do you object?

Ulloa: I object.

Rodriguez: Do you rescind your objection—uh, your motion?

Hasan: No.

Rodriguez: Okay, with that, we’re going to have to vote on the motion.

Inaudible chatter

Ulloa: Can she rec—can you ask her to recite the statement?

Rodriguez: Senator Hasan, can you recite very briefly so Corey can make a claim.
Hasan: I rescind.

Rodriguez: Thank you.

Ulloa: If he’s still not here at that point, we can see what the status is and see what’s planned for next week if we really need. But I think it’s very important to at least wait to see if we could try to getting it when both of us can respond.

Hasan: Okay.

Rodriguez: Okay, thank you. Senator Hiba

Hiba: Just asking for point of information… Uh, changes to the amend—uh, amendment to the uh, Orders of the Day after we agreed on it requires a three fourths majority, right?

Senators: Yeah.

Inaudible chatter

Open Forum:

Rodriguez: Alright, so moving on to the agenda, Open Forum. Does anyone have anything for Open Forum? Pro tempore Aziz.

Aziz: Uh, just so you guys know that, we’re being live streamed on YouTube so if you wanna check yourself out after the meeting and what you say. Just go on the YouTube page and watch it… If you miss anything that we talked about (inaudible).

Rodriguez: Senator Hasan.

Hasan: So the VOC is not gonna be at the end but, you have—could you move the fiscal meeting right before it? Cause he says he wants to present it.

Aziz: It is.

Rodriguez: Yes, it’s—it’s still right before it. If he’s not here then…

Aziz: I can present the fiscal (inaudible).

Rodriguez: Okay… Alright. Anything else for Open Forum? Seeing nothing else, we will move on to General Business.

General Business:

1. Senate Pinning Ceremony

Rodriguez: Um so the first item in general business is the Senate pinning ceremony. Um it’s not something that’s happened every year but it’s something that we’re supposed to do every year. So
after speaking with a couple of people, what we’ve decided to do is we’re going to reread our Oath in Office, just so everyone knows why we’re here. Um and what our—what our purpose is as senators and then you guys all get a fancy pin. Did anybody not get their pin yet? No? Okay. Alright, so if everyone could please stand up and raise their right hand and repeat after me. (Inaudible).

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

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

Rodriguez: I, state your name.

Senators: I [Senators state their names].

Rodriguez: Do hereby affirm to uphold the office of Senator.

Senators: Do hereby affirm to uphold the office of Senator.

Rodriguez: To abide by the Student Body Constitution.

Senators: To abide by the Student Body Constitution.

Rodriguez: To uphold the Statutes incorporated therein.

Senators: To uphold the Statutes incorporated therein.

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

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

Joint Resolution on First Reading:

a. JB [R] 55-012 Welcome to Mark Kingston

Rodriguez: Okay, thank you. You may all sit down. Moving on, we have Joint Resolution on the first reading. Umm, we have JB [R] 55-0012 Welcome to Mark Kingston. Do I see any motions? Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: Uh, motion to enter the first reading of JB [R] 55-0012, Welcome to Mark Kingston.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to entering the first reading of JB [R] 55-0012? Seeing no objections, we are now in first reading.

Aziz: Alright, so this is JB [R] 55-012, written by Solicitor General Daniel Christopher

Unknown Senator: Combo
Aziz: And Alex Johnson, combination, and edited by myself. So, uh it’s welcome to Mark Kingston. It says, to offer our most sincere congratulations on becoming the new USF head coach. Here resolved by the University of South Florida student government assembled. Whereas, this assembly, with great esteem and bull pride, has been notified of the hiring of our new USF Baseball Head Coach Mark Kingston. Whereas, the Student Body of the University of South Florida would like to welcome Mr. Kingston to the Bull family. Whereas, Mr. Kingston has served in the Head and Assistant Coach positions at several other NCAA Division 1 University Baseball Programs and has been tremendously successful. Whereas, a copy of this resolution shall be given to Mr. Kingston and to the University of South Florida Tampa Campus. Therefore, be it resolved by the Senate of the University of South Florida Student Government Assembled, that on behalf of the student body, this body offers our best wishes and sincerest congratulations to Mr. Kingston for his outstanding accomplishments throughout his coaching career, and wish him the best of luck in his new position here at the University of South Florida.

Rodriguez: Senator Ulloa

Ulloa: I move to pass by acclimation.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to passing this bill by acclimation? Seeing no objections, this resolution passes and (inaudible).

Kingston: Thank you.

Inaudible chatter

Kingston: Alright, thank you very much. Thank you.

2. Fiscal Legislation on First Reading
   a. SB [A] 55-005 Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy

Rodriguez: Okay, moving down the agenda. We have Fiscal Legislation on first reading. And so the first bill is SB [A] 55-005, Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy. Do I see any motions? Do I see a motion to enter first reading? Senator Gibson.

Gibson: I move to enter first reading.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to entering the first reading of SB [A] 55-005? Seeing no objections, we will.

Aziz: To kindly explain… So the Appropriation and Audits Committee, they do annual funding for student organizations. Either orgs have missed the annual budget deadline for the renewal. So what they do is they, um, they deal with the organization and the committee reviews it. It goes through each um request and they make adjustments based on our standards. Which you’ll see here. And they have events. Their committee has a list of standards that they follow. So you’ll see, like when you see things like cut from standards and dates, it’s either um they follow their standards of their
committee and the date that they passed. So all these orgs have requested their budget and constitutions are um (inaudible). So here you see the purpose of the organization. You see what they requested and what was allocated. And these are the things that the committee reviews. I believe the excel sheet was emailed out so so you guys should have all of that. So it says the request was 980 and approved for 271. An overhead is like a 6%, they pay the university. This is their event. 1, 2… Yeah… (Inaudible) go back. Taylor.

Inaudible

Abdool: So Taylor had a motion.

Inaudible

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to voting on the SB [1] 55-005. Seeing no objections, we will now enter voting procedures. Okay. Please click 1 if you vote yes, 2 if you vote no, and 3 if you abstain. Has everyone voted? That was a yes. With the vote count of 33 to 0 to 3. Um if I could… with me as an abstaining vote. If I could have the two people that abstained to state why they abstained. Anyone? Who abstained? Raise your hand. Could you tell me why you abstained? Just for the record, it’s not for me.

Lopez: Um.

Rodriguez: Um go ahead. Ms. Lopez.

Lopez: Should I stand?

Rodriguez: Huh?

Lopez: Should I stand or?

Rodriguez: Yeah, you can, please stand.

Lopez: Umm, because I don’t know the what (inaudible). Honestly, 350 in meals (inaudible) I don’t how many of them (inaudible).

Rodriguez: Okay.

Unknown Senator:  It kind of just seemed like a lot of—very far off what they wanted (inaudible) I abstained.

Rodriguez: Go ahead Senator Antar.

Antar: Really quickly, umm. Voting in abstention uh means that you have a conflict of interest. If you don’t have enough information uh the course of action you’re supposed to take is to object to the motion to vote and inquire as to those pieces of information that you’d like to obtain. Seeing as the vote has already occurred um we can do a revote in that light. So the real, the normal reason that you abstain is, I’m the president of that organization uh so I can’t vote without some kind of
conflict of interest and that’s really just about it. Um so with that in mind, I would recommend as Parliamentarian that we take a recount and you guys use that information to either… Well, the motion has already passed we can’t change that. So, to just vote right now um and then in the future, when that situation comes up, just ask for the piece of information. Okay. That was really verbose but yeah.

Aziz: (Inaudible). To answer your question about the disparity between the requests and what they get. So an organization could request like any amount they want but the committee has fixed amount of dollars. So they have a set amount of standards like $2 for food, $3 for banquet, for banners and stuff so that’s how the committee decides that amount. They go through each and go through the standards of what we normally fund and that’s how they (inaudible) that amount. Based on the amount of estimated attendants for these organizations. We don't go based on how much, how many people are inside the club. We try to go (inaudible) neutrality. So each budget is a different objective.

Rodriguez: So do I see any motions? Senator Antar.

Antar: I mean, I don’t say, I'd like to motion to redo this vote for this bill.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to redoing the vote? Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Um seeing as there’s 36 votes total now, before there were 32. I motion—I counter motion to establish quorum—to reestablish quorum.

Rodriguez: Okay, so I will. We will reestablish quorum and then we’ll go back and vote again… Please click 1 to show that you are present. Has everyone clicked in? Looks like everyone. Okay. And we have a new count of 36 present.

Antar: In case my motion was… cause I rescinded my motion so I’d like to reinstate my motion to redo the vote count.

Rodriguez: Okay. Are there any objections to redoing vote count? Seeing no objections. Thank you. Please click 1 to vote yes, 2 to vote no, and 3 to abstain… There is one person missing.

Aziz: Anika just stepped out randomly.

Rodriguez: God. Okay, we have a count of 34 to 0 to 1 with me as the abstaining vote. This bill passes.

Rodriguez: Really quickly…

Antar: (Inaudible). When we're in the middle of a vote count, you’re not supposed to leave the room. Um the way that votes used to be done was roll call. So the secretary would literally sit in the front and call everybody’s name and say “how do you vote?” Um and that’s why that rule was there. Everybody’s like “oh, why is he so strict about about quorum during vote.” That's why it’s that way. Um and in the interest of keeping that tradition alive, and that reasonable tradition alive. Um you're
not supposed to get rowdy during votes and you’re not supposed to leave the room during votes. Um, just future information. Okay.

b. SB [A] 55-008 Moot Court

Rodriguez: Thank you, sir. Okay, moving on with the agenda. We have SB [A] 55-008. Do I see a motion? Senator Truong.

Truong: Motion to enter reading SB [A] 55-008.

Rodriguez: Are there no—are there any objections? Seeing no objections. Take it away Abdoool.

Aziz: Alright, this is Moot Court. (Inaudible) purpose. So the original request is $2697.70 and they were allocated $1351.50. So they got approved for a banner. Our standard is up to like 150 for a banner. Right?

Miller: Yes

Aziz: Ryan knows. T-shirts, uh committee does $5 a t-shirt. The maximum of $500. For advertisement maximum of $200. And fall speaker fee $150 or half of what they request. Fall banquet is usually $3 a head per person cause more expensive food. And recruitment events, usually fund one um recruitment event per semester and one banquet per semester and one social for semester and just the regular events. And due to the cuts from standards and regular events the committee usually funds about 8 events total. So that’s coming out to this number here.

Luong: Umm I uh Senator Trang Luong have the opinion about the the banner because I think, actually they can get a banner from free printing um like from the printing. Like they have a budget for $25 per semester and that’s count by square foot. And they can actually still have the banner from that allocation so we can cut that off.

Aziz: Well the way it works now, is like, once the bill is in Senate it either fails or it’s sent back to committee…

Unknown Senator: Or it’s approved.

Aziz: Or approved.

Inaudible chatter

Unknown Senator: Um I don’t think that they offer the same kind of banners. See a lot of student organizations wanna get really, you know, (inaudible) banners that aren’t paper and I don’t think (inaudible)

Inaudible chatter.

Aziz: Yeah, it’s kind of late, mid-year.
Rodriguez: Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: I can just comment on the banner thing. Typically what happens is ASRC sets standards for the organizations but they’re gonna do banners typically at 150. So technically if we say no to this banner then it’s unfair because all the other organizations before got the same amount for the same type of thing. So it’s just only fair that if you let this organization get cut then (inaudible).

Rodriguez: Um. Are there any other questions? Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Not a question but I motion to reestablish quorum.

Rodriguez: Alright. Please click 1 to mark that you are present… Is that everyone? Okay. And we have another quorum count of 36. With that, do I see any other motions? Senator Shiflett.

Shiflett: I motion to enter voting procedures on SB [A] 55-008.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to entering voting procedures on 55—SB [A] 55-008. Seeing no objections, we will now enter voting procedures. Please click 1 to vote yes, 2 to vote no, and 3 to abstain. We’re missing one person. Did somebody walk out?

Senators: Ali

Rodriguez: Okay. With the vote count of 32 to 2 to 1, with me as the abstaining vote, this bill passes.

Aziz: Also to side note. If you vote no, it would be good to express your dissatisfaction before the voting happens because what if it failed now that organization doesn’t get funding at all whereas you can just send it back to the committee if you’re not satisfied. You can have an input.

c. SB [A] 55-010 ISES Power

Rodriguez: Okay, so I do a motion to enter first reading of SB [A] 55-010? Senator Miller.

Miller: (inaudible)

Rodriguez: Any objections? Okay, we are now in first reading. Take it away Mr. Johnson.

Johnson: Hey, guys. How are you doing?

Unknown: Hi.

Johnson: Um I would just like to first apologize for the entire of the night, and how it had to change tonight but I uh I appreciate Abdool for taking care of the bills, I’m guessing you did the other one or two that. Thank you very much. Um International Solar Energy Society, People Organizing World Energy Reforms or ISES POWER as they’re uh much easier nickname is. They’re basically an organization that has two major goals. First of is uh advocating for uh renewable energy reform across the world. They do that in the form of uh the interest to awareness events, or uh socials where they talk about cool things like solar engineered panels and wind turbines and all that cool
stuff. Uh the other great thing is also the diversity that is impact of world reforms so it’s not just the first world it’s it’s places like Pakistan where there’s lots of students that are involved in organization, there’s places like India that have a lot of needs for this kind of reform and it really focuses on bringing those two key elements together. They asked for $5,766.40. Um we have recommended they only be allocated $4,017.40. Um mostly, not mostly, entirely because of uh the dates of which they submitted their bill. Uh their bill was submitted about a day after the last time Senate met which means that the bills that they would’ve wanted to do before the Senate meeting there’s no way we could’ve done because we had to cut back two of their events I believe. Uh other things from standards, they asked for too much on food on one event, things like that. Uh but uh pretty standard thing, the events they wanna have this year. They wanna have—they wanna have a WOW event for the fall and for the spring and on top of that first one, the second basically goes for like “hey, let’s table, let’s get some food out there.” Stuff like that. “Let’s uh introduce to the school what our mission is what our objective is.” Stuff like that. Their big events are also (inaudible) type activities. The idea is that they have graduate students instead of a university club and if anyone is interested in working on some pretty cool you know battery competitions. Stuff like that. So uh that was the research that the activity had in mind. And finally, as you can see those are actually the group research activity is the same basically as the renewable energy program. It’s the same kind of program they had in mind for the fall and the spring. They also had a uh, let me put this somewhere where you can see it better. And finally, their end of semester event was basically like a giant banquet where they get together and to talk about some of the biggest changes in world energy reform in third world, and second world, over the past year. And they bring together some of the cool grad students from the area who are really passionate about these types of issues. So that’s where their events are and you can see what their mission is up there. So. Did you go over (inaudible) Amendment rule? Alright. So the WOW event for the fall they included in that request, banners, (inaudible), uh which are all things that we subsidize normally for organizations. So while we couldn’t actually fund the event per se, we could fund these little items inside the event uh that are not depended on the date. So that’s why those things are right there. Oh wait, if you guys have any questions about these events, please feel free to cut me off and raise your hand so I can address them instead of trying to remember what you wanna say to me, alright. Um this is their renewable energy awareness program you can see they have a really meticulous breakdown of their cost. They included some really specific solar water fountain, solar pit, stuff like that, that most organizations wouldn’t really ask for. The group research activity is uh sort of a pseudo competition but of course (inaudible) because they can’t fund things with (inaudible). But uh again it has that breakdown of some pretty expensive and uh unique energy renewable energy type equipment, stuff like that. Their end of semester event will be Riverfront Park which is something else we subsidize for so that cost to of attending Riverfront Park uh they’ll draw prizes. They requested this company’s promotional caps right here, we uh denied them for that for our standards we cannot give individual prize. But uh there’s the registration cost for Riverfront Park included in that. Uh the WOW event for the spring, the same event planned for the fall it would just be cool, here’s our club like I described earlier. Uh this is another one of their renewable energy awareness programs. It’s basically a giant
gala of cool developments and their their fields over the past year. Uh this one has a, this is their banquet guest speakers involved. They actually… Senator Hiba

Hiba: Can you go back to the previous slide?

Johnson: Yeah, absolutely.

Hiba: Um the things like solar water panels, solar cases, solar garden lights, are you paying for those more than once?

Johnson: Um some of them, yes because they’re not reusable actually, which is an interesting thing. The solar kits right they’re basically, it was explained to me like they’re Lego kits for smart people. Um which is the most (inaudible) analogy for some of my intelligent people. Basically it couldn’t be reused over and over again because the goal is to get together and build them. Uh we didn’t allocate though for solar garden lights or for a solar water fountain. They asked for those several times and they explained to us in the process that well we don’t need the allocation they just need to change the budget requests and this is coming right off the budget. So good question cause no we’re not allocating for extra things that don’t need to be allocated for. (Inaudible) question?

Unknown: Same thing

Johnson: Um the guest speaker they asked for uh a little bit of money I believe under $100 to help pay for some of the costs associated with having a graduate student uh doing a speaking event. I didn’t know what those costs were since they work on campus and live close to campus so we didn’t give them any money for that. They didn’t really make it explicitly clear what it was. Also right here is Oracle advertisement, uh they asked for that twice. In the budget we can only give that to them once so that wasn’t allocated for. Um this is the exact same renewable energy program they did in the spring and the exact same where if it was a kit we allocated for it again, if it wasn’t a kit it could’ve been used previously, uh we wouldn’t give them money for that. So. I know I’m kind of fast. I just wanted to—they have a lot of stuff. I wanted to get that all out. So.

Rodriguez: Are there any more questions?

Johnson: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Seeing as how the allocation, the total allocation and also the fraction of the allocation is pretty high for uh ISES POWER. Uh does—do a lot of students participate in their events, they have a high turnout?

Johnson: Actually, yes. ISES POWER is uh kind of a the brain child of several other renewable organization—renewable energy organizations that weren’t as successful last year and then a really good diversity group from last year that decided to basically merge their interests together. So they expect more students to come for the idea of understanding how these problems affect under developed places as opposed to coming for solar energy kit competitions. Uh but the events that
they did have last year or that the similar events they had last year did have a pretty good turnout. Around 100 people per advertised event. So, Trang.

Luong: I have a question on that. Do we have any way to verify that you are funding for that tons of number of people attending a banquet and then eventually they don’t really have that much—that many people attending actually a long way to the end of the school year. Like that’s how it’s been, we’re over funding them.

Johnson: So it’s more like a general allocations questions?

Luong: Yes.

Johnson: Well the idea is that if it’s a new organization there isn’t truly an accurate way to judge how many people are gonna be there but there is an accurate way to judge in hindsight, which is an auditing process. Um that’s something you know you haven’t been to a committee meeting yet. Trang is new and I cannot wait to work with her. But part of the process is that we have to be able to judge based on similar organizations and what they’ve done in the past. Whether or not we think these have been (inaudible) they expect and we felt pretty confident that they were pretty accurate with the attendance guesstimation. Corey?

Ulloa: So you said this organization was new?

Johnson: Uh yes.

Ulloa: Brand new?

Johnson: Corey?

Ulloa: Um so based on that how—do you think it’s a reasonable request to give them 100 shirts for members. You think that’s a very high amount for…

Johnson: Uh reasonable, it’s not really my preview since I’m supposed to be objective. I personally think that statutes and their rules that we govern—or governed by say that we cannot give $500 shirts for each fiscal year. I’m sure they have shirts in the past or I’m sure organizations somewhere with ISES have shirts that advocate goals similar to ISES. But since ISES is a new organization and they expect to have both at least 100 members in the club let alone 100 people who might be able to give shirts out. I recommended—or approved their recommendation for uh 100 shirts. Any other questions?

Unknown Senator: regarding the um uh the t-shirts uh that senator Ulloa just brought up. Is there any way to cross check their rosters on how many members they have and what their intake should look like in the days in the past so we can get a better idea um for the t-shirts?

Johnson: That’s a great question. Um it kind of is similar to Trang’s question in that when you have a new organization uh you have this kind of paradox almost where they need money but we can’t evaluate them as accurately as an organization in the past. Alright. What we can do is say that
organizations similar to ISES POWER, whether in the diversity or in the renewable energy aspect what they've asked for in the past. Um diversity organizations just as a rule give out tons of t-shirts because tons of people go to events like that. I mean we have the cross Indian-salsa dance competition. I mean things like that, you have tons of people coming out over the course of one event over several hours, people walking in and out the door. So um I definitely share your concern and that's a part of a process that I would like to personally address through um tricking up and bringing up later. Uh but the challenge is not so much how can we predict accurately its how can we judge if our predications are accurate or not for the future, you know with the past. That's an auditing question. So. Sofia.

Colon: Senator club, um so you say this is like the brain child of multiple organizations from like last year, I'm assuming.

Johnson: Several years back

Colon: Several years back. Do you know if their clubs, in general, actually had similar attendance or if they’re as popular but I know it’s like a lot of little things, like oh, a hundred t-shirts but…

Johnson: But it adds up, I know what you’re saying. To answer your question. Uh if an organization has roots in another organization, the newer organization that has roots in an older organization. There’s two questions I have to ask. First is, why doesn’t the other organization exist anymore. And the answer to that first question is that, well, they basically thought that their scope wasn’t broad enough. They wanted to have a more political message than just bring diverse people together. Alright. Second question you have to ask is, how well were their events funded in the past. And their events were funded very well in the past. Now I cannot honestly say off the top of my head which of the organizations they were. Um there were Middle Eastern organizations, there was like 7 or 8, I don’t remember all of them. What I can say, is that uh after reviewing the requests of previous organizations I don’t have a reason to believe that they’re asking for anything out of the ordinary in any such standards. And the things that they did, we recommended that they don’t get funding for it.

Rodriguez: Are there any more questions? Trang.

Luong: I’m senator Trang from College of Engineering. So actually I have been a member and like I have been seeing the activities going on with this organization. So I know they had a good start last year but I knew that it was just started by about 10 (inaudible) from the Chemical Engineering Department. So that’s a really new for like so I just really want to make sure that we review this carefully because we want no one to es—establish a new tradition that might happen for very high funding meanwhile they’re able to ask why they weren’t able to renew and um like so far they do have some events but either collaborate with engineering organizations. So how you can take that into account when you start funding those events separately but actually they overlap? And then whether you were considering that they do have budgets from the national society because typically they can have up to about 1500 per year from the national organization.

Johnson: That’s a very good point.
Rodriguez: Senator Rodriguez

Rodriguez: From the document that was sent to us um I was just wondering why for the Week of Welcome in the fall we didn’t allocate any money and then for the Week of Welcome in the spring we allocated the full $200.

Johnson: What’s the date of the Week of Welcome in the fall?

Rodriguez: 27th

Johnson: Was it August?

Rodriguez: Yeah.

Johnson: That’s why.

Rodriguez: And then how come for the event for the week of welcome in the spring it’s the 6th of January and the one right after that which is the 26th of February we allocated $100 instead of $200 that they asked for.

Johnson: Um so first off the Week of Welcome event is listed in January because it’s the start of the semester. So the Week of Welcome for the spring is in January. That’s why that’s kind of a weird day. Um are you talking about this event right here? The renewable energy awareness program?

Rodriguez: Yes

Johnson: I believe that’s basically the cost of the kits replenishment. Um we didn’t fund much for utensils because they’d ask for them in the past and our standards is we allocate a lot less for utensils for each event.

Rodriguez: The food…

Ulloa: Same thing with the food budget. You allocated 200 for food for Week of Welcome and 100 for the…

Johnson: How many people were at that week of welcome event?

Ulloa: 117

Rodriguez: Yeah, a little bit over 100.

Johnson: 100—oh for the—for this event right here.

Rodriguez: So that event and …

Johnson: They asked for a hundred people. Well what happens is that when an organization doesn’t ask for as much money as they could get I’m not going to tell them that they should…
Rodriguez: They asked for 100

Johnson: Um for the Week of Welcome… um you know to the best of my knowledge we talked about it in committee. I can honestly say if you wanna go in and bring it back to committee we can. Uh but this has been looked at for the past month and a half. So um I honestly can’t even remember the argument when it first was brought to us but if someone would like to address that. Anika.

Hasan: Um I motion to take this back to committee and table the bill for next week.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to tabling—well to send uh SB [A] 55-010 to committee? Seeing no objections, we will move on.

Johnson: I just would like to point out um that this organization did see their request before I brought it to the Senate and they didn’t have a comment about it so to put it off for a week, well I understand that it does look kind of weird and there is kind of a discrepancy there. It’s gonna be a week now that they might not be able to put on an event. So um just in the future, like we, especially this organization and a couple of other ones that are going to be on there. Um ASRC I think we’re gonna be going over it also. Uh ASRC we’re gonna be going over it tonight. Uh these organizations have been looked at by myself and by other people for the past 6 or 7 weeks now. And uh they get to look at these before they come to Senate. So just throwing that out there. Senator Shiflett.

Rodriguez: Okay, Senator Shiflett.

Shiflett: Uh you wanna to object to... Okay. This bill has been through committee. Like, it passed through committee that’s the whole point. My question is that you guys…

Rodriguez: Well, you—your time to object has already passed. Um. So…

Shiflett: I know that already but that’s fine.

d. SB [A] 55-012 Disaster and Humanitarian Relief Student Collaborative

Rodriguez: Um do I see a motion to first reading of SB [A] 55-012? Senator Shiflett.

Shiflett: Uh motion—move to enter first reading of SB [A] 55-012.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections? Seeing no objections, we are now into first reading.

Johnson: Alright. The Disaster and Humanitarian Relief Student Collaborative. Originally they asked for $5708.10 and we recommend we cut them down to $2856.70. Uh basically they’re an organization that’s dedicated to promoting um awareness about refugee status across the world. Um they are a new organization and they have—they have pretty ambitious goals so that we kind of had to cut back on one of their events. They really wanted to do this Refugee Day event where they receive a couple thousand tents from the UN that are actually issued to refuges and it was too expensive and stuff like that but other than that really. They didn’t really have any date and standard issues. We did have to cut back from food. I believe they did ask for some sort of materials
allocation for a couple of their events, I don’t know them off the top of my head but we’ll get to
that in a second. But uh… so they want to have a welcome barbecue. Uh I believe, yes this was also
in the uh… Corey, can you pull that up really fast? What was the date of that? For the barbecue.

Ulloa: Um September 6.

Johnson: Okay. So. The welcome… actually… So the welcome barbecue um basically it was the first
event of the semester. Oh I believe they actually had a Week of Welcome event that they couldn’t
because of issues we couldn’t allocate them for. But the idea of the welcome barbecue is that they
bring the people out and they talk. Basically have like an informational. You know, really broad,
refugees in different parts of the world, where it’s the worst, where the conditions are the worst and
stuff like that. Uh Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: Quick question. It says that they had an attendance of 50 and it said they would like to pass
out 100 t-shirts at the peak of this event. Can you tell me why you allocated for 100 when they only
have a span of 50?

Johnson: Um well the reason why, the same reason with the last event with the last organization is
that if an organization, uh if I have reason to believe that they’re going to in contact with a hundred
students win the course of their fiscal year um then I feel comfortable allocating… 100 t-shirts.
They’re not gonna give out 100 this event, they don’t want to bring out 100 at this event but it’s
more just for clerical purposes that the crew put together the project instead of breaking it up.
Several organizations that we look at next semester. Some—half of them, roughly, if they want t-
shirts, are gonna be either on project and half of them are gonna be grouped in another project and
the allocation is gonna be the same. So it really, it’s in that project right there on my
recommendation that if you wanna go ahead and ask for t-shirts go ahead and ask for them in one
event instead of breaking them up every time. Um… (Inaudible). Team building activities for the
local ropes course which is part of materials funding is for uh Riverfront Park allocation. Uh you see
the events they wanna do with that too. Our standard is to allocate for 15 per head for up to 200 to
$250 dollars. But that is in our standards as well. And you see with the $10 for $400 uh is that for
Riverfront allocation? I don’t remember how it’s broken down in materials at all.

Ulloa: Inaudible

Johnson: Well their other events in the meantime…

Ulloa: They have 250 for Riverfront.

Johnson: 250 for Riverfront? Um the training series events. These are basically a series of seminars
on things related to refugee status. One of the big things they wanted to do was have a CPR special.
Basically cheap CPR with the idea that that’s a skill that um a lot of—since a lot of refugees in the
world don’t have access to really good medical care. Teaching refugees basic CPR helps fix a lot of
problem, medical issues that otherwise could be avoided. The idea is that the course of these events,
uh I believe again this is an older one, I believe that this event asked that they grouped several events
together. The problem with this is that we don’t allocate for more than one event per event. It’s kind of um… which is what we did. The idea is that they asked for 1, 2, and 3 different events. Uh we can’t do that, it’s against our standards and we went ahead and allocated a relatively smaller amount than what they asked for. Smaller than the 2 dollars a head for the event simply on the basis that we can’t allocate for more than one event. And that’s a similar with a couple of organizations. Um but with that in mind we did I believe allocate for mostly, if not most then all—or if not all then most, I apologize, of these refugees day binders that are official refugee uh documentations, stuff like that. Some of them may come on campus and has the proper logos, stuff like that, through the UN and copyright information and what not. And they also asked for some really cheap supplies to use at this event for their event. So. Yeah. Good. Clean. Alright. Children Conflict Event. Uh this is… There’s another CPR class here. They also wanted to go ahead and have, again, more information most of these events to give out information. Broadcasting to the people who wanted to show up. Pretty basic stuff. They asked for $2 a head for food. They did ask for compression tools. Um and I believe we did allocate for that as well during the materials cost. Uh this is a banquet. Um they want to have a couple of guest speakers show up with the idea that they will be talking about some their firsthand experience with refugee camps and crisis areas across the world at the banquet, they’re also going to be talking about developments, ranks and abuses, and fixing, and stuff like that over the past year that they wanna talk about. And they also want to have an interest event for the spring semester with the idea that people are going to this and be really motivated to join in the spring. That’s $3 a head for food, that’s another standard that we give $3 a head for food. Later on in the semester they wanna have a guest speaker on human trafficking somewhere in Pam Bondi’s office in Tampa which has taken a really big stand on human trafficking, uh they talked about bringing Pam Bondi herself which would be kind of cool. But it’s a basically it would be another interest event, they wanna have food there for people. It’s a really straightforward event. Nothing really special other than a cool guest speaker they might have showing up. One of the bigger events is a pillow fight for peace. Where they—the event itself on the budget allocation is a pillow case decoration event which is just decorating pillowcases uh we can’t subsidize events where people hit people with things. But we can subsidize pillowcase decorations. So the idea is that this money is gonna go toward making some cool pillow fights and the basically the idea is getting them on to social media and social media blasts to get people aware of what’s going on, make it a big thing. So. Um last… uh can you go back? I’m sorry, I just wanna see what we have left. Uh two more things they wanted to do. They wanted to have a gala at the end of spring semester. Very similar to the end of semester banquet they have at the end of the fall semester, talking about similar developments. They wanted to focus a lot on uh, at this point in time the Syrian conflict will have been going on for 4 years, and they really wanted to focus on that and the human rights abuses that are going on, stuff like that. They asked for decorations, banquet standard food cost, again, another straightforward. And last but not least on June, early June I believe, is Refugee Day, International Refugee Day. They wanted to throw an event. This is what they wanted the tents for. We did not allocate for the tent uh or I believe the costumes. We did allocate for decorations, utensils, and uh some of the material we believe to help them with information dispersion, along with food. So. Any questions about any of these events?
Colon: Can you go back to the first slide where you allocated money?

Rodriguez: Any more questions? Do I see any motions? Pro Tempore Aziz.

Aziz: Motion to vote on SB [A] 55-012

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to entering voting procedures?

Rodriguez: Uh I just have a question.

Rodriguez: Would you…

Aziz: I rescind.

Rodriguez: Thank you. Senator Rodriguez.

Rodriguez: Okay. I don’t know. I don’t know these dates that are wrong but you allocate… well it says we allocated 160 for materials.

Johnson: For which event?

Rodriguez: For guest speaker human trafficking and they asked for $150. So I don’t know if maybe…

Johnson: Um honestly… I’m, given that, and the last document that Corey showed me I’m kind of afraid that the inter-budget requests that were sent out weren’t the up to date ones but the up-to-date information, the final allocation, is this number right here. Um and I apologize if I entered the wrong dig but this is the amount that they would be allocated for.

Rodriguez: Thank you.

Rodriguez: Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: Um, my guess, to answer your question is, typically they—a lot of organizations will put utensils under food. And my guess is he just moved utensils from food over from materials because typically that’s how you allocate that way. Because the 150 is for the speaker fee but he moved the utensils over to food. So he just added that rather than putting it in food so in the end it’s the same it’s just where he allocated it.

Johnson: Yeah, you know. Again this is one and the last one we looked at, we received these right after the Senate session of the summer and our committee looked at them pretty soon after that so it’s really not a… all I can tell you is that I can’t remember honestly what we looked at the things but that our committee talked about them for probably on average 5 hours. So I really can’t cumulatively-cumulatively on average 5 hours. So I really don’t wanna tell you something I don’t know. But I can tell you that our committee has looked at it and I’m sure the other people who were in the committee over the summer can nod their heads at why we were working on it for spending a lot of time working on this and we’re ready for this to be passed.
Rodriguez: Are there any more questions? Senator Aziz.

Aziz: Reinstate my motion to vote.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to voting on SB [A] 55-012? Seeing no objections, we will not enter voting procedures. Please click 1 if you vote yes, 2 if you vote no, and 3 if you would like to abstain. Sorry, vote again. Okay with the vote count of 35 to 0 to 1, with me as the abstaining vote, this bill passes. And we have one more.

e. SB [A] 55-013 Fashion Executives

Johnson: Fashion Executives.

Rodriguez: Do I see a motion to enter the first reading of SB [A] 55-013. Senator Hasan

Hasan: Inaudible.

Rodriguez: Any objections? Seeing no objections, we are now in first reading.

Alright. The Fashion Executives. Unfortunately they asked for an event during Week of Welcome before we were able to convene. So the only two events they were asking for is Be Your Own Best Friend, which is like uh… I don’t wanna do it any injustice. Basically the idea is that people show up and they talk about how well… I'll just let you read the description. The other is a fashion showcase and they showcase some of the cool designs that the club has worked on during their unfunded general body meetings for the semester. They asked for $1102.40 and we are allocating $583 even. So moving into procedures. Um the “Be Your Own Best Friend, Do it Yourself,” event, the idea is that people are gonna... This event will be a workshop designed to aid the student body in finding new and different ways to improve their lives through health and fashion. Different stations set up that will set up easy and new way to either improve their health, beauty, or clothes. There will be a speaker speaking about health as it pertains to everyday life. Art supplies, posters, and speaker fees. Um they didn’t put really anything out of the ordinary here. We allocated $2 a head uh for food, we allocated for speaker fees per standards, um art supplies. They wanted more but we can only allocate that many to our current standards. And we did allocate I believe we either, I'm not sure if we allocated the $5 for posters or not or if we just said that was too many art supplies. So uh. But uh. They didn’t ask for much on this event, most of the money in their budget request went to the second event, which is the fashion showcase. This will be the organization’s face. It will be fashion show showcasing the towns and different designers in the student body as well as the Tampa bay community. The purpose of the fashion show is to not only showcase the town’s different designers but to showcase the different ideas for outfits of its various members. Members of the student body will be able to model if they feel they wanna showcase their modeling skills. And pictures will be taken at the event. Ballroom lights, AV techs, and stage fees are basically required to have an event of this size in the ballroom so we subsidized them for that. They asked for art supplies, utensils um but nothing against standards or anything like that. Pretty straight forward allocations. Corey.

Ulloa: So these amounts they put on here, is that what we allocated or what they requested?
Johnson: That’s what they requested the allocation amount should be on the excel document.
Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Never mind.

Johnson: Any other questions?

Rodriguez: Do I see any motions? Um, Senator Rodriguez.

Rodriguez: If there aren’t any more questions, I motion to vote.


Hiba: Uh I have a question.

Rodriguez: So…

Rodriguez: I rescind.

Rodriguez: Thank you very much.

Hiba: Alright. Uh same question before. The excel document isn’t open right now on my computer. The $300 have been requested for the stage. Did we end up allocating them that?

Ulloa: No, we did not. We only allocate $200 for the stage.

Rodriguez: Are there any more questions? Do I see any motions? Senator Rodriguez.

Rodriguez: I reinstate my motion.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to entering voting procedures on SB [A] 55-013. Seeing no objections, we will now enter voting procedures. Please click 1 if you’d like to vote yes, 2 if you’d like to vote no, and 3 if you abstain. With the count of 35 to 0 to 1, with me as the abstaining vote, this bill passes.

3. Vote of Confidence for Christopher Johnson as Appropriations & Audits Chairman

Rodriguez: Moving down the agenda, we have a Vote of Confidence for Christopher Johnson the Appropriations and Audits Committee Chairman. So the way that this is gonna work is that I will entertain a motion for a moderated caucus, whatever form you guys would like. Um and then after that is done we can either continue talking um or not but before we vote um Chris Johnson is gonna get 5 minutes to give closing remarks and then we will enter voting procedures with no more discussion. So. Pro Tempore Aziz.

Aziz: So um I make a motion for a moderated caucus of, say, 45 minutes with 5 minutes speaking time for Chris.
Rodriguez: Are there any objections to a 45 minute moderated caucus and 5 minute speaking time? 

Senator Johnson

Johnson: Just a point of inquiry.

Aziz: Sure.

Johnson: Why—when was it moved and why was it moved?

Rodriguez: It was—it was moved during additions, and/or—additions, deletions, and/or clarifications to orders of the day by um Senator Ulloa. If, I mean, if you would like to…

Johnson: Absolutely.

Ulloa: I have to leave.

Johnson: What time did you have to leave?

Ulloa: 8:45

Johnson: Alright.

Aziz: So. I reinstate my motion

Rodriguez: Are there any motions to a 45 minute moderated caucus with 5 minute maximum speaking time? Seeing no objections, uh Senator Aziz, since you made the motion you may go ahead and speak first.

Aziz: I'll give my time back to the chair.

Rodriguez: Excellent. So.

Johnson: Person privilege.

Rodriguez: Senator Johnson, you may stand. I'll call on you, go ahead.

Johnson: Sure. So this Vote of Confidence was issued really about a month ago um by senator Ulloa for a very professional non-personal reason. I was absent for a majority of the summer, I lived in Jacksonville so uh every week or every other week I tried to get down here for Mondays and Tuesdays to work about 20 hour a days. On Monday I would wake up at 4, I would make it down here by 9 am, I would work 8 hours, I would go to bed, I would wake up, I would work 8 hours, I’d get back home around 1 or 2 Wednesday morning and proceed to carry on with my 40-hour a week job up in Jacksonville at the same time while pursuing two different internships, one with the Republican Party in Duval county, the second with a law firm uh (inaudible) Murphy plc in Jacksonville. Obviously I was pretty busy this summer, I didn’t realize my commitment would take so much of my time. I definitely didn’t expect to work 40 hours a week in addition to this 20 hour a week job. Mainly because I uh had to take on a lot of undue financial burden this summer to help
my family. If need be you can ask me about that but I’d rather not say it if I don’t have to. Uh but uh the point is that um the ma—my understanding of this Vote of Confidence it was issued with the idea that I was not here for the majority of the summer to do my job uh I did my job in even though—despite these things and now that I live here and don’t have to commute from Jacksonville um the major objection in keeping my job, I feel the flight has been relieved. So I really do welcome any questions, it’s not a personal thing. I know I have some fraternity brothers in here um and if you guys wanna ask me questions too, I more than welcome it. Um you know it is a privilege that I have this job. You guys gave it to me. If you honestly feel like I don’t deserve it I would like you to take it from me because you put me here. Um but I would like to say though that at this point in the semester the amount of work that I have done and I have prepared a 17 page memo with all the organizations, 45 or so, that I’ve had to work with over the summer, I wanted to pass it out to you guys before I showed up late tonight. I can explain why although I’d rather not. I was hoping to pass that out to you so you could see all the work I was able to do this summer despite commuting from Jacksonville every other week or so.

Aziz: It’s not a question and answer

Rodriguez: I know, it’s not a question and answer.

Aziz: So then the next person will talk.

Rodriguez: Okay, you can—you wanna stay standing?

Johnson: I would like to.


Lopez: Um, my question is for you Andy really. Is it appropriate to asks questions to Corey specifically or no? Cause I feel like not everyone here was um—not everyone here in the Senate was here in the summer so not everyone knows what was happening at the time and it’d be good to get an example or examples, if there’s multiple, of why he went ahead and called a Vote of Confidence.

Antar: Just really quickly to clarify that.

Rodriguez: Senator Antar.

Antar: Right now we’re here in a moderated caucus so technically if you asked a question to the air and you asked it of the whole Senate body so the next person to speak can answer that question or speak whatever you’d like. You cannot uh necessarily disparage anyone with your commentary it’s just a moderated caucus. We’re just discussing adamant business. So uh that’s just about it. You can direct a question but the forum doesn’t necessarily mandate that the question be answered in the next motion or the next point.

Rodriguez: Senator Lopez
Lopez: um so my question pretty much just goes to the Senate, so if you were here over the summer, if you could state any examples as to why, I mean, in support or against senator, I don’t think you can state anything against senator or not, but if you have any examples as to why you feel like it is pertinent to do a Vote of Confidence, I’d really appreciate it not only for myself but for the people who weren’t here for the summer.

Rodriguez: Senator Ulloa and Chris you can actually sit down.

Ulloa: Umm so I have somewhat of a long thing and I'll go through as much as possible and uh Andy I sent you an email if you could pull that up please. Um I'll go through a little bit of what I've gathered from lots of emails that I've gone through. So at the end of spring semester um we had a meeting and Chairman Johnson had been aware that he had an internship and so he had discussed it with Pro Tempore and Mr. President about what the duties were. He was let known that he would start that he would had to be here at least 2 days a week—2 to 3 days a week every week and that he—his position was gonna start. He was seeing it really really well as the summer went through and a lot of people were applying for the interim budgets. Um he was told that if he doesn’t think he could handle it, the best option would be to resign. Um he thought about it he decided that he was gonna go and work with it. So uh despite that he moved on. Um. He asked Aziz for a date. So Aziz sent him a list of dates of everything he needed to come and do. One he had to be here for meetings, student meetings, committee meetings, and despite that there was many meetings where he was not at Senate and not at um committee. Let’s see, and so that and some jobs. What else. He then called his first meeting um broke statutes with that by calling a meeting within 24 hours of a meeting time. Our statutes state that he has to call it within 24 hours. He then repeated that later on in the semester. Um he called a meeting because he realized it was late and he went and called it an emergency meeting which is allowed by statutes but it seemed kind of to be going around his duties because he failed to do it in the first place. Um so we have the statutes for in cases of emergencies but he used that as uh I forgot to do that um. There’s been I think three budget transfers, 2 or 3 that he—the committee has not met on. Um so they got passed automatically didn’t go through committee. Um I have emails about some of that to if you guys want, they’re all here. So there’s a Bulls Radio one, there’s a SAFE Team one, um what else. Um he then refused to put a budget transfer request on his agenda without knowing information. Rather than coming to me or anything like that he just said he refused because he didn’t know any information about it and it’s not his choice as chair, it’s the committee’s choice to decide on it and so rather than saying please coming to the committee on that case, he just said I will not put it on my agenda unless you come and meet with me beforehand. Which as it turns out I was able to meet with him but at the same time for… (Inaudible) um is that time?

Rodriguez: You have two more minutes.

Ulloa: Two more minutes? Um so the auditing process. It’s half what the committee does. At the beginning it was stated that he was to create a new auditing system but in the meantime we have not done any form of auditing so therefore um the auditing system, which is really big for us allocating for organizations in the future has not been done over the summer not done as far, to my
knowledge, has not been done for Week of Welcome because none of the senators um were informed of what auditing process or what we were doing in the meantime while the new auditing process takes place. Um let’s see. He’s uh. Some of his emails are just unprofessional, potentially disrespectful, towards whether it be committee members, chairs, um some of the emails are just disrespectful. Other organizations have complained um… And then on top of that, as said, the last time his committee met was in the month of July. I think July 7th. Um so they didn’t meet the 14th, they didn’t meet the 21st, they didn’t meet the 28th. Um despite having about I think 12 organizations um that did not get funded until, some of them are still waiting to get, for their committee to get up here, all of those organizations, I know some from back in July have not been funded yet. Um. So that’s a lot of stuff. And then the statutes and stuff that I picked out are all there about what statutes or policies were broken, other than committee meetings. And that I give my time up to chair.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba

Hiba: Uh just a question to the air. Um are there any records available from like previous years showing a comparison that can be—that we can use to show comparison? For example, of how previous chairman did in the summers.

Rodriguez: Pro Tempore Aziz

Aziz: Uh well we don’t have direct comparison. The only information I could find was a VOC a couple years ago for the Programming and Audits Chairman and what he did was he did not send in an agenda 24 hours in advance and that’s taken very seriously in Student Government and with the state and all that stuff. So that was his VOC. That’s the only one I could find in record and he lost his position, I mean his chairman position but he’s still a senator. So and for the past 9 months, never—I don’t have any records of any problems with senator chair people before that I could find… He’s the only person that I know directly.

Rodriguez: Senator Johnson.

Johnson: Um. Is that the top of the document?

Rodriguez: Yes.

Johnson: Uh I admit to making rude and unprofessional remarks towards other chairs in the office. I am rude and unprofessional at times. I sometimes find it hard to adapt to Roberts Rules of Orders because I believe that is to be used with strangers and I like to be friends with the people in my committee. So I apologize for not being completely professional at all times. Also if I made a rude remark to you, I apologize and I think I have a more than a few times—I think I said something mean to Lopez the first couple weeks I was there and he talked to me for a bit. And but I actually said I’ve done that. I have also sent a couple of unprofessional emails in my role as Chair. Actually today I sent an email to members of my committee and it had a picture of Ron Swanson’s Pyramid of Excellence at the bottom. So for that I apologize for my unprofessionalism. I have been clocking in upwards of 15 hours each week and if not, shown product. Um if you would like to bring it, I just
sent you an email with the memo attached. It’s a rough draft from several weeks ago it’s the final
draft just saved. On my email address but the product of my work if you uh you know I can show
you my emails if you’d like but the product of my work and morals are summarized in the email I
sent to Andy. Basically what happened is that of the major—I met with several uh not several uh
many organizations over the summer. Many many organizations over the summer. Anika who is my
Co-Chair for the last half can attest to that. Uh of the organizations I met with about I’d say half of
them actually submitted an interim budget request. Alright. Now of that half though you know it’s
it’s really tempting to look at uh, it’s really tempting to look at uh this thing and say well if you do
this then this is the bad result. Um it actually on the Notice of Noncompliance that Senator Johnson
filed—sorry auditor uh…

Senators: Attorney

Johnson: Thank you, Attorney General Johnson uh supplied to me about a month a half ago with
detailed 12 organizations which I dropped the ball on. Of those 12 organizations, 11 of them had
not contacted me about my inquiries towards their interim budget request. One of them had
contacted me and refused to respond to my recommendations. That’s an example of the lack of of
professionalism or the lack conduct or the lack of professional action on my part. On top of that
uh, you know, part of the reason of why I had to clock in so many hours during the week uh was
because I had to work from home, which meant many times what I would do I would work 8 hours
then I’d come home then I would work 4 hours and just like in here what that doesn’t mean is that
I’m in front of my computer for 4 hours. What that means is that I’m responding to emails when I
get them, I’m calling organizations, I skyped about 12 or so organizations over the summer—11 or
12 organizations because I couldn’t meet them in person. And not a single one of them was any
different than meeting with them in person it was just over long distance. Uh so while I definitely
respect the position that there might not be apparent evidence. Uh part of that is cause I don’t really
work with Corey um and I don’t communicate with him very much. Uh I received maybe two
Travel Grant requests that should have been forwarded to Corey. I forwarded them to him and that
was it. He and I don’t really have a reason uh, professionally, to interact. I don’t need to ask for his
opinion on how to proceed and he doesn’t need to ask for mine. Uh so while I do respect your
position but I don’t have much product to show. Um I offer this evidence. I can respond to the
other questions if anyone would like to listen.

Rodriguez: Okay, before we continue. Um just as a general thing I’d like to say to everyone um if
you’re gonna leave the room I would like to ask that you move that you leave through the back and
not through the front door just cause it’s less distracting to everyone else. Thank you. Senator
Lopez.

Lopez: Um okay so I just wanna make two quick points. I was in this committee over the summer
for Appropriations and Audits. And I know that one of the problems we had that was really out of
his control was meeting quorum. So I remember the first time that someone brought this up he said
that I did interim budgets and weren’t going through. I mean most of the time the problem was we
didn’t have quorum. Most of the meetings were a minute long because we just started in the quarter
and said we didn’t have quorum, meeting was adjourned. So I just wanted to throw that out there for your consideration. And the second part too is, I mean it may be another question for the air, if there were problems with unprofessionalism and communication, were these addressed to him directly cause Corey did mention that an organization complained about that. Did they complain to um Chris Johnson himself or to someone else? And if they went to someone else, did they go straight to him? Because it’s not his fault if he was unprofessional and no one told him how can he change if he wasn’t informed of this? I mean, he said it himself he thought he was being rude to me but I can’t recall at all. So just those two points for your consideration.

Rodriguez: Uh Senator Johnson and Senator Hasan.

Johnson: Would you please pull up the document that Corey sent you? Just a quick response to that. The quorum actually was a really big issue for me this summer. I had the misguided understanding that for whatever reason was Abdool’s fault. I had a really big problem with Abdool uh and I, part of my, the biggest challenge for me this summer, no I mean really. I had a hard time accepting the fact that meeting quorum, it wasn’t just who puts the people on the committee it’s my job as a Chair to get people to show and it’s hard for people uh to want to show if I’m not there. So a big thing that we did was I sat down with Abdool, and I sat down with Eric, I sat down with Andy, I sat down with Gary and I said hey, Abdool and I have these problems he responded to them very professionally and going forward we’re not gonna have problems. We’ve already, I mean I haven’t had an issue with quorum since coming back and I’m going to be here. Although to address to the second thing to unprofessionalism, the Chocateers Club was a big thing. They sent their request about a month ago. They continually have challenged me several times on uh their interpretation of statutes versus mine. They’re wrong. Uh and I have a hard time explaining it to them without them wanting to stop talking. So in that, one of the things they really challenged me on was about hey, it says we can get $7 a head for food. Um they have said that twice now and three times I’ve responded well unfortunately uh we can only allocate $2 a head. And they have, they’ve complained to Andy, Abdool, Gary, about that particular instance and that in that respect that was actually the one organization from those 12 from the uh the uh Notice of Noncompliance that I’ve had an issue with. Response to some of these other points uh. Can you keep scrolling down some?

Rodriguez: Yes, sir.

Johnson: Um one of the biggest things was that I did not send out an advance two times. The first time, I didn’t know. I was, uh I’m a freshman senator and I made that clear running for this position. I should—I dropped the ball and I had to put it off and not take that first committee meeting, we did it a couple days later. The second time it was an emergency. We had so much business because of both personal issues that prevented me from coming here and having issues meeting with quorum. And if you could understand the issue I have a hard time getting down here and then when the personal issues happen, do I wanna come down here and spend the gas money, which I really didn’t have, to go to a committee that couldn’t meet quorum? And that was the constant equation I was trying to figure out. Right. The second time I did call an emergency meeting because we had so much business we had to take care of because it was just about three weeks of
the most. Like I don’t believe in luck, but if I did believe in luck, those were the three of the most unluckiest weeks of my life. So it’s uh I did have to call an emergency meeting because there was an emergency. Okay, let someone else talk.

Rodriguez: Senator Hasan

Hasan: Okay, everyone. I have been Corey’s Vice Chair over the summer.

Ulloa: Chris’s.

Hasan: Okay and when I heard that he was gonna get VOC today was like completely shocking to me cause he has done a lot in this committee and everyone who is in this committee can attest to Chris being extremely professional and like helping with understanding the entire process of auditing and appropriations. I believe what, you made a point that we didn’t all get informed and meeting appointments for the summer but that’s because we didn’t have like a proper auditing process. We’re actually working on that new form for an Ad-Hoc which Chris has been working on. Okay, one of the only reasonable questions you asked is why weren’t the interim budgets going through. Now you have to understand that these orgs are not perfect. They would have problems with their constitutions, they would have problems with the amount of money they ask for. They are not angels, they make rude comments and they keep on asking, oh the cons for example the Chocoteers Club goes on like ‘okay, your constitution says that you can give us $7 why are you give us 2?’ where in our standards we have 2, and they would be rude about that. So. You cannot… and I’ve seen Chris act as professional as he could in that certain situation. Okay. More. More. Um honestly, I believe the amount of time we had in appropriations isn’t long enough to judge Chris on whether what job he has done because I believe that he’s done a good job. He has like appointed us with work he couldn’t do at that point in time and he has done whatever he could to like get the committee going. We went through, our committees went up to over two hours at certain point in time. Everyone like, Taylor and Leslie, could attest to that. A normal committee, cause I was even in your committee, which would end way faster than that. There was a lot of work being done and there was an overload of work. Honestly, I believe. Honestly, I believe in second chances and I did not see Chris is at fault. I do believe we have errors and certainly he’s a new senator, you guys should give him a shot instead of like judging him on every single thing that you could possibly figure out on. Okay, most importantly, Chris is the most professional and regular human being I have ever met. I haven’t had him being rude to me and honestly this is not the kind of opinion I had. I didn’t like Chris in the beginning. I’m sorry. Because I lost to him in Appropriations Chair. And I said that to people. And coming from there to months this is big for me to say, he’s a professional person. He has tried his best to make the committee work for 15 hours, this committee is hard for whoever has been chair or even been in this committee to know, this committee is like hard. We go through every budget. It takes like 20 to 40 minutes to like go through everything like, ‘oh when is this happening, what is this material for,’ and why do we need to meet this orgs? Because we really don’t know what they’re asking for sometimes. They’ll just put something in materials and say like 400 dollars. We really need to know what they’re talking about like and which cause these delays not because he couldn’t. We couldn’t, a lot of us, those times we couldn’t meet
quorum. I wasn’t there like two weeks in summer. And honestly, you should take personal, like personal problems, which he had during summer and his other work conflicts into account. And I believe, really people, think about second chance. It’s just summer term and this guy tried his best. Let’s give him a second chance.

Rodriguez: Okay, we’re gonna go… Shiflett, Lopez, Myers, Sanchez. Oh my God. Uh. Um and I’m gonna have to write everyone else down. Yeah, keep your hands up. Truong. We’ll do… Luong, Lopez, and then Ulloa. And then do you have a point of inquiry? Okay. Alright. Next is Shiflett.

Shiflett: Before I start, uh point of inquiry for Andy or Aziz. Did he receive approval from either of you to work off-site?

Rodriguez: Senator Aziz.

Aziz: For the hour, well. The way it works, if you wanna work off-site, like you would request like Chris would email, I wanna work Tuesdays for 4 hours and the requests were approved.

Shiflett: So they were approved?

Aziz: Yeah.

Shiflett: Alright. So it would mean that clearly eliminates the concern because that’s not kind of him to uh show that he—he showed me work he’s done, that memo outlines everything, I wish we saw that before. Um but as far as that, the concern about him working off site that was really the only point that concerned me because he did what he was supposed to. To me, that’s one of the more serious charges on here. As far as the other things, um I can understand that him living in Jacksonville, uh coming down here, like he said balancing that equation of coming for a committee that’s failed to meet quorum multiple times over the summer. As far as the professionalism charges, once again I don’t see it. Every interaction with Senator Johnson that I’ve had uh he’s been nothing but professional and that includes both in official capacity as well as just hanging out in the SG suite. Um you know, I’m I’m interested in hearing the other chairs speak because a lot of the charges, or a lot of the assertions are saying that uh he was rude and professional to other chairs. Um so I hope that they will speak on that, either for or against it, either way uh to get to help us get a clear picture. Like Senator Hasan said, uh it’s not like he was malicious in anything that he did, he probably made some mistakes but don’t we all? Uh I don’t see anything here that warrants removing him. Uh for that reason (inaudible).

Rodriguez: Thank you. Senator Lopez.

Lopez: Um so one of the points that was brought that um I’ll openly say that I won’t agree with is that it’s the Chair’s job to get senators to come out to the committee meetings and the reason I don’t agree with that is because we were elected by the student body to come represent them so if you don’t go to the meeting that’s on you. You shouldn’t be encouraged by points, by incentives or anything it’s um it’s our job. We were elected to be here. I’m sorry about that. So I just wanted to throw that out there. I mean, everyone has their own opinion on that. But, just hearing that, I just
don’t agree with it. You should really, it’s, in a way it’s our job. You should be coming out to committee meetings and doing our jobs. Just throwing that out there. (Inaudible)

Rodriguez: Okay. Lopez.

Sanchez: Sanchez.

Rodriguez: Sanchez. He said Lopez, I’m sorry.

Sanchez: Chris and I are in the same fraternity. But us a member in this council, I remember during the summer. This committee was kind of plagued from the start, to put it nicely. Not because of the chair but kind of because circumstances. We first elected a Vice Chair, Carlos Romero, and he was the only on the committee who had any experience to begin with. Um Gustavo Lopez was the only other one who had Senate experience but he wasn’t on the committee to begin with. Um so, I mean, excuse me he wasn’t on the committee last year, he was on the committee on the summer. So we lost our Vice Chair we had to go through elections again. Anika was our Co-Chair or Vice Chair however you wanna say it. Uh in regards to the emergency meeting, it was less of a fact of convenience for a Chris because he forgot to send out uh the dates or the uh minutes uh 24 hours in advance. It was more of a fact of, as Chris already stated, we were so inundated with work it literally was an emergency and we had to get this done. They were breathing down our necks, we had so much work to do. He did call an emergency meeting because it actually was an emergency. We got that done. Other senators have also said that we stayed there beyond our allotted time. I know I was late to work several days because of the fact that we have stayed over 2 hours a time and that was for multiple weeks. Also we had senators who were studying abroad at the time so they weren’t there. I feel like that was kind of out of Chris’ control kind of ridiculous to say that it was his job to get them there. Um so like I said, we were kind of plagued from the beginning and it was out of the committee’s chair, or the committee’s chair’s control. So.


Truong: Hey, Senate. Okay. So starting off. A Vote of Confidence is brought to the Senate due to one person wanting to bring awareness of the action or rather (inaudible) action of an elected official. Votes of Confidence should be viewed as responsibilities of the chair and has successfully been achieved those responsibilities in a timely manner. Personal and professional relationships should be separated in this instance. It shouldn’t be who the person is but it should be viewed in what the responsibilities of the Appropriations and Audits Chairman is and how successfully those responsibilities have been achieved. People are definitely not perfect, we all make mistakes, and we all know that. But the same mistakes should not be made over again if they were given warnings or if those actions were not taken into whole and one was reprimanded. The responsibilities also weigh on the leader. The good rewards are directed towards the leader as should the bad results. There is no one else who could be at fault. As the leader you take this risk and you have to be willing to expect the good and the bad. When making your decision, think about what your decision rules are in. Voting yes, then you are confident in the current Chairman’s ability as the Appropriations and Audits chairman means that you are fully and completely confident that he can fulfill his
responsibility and we will not be back in the same position in the future. Voting no would mean we would elect a new Appropriations and Audits Chair. Look around the Senate and think if you can see someone else you believe could successfully fill this position. This vote isn't whether or not you like the person, that's completely irrelevant to the situation. It's whether you believe the person you originally voted into this position will fulfill their responsibilities. This decision should be based on what you, as an elected representative from your respective college, believe would be best for the student body. Some questions while going through this is, why did we elect this person into the position in the first place?, what are the responsibilities of the position?, did this person successfully achieve those goals?, has this person as a leader taken responsibility for the good and the bad that has come as a result of this chairmanship? Based on the time this person has had chairmanship and based upon the evidence brought before me, am I confident that this person can continue this position successfully, and to be held in which one should? Answering these questions myself, I am not confident that this person can continue this person could continue this position successfully and to calibrate in which one should be for the best of the student body. JEC and Appropriations and Audits work closer together in that JEC must approve student organization constitutions before the school bills can be brought to the Senate to the floor. Starting from when we were voting to our position until mid-august, the interim constitutions were reviewed by JEC. Of those 30 new, JEC had searched through the SG budget’s email and the Appropriations and Audits IBR files, to find 22 of them. That is two thirds of the student organizations. That is not the responsibility of JEC. The extreme lack of communication, especially through email, resulted in the delay of student organizations being approved. If JEC had not been proactive in searching for these constitutions there is a very high chance that 22 student organizations would not have been able to have their budgets come to the Senate floor in the future. Addressing some of the concerns that other senators had tonight. The memo that he wrote was written after he had been reprimanded for not doing his job. If someone was struggling in the position that they were elected to, and they had the choice to resign, knowing that someone might be able to do the position, they should, as a leader, think about that. And a very popular organization that has come up, was the Chocoteers club. I, too, had to review their constitution, and I received backlash and anger from them due to them not being able to get their budget approved. It is not my responsibility of that, however they were angry at me just because I had to look over their constitution and I don’t believe that’s fair. In regards to long meetings, JEC has also had long meetings. Appropriations and Audits is not the only um committee that has long meetings. For those of you who were in JEC this summer, we had confirmations and those go for an hour and forty five meetings to two hours. So as a senator, you sign up for that. You know that’s gonna come and it’s not just one committee. In regards to professionalism, that someone brought up, I can’t remember, I have been spoken down by Senator Johnson, and that was during the first week when we just started at our first Senate meeting and I was not informed that constitutions needed to be completed in which he very rudely and disrespectfully told me I needed to get on the phone and find those organizations and get their constitutions done. It’s not the JEC’s responsibility to find…

Rodriguez: 10 seconds
Truong: And I just wanted to say that, in this situation that I’m in suffering personal from professional and in my professional viewpoint…

[Gavel]

Truong: Thank you.

Rodriguez: Okay. Moving on, we have Senator Colon.

Colon: Hi, ya’ll. So I was not here this summer due to the fact that I had other obligations back home. Um like my fellow senators said, I also believe in second chances but only if they’re warranted. And I am totally looking for the facts of the case not all of these personal statements. In a sense that your professional and personal biases are skewed. And it’s a gray line and it gets messy. That’s what happens. So professionally, I totally agree that we should be looking solely at the facts not the fact that you’re best friends with him and you knew this, this, this, and you know the reasons why his personal life got in the way. I understand about work overload and I understand about being a first year senator. I was one last year. I understand that it can be daunting, it can be so daunting, but the thing is when you’re elected to be a Chair you’re supposed to be a leader. And leaders don’t let anything get in the way even if it is personal. Yes, they might have to cancel meetings. Yes, they might have to stay back where they’re from, Jacksonville. But other than that this should be his number one priority because he wanted it. Does that make sense? I hope so. He had other obligations that he knew from the start. If he knew that there wasn’t going to be time to be in Tampa and to be in Jacksonville, he should have thought long and hard about what he was doing. So all I have to say is remember the facts. I’m trying to remember the facts because I wasn’t even here during the summer so the facts are all I have. Remember the facts and don’t let your personal bias skew what should be done professionally.

Rodriguez: Okay, next we have Ulloa…

Ulloa: So… as was said earlier by Chairman Truong. Please remember that this is about professionalism. This is about the job, it has nothing to do with personal. If he’s your best friend or fraternity brother. Uh Chris Johnson is a great guy, he’s nice, and he comes to the office, he says good morning, how are you. That’s Chris Johnson. But professionally and statutes-wise is something we need to look at um for the Vote of Confidence. I’ll go through and explain some of them. If it says document or page, um it means that you have emails here. So if you really want to see that, I can show you guys. Just let me know. The first one is professionalism while in the office and conducting the responsibilities um this was just said by Chairman Truong but also in email. So this includes emails to the committee, I do have one that shows essentially uh he’s mad at his committee because they didn’t show up and they were unable to meet quorum. Yes this is frustrating I know I was the chair I had to wait 20 minutes for committee members to show up. But at the same time um it happens um senators should stay but sometimes it happens. Um along with that, I also have other organizations, I mean 3 emails from organizations complaining that not only do they not get funding for the summer but they haven’t been told why they haven’t been funded or if they’re getting funded and stuff like that um the next one um the hours, he did show us that I have not actually had the
chance to look through that completely. But I know he clocked over 210 hours over the summer. So you have to think – 15 uh 16 pages of organizations, is that 210 hours of work? Uh I personally have not gotten to look through the whole thing so I can’t say. It’s just something for you guys to be aware of and notice and keep on your mind. The reason we’re pulling notice, we already went through that, there’s two meetings that he did not do that. Um he called an emergency meeting so next thing is why didn’t he call an emergency meeting when he had (inaudible) later on in the week in order to get his committee to meet. That’s an alternative. Um. Can you scroll down please? Um. Respecting all activities. So this um meeting the last couple of weeks, I do unders—you guys have to realize yes he had extenuating circumstances at home but this is something he signed up for knowing he had to be here every week and so with that being said he should’ve found the time to make it here to have these meetings, make sure that these meetings go on, or see about resigning so someone else could have the meetings for him. This is just a part of it so I know we have a lot of things that he worked really hard to make committee, uh he worked really hard to go over budgets. But remember that’s just one part of his job and were some of the things where he failed later. Um you have to realize that statutes run us for a reason and so breaking one statute, okay, sorry you didn’t know about it, but breaking statutes multiple times is very important. It calls for impeachment sometimes of presidents of judicial branch, it’s something we should take very seriously. Um did he just mess up once, did he mess up twice, or did he mess up three times? These are all things he’s done. So uh be aware of that as a chair. Um the Senate should not meet during first week of summer or last week of summer session. I don’t know if he officially went behind the clock. It’s not something he could answer. Maybe Pro Tempore Aziz can answer but I know he did uh send an email to me the last week of summer. Um after Aziz did tell him that was not against the rules I know he was still looking but I know if he met for sure. That could be a question for him or Mr. Aziz. But that’s another thing. Senators are expected to enter all meetings. That’s just meetings that he missed for either Senate or committee. Um. So the next thing he’s supposed to do is review all audits. We have organizations uh that did not get reviewed in a timely manner. They were not able to make Week of Welcome events. They were not able to hold their events because of this. Um budget transfers, I have emails, I think its 3 organizations—3 budget transfers. I think it’s 2 from—1 from SAFE Team and 2 from Bulls Radio where he did not meet on it and so therefore Pro Tempore Aziz had to send them an email saying that it’s approved automatically. These are budgets that probably would have been approved automatically if they went to committee but the problem is that we’re here for the due process to make sure that everything is accurate if we’re gonna make sure that these organizations that we go through have good strong budgets, why aren’t we doing the same for our um bureaus. How much time do I have?

Rodriguez: You have 25 seconds.

Ulloa: Okay. Um. Providing interim account balance statement. Uh it’s the Chair’s job to provide every meeting a count of what organizations are going through in terms of budgets and how much is left in it and if he’s not here we’re unable to give that accurate count. We can’t let organizations know, we can’t let constituents know, and if someone from the committee is not presenting it, which hasn’t been presented in over a month uh that’s a big thing.
Rodriguez: 10 seconds

Ulloa: And finally the audits. Although we don’t have the auditing system yet. We should’ve gotten something in place in the meantime for audit use over the summer (inaudible).

[Gavel]

Rodriguez: Pro Tempore Aziz

Aziz: I wanna yield my time to Corey since…

Rodriguez: Umm.

Ulloa: I don’t know if I have anything left. Is there anything left under there? Yeah, so just so the auditing process. That should be. And I have documents. So if it says documents next to anything, I do have emails in here that you guys can see if you guys want to see that.

Aziz: Back to the facts based analysis you guys gave. So you look at that, you would have to, in your objective mind, look at the statutes and the actions. The statutes were broken such as one of the big things is the agenda. Not being sent 24 hours in advance. That’s a big thing. And also the budget transfer, I’ve seen complaints from SAFE Team. I think the budget transfer automatically got approved in end of July and it was only signed August 19th. So I don’t think they knew what was going on. Those were the complaints I received. Also from Bull’s Radio, also with their transfer they were not sure if they were approved or not approved. And um I think in SOP’s you have two business days after to approve it to sign it. So that was the issues with that SOP. And I think that’s all.

Rodriguez: Okay, Senator Johnson.

Johnson: Thank you, Kristen for pointing out some really—I didn’t mean to come across as too friendly earlier. You know, it’s uh just kind of how I present myself. There are some objective facts that they questioned whether or not I was professional or not. As to your point about my time coming in and stuff like that, the reason why I’m like this instead of dressed up, the reason why I showed up late. I had to drive my girlfriend to the ER tonight and I just had to communicate with the hospital that’s why I’ve been running in and out. So if you can understand that, just an instance of tonight, as the dedication that I have to the job. Over the summer for example uh, my uh, the weekend—the week I had to call the emergency sanction, I testified against my mother in court and I wasn’t able to allot more than one day’s notice to my committee that I did not have the time to get down here. Um so as far as as uh. Part of the reason that we use objectivity as standards is the idea that more than one person evaluates the situation, right? I can barrage to understand how from Kristen’s positon it looks like that I did not uh communicate with her enough and I do believe communication is two ways. And if there was an issue with communication, it should’ve been brought to be earlier than it was. And it was uh eventually brought to me when I was here long enough for it to be brought to. So I’m not—there’s no blame to be assigned. But the point is that once someone made aware to me that I was doing a poor job to the vote of…
Senator: Action of noncompliance.

Johnson: Action of Noncompliance. Thank you very much. I responded by getting my act together. Alright. Um. As far as uh as as the um the auditing goes. I mean, there’s so many points I wish people would ask me questions about. As far as the auditing goes. Day one, I had an issue with the way auditing was set up. The reason—the reason my committee is called the Committee of Appropriations and Audits is because people before me didn’t know where to put auditing. Alright. In theory it’s 50% of what my committee does. In practice, it’s 1%. And there’s a problem with that. There’s a problem with the Senate who’s in charge of appropriating money auditing that which appropriate. It’s the reason why the IRS does not allocate money and that’s a philosophy I’ve held since I’ve started this job. I have just to substantiate that claim, I have done two or three audits since coming back. Of course you have to understand the context of that. During the summer, how many organizations do things? Uh so after I come here for 2-8 hour days, I don’t really have time to search for a rare event that may or may not be being held. That does not mean that I don’t have an obligation to do it and if the Senate deems that I did not complete my job because I had an ethical concern about whether or not I should even be doing an audit uh I can—I will submit to that. I would like the Senate to know that part of the way I’m trying to fix this is that from day one, uh when Berkowitz, uh Chief of Staff Berkowitz, said that there was going to be a new position hiring Auditor General. I sat down with him and President Cocco and Vice President Rhondel and every single have been down here to talk about the expanses of this new position and how exactly we can fix auditing so it’s not just one percent of one committee. Um as far as the, as far as the communication to the organizations go, Corey and Kristen brought up some wonderful points about points about one side of the conversation as far as communication goes. I can tell you once again that Corey’s documentation explains how there were organizations that were upset with me. I can tell you organizations were upset with me I have documentation for it and the reason why is because I have issues with their interim budget requests. There are several organizations that of the 22 that she’s referring to, not all of them, in fact, few of them, there’s a reason we haven’t looked at 22 so far. Alright. I do not feel comfortable presenting them to my committee and to the Senate until we have looked at them in the proper manner, which means saying exactly why the dollars are being allocated the way they are. Alright. When I ran for this position, the whole, my whole my whole pitch to you, and the reason why I’m so confident I could do this job is because I had to deal very personally with finances in my past. I I I budget for my family, I’ve been the prime income for the past two years for my family. So when I say that, I didn’t just mean oh I’m just gonna sign up willy nilly and I’m just gonna sign budgets without knowing what’s going through. That means that I’m going to act really and objectively understand what requests are being sent to my committee. I’m not going to submit them and waste my committee’s time. I’m going to look at every single dollar and I’m going to meet with an organization three or four times if need be to make sure it gets done. Of course I have documentation for all this if anyone would like to see it or ask me about it. Alright. If the Senate is concerned about the number, the quantity of organizations that I’ve brought to the Senate then I apologize um for disappointing you. I’m not going to apologize for doing what I think is the most important part of my job, which is only submitting quality requests to the Senate. I
simply refuse to submit that is my job to give you as many interim budget requests as possible. I'm not going to give you any invalid one.

Rodriguez: Okay, before we move on. Um the order of who is speaking next is gonna be Hasan, Shiflett, Colon, Truong. But uh we only have 3 minutes and 42 seconds left in this caucus. So before we continue I’d like to entertain a motion to extend time. Senator Colon.

Colon: Motion to extend the moderated caucus time to 20 minutes. Same exact speaking times.

Johnson: Objection.

Colon: Go for it.

Rodriguez: State your objection, Senator Johnson.

Johnson: I believe that any points about professionalism, documentation, or authenticity of the work that I may or may not have done have been presented. If anyone would like to ask any questions, now I believe is the time to do so uh but I don’t feel that further discussion is going to truly influence the decisions of senators one way or the other.

Rodriguez: Do you rescind your motion?

Colon: Could I just like get a repeat? Like does he want me to change it or like a more like a question-answer type deal?

Johnson: I would—I would—I would like to vote.

Colon: You would like to vote?

Johnson: Yes, I would like to…

Colon: Then no, I will not rescind my thing. I still feel like points need to be made and senators still need to see both sides of the story.

Rodriguez: Do you rescind?

Johnson: No.

Rodriguez: Okay. Then we have a vote.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Okay. Just so that it’s very clear, if you click 1 if you vote yes to extending the time by 20 minutes, no if you would like to end discussion, and 3 to abstain. And vote. With the vote count of 15 to 20 to 1, with me as abstaining vote. We will now end discussion.

Inaudible chatter
Rodriguez: Oh, we will not extend time. So Senator Hasan, you have the floor.

Hasan: Okay. So, I would.

Rodriguez: Well, before you start actually. Kristen, she was next.

Truong: I have a question.

Rodriguez: Yeah, go ahead.

Truong: Um since the Vote of Confidence is being taken against Chris Johnson, should he be abstained from the vote?

Ulloa: (Inaudible) it doesn’t matter.

Rodriguez: No. (Inaudible) And it won’t make a difference. You have a question?

Ulloa: Yeah.


Ulloa: Um if we have 3 minutes left in discussion does that mean we continue down the list with how we are in order?

Rodriguez: Yes, I’m continuing with the list I already have down. So it’s Hasan, Shiflett, and then Colon. If we had time for everyone then…

Aziz: I motion to go for 20- 30 second so or a minute of speaking time so everyone (inaudible)…

Johnson: The Senate objection. The Senate just voted to end discussion. So can we finish? Can we just proceed?

Rodriguez: Well… Not to end discussion. Not to continue—not to add time.

Antar: The original motion was to add time um and so we went into vote because the objection of the Senate. And so all that really happened with that vote was that we failed the original motion, we’re continuing what was on the table before and what was on the table before was our discussion, which still had 3 minutes in the forum. So we have to either exhaust the forum or motion to move into the actual Vote of Confidence.

Johnson: Then I reinstate my objection.

Antar: There is no motion on the floor.

Rodriguez: Yeah…

Ulloa: There is no motion on the floor. Just Anika’s discussion time.
Rodriguez: Do you rescind?

Aziz: Um for 1 minute speaking time for the remaining 3 minutes, I don’t rescind since we have 3 speakers.

Johnson: That’s fine. I rescind my objection.

Rodriguez: Alright. Are there any—are there any other objections to changing speaking time to 1 minute?

Hasan: I object.

Rodriguez: Senator Hasan, state your objection.

Hasan: I believe what I need to say needs at least three minutes. There are four of us so not everyone is gonna get…

Aziz: You couldn’t extend time if you needed cause you’re in a conundrum.

Hasan: Okay, then I rescind.

Rodriguez: Okay, any other objections to changing time to 1 minute? Seeing no objections, Senator Hasan you may start whenever you’re ready.

Hasan: Okay. So, honestly there isn’t a proper VOC process because the document we just got stating all these things he has done, I just got this today. I don’t even know where to like see it. I haven’t even got this in like even in 24 hours’ notice to make like proper like to defend Chris or even for Chris to defend himself. Have you seen it before this? No. So on more, I don’t want to press back to what Kristen has been saying. She has been comparing JEC to Appropriations that is not, do not make us valid. What JEC does is see constitutions, find something that’s wrong, and like strike that out and fix things. We are accountable for moneys which are getting out of the student government account and going to people. And think this is the money of the students, and I believe when Chris says that we need to see these things before these go to Senate even, makes a lot of sense. That is why our committee takes so much time to look through all these. I feel like you guys should give Chris this one shot because I feel like he has done a good job as Chair.

Antar: Before we continue. Um I’d just like to ask Senate to please keep whatever points you have or whatever the votes just keep it professional. These things aren’t personal. Let’s avoid using names that aren’t necessarily involved in the actual case.

Rodriguez: Thank you. Okay, next on the list is Senator Shiflett.

Shiflett: Um just two things. Um I’d just like to remind everyone we have been in session for over a month now. Just about um say you know when we talk about the entire summer, it’s not 4 months, it’s a, well roughly three. And the other thing is uh just something that I’ve noticed um that you see us or uh a portion of the committee stick up for him. Um it’s not personal what I’m saying that a lot
of the issues that have been presented are not ones that he is responsible for or that he caused. I’d just like to remind everyone of that.

Rodriguez: Senator Colon.

Colon: Just one more question to pose to the Senate once more. Should we wait until a VOC or any other reprimand to get our act together? Or should we be doing our job from the beginning and not get reprimanded?

Rodriguez: Thank you. Are there any other points? Uh I saw Senator Ulloa and then Senator Truong.

Truong: I was on the list.

Rodriguez: Excuse me?

Truong: I was on the list.

Rodriguez: Oh, I’m sorry. Senator Truong.

Johnson: How much speaking time is left?

Rodriguez: There is 1 minute and 58 seconds.

Johnson: Can I move to—can I move to extend speaking time by uh by another a minute and 2 seconds for three more speakers?

Rodriguez: Okay. Um could you repeat your…

Johnson: I move to extend speaker time to a minute and 2 seconds so three speakers can speak for one minute each.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections? Seeing no objections, speaking time has been extended by 3 minutes. Okay. Senator Truong. Whenever you’re ready.

Truong: So I wouldn’t be taking on such a strong stance on this issue unless I felt very strongly about what I was going for. As some of you works with Chris, I would say at least we get along in the office, like we talk, we have fun, and that’s where I’m separating something personal from this. Because we’re all here not for ourselves, we’re here for the student body. That’s who we represent. That’s why we are in these positions and you need to be thinking about what you believe is the best for the student body not what you as your own personal best. And all of us here were not just senators. We all do different things and we understand that you shouldn’t be taking on more than you can handle. You should be thinking about what’s best for the student body, whether it be continuing your position or resining. Thank you.

Rodriguez: Would anyone else like to speak? We’ll do Senator Rodriguez and Senator Hiba then Senator Ulloa. Those will be the last three speakers.
Rodriguez: Kriste—Kristen…

Rodriguez: Wait, one second. Okay, start whenever you’re ready.

Rodriguez: Like Senator Kristen said. We need to do what’s best for student body and I think Chris Johnson’s gonna be a great person for this position because he had to travel probably like 2 hours every day. And he’s gotten the experience over summer. So I think for the amount of work that workload he had over summer and the work that he has over this semester, he's not gonna be—he's gonna be doing a better job at what he was in the summer. That’s basically it. Thank you.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Umm I yield my time to Senator Ulloa.

Rodriguez: Senator Ulloa.

Ulloa: Thanks. Um I think we’ve exhausted this subject. Um so with that, I’d like to motion to vote with uh abstentions from removed from both counters

Johnson: Objection

Rodriguez: Um are there… Could you state your objection please?

Johnson: Um Vote of Confidence procedure states that 5 minute speaking time be…

Rodriguez: Well… Yeah… that’s a part of voting. As we go into voting…

Aziz: It doesn’t say 5 minutes.

Rodriguez: It doesn’t say 5 minutes, but that’s what I decided on… Um do you rescind your motion?

Ulloa: Yes.

Inaudible chatter

Senator: He rescinds his objection.

Rodriguez: Huh?

Senator: He rescinded his objection

Rodriguez: He rescinds his objection? Okay, so that’s fine. Are there any other objections? Senator Hasan.

Hasan: Could I—could we make Corey abstain because he’s the one who made this Vote of Confidence.
Rodriguez: We can’t motion to do it, he could choose to abstain if he feels that there is a conflict of interest.

Ulloa: I will abstain.

Hasan: What is the motion again?

Rodriguez: Excuse me?

Hasan: What is the motion again?

Rodriguez: The motion is to end discussion um to give—allot Chris’ time to speak and then go into voting. And also to not count abstentions on the vote count. Would we have to suspend…

Ulloa: There’s no procedures for it.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: I can show you the… This is what it says.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: I’m under the impression that abstentions count towards forum. But if Ali you could look that up, please. Okay. So In order to change what quorum of the Senate is um it can only be changed by two thirds of vote during regular meetings. So we would have to move to change to remove abstaining people from quorum. Would you like to do that first?

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Could you reinstate your motion, Senator Ulloa, please.

Ulloa: I motion to vote with abstentions removed from vote count.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to voting with abstentions removed from vote count? Seeing no objections, uh Senator Johnson. You may go ahead and make your closing remarks

Johnson: I wish Kristen was still here

Truong: I’m here.

Johnson: Alright. Just so we’re abundantly clear, I had to work with Kristen more than any other chair over the summer. If it wasn’t for Kristen, I would’ve quit because she was a constant voice of support over the summer. And I sincerely thank you for helping me out personally and professionally. I’m sorry I didn’t do a better job communicating with you. Um as far as the—the theme of this discussion tonight. The rightfully so, is objectively can I fulfill my position as Chairman of the Appropriations and Audit committee. In order to make that statement, in order to reach a decision about that, you have to be able to look at how well I’ve done, how well I’m doing,
and how well I’m going to be able to do. Alright. I have repeatedly admitted fault for my actions over the summer. I have submitted to the Senate that for circumstances unfortunately beyond my control there were several things that I cannot take into account and could not do a good job as a leader as. I don’t want to misinterpret and I don’t want you guys to misunderstand this at all. I take full responsibility for the lack of communication with the organizations over the summer for dropping the ball with communication with Kristen, for even bringing up the notion that we needed the Vote of Confidence for this, it is my fault for that. I do not want to absolve any of that fault. Second of, thus far as how I’m doing, since I have been back in school for the past three weeks. I have been at work every single day. I didn’t work on Labor Day, I worked 8 hours on Friday instead. Attorney General Johnson and I went to Lakeland to audit their campus’ coffee room because we thought they might be stealing things. But every single day since I’ve been here, I have worked 4 hours, with the exception of Monday. During those 4 hours, every single day, I don’t believe I’ve had a day yet where I have yet to not meet with an organization. Some days I have two, some days I have three, some days I have four. So for the 4 hours I didn’t eat lunch, I scheduled between classes, I work constantly. Alright. Now as far as the memo goes, I would like to stress that while it was in response to the Notes of Noncompliance, the reason I wrote it so that at the start of the Senate meeting, I could pass it out to you so you could see from the chair report how I’ve done over the summer because of circumstances I’ve described to you. Hasan, I apologize for not getting that out to everyone. It wasn’t supposed to be on the agenda. It was a personal thing. I wanted you to show—I wanted you guys to see that I responded to that notion of noncompliance… As far as how I’m going to do, um I do believe that you have to be able to take an objective look at how I’ve done and how I’m doing. I do believe though a crucial part of that, since just like with organizations, we can’t accurately judge a new organizations a certain number of people in an event. We can’t accurately judge based on their attentions and the character of the people you meet with. I can tell you from meeting with almost 45 organizations over the summer that it’s very hard to do that if you don’t sit down over and over again if you don’t work with them. Unfortunately, the biggest paradox with this Vote of Confidence is that I don’t work Corey Ulloa. I don’t see him at all. He sits behind me. We don’t talk, we don’t interact. So I feel it’s unfair to bring a question about professionalism that exclude a large majority of the conversations I’ve had with many organizations. Of the emails that he has passed around, those are not the most recent emails. I have to say that as a statement of fact. The minimum that I have included, part of the reason when I got back to the session, when I got back here, the first thing I did was I contacted every single organization and asked them about how they’re doing, how I can help, what I can do. The emails he’s collected from over the summer are reflections of a fault that I’ve already admitted and in my opinion should not be used as an objective criteria for how well I’ve done given that I now responded to the criteria as I just presented. As far as going forward, aside from working 4 hours a day, here doing my job as best as I can and aside as working off the clock to do what I have to do to get it done, and aside from hopefully turning an Ad-Hoc Committee to a forum, not just a way to audit that’s done with student government, but with the culture of accountability that I feel as a new senator that I can objectively say sucks. I want to, I plead to you guys for your forgiveness for my mistakes and I ask that you um understand that I wouldn’t even be here if I didn’t like what I was doing and I didn’t have to do a
good job. I would not be driving here, I would be in the hospital right now if I didn’t care about this position. Thank you very much and thank you for your time and your questions tonight.

Rodriguez: Okay. Just as a point of clarification. When it comes to voting, if you click 1, it is that you have confidence in Chris Johnson to fulfill his duty as Appropriations and Audits Chairman. If you click 2, that means you do not have confidence in him, and if you click 3 you abstain.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Has everyone voted?

Truong: Can you reshow the voting um what each thing means again?

Rodriguez: Okay, before. You can change your vote by changing the click. Just before I exit voting procedures, 1 is confidence, 2 is no confidence, 3 is to abstain. Everybody got that? We all good? Awesome. And with a vote of 19 to 15 to 3, Chris keeps his position because just a point of clarification, we need two thirds and no confidence in order to be VOC or removed from your position. So yeah, moving onto the agenda.

Ulloa: Abstentions.

Rodriguez: Abstentions. It’s still—you need two thirds in the negative.

Ulloa: But you didn’t say who.

Rodriguez: Oh. Sorry. Um, I’m one of the abstaining votes. Could the other two abstentions please state your name? Chris Johnson abstained for obvious reasons.

Ulloa: And Corey Ulloa abstained because I submitted the…

Rodriguez: Thank you.

4. Statutory Legislation on Frist Reading
   a. SB [S] 55-012 Title VII Reform Bill

Rodriguez: Thank you. Moving on the agenda, Statutory Legislation on first reading, we have SB [F] 55-012 Title VII Reform Bill. Do I see any motions to enter first reading? Do I see any motions? Anyone? Senator Hasan.

Hasan: Motion to enter first reading of S… 55-012 Title Reform Bill.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to entering the first reading of this bill? Seeing no objections, we are now in the first reading and Senator Shiflett, take it away.

Shiflett: Just for clarification since its first reading there’s no (inaudible) amendments, I’m just going over…
Rodriguez: Yeah, there can’t be any amendments.

Shiflett: Okay, alright. Alright, so you guys. Um this is what we did in Title VII. Um this is uh, Aziz will hopefully be back here in a minute to help out a bit. Um the whole point of this was based on the change Title VII based off what we saw as flaws, the experience last year, and just some stuff that just didn’t make any sense in elections. Um so starting from beginning, we have some new uh definitions uh and the point of this to be clear…

Aziz: Alright, I wanna recap the floor. So Title VII Bill so that—did you talk about the approach?

Shiflett: A little bit, yeah.

Aziz: Alright. So the bill is split up into three, three um stages. The first stage was doing research. So the committee through went through all different Florida institutions and institutions across the United States to look at best practices for elections. And second stage was identifying problems or pretty much compiled a list of all issues that were rising from the previous election and uh issues from (inaudible), issues from Nadin(?), issues from Gary, issues from myself, everyone that uh had issues. And the third stage was amendments, so each committee member can also send out to the Senate if you guys wanted to uh send amendments, like Kristen sent an amendment, Corey sent an amendment. So that um in each committee can present their amendments. And we went through each one and decided and then like uh had a discussion on each one and these are the amendments that the committee agreed upon, so far.

Shiflett: Um so we did change a few definitions uh, just throw them out by order. Uh we added the definition of At-Large Seat. Obviously, one of our goals in Senate is to have uh representation from every college and for all students so the more people that are in here that have voting rights uh to represent such a large student body, the better. Um so we added At-Large Seats which we submit in elections. We outline the process later on but essentially it is uh that when there are vacant seats in a college, those seats are filled first by people in those colleges and then if there are any remaining seats after the people decide to run for those seats then At-Large Seats that any student from any college can run for and then every on campus will vote on those seats. Um you can see the definition see there. You guys also should also have it in front of you. Um do you want—do you have anything to add?

Aziz: Uh just committee composition was between alternate branches. We had myself as Chair, Andy from the Senate, Senator Shiflett, Emily Seitz, Josh Gluck. From the Executive Branch President Cocco, Attorney General Johnson. From the Judicial, Chief Justice Sammy Hamed, Associate Justice Lindsey Betros, and also we had um, as a guest, John Quiroz for a few meetings towards the end when he was hired. Um should we tell them about that?

Shiflett: And just for those of you that weren’t here over the summer John Quiroz is the Election Rules Commissioner.

Aziz: So moving down, oh sorry.
Rodriguez: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Just a question regarding At-Large Seats. How would students run for them like would you wait for all the senators running for, say, the College—College of Business to submit their applications and for the date to finish to run for an At-Large Seat if say there was an extra seat for college of business?

Rodriguez: The thought behind the At-Large Seat was, once applications have been turned in um that’s, once—they’ve been turned in and they’re due, it’s done. That’s when how—however many At-Large Seats will be determined and then any student that isn’t in a college that has seats that have been turned to At-Large Seats can opt to run for an At-Large Seat instead of running for their college. Does that make sense?

Hiba: So only after uh the the ballots… not the ballots. The submissions have been closed and you can’t apply for a preliminary elections that the At-Large Seats will be open to senators to apply?

Rodriguez: Yeah, the idea is you apply to be a senator whether or not you’re running for your college or for you’re—for the entire university, can be determined later.

Inaudible

Rodriguez: Yeah, I think, I think there’s gonna be a week gap where the ERC would potentially um communicate to all the senators that are available for an At-Large Seat um and ask them whether or not they do wanna run for an At-Large Seat. And then by the by the information session you’ll know whether or not you’re running for an At-Large Seat or a regular college seat. Senator Hiba.

Hiba: So the senators running for out for an At-Large Seat, is that pool taken for who are already running for Senate in their own colleges or can you choose to run for both or…

Shiflett: You only run for one but it might be that you initially sign up for your own college um and you change for an At-Large Seat. It essentially depends on how many people are running for your college. You may decide that you’d rather run for an At-Large seat than for your own college. There’ll be a gap and it'll become clearer as we get into the document specifically how it's outlined. Um there’ll be a gap where you can make that choice and the ERC will inform you whether you’re allowed to make that choice or not.

Rodriguez: Could you follow up, Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Final question. Um will all the At-Large Seats from the different colleges will be combined to one pool or would it just be At-Large Seats from, say, College of Engineering, College of Business, would they be separate?

Shiflett: No they’d all be in one pool. Essentially if your college senators running for your college and you vote for them and then you also receive one vote for each At-Large Seat, then you would
vote from those candidates. So the candidates will then have to appeal for votes from every student on campus.

Rodriguez: And, do you still have a question?

Inaudible

Rodriguez: Okay, awesome.

Aziz: Alright. Moving down to this definition, Beyond Reasonable Doubt. Um it was determined from a subcommittee and also students. Pretty much everyone and also from um Jones who directed responsibilities that this definition is mostly for um for criminal cases to the highest degree. And it would not be for uh wouldn’t be the best place to have this as your um definition in our statutes. If it was a provo case then yes but not for like ERC. So we'll replace this later on with clear and convincing evidence which we'll see as we go along. Alright, so going down to campaign expenditures. We took out “candidates and tickets shall include sales tax for the expenditures.” It’s not something that was needed or up to date, so we took it out. And then also campaign materials had major change. We added “all the materials must be approved by the ERC two business days in advance. This includes but is not limited to: television, newspaper, magazine, periodical, direct mail, email, display, leaflet, public figure, or radio.” So what this is, let’s say I’m running a campaign and I have five flyers, two business days to submit to ERC to get approval. So this aborts all those potential grievances that could happen or um missing logos here and there. So that means all materials are approved by the ERC and ready to go. Senator Hiba.

Hiba: So for this case, does that mean you would submit your uh campaign materials to the ERC two days in advance including two days in advance when you’re allowed to start advertising. So the ERC will start approving things before advertising should be—is open?

Aziz: Yes, yes.

Rodriguez: Senator Gibson

Gibson: Um including campaign materials, does that include also social media tactics?

Shiflett: Yeah. The uh, it would be very an open exhaustive list of everything that you could consider campaign materials.

Aziz: Like a campaign website.

Gibson: So where would someone submit to send their link, to the ERC?

Shiflett: Correct

Aziz: Or like, like if the link is alive, like it says two days before campaigning. Um obviously it’s not allowed cause you can’t do that, campaign early.

Gibson: Right.
Aziz: So instead of not live, like here ERC.

Gibson: Perfect.

Aziz: You know, look through it, okay. Everything’s okay.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: In the case of something like social media updates, say you have a Facebook page and then when you get your shirts in, you post an update, when you were on—when you have a table, you post an update. Those kinds of things. Would those also be approved by the ERC two days in advance?

Aziz: I don’t think we’re that… You’re um talking about like if I like had a Facebook group and I like post something, would it be needed to be approved by the ERC?

Shiflett: Uh this is something that we determined that the distinction really isn’t a necessary thing to do. Campaigning is campaigning. Um essentially pass a campaigning is, is very strict and limiting um and also in certain cases can even be seen as a restriction of free speech. Um so, especially with what was in the previous version. So we completely removed that and I do think we can expand later on, what is considered campaigning in general.

Aziz: Alright, as stated earlier. The place beyond reasonable doubt with clear and convincing evidence. The standard that the recommendation in question is highly and substantially, fully and correctly, will probably see to it or not.

Inaudible chatter

Aziz: This one is the measure of um what we should be using for what the ERC to measure grievances and stuff.

Shiflett: Uh next week’s changing name uh the Attorney General Johnson. Um that last box there or the last portion that clause that was the Election Rules Commission, kind of set us up for failure, like we should hold ourselves to a higher standard. Um as far as if an ERC hasn’t been appointed, we should still somehow manage and run the elections ourselves. As student government that’s our job. So just put it off on SGATO is a copout, essentially. And so we move that and we handle it in this buzz. Essentially if there’s no ERC and election, and an election is called Special Elections where the presidents fails to appoint them. An Ad-Hoc Committee will be formed uh by the Senate President and Student Body President to assume their role until they are appointed. Um and then uh if they are appointed like midway through the election because the Ad-Hoc already started managing and doing it and what not uh the Ad-Hoc will be carried out until the election is over and then the ERC will assume responsibility.

Aziz: So there’s a definition in the ROP so it’s a little more clear, So we wrote it to include the both definitions in one since this is much clearer than the current way it was. So any representative of the
university or any trademarked by is including but not limited to Judy Genshaft, Rocky D. Bull, or NCAA Division 1 Athletes. So it covers like Sundolls, cheerleaders, and stuff. We’ve had issues in the past. So moving on down, so. The elec-ERC ROP’s get approved by the Rules Committee and JEC. So the intention for this is that if you’re gonna create—ERC is gonna create initial documents, have those documents approved by JEC and Rules as well.

Shiflett: Um we changed the system major-minor violations to be quite frank it was really messed up how they were assessed previously and not only assess but what constituted each. And there were a lot of things that uh… another thing that we should—another aim of our committee that we decided from early on that the ERC should not be a cop, jury, and judge. That you need to spread those rules out in order to ensure fairness and advice decisions. So in that mind, we changed major violations to be things with malicious intent. You’ll see the minor violations are more technical in nature, like turning in paperwork late, or misrep—unintentionally misrepresenting information and expenditures. So you’ll see that major violations are now given directly to Supreme Court to decide whether they’ll be heard or not. The ERC can uh can investigate them and hand over the evidence to the court but it’s not going to be that they hear on and make decisions because inherently almost every time they would just be (inaudible). Um so um and then we also added, so they, because in the old language it didn’t typically apply to groups that were uh supporting the um, what were they called? Sorry.

Aziz: Referendums.

Shiflett: Yeah, referendums so now they can have that violations and be disqualified as well. Um.

Aziz: So this one just pretty much updating like we did everywhere else, majority votes. So as we said earlier, changing out violations to major and minor. So the first instance of the ERC so yeah, go ahead.

Shiflett: I know the change seems tick-tacky but like I said. Go ahead Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Inaudible

Shiflett: I know the change seems tick-tacky and a lot of them are to be honest with you. But as I said when I ran for the position, I’m very technical in nature. I wanna make sure that the sanctions are clear so there’s no reason for you to say I misunderstood anything or there’s no reason that the court has to be confused when dealing with an issue. Um and then uh it says, uh individuals not served, it did say non students, so essentially it could be like someone from another university. So I made that distinction that we obviously want only our people serving our—our ERC.

Aziz: Um so like I mentioned there’s ERC ROP provision, they have their own Rules of Procedures. And that’s under the jurisdiction of the court to call the ERC (inaudible). So it says, “Shall adopt a Rules of Procedure in conjunction with the ERC ROP revision Ad-Hoc.” So every year the ERC has to go through this Ad-Hoc to make changes. And this year there were a lot of major changes so the Ad-Hoc is already formed and after, depending on what happens with this bill, their ROPs will reflect that. So this is a mix and then you have conjunction, so they’re on the same page. So you
can’t have rules of procedure and document conflicting each other with each other. This adds Student Body President and then majority vote.

Shiflett: Um the next change we made was that the ERC has to hold a certain number of office hours. And basically the point of that was I know if, obviously all of us ran the last election, if you felt it was hard to meet it was that the ERC wasn’t necessarily available or wasn’t clear on when they were available. This makes it so that they have to have office hours uh they have to be included in the packet that you receive at candidate meetings and then uh that next clause just says that they have to have a list of major and minor violations, which makes sense cause they should and have that in the candidate packet. Um the next change I said earlier, we’re moving the fact that the ERC now, that the ERC in the previous language was cop, jury, and judge um so now that they essentially play the role of a cop. Like only accessing technical violations and investigating major violations before looking at. Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Um just a question, can you scroll a little bit. The ten hours collectively, is that man hours or is that personal times hours, or no matter how many people they have available they have to have 10 hours?

Shiflett: It has to be ten hours combined between the Associate and uh Commissioner.

Hiba: And that’s ten hours per week and not ten hours per day?

Shiflett: Correct.

Aziz: So the issue was…

Shiflett: And they have to be during business days, so they can’t be like I’ll be at your room 2AM to 4, come see me.

Aziz: So if you’re a candidate running for election, you want at least the ERC to be there so they can answer your questions so that’s the point of them to be there, actually physically be there so you don’t have to chase them around. So it sets that standard.

Shiflett: And the next thing is just the rule their right to vote on grievances because it’s now in the hand of the court. Um and the asses my violation as you’ll see, um that minor violations are going be technical in nature, as I mentioned a few times. So they’re not things that are like up to discretion to judge whether they’re an actual violation of rules or not.

Aziz: Okay, so this is um one thing where we added for our analysis. “Inform candidates and tickets of any minor violations that may have alleged to have committed and date, time, and place of the location of violation hearing with at least two business days’ notice.” It was unclear in statutes like when your—from your violation notice when your meeting was about the violation so that clears it up, to give two days’ notice. And “inform all Senate candidates of the number of seats per college as well as the number of candidates per college.” And also um one thing we added was, “polling location must be sent to the oracle via email, seven business days prior to first day of an election.”
Polling locations must be posted on the Student Government website at least five business days.” So it adds more clarity and transparency when we have polling locations, where polling locations are so candidates can know and also students can know. This one is “may terminate any deputy two weeks after Spring Break with the consent of the Student Body President.” So pretty much after election—general election is done all the deputies really have left is their end of the year report. And the failure to do so, usually they’re terminated after that but…

Shiflett: Um same things for those who humor the right for them to vote. So that we remove…

Hiba: Uh can you scroll up to where they terminate the deputies? Is there any reason that uh consent of the Student Body President was added to that so that they we needed the consent to remain deputies?

Shiflett: I believe the reason for that was that he typically answers to the Student Body President because he was appointed to him but if you want to correct me…

Aziz: I mean, I think we made some changes to that but I’m not sure if we made changes in Title VI. Senator Hasan.

Hasan: So this does not go to Senate though, right? The termination.

Shiflett: The deputies, no.

Hasan: So like they could be terminated by say by the Student Body President, even for a personal reason. I mean, I feel like (inaudible).

Aziz: Deputies are two deputies that are hired and the reason that’s there because after the elections there’s literally nothing for them to do beyond the end of the report.

Rodriguez: I’d just like to point out that it says two weeks after Spring Break or any time after that so it’s not just they can terminate them with no reason with the consent of the Student Body President. It has to be past a certain date that it’s acceptable.

Shiflett: Which means that elections are over and there’s really not reason for them to honestly be employees still. Senator.

Hiba: If there’s no reason for them to remain employed and the consequences for terminating them are minimal then why is the consent—why is the consent of the Student Body President necessary? Suppose the Student Body President decided to not to consent, then they would have to stay there presumably on the paperwork.

Shiflett: well because there’s an exception to that. They’re typically not necessary but they might be if there’s a special election or for whatever reason another election being held.

Hiba: In certain situations, could you not count on the ERC deciding not to terminate the deputy? Which is, I mean, the ERC is a committee whereas the Student Body President who is an individual.
Shiflett: Well this falls under, uh it’s not the entire the committee that decides when they’re terminated, it’s the elec—or Supervisor of Elections.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Uh instead of involving the Student Body President could this—could this responsibility could be moved so the entire committee has to agree?

Aziz: Uh I mean,

Rodriguez: We can’t… Once we’re in the second reading, you can propose any amendments to this bill that you’d like. So just make note of it is what I would recommend.

Aziz: Plus the deputies are on the ERC, so they would have to vote to terminate themselves. For people, (inaudible) that vote is never gonna be pass or terminated so… (Inaudible)

Inaudible chatter

Aziz: Well we can talk about appointing assistant deputies, which is pretty much we change coworkers to become assistant deputies. So let’s say like, Aladdin, you’re not gonna be running an election next year, hypothetically, are you? And you wanna help out with the polls. You can become assistant deputy, kind of like the Street Team with the ERC but you’ll have more um commitment and training.

Shiflett: Also you’ll be (inaudible) a commitment to honor (inaudible). Working the polls umm and things along those lines. (Inaudible)

Hiba: How many assistant deputies are numerically are we looking at?

Aziz: Well the concept was created last year but it was never utilized. But there’s potential for it to utilize. Cause the conflict with is on a volunteer basis (inaudible) we’re at a higher level of accountability

Shiflett: I guess to answer your question, there’s no limit um because they’re not paid um and their coworkers for the director of elections. It’s essentially so that people, we would expect them not to be running for reelection, we enumerate that later on. That and other members so that she could be coworkers without being paid for that work. Uh so the ERC could potentially open up more polling stations or have longer hours.

Rodriguez: Yeah, in an attempt to make this process a little bit better, if you have any questions, wait until the end of the first reading. That way, in case you have a question about something and it’s answered later on, you don’t have to ask it. So once, if you have a question about a certain statute, write it down and we’ll come back to it after the first reading.

Shiflett: Okay um same thing, uh you don’t really need to enumerate that they can’t fire anyone because the only person we give that right to is the um Supervisor of Elections. Um moving down,
same thing as the other rules, uh they don’t have these rights anymore so that just causes (inaudible). Um we changed the minimum for the number of uh official polling stations. Um so they have to be open during what we certify as our business hours um in we’ve upped the minimum so there’s more access for students to vote. Um based on this, this is the part that I wrote. It’s uh its intention is to uh require the ERC to hold polling locations in certain places so for a couple of reasons. One, so students get accustomed to those and they know where they can vote and two so that there’s no place like setting up polling locations, let’s say the supervisor, for instance like setting up polling locations in remote locations on campus that no one would want to trek out to vote and what not. Um and these are also I feel like are the most popular and most accessible spots for a lot of students on campus. Um and then uh the reason there’s two separate clauses is one for general and then one for midterm runoffs because midterm runoffs are shorter. There’s, you don’t have to hold the polling locations for as many days uh at these locations. Like for, essentially, for general runoff, they’ll have their pickup two days where they wanna hold those. Um that’s what we talked about earlier, essentially you’ll have votes for college and then votes for At-Large Seats. Um same thing we talked about earlier. Um we don’t want SGATO to do our job for us so.

Aziz: This is just typographical, just add it in. And no more but the (inaudible) gets about the date and times. So candidates date and times will be included in the application of intent to run for office. So. And also if you guys don’t want to run, you guys have to do candidate meetings and um this one pretty much says that if you can’t make a meeting, you have to inform the supervisor 24 hours before the meeting. Do like a makeup meeting um.

Shiflett: Next clause require vice president and presidential tickets meet with the supervisor for additional meeting because those campaigns are held to a diff—not a different standard but they’re a lot bigger and there’s usually, typically a lot more violations for those campaigns, for obvious reasons, compared to Senate campaigns. So it’s just to clarify any questions and to make sure there’s no misunderstanding between tickets and elections. Senator Hiba. Can you please hold your question for the end? Just take note on what you’d like to say.

Aziz: Then again, uh, the midterm elections candidates may opt to run for an At-Large seat. Then, reiterating from the definition of campaign materials, all campaign materials must be submitted for approval two days prior to usage. Appearances shall be accepted if materials are approved by ERC.

Shiflett: Okay, uh there’s a slight change um it’s just saying how uh SGATO and the ERC will notify candidates of their eligibility run. Um essentially be there officially, you have to once you let us know. Well I didn’t receive that, that’s something we can check and verify and there’s no room for misunderstanding.

Aziz: So this one is—oh sorry.

Rodriguez: Director Manka

Manka: Inaudible
Rodriguez: Thank you, Director. Sorry, Abdool.

Aziz: Oh, so. Going off the, like uh, early broad campaigning. Cause you can have passive campaigning. This um states, “Candidates and listed campaign staff may not actively campaign prior to Official Campaigning.” Also SG “employees and Senators may not campaign in the SG Suite, Bulls Radio, SGCS, or SAFE Team.”

Shiflett: It’s a provision that was laid out in the old language but wasn’t very clear. It just said no campaigning in general and only the SG Suite. We expanded that to include here as well. The employees, they shouldn’t be campaigning while on the clock. Um and then that, the next clause (inaudible) we were talking about earlier about how coworkers are supposed to be unbiased, when working polls. Um so (inaudible) wearing campaigning materials um and then we removed from here that you can’t wear a shirt when you’re voting, like once again, it was kind of what we saw as detrimental to your right to free speech and (inaudible).

Aziz: This one just clarifies candidate’s explicit assistance of campaign staff, organize prior to campaigning. This clarifies that cause candidates do that anyway.

Shiflett: Yeah, I mean, if you’re—we can to the conclusion that it was happening anyway. There’s really no way around it. You’re not gonna put your campaign staff together with two days of campaigning while your opponent’s got his already up and running and his website ready like um. And it was just—it was prohibitive to the elections process, in essence, to the campaigning.

Aziz: So this one is “adjustments to campaign staff must be submitted by the end of business of Friday of each week.” It gives more time for the campaigns to have their list ready and submitted at like a definitive period. It used to be, was it every, two days in advance? SO this gives them more time to be organized.

Shiflett: It also makes the ERC’s jobs easier because they’re not keeping track of 50 or 60 deadlines for candidates, as compared to every Friday everything is due.

Aziz: This one is, it states, “any candidate or listed campaign staff may engage in Active Campaigning.” It was added to the Code of Ethics, Campaign Staff. And also um back in the day, we only used to have printing at the MSC, and now we’re printing across campus. So this just clarifies that printing locations at IT website. Since we have printing at health area and also at the library.

Shiflett: And just to make sure that you know A&S Fees aren’t being used, we included Tech Smart is listed in that website, they also print banners for organizations so that can be worthwhile for organizations to essentially to use A&S funding to support a candidate which is against the rules.

Aziz: Cause student orgs receive the money to tech smart for their student org to further their mission and not for campaigning.
Shiflett: Um it requires that yesterday uh ticket change their candidates, it requires that that update be submitted to the ERC within two days um just so there’s not like open time to submit their change. Um for violations removed uh beyond reasonable doubt, include our new definition for clear and convincing evidence and then Supreme Court replacing the ERC, as we mentioned before.

Aziz: So this is the pretty much saying we as said early. ERC may accept grievances and investigate for major violations and then they’ll determine the decision in the Supreme Court.

Shiflett: Uh this next section, it’s a major change to how we’ve done things in the past. You’re gonna get one written warning for a minor violations and that’s just so you know, so you know, you get, essentially one freebee. Because people make mistakes. Um and after that you’ll be assessed to fine $50 for Presidential tickets for minor violations, $25 for Senate, or $20, sorry. And you will receive up to 10 of those before you are disqualified. And then uh you have to pay uh after you receive the written notification after you’ve been assessed for the minor violation. You’ll be disqualified if you don’t pay within ten days. And it will be on your OASIS account if you don’t pay. Um and if unpaid fines remain at the end of the election process, you can request an extension of one time for ten days, that’s basically, let’s say you incur 4 or 500 dollars of fines like you may not be able to come up with that money in ten days, so you would have 20 total, which is an adequate amount of time in our opinion especially for the larger presidential campaigns. Um and the extension, the hold will be placed on the student’s OASIS account and then you’re disqualified. Um this just outlines how those funds have to be paid and then those funds will go towards future elections and essentially offset some of the costs of the ERC. Um next change. Um just saying that they can only assess minor violations. Um and you can’t file grievances for minor violations, only the ERC can assess those. Um and then we removed the miscourt information on the campaign budget statement. I think we’re gonna include stuff like that when we revise the ERC ROPs. And then this just says that a lot of what we saw last year was that grievances were being filed for statements, maybe throwing the election or saying that to ensure that you have lost half the election but for now it’s not certified. So it says that you can’t file them after 10 am on the day after voting ends unless they specifically concern both count information or if the votes are still being counted or being currently (inaudible). So you can’t just look at the results and then bring out a grievance to hand to the ERC to just postpone the certification of the results and you’ll see the same language to apply to runoffs to special and midterm elections. Uh same thing for run offs, same language, 10 am the day after voting ends.

Aziz: This one was a uh a loophole, or I guess a flaw that Gary saw for the midterm. It said uh saying that you could, wanna explain it Gary? can you explain it? For the midterm.

Manka: (inaudible) the second Tuesday of the (inaudible).

Aziz: So it’s reworded as midterm and it takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday of the full—of the second full week of October. Which is on that weekend. This is regarding At-Large Seats. So it’s saying the week after applications are due is when SGATO does their eligibility check. And then the
ERC and Senate show a (inaudible) then the ERC informs the candidates of their options for At-Large seats. Then senators may opt to run for At-Large seats instead of their college for midterms.

Shiflett: Um same thing as earlier, just for midterm elections 10 am day after elections, and then the only exception is vote count grievances. Anything, for runoff elections or midterm elections. Um this removes the right to appeal because the initiative is no longer to appeal its initial assessment. So the evidence is turned over to the Supreme Court and they decide whether to hear it or reject it and then to rule on it.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Alright, are there any questions? Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Uh can you go to 701.3.16?

Rodriguez: 16?

Hiba: We were talking about responsibility of the Student Body President and whether or not the termination of employee deputies could stay within the committee. You mentioned that the deputies themselves are on the committee. Can we move to the next question?

Rodriguez: Sure, go ahead.

Hiba: 702.1.3.3. I just didn’t get a chance to read it completely.

Rodriguez: Let me know when you’re good.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba?

Hiba: In the last sentence, “Both candidates must attend the meeting.” That refers to…

Aziz: President, Vice President.

Hiba: Uh can you go to 702.4.5? Uh does that amendment mean uh student or nonstudent not in the campaign in or in the campaign staff cannot engage in active campaigning?

Shiflett: So what that means is that, if you hand someone your t-shirt and they wear it somewhere that they shouldn’t be its not your responsibility to ensure that all 500 t-shirts you handed out are uh whoever’s wearing them are properly following the rules like you shouldn’t be held responsible for people who aren’t in your campaign staff.

Rodriguez: Are there any more questions? Senator Hiba.

Hiba: 702.10 please.

Inaudible chatter

Shiflett: Um what was it concerning?
Hiba: It was uh a whole list of things.

Aziz: Was it talking about the ten (inaudible)? It’s probably later on.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Oh. How did I miss that?

Aziz: I think it’s the formatting.

Hiba: In this case, where it says funds will put a hold financial accountable student. Does that mean
the candidate running for, in the case of President, Vice-president ticket, does that mean the
president’s account, or vice president account? Or split between both?

Shiflett: The president. Uh the president will assume financial accountability. I believe that's
(inaudible).

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba

Hiba: Is that mentioned in the bill?

Shiflett: I don’t think it’s mentioned in the specific bill but I believe the paperwork you fill out is
going for the candidacy would have it or we would want to include it in that and that may be
something you may want to propose in round 2.

Rodriguez: Senator William.

William: Um did you say, did you say we can amend in second reading?

Rodriguez: Well you can amend during the sec—we would have to enter second reading. Right now
we’re just accepting questions. Um so if you…

William: I would just ask, how do you feel about—how do you feel about making all um midterm
seats um At-Large seats?

Shiflett: Um that was an idea I proposed but eventually we decided to do it this way um because
although that way is easier and is quicker. Um it denies representation to colleges that uh and
although some would argue that those college have their chance at representation there are new
students during also during the spring semester that, in fact one of our Chairs this year ran during
midterm elections last year, for their college. So essentially doing it that way would not exact count
for representation for students who did not have a choice to run for election because they weren’t
students at that point.

William: But then you can get that changed to general…

Shiflett: Some would argue that way.
Rodriguez: I can tell you (inaudible) my idea and my thought behind it is um, let’s say in the event that there’s 3 seats left in College of Medicine. The College of Medicine feels underrepresented. Um the students have a chance to run to represent their college and represent their college before we create At-Large seats. So we’re not, we’re essentially still giving each college their allotted amount of seats before we create At-Large seats.

William: I see. Um and then the purpose of At-Large seat is to make sure that Senate is full, correct?

Rodriguez: Correct, it’s better to have somebody that not necessarily is representing a specific college than to have that seat completely empty.

William: Ok so what if—ok, let’s say that we have the regular seat and At-Large seat and Senate is full and then we have, like I say, three senators that due to some circumstance can’t be senators and now Senate is not full. Then what happens, do we have a special election?

Shiflett: Uh typically (inaudible)

William: Ok, exactly. So my next thing is why not—ok well how do you feel, since we can’t edit it right now, how do you feel about either the Student Body President either appoints to have somebody to those seats and then the Senate votes on it or people apply to those seats and then Senate committee look over applications to see who is eligible and then the Senate votes them in to make sure that Senate stays full.

Rodriguez: So have rolling elections?

William: Huh?

Rodriguez: Or rolling applications?

Aziz: UCF has something like that.

Shiflett: Um it could be something that you wanna approach if you can get the support of the Senate, um that’s open. Uh I believe there’s a region of ascent that falls below a certain proportion or percentage.

William: Yeah, it’s 85%.

Shiflett: Yeah, then a special election has to be called.

Rodriguez: I actually have a question um for you. Would you then get rid of midterm and special elections entirely? Cause there would no longer—there would be no need for them.

William: No, because that would only work—hold on. It’s in my head, hold on. You could only appoint or supervisor could only appoint or the Sen Ex committee could only look at applications from the day after we have midterms until the day before general. So during that time block if there are any empty seats, if that makes sense. Does that makes sense?
Rodriguez: Yeah, it makes sense. I understand what you’re saying.

William: Yeah, so.

Rodriguez: So rolling applications after midterms are over.

William: Yeah, and before the general.

Rodriguez: Okay, I mean, I’m supposed to be arbitrary but my uh why run for midterms then?

William: Wait, hold on. Because you…

Rodriguez: Do you understand what I’m saying?

William: No, I’m lost.

Rodriguez: So if you can apply instead of having to campaign…

William: But you can only apply if there’s any seats.

Shiflett: But if you can apply a week before midterms then why declare your candidacy for midterms?

Rodriguez: He said—he said both. He said that you can only apply after midterms.

Shiflett: Okay.

Rodriguez: But either way…

William: There’s still open seats.

Shiflett: But there wouldn’t be open seats if you could have—there theoretically shouldn’t be open seats if a person could appoint people because then midterms wouldn’t be necessary because those seats would have been filled by the appointed people.

Unknown senator: That’s why he put in the literal amendment of saying it’s only valid after midterms.

Shiflett: Okay. Then that might be something you wanna write up for votes during the second round.

Rodriguez: My one point is if you can not have to campaign and just apply then what would be the incentive to campaign during midterm elections, do you understand what I’m saying?

William: Cause there’s no guarantee that were gonna get a seat because what if Senate just stays full, then you know you…
Unknown senator: He’s saying this would only be between midterm and the next general. You’d have to run for midterm because if those seats get filled then you can no longer apply.

Rodriguez: Okay.

Aziz: But those senators would only fill those seats for a couple months, they wouldn’t have a full Senate experience.

Multiple senators talking

Aziz: …Just for the sake of filling the seat. Plus also the issue of separation of like branches having Student Body President with a Senator.

Inaudible

Rodriguez: Senator Schilit, right?

Schilit: You got me.

Rodriguez: Huh?

Schilit: You got me.

Inaudible chatter

Schilit: So If we do that after midterms, what happens if someone leaves first week of—first half of Senate? Then we would have to take midterms out to keep that in or have midterms back in. So we should probably discuss this at a later time through first reading.

Rodriguez: Senator Colon and Senator Hiba.

Colon: Just one point for you, quality over quantity.

Unknown Senator: True.

Colon: Just think about that one.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Question first. Did this go through the Rules Committee or directly to the Senate?

Rodriguez: No, it went um I found that the Ad-Hoc with having ten people or however many people it was that was adequate enough, having enough eyes on it would (inaudible)

Hiba: Same thing. Uh I feel like, we as Senators, in the Legislative Branch, what keeps us different, what keeps us special is that the only way to become a Senator is to be voted in by people and that’s what makes us represent the students, the people of the University of South Florida. If there was a way to go around that process, not need the approval of students, to become a senator then you
don’t get the same guarantee that you will want to please the people with your decision to your votes.

Rodriguez: Okay, uh Senator Hartmann.

Hartmann: Just to go off of that, because you’re saying that our representatives should vote for us, the current senators are voted in by the reps, so we’re representing our constituents, so even if we’re deciding as a body who gets in, we’re still acting upon or based off of our constituents, if that makes sense. So we’re just like an extension. And this is just an idea, we can work on it. For example, Sen Ex might be the first, you know like approval, just like the does it and that person would have to come to the general Senate meeting too and they get a majority or like a three fourths or a two thirds of all of us so like there can be safety features to it if we wanted to do it that way.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Well there’s definitely much nicer to have a fuller Senate than with a Senate with lower capacity with lower number of senators than capacity but this step of having open chairs from colleges that uh that didn’t have it. I feel like that’s a great step and that’s gonna fill up a lot of seats in a good way and maybe we should wait and see how many seats are empty after that kind of that kind of big step to see whether this kind of thing is necessary if we only have three empty seats a semester that’s less than a number of absences in a difficult Senate meeting anyway.

Rodriguez: Senator Gigante.

Gigante: I motion to enter first reading because it’s a discussion to have in committee not in Senate first reading.

Rodriguez: Okay, well the first reading has ended, but we have to get to the bottom of the paper to end it.

Gigante: Okay. Motion to move on.

Rodriguez: Ok, so motion to table the discussion until next week?

Gigante: Yes, please.

Rodriguez: Well, you could also table the whole bill… Are there any objections to ending discussions?

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Senator Colon.

Colon: So I’m assuming you’re exhausted and you want to table the entire thing ‘til next time.

Gigante: No, we can have—look this isn’t a discussion to have right right now.
Aziz: So, you’re saying (inaudible)

Hasan: (inaudible) second reading?

Colon: So do you want to go into second reading?

Gigante: Not now because we need like—that’s why we have a second reading. We have another week to go over it.

Colon: Yeah, you can go into second—I can motion right now to go into second reading,

Gigante: Yes! I know.

Colon: Do you get that?

Gigante: Yes.

Colon: So are you going to motion to…?

Rodriguez: I think he wants to table it.

Colon: Table it.

Aziz: Yeah, for next week (inaudible)

Colon: For next week.

Aziz: Yeah.

Colon: Okay.

Rodriguez: So can—could you reinstate your motion to table the entire bill?

Gigante: I motion to table the entire bill.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to tabling this bill for our next Senate meeting, next week on September 9th? Seeing no objections this bill has been tabled.

b. SB [S] 55-013 Adding ERC as a Functioning Group

Moving down, we have SB [S] 55-013. Um do I see any motions? This is not as bad, I promise. Any motions? Uh Senator Miller.


Rodriguez: Are there any objections to entering the first reading of this bill? Seeing no objections, we are now in the first reading of the authorless Bill.
Aziz: It’s a ghost Bill. So this is um Title VI bill. Formerly the Executive—the ERC was under the Executive Branch but then in some parts it’s not but it is. So this clarifies that to moving the ERC into a functioning group, where it’s away from the three branches so it can operate more independently. So since the program council was removed. We have the ERC. So the purpose is to advertise election cycles, gather votes, and those things there and uh if you remember for a second it’s. I guess, I can do that. I should do that, next week. So it also, ERC shall be comprised of advisor, associate, and deputies. Um we put the parenthesis so they can decide whether they want like three associates and one deputy or something. They can do that within their budget but and then also they only have 4 paid positions, so. Gives them flexibility but also limits them so they don’t like grow extremely large. And this is about assistant deputies, crossed out poll workers, shall be required to sign an honor commitment, created annually by SGATO, to hold the integrity of elections. Then moving on to supervisor of elections, shall be nominated by Student Body President and confirmed by JEC and Senate. Then the associate and deputy supervisors shall be nominated by Supervisor of Elections and be confirmed by JEC and Senate. And they’re already eligible for payroll. ERC members shall not be a candidate or in a position from the time of elections, this is all from the top of Title VII, copy and pasted. And then oversight on ERC shall fall under the preview of JuSenEx, which is on the top two of the branch.

Rodriguez: Are there any questions? Alright.

Aziz: Essentially it’s a shift of the ERC from being in the Executive Branch and to being its own functioning group by itself, with oversight by the JuSenEx.

Rodriguez: Senator Hainline.

Hainline: Uh, if there aren’t any questions I’d like to table the bill.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to tabling SB [S] 55-013? Seeing no objections, this bill has been tabled.

5. ASRC Discussion

Rodriguez: And finally we have um an ASRC discussion which actually…

Aziz: Alright, for you guys who don’t know, ASRC is, you know when you’re running for um elections, you charge 14 million dollars to vote on it. This is actually the committee that actually does that. So it’s that Activity and Service fee Recommendation Committee. So what the committee does is recommends for all the budget requests that we receive recommends, recommend it. Pretty much, it will fund everything from the student life tower, etc. So the fee comes from the $7 you pay if you go check on like your OASIS, you’ll see it. So what is it? The state of Florida grants student government the authority to have students allocate their own A&S fee, which is a power granted from the state. There’s only very few states that actually have this power so we’re very lucky to have it and the committee determines the allocation of 14 million dollars of the A&S fees. So the committee pretty much, think of it, they go through every single budget, line by line in detail from all
departments and student organizations and it’s comprised of voting members of all students. Who’s
in it? There’s 6 senators, so 6 people that are voting then we have two elected senators as alternates.
So let’s say like Brandon’s in it and Melissa’s in it and Melissa’s sick one day or something and we
have Roshard and Hiba as an alternate. Like Roshard would be alternate number one and he’ll be
voting that day for Melissa cause she’s sick. So that’s part of alternate. So committee keeps of voting
without having to pause cause of quorum, without those issues. So then you have the Chair of the
Appropriations and Audits Committee and they’re on due to statutes cause that’s what’s written in
there. Senate President or his or her designate via statutes. Student Body President via statutes. CFO
was added in there recently from last year. But it makes sense to have CFO on there and we have a
representative to ASBO and from SGATO. Usually it’s Jessica Morgan but this year she’s um in a
different position so it’s gonna be Gary or (inaudible). But yeah and (inaudible). So what do we
fund? Student Affairs department, so CLCE, CSI, OLA, also Student Government, Marshall Center,
Rec Center, Career Services, student and all the agencies and student organizations. And I forgot
one thing, I’ll mention later. So just an example of kind of like what the committee does, think of it
as a gigantic Appropriations and Audits Committee with higher stakes and lots more money to
allocate and pretty much this committee decides the funding standards for the year to follow. So the
Appropriations and Audits Committee follows the standards that is set from the previous year. So
whoever is elected in this committee decides standards for the next year, 2014-2015. Well 2015-2016
budget. So these are some things that you know, most request food and um materials, the shirts and
t-shirts and stuff. This is an example of what a student org requests. These are things we don’t fund.
Usually the first half of the semester, during the fall, the committee decides who we do and don’t
fund. That’s most of their discussion and these are the realistic commitments of ASRC. It’s every—
it’s a major time commitment, its very time consuming and requires a lot of dedication and they
have students run for this as a senator for one of those six spots and the alternate. So meetings start
at 9am and run ‘til 5pm. Sometimes they um go over 5pm, so expect that. And um usually Proviso
and training usually happens in the fall during Fridays and in the spring, they meet from 9 to 5 to go
through all the budgets. And you’re required to attend all the meetings and also with student
organizations out of 150. They divide it up by how many people each person gets about 20 to 25
organizations and you meet with them fill out the budget questionnaire and you’re there
representative for ARC and you present their budget in ASRC. And meetings will get heated and
debates will last for hours, (inaudible) minutes for being in ASRC. Debates will get heated and
debates go on and on and on but it’s all for a good purpose cause we’re trying to make the best fiscal
decisions. And if there are any questions about it, elections are next week.

Rodriguez: Very quickly, something I’d like to add. Even though it’s a very very large commitment,
your time spent there is paid. So you do get paid, it’s not like you’re doing it just for like because it
does take a lot of time so.

Aziz: Yeah, it’s 10 hours a week plus when we go over 8 hours or 10 hours you get the extra so.

Rodriguez: Okay, uh Senator Gibson.
Gibson: What if you have class conflicts on Friday? Like in the fall semester and I don’t know about
the spring because I really wanna try it.

Aziz: In the fall it’s usually not all day. But in the spring, it would be—you’re asked to not have any
classes on Friday. Like, cause we had issues in the past where people said “yeah, I’m cool for Friday”
then when we would actually have a meeting that we reach a point where there’s no quorum and we
had to like stop. So it’s best you do it like where you have no class on Friday, or I guess no other
commitments. So it’s like that Friday in the spring dedicated to ASRC. We get things, through faster
that way.

Rodriguez: In the event, if for example you have a class in the fall, you have class for more than an
hour, I would recommend (inaudible). Just a recommendation. But if it’s an hour (inaudible) then
you should be okay. Senator Miller.

Miller: Uh since this is starting in the fall and some of us already do have classes on Fridays and it’s
also past drop add week if I’m correct. So I realize that there can be late drop add but only after a
week. So if elections are next week, we still can’t drop add. So would there be any way to
compromise for this?

Aziz: So, I wouldn’t like drop any class for ASRC.

Miller: What I’m saying is—what I’m saying is maybe you need to move like (inaudible)

Aziz: Well the ASRC times in the fall.

Miller: …to an hour earlier.

Aziz: Cause the time of the meeting are shorter. So usually they’re about 2 hours long of discussion
so you could find a mutual time where everyone’s available to make ASRC work in the fall but in the
spring, you need Fridays free.

Rodriguez: Uh Senator, I’m blanking out, Dincer.

Dincer: Um so if it’s only about 2 hours or so then it’s—it’s—I have a feeling it’s probably gonna be
like either in the evening-ish or in the morning. It’s not gonna be in like in the middle of the day. If
you have a class that’s two hours in the middle of the day, would it be silly to just say, oh I might as
well not join because I have a class that’s only two hours in the middle of the day? One class.

Aziz: Well it really would be depending on the schedule of other people. It could be in the morning,
it could be in the evening, cause you have follow—most people, you have to follow Andy’s
schedule, Cocco’s schedule, schedule around everyone else’s schedule.

Rodriguez: Senator Lopez.

Lopez: Okay, so just to clarify for the rest of the fall, the meetings are shorter and they’re all
dependent on, let’s say a (inaudible) send out or chair of the committee. So if you do have a time
constraint right now, it wouldn't be that bad for fall. But in the spring is when it’s gonna be those really long days like 9 to 5 type of thing. Am I correct?

Aziz: Yes.

Lopez: Thank you.

Rodriguez: Senator Hiba.

Hiba: Um, two questions. I forgot my first questions. Second one, if you were to join the committee say with like a two hour time commitment in the middle of the day hoping for a meeting for early or later hours and such a meeting time doesn’t happen can you just drop out of the committee and put someone else in place?

Rodriguez: You can. Anyone can decide they no longer be a part of it but you can’t appoint someone. There would be another election for the seat and that’s—and one of the big things that if you decide to um run and you are elected then you make this a high priority and they make sure that you can make it to those meetings cause it’s very important. Senator Miller.

Miller: Um back to my previous point, I would like to uh stand on that. So being that we discussed that the meetings would be in the early or later hours. If, say, one person’s schedule cannot work with everyone else’s. Everyone else has that one point in their schedule that they can actually do this but one person cannot. How do we compromise?

Aziz: In ASRC you need all people there because it’s gonna be all new people or most new people and there all need to be trained and having that one person not there. Even though it may seem insignificant for quorum you’re knowledge base and on the pace, you’re not gonna be on the same level as everyone else. So what it comes down to.

Miller: You’re not understanding what I’m saying. What I’m trying to say that this is the late drop add week and after this when elections are being held, we cannot change our schedules. So if we can change our schedules now, why can’t we have the elections now?

Aziz: You wanna do elections right now?

Unknown Senator: Right now?

Unknown Senator: That’s now how it works.

Inaudible chatter

Unknown Senator: This is why there are two alternates, so if people can’t meet, the alternates can take their place.

Inaudible chatter

Unknown Senator: What are you trying to say?
Miller: What I'm trying to say is that my schedule say, 9:05 to 9:55, like I actually have on Friday, works for everyone else in the committee but I can’t do it myself okay, and that’s determined later on in the committee in the discussion.

Rodriguez: Senator Miller, I have a question. How long is your—how long is your time commitment?

Miller: It’s an hour.

Rodriguez: Then don’t worry about it. Senator. Actually Senator Cimino had his hand up.

Cimino: Um just a point of inquiry, you can already go on your OASIS—already go on your OASIS to look at your spring classes. Just pointing that out there.

Rodriguez: Senator Colon.

Colon: There are a lot of what-ifs. Don’t change your class schedule just because you think you’re gonna be elected. Remember it’s actually an election process, I might not want to vote for you. (Inaudible) You have an hour commitment. What if there are 5 other candidates that have Fridays that are free. My vote’s probably gonna be for them that have the Fridays that are free, you know what I mean? So you’re gonna have a lot of what-ifs. I would just personally, like, if there are no other like pertinent questions, move on.

Rodriguez: Senator Dincer.

Dincer: Just a question, just out of curiosity, can you guys raise your hand if you have a class on Friday? Okay. Thank you very much.

Rodriguez: Okay, are there any more questions? Before we conclude… Okay, room quiet. Before we conclude the end of discussion, I have a couple of points from Director of Business A&S office that she wanted to make sure that I said. She would like to request that if you’re graduating in the fall please do not run for ASRC. And wait, hold on. Yeah, you have to be there both terms and just to do your best not to have Friday classes cause that’s very important. And she wanted to clarify that you fund for more than student organizations, um you also have to realize that you fund for Departments, the Rec Center, and MSC, like Abdool already stated. Alright. Thank you.

Aziz: Also, neutrality is the biggest thing, we didn’t go through, that you have to maintain throughout the entire time.

**Announcements:**

Rodriguez: Okay, so I’m gonna move down—move on the agenda. The next item is announcements. Senator Truong. Thank you.

Truong: Okay, so on September 24th everyone who’s been here over the summer has heard this every week. Student government is going to be having their town hall, it’s a joint event between the
Judicial, Legislative, and Executive Branches and so it’s going to be in this room on September 24\textsuperscript{th} from 6 to 8:30 pm and it’s a forum for students to express any concerns that they have with the university, the topics we’re going to be focusing on is housing, which under that falls safety, parking, and also financial or A&S funding. So if any of you guys wanna help plan for that, we still have a lot of things that we need to do. I think we’ve been working since May on this project to get all the marketing to get the events, to figure out everything that we wanna do. We’ve been having um like, you do the, Tent days. We’ve been having Tent days too so we really encourage, if you’re interested, to let me know that you wanna do it. Cause we put so much work into this and we really wanna have a good turnout. So the students can see that we are really trying to help them.

Rodriguez: Senator Lopez.

Lopez: What’s the time again?

Truong: 6 to 8:30 pm on Wednesday September 24\textsuperscript{th}

Rodriguez: Senator Cimino.

Cimino: Uh announcements, for those of you that don’t know homecoming is happening from October 6\textsuperscript{th} to 11\textsuperscript{th}, if you have any questions (inaudible). Feel free to ask.

Rodriguez: Any other announcements? Senator Lopez.

Lopez: Um I just wanna say, shout out to Kristen cause I’ve been here all summer. I saw all the work that she’s been putting in. I mean it’s really her initiative to get this town hall thing started up again. So I mean I know she can’t really speak about much it’s not really her requirement as Chairwoman. But a lot of her work is going into this so if you guys can spare your time just to help out in any way, she could obviously use it in SG and Student Government.

Rodriguez: Any other announcements? I’d like to announce that one more time, we have Senate retreat 10 am. Please be there on time. Another thing, I have something else. I completely forgot what it is. Oh, um thank you to everyone that stayed the entire night. I know that tonight was (inaudible) and kind of exhausting, I promise (inaudible). Senator Hasan.

Hasan: Um are you gonna take floor nominations?

Rodriguez: Oh that’s what I wanted to talk about. I would like to request that everyone have their nominations in by Monday. But statutorily I can’t make that a requirement but we can have –we will have floor nominations on Tuesday but if you are running or if you would like to nominate someone, I would like to request that you do it by Monday. Any more announcements or questions or anything?

Final Roll Call:

Rodriguez: Okay so we’ll move into final roll call. Let’s get out of here.
Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Please click 1 to mark that you are present.

Inaudible chatter

Rodriguez: Senate’s still not over. Has everyone clicked in?

Unknown senator: Yes, sir.

Rodriguez: Okay, we have a final count of 24.

Adjournment:

Rodriguez: Do I see any motions? Senator Fontaine.

Fontaine: I motion to adjourn the meeting.

Rodriguez: Are there any objections to adjourning? Seeing no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Transcribed by Senate Transcriber Yzel Borja.