Florida Atlantic University
Student Government
Boca Raton House of Representatives
5th Legislative Session
4th February 2011
Call to order at 3:38PM
Pledge of Allegiance
ROLL CALL:
*Absent:
APPROVALS:
*Motion to not approve the 28th of January Minutes by Fritz; seconded by Arsolino; 0 Objections
*Motion to approve the 4th of February agenda; seconded by Montes
SPECIAL ORDER SPEECHES:
Boris: Please bear with me today I am recovering from a fever. I want to say a few words after last week’s meeting. I wanted to remind everyone that you cannot wear hats, same goes for sunglasses unless you have serious medical condition. Also last meeting sounded more like a mafia movie than a House meeting. We should not be speaking this way, especially if you are up here you shouldn’t be dropping F-bombs. The reason why the minutes were not approved is because I put the minutes from the 21st. I think we need to have a little more respect for people at times. For example when I referred to representative Shackelford’s name, I heard comments such as scratch it out; I don’t want that to be seen in here. Again about laptops we can’t have them here. We shouldn’t even have phones out or be texting. You are not supposed to be using these devices because we have sunshine laws.
Capata: Sorry about last week’s meeting I dropped an F-bomb. Nobody contacted me about a bed race so if no one is going to contact me Student Government isn’t going to have a bed. Unless you have something to say president, I am finished.
Scalice: I wanted to briefly mention that the focus groups are moving along. The first one is going to be February 16th, from 12:30pm to 1:30pm. The location is being determined, but it will most likely be in the Student Union. Right now we want to recruit house members. There will be free food and the 14th of February, which is the prior Monday we will be tabling in the breezeway about this and the House. This is a joint effort of me and Arsolino. If you cannot make it the entire time it is fine. Come put you information and availability. Also it is a great way to get ideas for future legislation. Sign up will be up front, so please sign up after the meeting.
OPEN FORUM:
Bishara: Sorry I am going early. First, I know Konecky and the UBAC hearings start this evening and go Saturday and Sunday also if you would like to go to any of those meetings, it is in live oak A. If you want to go to Maher’s speech it is next week. There is a mandatory candidacy meeting on Wednesday. If you plan on helping people campaign make sure you are aware of statutes. Last meeting was a little crazy, computers, cussing. It is not what this house is about. I ask that you respect each other. I also ask that you respect each other throughout the campaigning process. We want to have strong ethical leadership so let’s not show those colors to guest in the gallery or anyone.
Jeanie Geeble: I am a student employee in the Art Department. We have had the exhibition for 10 or 12 years. This allows any person who is involved in art form any major to submit work. We have a juror come in and select the works and gives a lecture. Also it is about career development. Also the BFA senior seminar will double the exposure in a silent auction. We are willing to have co-sponsorship with Student Government. Also this exhibition will not occur without this funding.
Questions:
Massetti: Thank you for being so organized. The only problems I am seeing is of the stuff that you will be spending the money on. We need to know the price and what the money is going to be spent on. Do you mind if we table it one more week?

Boris: Are you comfortable waiting one more week?

Geeble: it is just important that we receive funding as soon as possible.

Boris: He wants to know if you can wait another week?

Geeble: What does that mean?

Steven Jass: Hi everybody. I just heard of a bill going through here and it is about the Arizona immigration laws. I don’t think that you should be able to speak for the entire student body. If you are going to support or not write that the student government thinks that way. Let’s say Obama says that he doesn’t support abortion. You are going to piss some people off, it is a slippery slope. I don’t think as a student government you should be taking a stance.

Questions:

Capata: Are you aware that any student can join SG?

Jass: I know every student can do the Business competition and win, but I was not aware.

Pollock: Are you aware that we represent the students, so do you think that it is out of our scope to not represent them?

Jass: Then do a poll and say that.

Massetti: Did you know that we were voted here by the student body?

Jass: I know some have friends, but I am not saying that you are in control of our opinion.

Boris: Are you aware that the bill states that the student government house stands against the immigration laws?

Jass: I don’t know what it says. I just thought I should voice my opinion.

Boris: It says the house is against.

Capata: Are you also aware that this is a resolution, which means it doesn’t involve any money and it isn’t going to be sent anywhere?

Grider: Are you aware that it’s not the student body, it is just us.

Jass: I kind of just heard about it today and I wanted to see that it doesn’t pass.

Boris: Your time has expired

SPEAKER’S APPOINTMENTS:

Campus Budget Chair: The UBAC is meeting so this will be starting soon. I will be appointing people to the committee soon. I appoint Marie Dumas as Campus Budget Chair. Do you accept?

Dumas: I accept

*Motion to appoint Marie Dumas as Campus Budget Chair by Scalice; seconded by Pollock; 0 objections

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Maher: Thank you Mr. Speaker. My reports can get really long please bare with me because I come and talk to you to let you know what I am working on and how you can get involve, unlike my predecessors. When just went through Campus days, which are days where the best applicants who have the ability to go to many other schools come here and we try to persuade them to come to FAU. It is so important to get these people to come to FAU. It’s different, when Mr. Maher name was called I almost said “here.” Also I am giving out the shirts. If you want to get it early just come and see me. Also If you would like to meet other leaders from other campuses I will like you to come to the UBAC meetings. FSA chose FIU to host the February 18th conference, let me know if you would like to go to the conference. You should start seeing major renovations within the Student Union, especially the second floor. We will offer free coffee, there will be different carpet and a lounge type area. And a club house where presidents of clubs can go so they can work. It offers more stuff for our students. Every state university has one. We (Pollock and I) saw UCF’s, we are trying to give you 10 pages of printing paper a day. Scalice did a wonderful job with the bike rack meeting. Facilities will be putting in 20 new bike racks; $300 a piece. If
we want to do a joint use projects I don’t mind. Facilities said we have to see over 20 additional bike racks. If we could have a round of applause for Scalise. [applause]

POP: Blouin at 4:01PM

The LGBTQA; is wonderful. See what the work of Boris has done. I spoke with Space Utilization to get UP new racks made out metal a lot more sustainable than the plastic red ones they are using now. Senate meetings and budget meeting is today through Sunday. The Chief Justice position will be posted on my door tomorrow by noon if any of you are interested. Hillel and also there is a question with RM just opening up in the student body.

Questions:

Arsolino: Also you spoke about food vouchers?

Maher: I think vice president and I tried to work something out. The only problem and delay is all the people in the house and exactly what the voucher would be, a piece of pizza, but I will continue to work with Stacy Volnick.

Arsolino: Follow up: If we wanted to go to Rally in Tallee should we tell you?

Maher: Facebook, text me, email me. If you can get 20 people to go we need to go to get a bus and probably a hotel room.

Capata: Did you want to say anything about the bed race.

Maher: I think it is a good idea. Is there time to sign up for the Bedrace?

Boris: I want to say the deadline is Monday.

Scalice: You mentioned free coffee, are they okay with a free coffee area in the union? Are you aware that it could be competition for other businesses?

Maher: I am comparing to the Davie and Broward campus union and they have that and it wouldn’t hinder their business, even with a coffee shop located right next to it.

~POP: Capata at 4:06PM

*Motion to extend the speakers questioning time by 2 minutes by Arsolino; seconded by Tepper

Grider: who is in charge of cleaning the coffee machine?

Maher: It would be a 200 cup and someone from the Union staff would be in charge of refilling.

Grider: I really want to do something like that for the Jewish center. Do you think we could get one?

Maher: I could give you the number of the person in charge of the Jewish center, Nadir works for her.

Arsolino: How much would the rally in Tallee be?

Maher: I would subsidize the trip.

PET: The 2nd was the end of sign up, but you could show up the day of the event with a bed.

*Motion to admit all members by Dumas; seconded by Tepper

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Went to Davie campus not as active as ours, not much was accomplished. But we did see Steve’s Espresso. Hopefully we will go down there a couple more time. UBAC starts 6:00 PM today whether it is Boca, Davie, make sure your campus is here. There is a 9am breakfast on Saturday, and breakfast at 10am on Sunday. Come out to see what the process is like. Tomorrow there is a basketball game, come and see it in, wear your red.

GOVERNOR’S REPORT:

I wanted to fill you in for COSO, the club packets were due this last Friday. There were a lot that were turned in late. They discussed with me that they had about 8 or 10 packets turned in late. This year we wanted to do something that would hold them accountable. So we decided to do an appeal process, in which after we would decide. So David Blank sent an email to all of the clubs. What I thought would be best would be for you to write in the policies for the future for these late packets. We agreed to grant the appeals for this year. That’s something I just wanted to keep you informed about. Also about 2 weeks ago we found out that a Senate position was open. We had someone I had contacted, but the person was unable to attend UBAC so it will be open. The GAC will be meeting Friday 11th. We have
also come up with our theme for stress week, it’s tropical. Myself and Owens sat on parking appeals committee and we won’t be able to do that any longer and Pro-temp Grider has been very interested in traffic and parking.

INTERIM CHIEF JUSTICES REPORT: None

PROGRAM REPORTS:

Night Owls: Jon Waller: I just wanted to come up here and give you some statistics from January, we had 627 wave down requests, 186 walk-ins, we responded to 2,242 phone calls. The total number of riders we transported in January is 3,055 people, which is a 70% increase from January of last year. We are picking up more people. Just as a student government appointee, I am happy to see people that are not in the student government.

Questions: None

PET: Angela: We have 2 big events coming up, one is the sexually responsible bed race this is the 20th year so it is going to be bigger than ever. So there are forms you are able to fill out the forms and if you can give a form to us. Also on the 23rd is our safer spring break it is themed the Owsley shore (like the jersey shore). There are restrictions to the bed race, no golf carts or wheelie chairs.

Gentry: SAVI is having loving locks of humanity from 10am to 3pm you have to have 8 inches, they have professional stylists. If you know anyone who wants to do it have them contact Marianna.

Williams: MP Director: Last Friday we had our Shabbat 365 dinner. We wanted to have 365 people attend, I don’t think we hit the mark exactly. I would estimate over 300 people were there. This is black history month. We should get shirts 2 wks from now. We have the assembly, we had a retreat on the 22nd, we had a lot of club presidents we had a big retreat. They gave a lot of good feedback we are going to do a lot of. We have almost 25 events coming up we almost have our calendar finished.

Wu: How many multicultural groups attended the retreat?

Williams: I think about 13 or 20.

Wu: How many are on campus?

Williams: We have 40 listed.

Maher: Are there any educational programs for black history month?

Williams: Mostly we try to raise awareness through our programs, but no one brought that up throughout the meeting. That is a pretty good idea.

Maher: Is there any way we could sneak it in there?

Williams: We could it takes about 2 weeks for paperwork.

SG ADVISOR’S REPORT: None

CHAIR REPORTS:

*Motion to admit all members by Wu; seconded by Tepper

COC: Grider: We did meet, we only had a few members not here, we didn’t know about ad-hocks. There were no absence appeals that will start next week. About bills I will let chairs tell you that.

Questions: None

RP: Amanda: I don’t have a real report because we didn’t make quorum, we are going to be meeting at 2:30pm on Friday, if you cannot make that time send me an email.

Questions: None

Massetti: We met today at 2:30 to discuss bills, BRHR-11-01 recommend that it is passed, we think that the work will be done in WM committee. The bill about Bill 1070 we want to pass as is. The bicycle bill we want to table because Scalice, the author, spoke to us. The Art bill we want to table until next week for quotes and 11-02 the ad-hock bill, we recommend that it is tabled indefinitely.

Questions:

Chief of Staff: Owens: It says in the statues that we only need a line item not a break down.

Massetti: I know but as the WM chair I would like to be the most responsible and see where our money goes.
Owens: I see that, but you can pass it if you wanted to.
CA: for old obligations we wanted that to pass it should have been done already. SB-1070 out of Florida pass. I don’t think you are going to change anyone’s mind if you are going to say anything I want to say it is very controversial so we should just vote on it. Bicycle Scalice wants to table so table; art; we wanted to pass that. Ad-hock; we were split as most of the house, but we just want to vote on it. So in order, instead of table indefinitely we just want to vote on it.
Questions:
Campus Budget: Dumas: I hope everyone can hear me I am recovering from a cold. I will be leaving early for UBAC. Please be aware that the budget is a long one but a fun one.
Boris: Any Questions?
HOUSE FORUM:
Lupo: Obviously I want to talk to you about BRHR-11-01 keep 1070 out of Florida. If you look at paragraph 6. [fear, suspicion] I feel like there would not be any fear. They can only ask someone for papers if they have already committed a crime. I think that is a little misleading so I wanted to point that out. [student constant police] paragraph 7 I feel that was an assumption as well. We were talking about reasonable suspicions. It is a common sense behavior it requires facts. I just wanted to clear that up as well. I really feel like this bill is opinionated and my friend Steven
Boris: Time Expired
*Motion to extend the speakers time by 3 minutes by Grider; seconded by Montes
Lupo: I just feel like this bill I basically is an opinion bill and I think polling would help instead of just saying we don’t support it. If someone here doesn’t agree with Obama’s health care law, we shouldn’t write a resolution. I feel that we are here to represent the student body. We shouldn’t be passing bills. We have a super republican state and a governence.
Masetti: You said that this was a waste of time bill? This is not a bill but a resolution that is to give an opinion of a house.
Lupo: -
Wu: You speak as if you have been racially profiled, have you?
Lupo: No
*Motion to recognize Maher.
Maher: Were you aware that there are spring elections where we could put in a poll?
Lupo: I wasn’t aware. But then I would recommend we wait.
Boris: I would like to recognize Governor Gentry if there are no objections.
Gentry: But don’t you think that some things are time sensitive?
Lupo: -
Blouin: Are you aware that not very many people vote in election so we wouldn’t get a very good poll?
Lupo: It would still be a poll
Arsolino: Do you think to that you should feel safe going to school?
Lupo: Yes
Arsolino: Do you think they should feel safe driving to and from campus?
Lupo: I feel like this is a national level, but once we leave here I don’t think it is FAU job to check on me.
Arsolino: Also, are you aware that this is how we feel?
Lupo: Yes, but if we represent the student body
Massetti: Don’t you think we should just vote on it?
Lupo: This is a very good question but I feel that that they should read the actual bill to see who is false or true me or Boris.
Scalice: I just wanted to briefly talk about bike racks. I would strongly advise the house to table this. Basically we are making great progress Ayden and I met with space utilization. The bottom line is that they will match us how many bike racks we pay for. Also we found 11 spots on a map where bike racks
could go. We are meeting next Friday to see if the department will match. Also, if housing wants to help because they seem to control their own bike racks. And next week we should somehow amend.

Questions: None

Boris: I am glad that we have a lot of agreement on the past bills and seeing all of this getting done. Any time we are willing to put money out and any time that the departments want to put money in is good. Also I want to remind you that we have $192,000 in our account and I know when people see this sort of thing, people wonder why they come to us and ask for money. I hope we have more clubs ask for money it will put some pressure on us. When we have $2,000 at the end of the fiscal year we have extra money and it goes to t-shirts for basketball games, cups with SG on them. Also it is best for all students...

Scalice: Time has expired

*Motion to extend the speakers time by 3 minutes by Capata; seconded by Phillips

Boris: Also ad-hocks I am not going to be upset if we don’t pass it. I wanted to see your opinion on the issue. SB-1070 I was approached by several individual yes they are all liberals and so am I, but if politics come in. It is much more of a political statement. These are student issues that student issues on campus have. I just want to say right now, I am not concerned with illegal immigrants. You are at the mercy of the government, by all means crack down on illegal immigrants, but this bill threatens citizens. If I was pulled over they would ask for my license as well as probably something more. If you don’t like people asking for documentation then you are probably illegal. It is not protecting illegal immigrants it is offending legal immigrants and citizens.

Questions:

Capata: This has nothing to do with illegal immigrants. Can we do liaison and liaison assistant? Do you think that would be a good idea?

Boris: yes

Arsolino: Do you really think that your new stretcher for ad-hocks will work?

Boris: I identify that there are 3 problems; 1) leadership from the top I have to be a leader unto them and this bill alone will not fix that 2) the chairs themselves have to be on top of what they want to do. But 3) I am taking out the quorum and no member problems. That is what I am cutting out.

Lupo: Do you think it is good to pass BRHR-11-01 if people haven’t actually read the real bill?

Boris: I think that it is a real issue, but I think that sometime we make decisions that don’t always recognize people.

*Motion to extend the questioning time by 3 minutes by Lupo; seconded by Arsolino.

Lupo: So I said don’t listen to me but read it for yourself. Do you think they should do that?

Boris: You did say that but you also went through some of the verses and assumptions. You don’t want people to rely on my assumptions, but I don’t want people to rely on your assumptions.

Massetti: You said you both don’t want to make assumptions, but you assume that I didn’t read and I am offended.

Boris: I am now aware

Arsolino: Are you aware that even though I didn’t read it I don’t want to and reading will not change my mind?

Boris: I am now aware. [ad-hocks] Although I am also saying can we please finish the projects that are still not done? I am not saying goodbye ad-hocks, I just want to say before we make 10 new ones can we just get this one over with.

Arsolino: Do you think that we [ad-hocks] just need a wake-up call?

Boris: Whether this bill passes or not we just got that wake up call.

Scalice: Time has expired

*Motion to extend the questioning time for 1 minute by Capata; seconded by Coicou

-POP: Diljohn 4:51PM
Capata: Do you think that. Are you aware that single people have a passion to do something, like my idea for the de-stressor. I cared about it, but nobody else cared. And I couldn’t do it because I didn’t have members. If I want to do it I can and this would allow me to do it.

-VETOED BUSINESS: None
-TABLED BUSINESS: None
-NEW BUSINESS:

BRHB-11-01
*Motion to approve BRHB-11-01 by Massetti; seconded by Tepper.
Boris: Roll Call Vote. Yes is to approve BRHB-11-01, No is to not approve BRHB-11-01
Vote: 21yes to 0 no

BRHR-11-01
*Motion to approve by Massetti; seconded by Blouin; 0 objections
Boris: Roll call Vote. Yes is to approve BRHR-11-01, No is to not approve BRHR-11-01.
*Motion to admit all members by Scalice; seconded by Varela at 4:57PM
Vote: 16 yes to 5 no

Bicycle Bill:
*Motion to table until next week; seconded by Phillips
Boris: It’s moved into old business.

BRHB-11-03
*Motion to approve by Arsolino; seconded by Blouin.
Objections: Massetti
Massetti: con; she said we could wait one more week.
Arsolino: Pro: I don’t think it matter how many poster boards they buy. Also I think you made it pretty clear. Just give them the money so they can get on with their art stuff.

^POI: Capata: are we allowed to give cash awards?
Boris: No, it is one of those things we have done in the past.
Capata: Con: So why are we approving it?
Boris: We have an amendment process.
Varella: Pro: To plan an event you need time and money so we should give them the money.
Phillips: Con: I think we should give them money but I think that my committee hasn’t even been able to look at it. Especially since the representative said it was okay.
Massetti: Con: Varela you said we could still work on it when we passed it. If we give them money I am responsible as a chair I am trying to be more fiscally responsible and we expect them to come in prepared also the cash rewards.
Varella: Pro: We can always make amendments as speaker Boris said. So if you would like I think she’s prepared.

POP: Ward 5:02PM
Montes: I want to move to a roll call vote
Scalice: Con: one week isn’t going to hurt them and Massetti is doing his job, so I commend him on being proactive, because he may be saving a student’s money.
Wu: Pro: I thought that they provided a thing.
Boris: Con: They provided a line item, but not quotes. The debate is whether we should pass it today or next week. But I do think we should amend it to take out the cash prize portion.
Phillips: Con: Also last year they had the same problem with the cash prizes. Also we have always approved it last minute.
Massetti: My final con. Um-oh Wu they did provide us with the line item but not on what they are going to spend that on. Also they said they don’t mind waiting one more week.
Capata: is that what you want?
Massetti: spending $500 on reception, what is that food or what?
Varela: Now, that I have come to awareness of a lot more time than we have had in the past. I agree now.
Capata: Also I think we should wait another week if we have another $300 that can be spent elsewhere instead of prizes/cash.
~POI: Dumas: can non-members be recognized?
Boris: I will allow
Dumas: I remember we have set a precedent we asked Marni Sherman, our governor at the time to show quotes and other things we have asked for quotes.
Boris: Recognize Owens
Owens: I just want to recognize that the line item budget list. For our purposes we have enough description to continue on. Also, I would like to see the documentation on cash prizes.
Boris: I have to agree with what he says. I wonder if others use money?
Arsolino: Also I think it has to go to FAU students
Boris: The motion was made to go to pro-con. So we have a motion to vote on the vote to approve. A vote of yes is to approve BHHB-11-03 right now and a vote of no is to approve BRHR-11-03 not right now.
Scalice: So this is a vote to vote?
Blouin: If we don’t pass this we can’t vote.
Boris: if we vote not to vote right now then someone else will have to motion.
Vote: No’s have it
*Motion to send to WM and RP by Massetti; seconded by Montes
-POP: Alincy 5:16PM
BRHB-11-02
*Motion to approve BRHB-11-02 by Capata; seconded by Wu
*Motion to admit by Jean-Baptiste; seconded by Tepper 5:19PM
Boris: A vote of yes approves BRHB 11-02
Vote 12yes to 10 no;
Boris: This resolution passes.
OPEN FORUM:
Scalice: I wanted to first say something about follow-up questions. Once someone asks a question. You can only use a follow-up, but it has to be very similar to the first question. Otherwise we have to allow anyone else to ask a question and then we will come back to you. Also I wasn’t to remind you about the sign-up sheet. The focus group sign-up sheet come is right here. See myself or Arsolino also the 14th there will be free food. Again if you can’t stay for both of them it is fine.
Capata: I talked to Angela outside and I signed up for the bed race so if anyone is interested or going to participate. Just come talk to me after last year we are going to make it to the finals. Let’s make a better cart.
Varela: Also I have been working with other representatives, like Montes to get students to participate in events and to get our campus vibe higher. I mean Maher has done really well, but I am trying to find out the nitty-gritty, going to dorms and faculty. I want to present it to program board. So we have to come up with some ideas that representative Montes has come up with. Dr Brown came up with weekend events so we can try to get transfer and commuter and off campus students to come to FAU. Also I am trying to get a master list of events. We should put them on monitors so they have today’s events, next week’s events, this year’s events. Also people going to events and trying to get them to want to come will keep people from transferring and it would help people who transfer to like FAU. So we will be joining the focus groups and helping.
Arsolino: If you guys are aware it is Grider’s birthday. If we could sing to him: [sang Happy Birthday]

LEGISLATIVE REPORT:
Boris: The bills that were passed today especially the paying for the past thing will be signed. The SB-1070 will be mailed and I know it is not going to change much, but it is sending a message. I will talk to the jury folks and tell them about the problems. Also I will appoint these individuals. I wanted to just address one thing. We are entering the election cycle and I just want to make it very clear that at any time the governor or president is up here speaking you can call them out on stuff; I completely forgot about the food voucher thing. You will see a lot of facebook, t-shirts slogans. I don’t want that to come into here. Let’s not get political about the running of office. I am just glad I am not running, it’s a big waste of money. I can’t stress how annoyed I am about this. I will have an LCD projector and the website will be shown. It is the finished product we are updating it every week. With that I am open for questions.

Questions:
Massetti: Are you aware that 12 people voted yes and that you should make them accountable and that you should make them a liaison.
Boris: I look at 12 to 10 and that will stick with me and I voted, so it is even more close. I will definitely be humble. I will be careful doing it because in a way it was more like 11 to 10.
Scalice: Pertaining to the flags; avenues are now being opened up with the university and what is the progress?
Boris: I put that in the bill, the liaison will work. Today, also there are external forces that are trying to help out with that issue. What they are doing and what we can still do. But whatever we have to contribute we will.
Capata: Are you aware that the bed race is on Wednesday.
Boris: Yes I am
Capata: Are you Aware about the 11:30 sign-up.
Boris: Yes

REMINDEERS:
Boris: The next House Meeting is Next Friday, February 11, 2011 3:30pm, here in the Senate Chambers.

FINAL ROLL CALL
*Motion to adjourn by Blouin; seconded by Wu
5:35PM