

FIU**Student Government
Association**

The 42nd Session of the Student Body Senate

Meeting Minutes

December 1st , 2025

- I. Call to Order @ 4:13
- II. Pledge of Allegiance/FIU Alma Mater
- III. Roll Call

Senator Name	Senators Position	Attendance Status	Additional Note on Senator
Carisa Lynch	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	
Ariana Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Sean Remedios	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Samantha Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Kleio "Kae" Jung	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	
Arianna Bencid	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	
Sophia Gonzalez	College of Business	Absent	
Fernando Menendez	College of Business	Absent	
Alejandro Madrigal	College of Business	Present	

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Andrew Martinez	College of Business	Absent	
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Jaedon Charles	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Ashley Prado	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	
Kamila Gonzalez	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	
Trevor See	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	
Vacant	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Vacant	
Natalie Jusino	College of Law	Absent	
Angel Herrero	College of Medicine	Present	
Vacant	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Vacant	
Alexis Lofton	College of Public Health and Social Work	Absent	
Vacant	Honors College	Vacant	
Tanner Croddy	Housing- BBC	Present	
Trey Saunders	Housing-MMC	Present	
Vacant	Housing-MMC	Vacant	
Vacant	Housing- MMC	Vacant	
Alison Stangl	Lower Division	Present	
Sofia Araoz	Lower Division	Absent	

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Sohpia Dias Peixoto	Online Student Senator	Present	
German Mata	School of International and Public Affairs	Absent	
Selma Sena	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	
David Riera	University Graduate School	Present	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	
Julian Esquivel	University Graduate School	Present	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Present	
Emma Selkowitz	Upper Division	Present	
Shameka Jean-Baptiste	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	
Marville Marcelin	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	
Ronyde Pontheiux	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	
Tiffany Lindsay	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	
Vacant	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Vacant	
Vacant	Vacant (Floor Leader spot)	Vacant	
Connor Tafur	College of Business	Present	
Faith St. Rose	College of Business	Present	
Isabella Romeo	Housing-MMC	Present	
Manuel Fernandez	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	
Alonso Ochoa	School of Engineering	Absent	



Quorum is Established	Present	30
	Absent	13
	Vacant	15

IV. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – November 24th, 2025

A. Minutes were approved

V. Adoption of the Agenda

A. Floor Leader Selkowitz motioned to add Carlos Ricotti into the agenda as an Invited Speaker

i. No objections, Carlos Ricatti was added

B. Agenda was adopted

VI. Invited Speaker

A. Dr. Barengo – Faculty Senate Chair

B. Andrew Naylor – Senior Housing Director

i. Housing Updates: Part of University Apartments are being torned down in January. Developed a plan to ensure that residents would be allocated to other housing and costs would stay the same as they were in UA. Providing moving supplies, packing supplies, labels, moving services, etc. They did not choose to be in situation, so housing department is finding best outcome. In that, they are losing 200 bets, huge housing demand in the university (gone up from 17% to 30%). Developed an Off-Campus Housing Coordinator position who has scheduled meetings and is available to meet with students and parents to navigate that process. Building a new housing building which is going to be open Fall of 2028. Largest and biggest housing facility of the university.



- ii. Pro-Tempore St.Rose asks a question in behalf of senator on Zoom
 - 1. Will the slides presentation be open to all students? Open to sharing the presentation
- iii. Senator Bencid asks if the housing building will prioritize upper division undergraduate students who have to drive long distances to university. The hope is to have space for everyone.
- iv. Senator Riera asks why stop at that level for buildings? Why stop there when there could be more parking spaces and building issues resolved? After building this, they will be financially tapped out. They are also in agreements with new projects that are off-campus. 24,000 beds in the works.
- v. Senator Esquivel asks if there will be regulations put into parking garages that will come with these new plans? They are planning to add more parking garage spaces.
- vi. Pro-Tempore St.Rose asks what they are doing to support current students? Providing resources with their Off-Campus Housing Coordinator that works with distance and affordability to the school. The Coordinator helps them navigate this.
- vii. Senator Saunders if there is anything that housing can do for the affiliation agreement? Fund to help students with housing

C. Carlos Ricatti – Election Commissioner

- i. Presentation about Election Timeline. Worries about getting people involved, Ricotti provides marketing strategies like social media, PANTHERNOW, Panther Connect, to post events, applications, and updates. Also, focus heavily on campus visibility (TV screens, collab with clubs, tabling). Info sessions breakdown. Candidate Orientation (Post-Applications). Candidate Packet



hard to understand, Ricotti has a goal to make the Candidate Packet user-friendly and appealing to the eye.

- ii. Senator Riera asks if they are going to do office hours and if they will be posted and virtual? There definitely will be office hours and most likely virtual. Will the slide be available? Yes
- iii. Senator Pontheiux asks if this will be shared? Yes
- iv. Floor Leader Selkowitz comments that Senators know if there is anyone that wants to run to please contact Carlos.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Finance Chair – Connor Tafur

- i. No reports

B. Floor Leader – Internal Affairs Committee – Emma Zelkowitz

- i. No reports. Going over Senate removals.

C. Rules Committee – Kamila Gonzalez

- i. No reports

D. SLAC Committee – Trey Saunders

- i. Met last week and will meet this week

E. BBC LC Committee – Tanner Croddy

- i. No reports

F. GPSC Committee – Julian Esquivel

- i. No reports

G. International Student Ad Hoc – Bayan Abedulaziz

- i. Meeting this Wednesday to discuss events for Spring

H. Pre-Professional Ad Hoc – German Mata

I. Meet Your Dean Ad Hoc – Jerilyn Davis

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- A. Student Body President – Francesca Casanova
- B. Vice President – Wilkin Caseres
- C. Speaker of the Senate – Izzy Romeo
 - i. Last meeting and if there will be special meetings there will be 48-hour notice.
- D. Speaker Pro-tempore – Faith St.Rose
 - i. If anyone is working on anything for Spring, please reach out to St.Rose and Larissa. Last week to come to office hours is this week. Spring is going to be more strict. If anyone wants volunteer information, let her know.
- E. BBC Governor – Hailey Menendez

IX. Advisors Report – Larissa, Patty & Blanca

- A. Larissa: If anyone is interested in tabling in Welcome Week, please let Larissa know. If anyone has any events that they want to plan for Spring, please meet with Larissa and Blanca no later than next week. SGA will be hosting an event on Welcome Week on Friday, “Snack Break,” if anyone wants to help, please do. Help for breakfast for finals week and Tuesday there is free Chick-fil-A and if anyone wants to help for both please do so. SGA Office will continue regular office hours until December 12th. From December 15th through December 22nd the office will close at 5pm. The university is closed from December 23rd to January 2nd. If you are graduating, please let Larissa know.
- B. Blanca: No reports
- C. Patty: If anyone can help out at least one event that would be great. Breakfast needs hands.

X. Unfinished Business



A. Swearing in of New Senators – Alonso Ochoa (Engineering) & Manuel Fernandez (SIPA)

- i. Manuel Fernandez was sworn in

B. NANV Pact Resolution – David Riera

- i. Presents the NANV Pact Resolution. NANV stands for Non-Violence & Non-Aggression. In this generation, there's been an increase in violence and unfortunately there is an exponential increase in school violence. Calling for trauma-informed peacebuilding practices, restorative dialogue, and campus-wide reconciliation. Creating an Ad Hoc Senate Task Force to draft and steward a Peacebuilding Framework for adoption by SGA and campus partners. Also inviting FIU constituencies and peer institutions to opt into, adapt, and adopt these commitments to raise collective action and change-making.

ii. 5-Minute Q&A Period:

1. Speaker Romeo asks what specifically is the Ad Hoc Committee going to do? The idea is that Senator Riera will provide a Guide Book and take a free class that will teach them how to integrate peacebuilding into their everyday lives. Create a framework that can lay the foundation for other schools and be shared.
2. Senator Allen asks what would this pact and the PPC do that is going to add-on to what we have that isn't duplicating the current resources? And what would this look like in practice? Resources are scattered everywhere and a lot of people do not read them. The senator wants to create a framework that nobody else will create by pulling all resources and putting them together under one roof.



3. Pro-Tempore motions to add 5 more minutes to the Q&A period
 - a. Motion is passed by unanimous consent
 4. Senator Saunder asks how Senate Leadership would help with this?

Raise awareness as a community.
 5. Speaker Romeo asks how would these guidelines look like so it is more engaging? Senator Riera says it is up to the student body and organize open listening sessions, convene PPC and talk about the framework.

Riera feels that the more engagement there is, the better.
 6. Senator Allen asks
- iii. 5-Minute Discussion Period
1. Senator Saunders introduced motion to elapse discussion period
 - a. Plaque card vote was not passed so 5-Minute Discussion period continues
 2. Speaker Izzy asks blank? Senator Riera explains what he means by guidelines and reinstates that he will be providing a Guide Book to set his hopes in motion.
 3. Pro-Tempore St.Rose reminds Riera of decorum and to provide a trigger-warning when bringing up sensitive words.
 4. Floor Leader Selkowitz expresses her confidence in the security of FIU and reminds Riera of proper decorum and proper speech
 5. Senator Allen expresses interest in resolution but states a drawback because unsure of logistics. How would this be different in practice to already instated resources? Senator Riera hopes that Guide Book will provide growth and is looking for anyone that would be interested in helping. Hopes to be held accountable if the Guide Book is lacking.

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6. Speaker Izzy likes the resolution but is being held back because she would like to see something to go off of before being convened to provide an Ad Hoc Committee? Senator Riera says he will provide this by the end of his term so that Senators have something to go off of.

iv. Roll Call Vote

Vote on NVNA Pact Resolution				
Senator Name	Senator Position	Attendance	Vote	Reason for Abstention
Carisa Lynch	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Ariana Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Sean Remedios	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Samantha Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Kleio "Kae" Jung	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Arianna Bencid	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Sophia Gonzalez	College of Business	Absent	Absent	
Fernando Menendez	College of Business	Absent	Absent	
Alejandro Madrigal	College of Business	Present		

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Andrew Martinez	College of Business	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	Vacant	
Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Present		
Jaedon Charles	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Ashley Prado	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	Vacant	
Kamila Gonzalez	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	Absent	
Trevor See	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Vacant	Vacant	
Natalie Jusino	College of Law	Absent	Absent	
Angel Herrero	College of Medicine	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Vacant	Vacant	
Alexis Lofton	College of Public Health and Social Work	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	Honors College	Vacant	Vacant	
Tanner Croddy	Housing- BBC	Present	Yes	
Trey Saunders	Housing- MMC	Present	Yes	
Vacant	Housing- MMC	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	Housing- MMC	Vacant	Vacant	
Alison Stangl	Lower Division	Present	Yes	

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Sofia Araoz	Lower Division	Absent	Absent	
Sohpia Dias Peixoto	Online Student Senator	Present	Yes	
German Mata	School of International and Public Affairs	Absent	Absent	
Selma Sena	School of International and Public Affairs	Present		
David Riera	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Julian Esquivel	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Present	Yes	
Emma Selkowitz	Upper Division	Present	Abstention	No sufficient information
Shameka Jean-Baptiste	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	Absent	
Marville Marcelin	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	Yes	
Ronyde Pontheiux	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	Yes	
Tiffany Lindsay	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present		
Vacant	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	Vacant (Floor Leader spot)	Vacant	Vacant	
Connor Tafur	College of Business	Present	No	
Faith St. Rose	College of Business	Present	Abstention	No sufficient information
Isabella Romeo	Housing-MMC	Present	Abstention	No sufficient information
Manuel Fernandez	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	No	

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Vote Count			
Yes	No	Abstention	Vacant
21	2	3	15

Motion Passed	Vote	Vote Count	Archive
	Simple Majority	16.0	Passed
	Two-Thirds	20	Passed
	Three-Fifths	18	Passed

v. Motion was passed

C. Research Forum Bill – David Riera

- i. Senator Riera presents a Bill to establish a Research Forum within the Senate Rules of Procedure. Through the amendment of Rule 16 (Agenda and Minutes) to insert a “Research Forum” as a new subsection between “Invited Speakers” and “Committee Reports.” As well as the creation of a new Rule (Rule 14 – Research Forum) to run parallel to Rule 11 (Senate Forum) and Rule 12 (Public Forum), where purpose, who may speak, time limits, and process will be indicated



ii. 5-Minute Q&A Period:

1. Speaker Romeo asks how would this be different and why would we need a new section if they could just send an email and present as an invited speaker? This idea shows that SGA has a commitment to research and it would obtain more engagement because this be an intentional way to get more engagement and the graduate school would support that.
2. Pro-Tempore asks if Senator Riera is amendable to moving the “Research Forum” to after the “Senate Forum”? Senator Riera says No because graduate/professional students will not be staying until the end and they intentionally want to treat them as invited speakers but under this “Research Forum” section. If this was put at the end, it would be seen as “optional.”
3. Pro-Tempore asks what the need to have the “Research Forum” if they could just be added as invited speakers? It shows an intentionality of SGA deeming high regard to research. Senator Riera would like to be given 2 options of where the section could be placed.
4. Pro-Tempore introduces a Friendly-Motion to have Option 1: In-between “Invited Speakers” and “Committee Reports” and Option 2: before “Senate Forum.”
5. Speaker Romeo states how she doesn’t see the difference between invited speakers and the “Research Forum” and why it would need its own space. Senator Riera responds that the point is to be intentional and committed to research
6. Floor Leader Selkowitz motions to elapse discussion period

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a. By unanimous consent, discussion period is elapsed

iii. Roll Call Vote

Vote on Research Forum Bill				
Senator Name	Senator Position	Attendance	Vote	Reason for Abstention
Carisa Lynch	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Elizabeth Ekechi	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Alyssa Allen	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Brianna Romeo	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Vacant	Vacant	
Ariana Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Jerilyn Davis	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Sean Remedios	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Janine Villalonga	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Samantha Lopez	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Kleio "Kae" Jung	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Absent	Absent	
Arianna Bencid	College of Arts Sciences and Education	Present	Yes	
Sophia Gonzalez	College of Business	Absent	Absent	
Fernando Menendez	College of Business	Absent	Absent	
Alejandro Madrigal	College of Business	Present		
Andrew Martinez	College of Business	Absent	Absent	
Vacant	FIU at I-75 Senator	Vacant	Vacant	

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Kirsten Maxwell	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	Vacant	
Bayan Abedulazis	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Absent	Absent	
Amelia Luque	College of Communication Architecture and the Arts	Vacant	Vacant	
Julio Bonjoch	College of Engineering and Computing	Present		
Jaedon Charles	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Ashley Prado	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Computing	Vacant	Vacant	
Kamila Gonzalez	College of Engineering and Computing	Absent	Absent	
Trevor See	College of Engineering and Computing	Present	No	
Vacant	College of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	College of Law	Absent	Vacant	
Angel Herrero	College of Medicine	Present	Yes	
Vacant	College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Vacant	Vacant	
Alexis Lofton	College of Public Health and Social Work	Absent	Absent	
Brianna Diaz	Honors College	Vacant	Vacant	
Tanner Croddy	Housing- BBC	Present	Yes	
Trey Saunders	Housing-MMC	Present	Yes	
Vacant	Housing-MMC	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	Housing- MMC	Vacant	Vacant	
Alison Stangl	Lower Division	Present	Yes	
Sofia Araoz	Lower Division	Absent	Absent	
Sohpia Dias Peixoto	Online Student Senator	Present	Yes	

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German Mata	School of International and Public Affairs	Absent	Absent	
Selma Sena	School of International and Public Affairs	Present		
David Riera	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	
Lina Peralta	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Julian Esquivel	University Graduate School	Present	Yes	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	University Graduate School	Vacant	Vacant	
Clover Cruz	Upper Division	Present	Yes	
Emma Selkowitz	Upper Division	Present	No	
Shameka Jean-Baptiste	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Absent	Absent	
Marville Marcelin	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	Yes	
Ronyde Pontheiux	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present	Yes	
Tiffany Lindsay	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Present		
Vacant	Biscayne Bay Campus At-Large Senator	Vacant	Vacant	
Vacant	Vacant (Floor Leader spot)	Vacant	Vacant	
Connor Tafur	College of Business	Present	No	
Faith St. Rose	College of Business	Present	Yes	
Isabella Romeo	Housing-MMC	Present	Yes	
Manuel Fernandez	School of International and Public Affairs	Present	No	

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Vote Count			
Yes	No	Abstention	Vacant
22	4	0	16

Motion Passed	Vote	Vote Count	Archive
	Simple Majority	16.0	Passed
	Two-Thirds	20	Passed
	Three-Fifths	18	Passed

iv. Motion was passed

D. Right to Know, Right to Grow Act

i. Pro-Tempore motions to read resolution by title only

1. Plaque card vote, motion was passed

ii. Floor Leader Selkowitz introduced motion to elapse discussion period

1. Speaker Romeo objects, moved to old business. Speaker Romeo announced that there will be a Special Session this week, look out for the notification as it is mandatory.

XI. New Business

A. Graduate Appointments – Samantha Leo & Mateo Suarez

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- B. Housing Appointments – Ziya Brown & Daijiah O’Neal
 - C. BBC at Large Appointment – Eric Slater & Darianna Reyes
 - D. Attorney General Appointment – Veronica Demoya
 - E. Senate Appeal -- Lina Peralta
-
- XII. Senate Forum
 - XIII. Public Forum
 - XIV. Adjournment
 - A. Adjournment time: 5:59pm