

# University of Central Florida Student Government Association



## Scholarship Committee Student Government Association

September 20, 2017  
12:00 PM

SGA Black and Gold Conference Room

### MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order- **12:02**
- II. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum- Quorum verified

PRESENT	ABSENT
Chair Gray	
Vice-Chair L. Phillips	
Student Body President Larkins	
Speaker Behar	
OSFA Representative Hunt	
SSAO Representative Phillips	

- III. Approval of the Minutes- Approved
- IV. Approval of the Agenda- Approved
- V. Announcements from the Chair- Few requests from committees,
  - a. Richard Philips- Are we creating two separate scholarships? I was told we couldn't give DACA students scholarships.
  - b. Lisa Hunt- I need to talk to Michael in order to verify scholarships to DACA. If University funding, we cannot fund DACA students. We can give international students.
  - c. Richard Phillips- We need to get clarification from DACA.
  - d. President Larkins- is that a federal or state law? Or University?
  - e. Chair Gray- We can't fund any DACA students?
  - f. Lisa Hunt- We cannot give University funds to DACA students.
  - g. Richard Phillips- We can make an interim scholarship before we proceed.
- VI. Announcements from Committee Members- None
- VII. Announcements from Non-Committee Members- None
- VIII. Old Business- None
- IX. New Business-
  - a. Scholarship Request Forms
    - i. Chair Gray- Ms. Zeh you are first to present.
    - ii. Amy Zeh-In the past, since 2005 you all have supported the showcase. Success has been very strong; more people have taken an interest to present. We would like to have a fall showcase (summer and fall 2017) and a spring showcase (spring 2018). In the past, we asked for \$8,000 and now we are asking for \$16,000. We give out 56 scholarships in total split up 28 in fall and 28 in spring. We try to make scholarships for different services

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provided. Numbers are given in handout. Criteria is listed for students and is presented like a Fair. Students set up in morning and faculty who are judges come in and look at all the information presented. Judges are very qualified and want students to succeed. We want students to understand why they are doing what they are doing is valuable and helpful in the future. We want to be more inclusive to students.

- iii. President Larkin- Looking at salmon paper, are scholarships based on winning the fair and meeting certain criteria?
- iv. Amy Zeh- Yes, some students split it up among team members, keep all the money or give it back to the organization that they are representing.
- v. President Larkin- The \$16,000 goes straight to the scholarship and not anything else correct?
- vi. Amy Zeh- Yes, the Experiential Learning provides food to judges and everything else on their own.
- vii. Richard Phillips- Since this is the first year you are doing two showcases, do you have numbers predicted to see how many students will participate in the second showcase?
- viii. Amy Zeh- No I do not know, but students were notified about the two events ahead of time so they could prepare.
- ix. Speaker Behar- How many service learning classes are there on campus?
- x. Amy Zeh- There are 350 classrooms, 8000 students involved in service learning. The numbers can be counted double since two semesters are counted.
- xi. Speaker Behar- A student did a study abroad in Africa, so could a student in an internship be involved in this showcase?
- xii. Amy Zeh- The hours for a service learning is more than what is required for an internship. So no, internships wouldn't be able to be counted.
- xiii. Brandy Espinosa- Thank you for meeting with me, I work with SARC. I am involved in the Access program for summer and the ACE program during the fall and spring semester. I am going to pass out copies and talk more about the program. The ACE program is when a student meets with a mentor and talks about a variety of topics throughout the semester. They meet regularly throughout the semester. The mentors check in with the students depending on classes and certain needs and reassess habits. The goal is to help students understand more about themselves with looking at strengths and weaknesses. Our goal is for students to have someone they can go to throughout the semester. Students who were placed on academic probation after summer are now in the ACE program for the Fall semester. We have 91 students and are open to all undergraduate students with a low GPA. There are 10 who are voluntarily coming in for coaching. Most concerns from students are not related to school for example financial issues which might be hindering the students focus level. Students will have to go above and beyond to receive the scholarship. We found students on probation who participated and went to two meetings tend to end up with a higher GPA then students who don't. The Scholarship itself has an outline with requirements (listed in documents given). We want students to be engaged in the UCF community besides academically. There are quotes from students from after the program ended.
- xiv. President Larkin- You can apply to be part of ACE coaching without probation?
- xv. Brandy Espinosa- Yes, and students on probation are required to go to at least 2

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- sessions and more if they are interested in the scholarship.
- xvi. Speaker Behar- What is the selection process like?
- xvii. Espinosa- We make a spreadsheet, look at GPA and then send out questions to other faculty members to get an insight on hoe meetings went to see who top applicants are.
- xviii. Yara Watson- I am with Office of Sustainability, this office is new but has been around for years. For the past 15 years, we have done a great job with energy efficiency and being a great green school. We have developed a system to require all building to be LEAD certified. Recently the alumni center was rated silver certified. Sustainability is more than just energy efficient its food and transportation, etc. Students are key to many of the programs and we often partner with the engineering school to give tours of systems on campus. One organization we are involved in is AASHE, they oversee the STARS rating system. This past year was the first year we sent a STARS report with a multitude of information. Today I'm here to ask for money for scholarships for students to go to a AASHE Conference. We are requesting student funds for a student summit which is on a Sunday out of the 4-day conference. The conference is very customizable and students can choose the workshops to go to and are engaged in. Because we are short on time, if you approved the scholarship, we would have to be very innovative on how to give the scholarships. The deadline for the early bird application is this Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. I have included costs and information the request form. We are looking for funding for students in need of money to attend this conference.
- xix. Speaker Behar- Where is the conference?
- xx. Yara Watson- San Antonio, Texas. This is a huge conference for students and faculty and staff to learn best practices focused on university.
- xxi. Jamey Walker- My only concern is that it could cause a problem with loans and financial aid. This is actually not a part of the student education. This might have to be done with another organization.
- xxii. Richard Phillips- I agree, there are limits with FNA and other organizations so we don't want to overstep the boundaries.
- xxiii. Speaker Behar- The senate can approve \$250 to students in need for transportation and travel.
- xxiv. Yara Watson- I also agree, this might be more of a stipend than anything else.
- xxv. Chair Gray- Thank you for coming.
- xxvi. Speaker Behar- I don't know if I feel comfortable funding this.
- xxvii. Jamey Walker- Scholarships have to be paid for students. Only fair way to pay this is through a stipend.
- xxviii. President Larkin- I have seen first-hand, that there are students not really focused. I don't want to pay for students unsupervised at a conference.
- xxix. Chair Gray- I was a little confused about the funds allocated. Let's vote on it. This scholarship does not pass. Sustainability request is denied.
- xxx. President Larkin- Going back to service learning, since there are two new showcases, my thought is to say no now since there isn't enough time in fall. My thought is we should give them \$8,000 for spring and already give them \$8,000 for next fall?
- xxxi. Richard Phillips- Yes it can be done, needs to be written formerly in minutes and could be distributed later. We could give them less money for this upcoming fall and the set
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amount for spring. There are other organizations that give them support and contributions.

- xxvii. Chair Gray-I want to give them something but not 8,000. Spring is usually successful.
- xxviii. Richard Phillips- I agree, we don't know the numbers and we could give more money next fall depending on the numbers and how well fall does.
- xxix. Speaker Behar- We should do \$3,000 for Fall and \$7,000 in Spring with other partnerships. If we don't give them anything, the success rate won't be as high.
- xxx. President Larkin- I don't like cutting back from what they want in spring, people might not even show up for fall.
- xxxi. Richard Phillips- I'd be hesitant with \$8,000 since it doesn't give this committee leverage over how successful fall will be. So, I agree with Sharon, there needs to be money for fall.
- xxxii. President Larkin- I agree with Behar, and like to approve \$2,000 for Fall and \$8,000 in Spring.
- xxxiii. Chair Gray- Let's vote on it. This scholarship is approved for \$2,000 in fall and \$8,000 in spring. Now moving on to ACE. She is requesting \$1500 but three separate scholarships when divided. Any concerns with amount? Seeing none ACE tuition is approved for 1500\$.

### b. Fall 2017 Scholarships

- i. Chair Gray- These scholarships have been around for a while. There are 14 of them.
- ii. President Larkin- Richard, you said your concern was that students coming in spring wouldn't have access for scholarships?
- iii. Richard Phillips- Correct, there might be students that come in and Spring won't have access to scholarships since deadline would have already passed. There are more types of scholarships posted in Spring then fall. It's the same criteria but either more awards are given or awarded to students.
- iv. Speaker Behar- Is it possible to open the spring scholarships now?
- v. Jamey Walker- The problem is we are still making decisions and we become behind and can't fit everything into the meetings. It becomes unmanageable.
- vi. Richard Phillips- Another option is that Spring scholarships could be approved in fall. There was concern though about the committee not being the same when new scholarships are approved and being unaware of the approved scholarships from the prior semester. Maybe we should approve a semester in advance though because we did that a couple years ago and it worked, minus the concern.
- vii. Jamey Walker- With growth of population of the university, we needed a new system which is why A2O helps and more applications are turned in and more available to students.
- viii. Richard Phillips- Just concerned we would lose applications sent for scholarships.
- ix. Jamey Walker- We couldn't post all scholarships on slate at one time.
- x. Speaker Behar- Maybe a scholarship for first semester students.
- xi. Jamey Walker- The problem is that the money was given out the following semester since the scholarship was posted later. This is a committee that are doing other things and they didn't have enough time and help. Timing is really the issue.

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- xii. President Larkin- if we did a welcome scholarship and all the requirements verified and ready to go could we proceed with that scholarship?
  - xiii. Jamey Walker- Yes that's possible and could be opened for January and advertised ahead of time. The problem is if the decision is made in February then it might not be approved till later. Do keep in mind that emergency funding is not part of student attendance. Anytime we're making decisions later, it could cause situations and regulations have to be adhered to first.
  - xiv. Richard Phillips- If we look at past scholarships, transfer students have a scholarship there.
  - xv. Jamey Walker- We could keep this scholarship only for Fall and make a new one for spring.
  - xvi. Speaker Behar- Could we see the budget after the certain scholarships are approved for of this year?
  - xvii. Richard Phillips- Yes and good news is that there are new funds and scholarships and we will have enough money to fund.
  - xviii. Chair Gray- I would like to create more scholarships and approve the ones we have in the past in the next meeting.
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- x. Miscellaneous Business- None
  - xi. Member Discussion- None
  - xii. Final Roll Call- Quorum is verified.
  - xiii. Adjournment- **1:35**

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