

2025-2026

SENATE

student association



# Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, December 3, 8:00 pm

Southern Shoppe, Bietz 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

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- I. **Worship** – Lauren Pritchett
  - a. Psalms 73
- II. **Birthdays** – Brendan Koilpillai December 31
- III. **Committee Updates**
  - a. **Bear Committee**– Many successful events this last month. Last night was Christmas tree lighting and great . There were numerous departments also signing up for the bear
  - b. **Bylaws- Committee** - Priscille We have an emergency meeting to finalize the voting for committee
  - c. **Finance Committee**- Met yesterday to go over scholarships for leadership and International student scholarships. The leadership scholarship will be eligible for all, Dr. Negron has gone through half of the students who are eligible for the scholarship so that they can apply. We have drafted an email, and that they have to fill in the emails for club appropriations next semester. To have a community outreach next month.
  - d. **International Student Committee** This Friday is international student vespers! There is also a zoo field trip planned so look forward to it!
  - e. **Social Event**- We have Christmas party, tomorrow we have a Santa is coming to town! We also have our events for next semester lined up. We are also making portfolios for senators of next semester. We are having that so comittes know and prepare.
- IV. **Forrest Branding Initiative**
  - a. Update: Had a chance to meet with the VP of Marketing, and she wanted to have a chance to discuss it with her team. Since there they havent heard from her, but he will follow up.
  - b. But she is interested in collaborating with Senate and exploring this further.

**Discussion**

1. Heidi: Speaking on behalf of my constituents, there is resentment towards the bear in comparison to the Duck. Are there opportunity to address those feelings?  
Evan: We don't want to push them out, but I don't know where we could start to address that. That is something that the marketing may be aware of!
2. Jacob: In the same context as Heidi, my constituents, especially older, were sharing that they were not in wanting to see the bear.  
Evan: We just have to introduce them, and people may be more receptive to this after the instagram account.
3. Arriane: Are we still on to having marketing students manage everything with this project?  
Evan: I am still working those details out.
4. Houston: Would like an instagram account but do we have a quote on how much senate would be funding on this.  
Evan: At face value, it is \$0 to create this instagram account. But I don't know how the other logistics for events work
5. Brendan: We are already pushing the bear, but getting an instagram account will help normalize it more and bring done the culture.  
Evan: And it will divert the attention against the bear, but having the bear account will have a lighthearded image for what Southern is like.

Dr. Negrón: There will be a time when the duck issue will die out eventually. It will die out. And all of the accusations that the bear was pushed on school is not true.

*I move to extend this discussion by three minutes. In favor: 11 Opposed: 13*

Voting: "I move to approve creating an Instagram account for Forrest the bear, our school's mascot."

In favor: 19 Opposed:5

### **Motion Passed!**

## V. Hulsey Outdoor Courts – Rollers/Squeegee by Jeaneva Bautista

- a. Just an update, this proposal cam about from the **Share Your Voice Form** that allows an anonymous way for students to share some initiatives they are passionate about and would like to propose to senate.
- b. While consulting with the Facilities Manager of Hulsey – Darin Bissel
  - i. Current squeegees are ineffective and old
  - ii. Recommends 4 new high-quality squeegees (each court)
  - iii. Better alternative than buying outdoor court covers
  - iv. High quality now = Hulsey would only need to buy rubberre placements in the future

## Discussion

1. Kalla: Is this with the ax exempt?  
Jeni: Yes
2. Derek: I think it is a good idea, but it might not something that would fix the problem!  
Jeni: I do agree, and especially since and it always raining and but just having that alone wil lhelp little bit of it drying more quickly. Especially for the gyn if you are having a tennis class.
3. Arriane: Can people just go up and ask for this  
Jeni: Once senate approves they will invest for a hanger.
4. Javob: Will it be left outside?  
Jeni: According to them yes, but that is something they would arrange for
5. Jacob: According to the website. Made from lightweight & durable aluminium, this squeegee features a 5ft sweep & rust-proof wheels for excellent court coverage. So basically we are going to keep this forever

Call to Question In favor:21 Opposed:0

## VI. Announcements

- a. Student Advocates for disabilities – It is a student led initiative dedicated to building awareness, community, and advocacy for disabilities on Southern’s campus  
**Join SAD on Thursday, December 11 at 6:30pm in Bietz Room 3210. No disability required**
- b. upcoming elections after December break! Please add in your constituent emails!
- c. Braden and Serina is working hard to get a day in the life, and those will come up in instagram. Please repost!
- d. Meeting next week is for our bylaws comittee! Make sure to come and it is a must and there is no backing up. It has to be done by the end of the semester.