I. Opening
   o Senator Ward Opened the meeting at 4:00 pm.

II. Approval of minutes:
   o Sen. Cole moves to approve the Minutes, Sen. McIver seconded. Minutes were approved with 6 yays 0 nays 0 Abstains.

III. Old Business:
   • 91-USI-CL-02: A University-wide Special Order to seat members of the Bylaws Standing Committee- Sen Ward brought forward the legislation that sat the members on the Bylaws Committees. She continued by congratulating the seated members and encouraging everyone to take part in getting involved to create a productive atmosphere within the committee for the 91st Administration.

IV. Referred Business:
   • 91-UWB-01: A University-wide Bill to Create an Executive Cabinet
     Senator Ward brought forward the University Wide Bill to Create an Executive which would allow President Thomas to extend the Executive branch with a completely different committee. The following discussion occurred, and amendments were made to the legislation.
     • Senator Ward began by allowing everyone to have a clear understanding of the overall purpose of the Executive Cabinet from her review of the legislation.
     • She opened the floor to President Thomas to further explain the purpose of the bill that he and former Sen. Garret proposed at an earlier date. He went on to say that by extending the Executive Branch, the SGA could do a more thorough job of completing specific tasks that each committee takes on. He went on to say that in the past, committees have failed to complete specific tasks and were not held accountable although they fell slightly short on the projects they took on. They prioritized some projects, but as a result other projects had to suffer. By implementing the Cabinet, the workload could be evenly distributed, so the President and his other staff members won’t feel overwhelmed.
     • Senator Ward thanked him for sharing and opened the floor to Senator Pujals. He expressed that he still did not fully understand the purpose of the Cabinet based on the proposal of the bill because it did not outline the specific things that each committee would be doing within the Cabinet. Others expressed the same concerns.
     • Senator Ward allowed President Thomas to further explain why he felt the Cabinet would be beneficial. He explained that when he was researching other SGA’s Executive Cabinet, he found that Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia were very successful when it comes to the Committees established under that Cabinet. He also stated that in the 89th Administration President Franklin also had similar struggles which is why an Executive Cabinet was introduced back then.
The floor was opened to Advisor Boyd. Boyd went on to say that he also wanted the procedures of the Cabinet to be more clearly defined, so that we can come to a proper conclusion. After that we can be able to better determine whether the Executive Cabinet would truly be effective, or if we could use committees that were already implemented within SGA.

Sen Pujals was granted the floor. He recommended a 3-step plan to show the effectiveness of the Cabinet. This included stating whether or not the Legislative Branch can remove members of the Cabinet, clearly defined roles in an outline, and labeling this as Ex officio use of resources that we already have through standing committees’ heads and cochairs.

Sen. Ward opens the floor to Advisor Gail. Gail agreed with Sen. Pujals and Advisor Boyd, and expressed that based on President Thomas’ explanation, we do have to realize that the other institutions are different from GSU and that must be considered when deciding about the Cabinet.

Sen. Ward says that she understands everyone’s perspective, and when it comes to using the Committees we already have or implementing a Cabinet there seems to be an accountability issue. If someone takes on a project, regardless of the extent of the project they must complete the task or be reprimanded for the lack of accomplishing the goals of the project. She also said if we use the Committees we already have, someone within the administration would be willing to step up and help. Sen. Ward used herself as an example and offered to help research the other institutions Executive Cabinet.

President Thomas agreed to create a more detailed outline for the Executive Cabinet.

To conclude this part of the meeting Sen. Ward reiterated that from her understanding President Thomas wanted the Executive Cabinet to evenly distribute the workload, so that no current executive members will become overwhelmed with the tasks that are already associated with their position.

V. New Business introduced

- **Changes to the Election Code (Articles 12 sec 1, Article 2 sec 1, Title 3 Article 3 Part J)** Sen. Fye suggested that Sen. Ward and the current committee work to create a piece of legislation which includes changes to who reviews Elections Appeals in Article 12 Violations Sec 1 Complaints and Reporting Sub Sec J, Art 2 Sec 1 Sub A part d, and Title 3 Art 3 Part J. The following discussion occurred, and amendments were made to the legislation.

  - Sen Ward briefly explained that Sen. Fye wanted the legislation to reflect the people who were actively reviewing the election processes. The change could be made by stating, “The SJB SGA liaison Committee shall here all appeals to election commission decisions.”

  - To extend this argument the Perimeter EVPs require the ability to use the Executive order in the legislation is only given the power to Section A (ATL EVP).
Sen Ward just explained that we need to correct the verbiage, but that these were relatively manageable fixes.

- **Finance/ Communications Director’s lack of due process (Constitutional Change)**
  Senator Fye also advised the Standing Bylaws Committee to review the phrase “Serving at the pleasure of” when it pertains to the Finance and Communications Committee. The following discussion occurred were made to the legislation.
  - *Advisor Gail quickly mentioned that this would require a constitutional change. It was then mentioned that the Senate Clerk would be at the pleasure of the Speaker of the Senate.*
  - *Advisor Boyd explains a fix could be to propose a constitutional amendment that institutes change in SGA since it outlines funding operations and procedures in the document. He went on to say that the bill would be used to enact changes in SGA bylaws for the purposes of funding. (Article 9 Constitutional Review)*

- **Code Penalization for U-WIDE** The last thing that Sen Fye had advised via email correspondence was reintroducing an election code penalization system in the next U-WIDE meeting that doesn’t involve suspensions. The following discussion occurred were made to the legislation.
  - *Sen Ward gave a brief introduction to the Committee based on Sen. Fye’s notes and suggested that we decide whether to revise the current penalization system we had or keep the system we do have in place. She opened the floor to comments.*
  - *Advisor Boyd explained that this would also require a constitutional change. Although the change needed to be made as soon as possible it wouldn’t be wise to do it during the Fall due to the cost. He advised that we submit the Constitution Change request by January which would propose a referendum which would require a 51% vote of the simple majority in order to be enacted.*
  - *Advisor Boyd went on to say that the change would allow a percentage of votes to be taken away when you have a code violation because currently when you have suspensions, the campaigning process can still take place. With creating legislation for election code penalization, we can create a way for the individuals campaigning to have a real consequence when they were suspended.*

- *Sen. Ward opens the floor for comments, opinions, and suggestions on any of the topics discussed during the meeting. The following discussion occurred were made to the legislation.*
  - *No one had anything to further add. Sen. Ward asked if anyone wanted to step up as a co-chair, but the position remains unfilled. She also asked if anyone wanted to step up with assisting her in helping President Thomas research other institutions Executive Cabinet in preparation for the next meeting. Sen. Martinez volunteered to help.*
VI. Assignments/Projected Legislation
   o Sen. Ward and Sen. Martinez will research more on the effectiveness of an Executive Cabinet in other Student Government Associations.
   o President Thomas will give a more detailed breakdown for the specific committees that will be included within the Executive Cabinet.
   o Correct, revise, and begin to form pieces of legislation based on Senator Fye’s suggestions.
   o Senator Ward thanks everyone for a great meeting.

VII. Closing Call of the Roll  Attendance→ Absences: 3

VIII. Adjournment
   a. Time: 5:10pm
   b. Next Meeting: TBA

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