

**PETITION FOR FULL COURT HEARING**

YOUR CASE WILL BE HEARD WITHIN TEN (10) SCHOOL DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PROPER FILING WITH THE SGA CLERK OF COURT. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED AS TO DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF THE COURT HEARING.

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Plaintiff: Brett Fornatoro

Plaintiff's Phone Number: 805-630-9306

Plaintiff's Student ID Number: 2616394

Defendant: Brendan Mott

**COMPLAINT** (include all important information, i.e. facts, dates, times, witnesses, etc.):

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At the UNOSGA Senate meeting held on September 14, 2022, a seated Senator made dishonest comments about Brett Fornatoro when rising in opposition to his nomination. The comments made by Senator Brendan Mott can be verified as untrue with emails exchanged between SGA Advisors, SGA Executives, and SGA's Governance Committee members (including Senator Mott himself).

Senator Mott, in his comments of opposition, stated,

"The example I'm going to give is that I served as the president Pro Tempore and we had the responsibility to modify the SGA Senate rules and to look at the things we weren't doing anymore and things like that. And he took it upon himself to undermine our committee and submit his own that we didn't completely agree with in the end. And he pushed- he was trying to push the Executive Board to sign it, even though it was very drastic changes that we were not ready for. And then he also purposely would use our previous rules in ways to try to show how bad they were."

Senator Mott is describing a scenario in which Brett Fornatoro was forcing others to accept his changes to the rules and procedures. Also, in this scenario Brett Fornatoro is described as having used deceptive tactics to achieve this outcome.

However, in an email exchange, dated at the time of the incident described, March 25, 2022, at 3:02 p.m., Advisor Dr. Joy Ballard stated,

"Hi Brett,  
Thank you for working on these! I believe there are some good changes in here that will be helpful for the senate. To update the R&P you do need to draft a procedural amendment that specifically states each change. I have attached an old one from years past so that you can see how it needs to be formatted before a senate vote! 😊  
Let me know if y'all have questions and I hope you all have a great weekend!  
Joy"

This contradicts the comments Senator Mott made in opposition to Brett Fornatoro's nomination by clearly suggesting an agreement around the updates made to the rules and procedures.

Further in this exchange, at 3:05 p.m. on March 25<sup>th</sup>, then Senate President Pro-Tempore Mott stated,

"Hello Joy,

It's Brendan. We were told by the executive board that the Senate does not need to vote on it and it will go straight to the president per the constitution.

1.18.6. Alterations to the Legislative Department Rules and Procedures must be submitted to the Executive branch for approval.

1.18.6.1. Approval will require the signature of the President. Failure of receiving this signature would result in an appeal process through the Judicial Department.

Please advise.

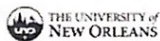
Best

Brendan



**Brendan Daniel Mott (He/Him/His)**

SGA President Pro-Tempore: Chair of Senate Governance Committee  
Peer Mentor - University Success | Monitor - UNO Game Room & App  
Planning & Urban Studies - Undergraduate Program”



Here, Senator Mott is further contradicting the comments made in opposition to Brett Fomatoro's nomination. Senator Mott himself was the one who wanted to use the executive board to bypass a Senate vote. Not only did Senator Mott attempt to do this himself, but President Lemelle had made the whole Senate aware of this option being available. In this same email exchange, at 3:32 p.m., she stated,

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“Hello All,

I would like to make it clear that the executive board did inform the senate, that per the constitution the amendments would be signed by the president. I fully agree, that if you all feel you want to vote on it you should. The executive board also fully supports, we simply explained what it says per the constitution. Keep us posted !

Best,  
Amber Lemelle”

Senator Mott's use of dishonesty to prevent the nomination of a student to the SGA Senate is evident.

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**PETITION FOR FULL COURT HEARING**

SGA Supreme Court Complaint Form C-001

Case Number 122-4

**Summary of Supporting Evidence** (You must be prepared to present 10 copies of any and all evidence to the SGA Clerk of Court no later than 48 hours prior to the hearing.):

Joy Nicole Ballard

To: Brett Formatoro; SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs; UNOSGA President; UNOSGA Vice President +2 others  
Cc: Brendan Daniel Mott; Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Fri 3/25/2022 3:02 PM

PA for R and P Final.docx  
25 KB

Hi Brett,

Thank you for working on these! I believe there are some good changes in here that will be helpful for the senate.

To update the R&P you do need to draft a procedural amendment that specifically states each change. I have attached an old one from years past so that you can see how it needs to be formatted before a senate vote! 😊

Let me know if y'all have questions and I hope you all have a great weekend!

Joy

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**PETITION FOR FULL COURT HEARING**

Brendan Daniel Mott

To: Joy Nicole Ballard; Brett Fornatore; SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs; UNOSGA President +3 others

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

☀️ 🔒 ↶ ↷ ⋮  
Fri 3/25/2022 3:05 PM

Hello Joy,

It's Brendan. We were told by the executive board that the Senate does not need to vote on it and it will go straight to the president per the constitution.

- 1.18.6. Alterations to the Legislative Department Rules and Procedures must be submitted to the Executive branch for approval.
- 1.18.6.1. Approval will require the signature of the President. Failure of receiving this signature would result in an appeal process through the Judicial Department.

Please advise.

Best

Brendan



**Brendan Daniel Mott (He/Him/His)**

SGA President Pro-Tempore; Chair of Senate Governance Committee  
Peer Mentor - University Success | Monitor - UNO Game Room & App  
Planning & Urban Studies - Undergraduate Program

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## PETITION FOR FULL COURT HEARING

receiving this signature would result in an appeal process through the Judicial Department.

Please advise.


Best


Brendan



### Brendan Daniel Mott (He/Him/His)

SGA President Pro-Tempore; Chair of Senate Governance Committee  
Peer Mentor - University Success | Monitor - UNO Game Room & App  
Planning & Urban Studies - Undergraduate Program

 [bdmott@uno.edu](mailto:bdmott@uno.edu)

 2000 Lakeshore Drive Apt 4033, New Orleans, Louisiana 70148



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UNOSGA President

To: Brett Fornatoro; Joy Nicole Ballard; Brendan Daniel Mott; SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs +3 others

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel



Fri 3/25/2022 3:32 PM

Hello All,

I would like to make it clear that the executive board did inform the senate, that per the constitution the amendments would be signed by the president. I fully agree, that if you all feel you want to vote on it you should. The executive board also fully supports, we simply explained what it says per the constitution. Keep us posted!

Best,  
Amber Lemelle

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**PETITION FOR FULL COURT HEARING**

SGA Supreme Court Complaint Form C-001

Case Number 122-4

**Remedies Sought By Plaintiff** (Please state here what you would like the Court to rule.):

Brendan Mott shall be removed from office for the slandering of a student on public record.

**AFFIRMATION**

I, Brett Fornatoro, do hereby swear that the information contained above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Plaintiff: BH2+

Date Signed: 9/24/22

**YOU MUST PRESENT TEN (10) COPIES OF THIS FORM TO THE SGA CLERK OF COURT AT THE TIME OF FILING.**

**For SGA Clerk of Court Use Only:**

Date Compliant Received: 09/29/2022

Date Notice of Complaint served upon Defendant: 09/30/2022

Method of Service: Via email



**PETITION FOR FULL COURT HEARING**

**Supreme Court Signatures**

Granted/Date:

Denied/Date:

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SGA Supreme Court

SGA Supreme Court

<p><b>For SGA Clerk of Court Use Only:</b></p> <p>Date Petition of Hearing Received: _____</p> <p>Date Court Received: _____</p> <p>Method of Service: _____</p>
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Fri 3/25/2022 2:56 PM

Brett Fornatoro

To: SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs; UNOSGA President +4 others

Cc: Brendan Daniel Mott; Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel



Good afternoon,

After thorough discourse, the Governance Committee has decided to accept my proposed Senate Rules and Procedures.

Brett Cody Fornatoro

Student at the University of New Orleans

Linkdin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/brett-cody-fornatoro-423170222>

Instagram: @brettcfornatoro



Joy Nicole Ballard

To: Brett Fornatoro; SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs; UNOSGA President; UNOSGA Vice President +2 others

Cc: Brendan Daniel Mott; Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Fri 3/25/2022 3:02 PM



Hi Brett,

Thank you for working on these! I believe there are some good changes in here that will be helpful for the senate.

To update the R&P you do need to draft a procedural amendment that specifically states each change. I have attached an old one from years past so that you can see how it needs to be formatted before a senate vote! ☺

Let me know if y'all have questions and I hope you all have a great weekend!

Joy

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Brendan Daniel Mott

To: Joy Nicole Ballard; Brett Fornatoro; SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs; UNOSGA President +3 others  
Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Hello Joy,

It's Brendan. We were told by the executive board that the Senate does not need to vote on it and it will go straight to the president per the constitution.

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1.18.6.1. Approval will require the signature of the President. Failure of receiving this signature would result in an appeal process through the Judicial Department.

Please advise.

Best

Brendan



**Brendan Daniel Mott (He/Him/His)**  
SGA President Pro-Tempore; Chair of Senate Governance Committee  
Peer Mentor - University Success | Monitor - UNO Game Room & App  
Planning & Urban Studies - Undergraduate Program



Fri 3/25/2022 3:05 PM

receiving this signature would result in an appeal process through the Judicial Department.

Please advise.

Best

Brendan



**Brendan Daniel Mott (He/Him/His)**

SGA President Pro-Tempore; Chair of Senate Governance Committee  
Peer Mentor - University Success | Monitor - UNO Game Room & App  
Planning & Urban Studies - Undergraduate Program

✉ [bdmott@uno.edu](mailto:bdmott@uno.edu)

📍 2000 Lakeshore Drive Apt 4033, New Orleans, Louisiana 70148



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Joy Nicole Ballard

To: Brendan Daniel Mott; Brett Fornatoro; SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs +4 others

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Well, this interesting.

You are correct, that is what the constitution says, so it appears you can amend the R&P that way.

However, we have always amended in the past through a procedural amendment which is referenced here in the R&P:

#### 4.2.8. Procedural Amendments

4.2.8.1. Actions which do not require the signature of the SGA President, which are a formal motion to amend rules and procedures. The legislative instrument requires a two[1]thirds (2/3) vote of those senators present and voting.

I think this is something as a governance committee you should all discuss, and consider amending. If I were a senator, I would want a vote in my Rules and Procedures. Also these rules do not apply to the SGA execs, so I am not sure why they would be the ones who had sole decision making authority.

That is what it says though, so it appears there are 2 processes, you can continue with just having the execs approve if you like, however I think you should close this loophole (1 way or another) at some point.

Either way, I would like to see a list of specifics as too what is changing so the execs know what they are voting on.

Just my friendly two cents as an advisor! 😊

Thanks,

Joy

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Fri 3/25/2022 3:18 PM

Brett Fornatoro

To: Joy Nicole Ballard; Brendan Daniel Mott; SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs +4 others  
Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Hello,

How specific do you want the list to be? Do you just want relatively significant rule changes? Or all the way down to spelling and grammar fixes?

Brett Cody Fornatoro

Student at the University of New Orleans

Linkdin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/brett-cody-fornatoro-423170222>

Instagram: @brettcfornatoro

...



Fri 3/25/2022 3:22 PM

Joy Nicole Ballard

To: Brett Fornatoro

Definitely not spelling and grammar. Just the rules changes! 😊

Joy

...



Fri 3/25/2022 3:25 PM

UNOSGA President

To: Brett Fornatoro; Joy Nicole Ballard; Brendan Daniel Mott +4 others

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Hello All,

I would like to make it clear that the executive board did inform the senate, that per the constitution the amendments would be signed by the president. I fully agree, that if you all feel you want to vote on it you should. The executive board also fully supports, we simply explained what it says per the constitution. Keep us posted !

Best,  
Amber Lemelle

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Fri 3/25/2022 3:32 PM

Joy Nicole Ballard

To: UNOSGA President; Brett Fornatoro; Brendan Daniel Mott +4 others

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

I looked up some past things for reference. Previously past SGA Presidents has approved them per the constitution, and then there is a procedural amendment as stated in the R&P. That way both rules are followed and everyone approves.

😊 Joy

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Fri 3/25/2022 3:38 PM

UNOSGA Vice President

To: Joy Nicole Ballard; UNOSGA President; Brett Fornatoro; Brendan Daniel Mott +3 others

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Hello All,

For reference it's check and balance. The Constitution reigns supremes and clearly states that if an addendum needs to be made to rules and procedures that it must got to the executive board.

Best,  
Angelo

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Fri 3/25/2022 3:58 PM



Joy Nicole Ballard






To: UNOSGA Vice President; UNOSGA President; Brett Fornatoro; Brendan Daniel Mott **+3 others**      Fri 3/25/2022 3:59 PM

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Yes, but one does not mean the other cannot happen. That is why in the past both have been followed.

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UNOSGA Vice President

To: Joy Nicole Ballard; UNOSGA President; Brett Fornatoro; Brendan Daniel Mott **+3 others**      Fri 3/25/2022 4:23 PM

Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel

Additional question unrelated to the thread.

The Vice President is the Chair of the Rules committee right Joy?

Best,  
Angelo

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SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs

To: UNOSGA Vice President; Joy Nicole Ballard; UNOSGA President; Brett Fornatoro +3 others  
Cc: Lukas Bryce Deffendall; Jenna Claire Hymel



Mon 3/28/2022 3:27 PM

It appears you all have sorted this out. I just want to clarify why I brought up the matter executive approval during last week's senate meeting. I am not opposed to having senate vote on this via a procedural amendment. I mostly would have appreciated being consulted on this vote being added to a future agenda before it being announced to the senate by the pro-tempore that it would be ready for voting on in a week or two, seeing as I am the person who sets the agenda. I also think that the rules committee or more generally, other senators, should have had input on these changes rather than the revisions being made by one or two people who are not members of the rules committee. Some of these changes I do not agree with and I think other senators may not either and it would be good to sort out these kinks before taking this to the senate for a vote. So again, I have zero issue with the senate voting on this and I absolutely think that they should vote on the rules and procedures that govern them, I just did not appreciate being circumvented in an attempt to set future agendas, especially when the constitution ultimately does not mandate the senate vote on the matter.

Thanks,

Katie Goldstein  
UNO SGA Vice President of Legislative Affairs  
[sgajpl@legislative@uno.edu](mailto:sgajpl@legislative@uno.edu)

...

Reply

Reply all

Forward