

TWENTY-SIXTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
Senate Chambers Room, 316 Oglesby Union
September 17th, 2018
6:30 p.m.
Agenda



Call to Order: 6:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Hernandez

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Blake-Hedges, Burns, Collopy, Demirsoy, Gerardi, Hernandez, Lange, Nordstrom, Oloye, O'Neill, Reyna, Scriven, Sorribes, Stewart, Swanson, Uttermark, Zhang

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Asturizaga, Solano

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Engelbrecht, Khazem

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: NONE

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Approved. Uttermark 2nd.

Petitions into the Assembly: Abby Brinkman (Law Seat 2), Veronica Chase (Education Seat 1), Austin Cade Eovito (Arts & Sciences Seat 1)

Special Introductions and Student Comments: NONE

Messages from Student Government: NONE

Elections:

- Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs
Deputy Speaker Uttermark nominates Rep O'Neill. 2nd O'Neill accepts

Results from Election for the 26th Congress' Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs: Adam O'Neill.

- Deputy Speaker of Communications
Representative Stewart nominates herself. 2nd. Nomination accepted

Results from Election for the 26th Congress' Deputy Speaker of Communications Ericha Stewart.

Funding Requests:

- **Bill 22: *Music Theory Society***
 The organization explains that they will be hosting 36th Annual Music Theory Forum; the longest consecutive run student conference in North America. The conference brings undergraduates and graduate student from the across the nation with interest in music theory to the university. The conference is modeled after the national annual conference for music theory and provides professional networking opportunities. The organization requests funding for an honorarium for the speaker, Associate Professor Steven Rogers from the University of Oregon. The rest of the funds needed for the conference were raised through t-shirt and bake sales. Representatives inquire the average attendance and if any additional fundraising efforts are scheduled. **FIRST PRO:** Deputy Speaker Uttermark supports the request and notes that this organization is one of the most fiscally responsible RSOs. Swanson agrees with Uttermark and believes it is a worthy event to fund. Motion to call to question. Second. Vote by acclamation. **Bill 22 passes unanimously 17-0-0; Contractual Service: \$1,500.**
- **Bill 23: *Allocation to Graduate Women in Science***
 The organization explains that they provide support for women in science and are focused on doing events that promotes community and learning. They will host several events including a workshop with the Career Center, a panel discussion, self-defense class with FSU Police amongst other events. In March, they will host their Art and Stem event, expect 50 in attendance and will need funds for food and supplies. Representatives inquire about an itemized budget, the duration of the events, their fundraising efforts, how do they plan to advertise the larger events, and how many students are expected to attend each of the events. Representatives also inquire a breakdown of the award expenses, how funding was budgeted for each event, how will the events impact graduate students and if events are open to everyone. **FIRST PRO:** Sorribes likes that they are trying to promote community and that they are offering self-defense classes and hopes that they can allocate a reasonable amount. Motion to amend the bill to read \$250 in Contractual Services and General Expense to read \$500. Second. Amendment passes. **FIRST CON:** Burns is concerned about the amount of the expenses and duration of the events. Motion to amend Food to \$700. Second. Objection. Burns explains the intention of reducing the food costs and notes the duration of the events. **FIRST CON:** Blake-Hedges does not believe a time frame should be a reason to not provide food at an event and that the food could bring more guests to the event. Sorribes supports the short length of events because that might attract people to come to the event for that period of time. Deputy Speaker Stewart thinks that food should be provided at the event where a speaker will be present. Motion to call to question on the amendment. 4-15-0. Amendment fails return to the bill as amended. Motion to call to question. 2nd. **Bill 23 passes 15-4-0; Clothing/Awards: \$250, Contractual services: \$250, General Expense: \$500, Food: \$1,000.**
- **Bill 24: *Allocation to Student Teacher Education Graduate Student Association***
 The organization details the different areas of concentration within the department and how some students feel isolated in these areas. They would like to host events that bring these communities together and discuss professional development topics that can relate to all students through panel discussions and coffee hours. At some of the events, they would like to provide food and request \$802. Representatives inquire do they plan to co-facilitate these events with other departments, would they be open to co-facilitating events, the expenses for each event and how many of the events have been done before in the past. Representatives also ask if they have tried to reach out to other departments for assistance, reasons for not fundraising, do they plan to advertise more for panel discussions and expected attendance for each event. **FIRST PRO:** Blake-Hedges believes it is a great idea to get people from your department together especially when they have other priorities that may have their attention. Gerardi believes is great to have a place where you can go and hang out after

being separated in your area. **FIRST CON:** Sorribes likes the idea of bringing community within a department and believes that they should ask their department for funds if they are not promoting the graduate student community. Burns believes some events are pricier than necessary, breaks down the events and how they can be reduced. Motion to amend food to \$462. 2nd. Motion passes. Motion to call to question. Second. **Bill passes 15-4-0; Food: \$462**

- *Bill 25: Allocation to Thalassic Society*
Motion to table to the next meeting. Second. Bill tabled.
- *Bill 26: Allocation to Public Health Student Association*
PHSA notes their organization's efforts to provide community initiatives to enhance community engagement. They also detail the different events that will be hosted during the semester including monthly seminars that last 2-3 hours and a pinning ceremony. The organization reviews some changes to the requested amount. Representatives inquire an elaboration on student based events, how will information be distributed about the events, production details, and if they have you looked into any other funding sources. Representatives continue by asking how many graduate students will be graduating this fall from their department, are there any fees being charged at the events, and attendance at events in the past. **FIRST PRO:** Reyna believes the production is a good idea and would be great for the history of the organization. Deputy Speaker Stewart admires the organization of the group and would like to help support them. Sorribes appreciates the efforts of the organization in their budget outline. **FIRST CON:** Sorribes hesitant about funding the hooding ceremony since it targets a specific area and not the graduate community and is hesitant about funding office supplies. Burns echoes Sorribes' sentiments and would like to fund less for name tags and wants them to come back to COGS in the future. Motion to amend bill to Food: \$992.17, Contractual Services \$0, General Expense \$310.57. Second. Objection. Burns breakdowns the proposed amendments. **FIRST PRO:** Sorribes believes the amendment is reasonable. **FIRST CON:** Deputy Speaker Stewart would like to fund their Contractual Services expenses. Motion to call to question on the amendment. Second. 15-2-0. Amendment passes. Motion to call to question on the bill. Second. Public Health thanks COGS for funding. **Bill passes 16-0-1; Food; \$992.17, General Expense: \$310.57.**

Unfinished Business:

- *Bill 17: Allocation to Art History Association*
Motion to table to next meeting. 2nd. Bill tabled.

New Business:

- *Bill 27 Sponsored by Representative Blake-Hedges (IA Chair); Deputy Speaker Uttermark: Edits of the COGS Code, Edit to Chapter 210: Organizational Support Funding*
Deputy Speaker Uttermark explains that the language used in the COGS Code for the C-SAC committee bylaws are out of date. The provided rewrite streamlines the process and how the committee is appointed and gives COGS more direct control over allocations. The committee will be rebalanced to adhere to the revisions. The C-SAC committee will provide recommendation for funding that will go before COGS for approval. Motion to call to question. Vote by voice. **Bill 27 passes unanimously.**

Motion to skip round table. 2nd. Motion passes.

Adjournment: 9:16 pm

Next Meeting: October 1st, 2018