

## TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting  
Special Session  
Zoom  
April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
6:30  
MINUTES



**Call to Order: 6:31**

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Representative Ahlbum

**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Ahlbum, Blake-Hedges, Collins, Creigh, Delva, Graves, Hagemeyer, Hirsch, Mendez, Morgan, Sangokunle, Sizemore, Smith, Sussman, Wiley

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:** Brinkman, Cheuwa, Ilesanmi

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** motion to approve minutes, Morgan; second, Collins.

### **Petitions into the Assembly: Nicole Ryan (College of Law Seat 3)**

- Excited to be more involved in the FSU community. Is also looking forward to meeting other graduate students. She is used to working with people who have lots of different ideas, so she thinks it will be great to work with everyone on the Congress.
- **Questions**
  - Morgan- have you considered pursuing additional leadership roles in COGS or other organizations that you are a member of.
    - Ryan – is currently the treasurer of another organization.
  - Creigh – Do you have any time conflicts with the COGS meeting time?
    - Ryan – no.
  - Hirsch – Are you aware of the three committees within COGS, and do you know which committee you would like to serve on?
    - Ryan – internal affairs did stand out.
  - Creigh – Are you already financially certified?
    - Not yet, no.
- **Pros**

- Sizemore – in my experience she is a team player and very detail oriented so she would be an asset to COGS.
- Hirsch – its great that she is involved in other organizations and the law school, and she does seem eager to be involved come fall.
- Motion to approve the petitioner, Blake-Hedges; Second, Creigh.
  - Motion approved.
- Representative Ryan is sworn in.

**Special Introductions and Student Comments:**

**Messages from Student Government:**

**Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:**

**Report of Officers:**

- **The Report of the Speaker**
  - The speaker provided an overview of the Tom Project. The Tom Project has three stages. The first is providing free CPR training to students, which has been completed. Part two is providing EKG testing to students. This event occurred in the last week and was a huge success, many students were able to get free EKG testing. The final stage in the project is bringing AED's on campus. AEDs have been shown to be cost effective and lifesaving. There are 82 AEDs on campus, but they are spread thinly, and there are no AEDs in 23 residence halls and 38 academic buildings. Speaker proposes funding this project up to \$150,000 in order to help provide these AED's on campus. The money would be taken from unspent funds in the last year due to COVID spending restrictions.
  - **Comments**
    - Hirsch – This is a great use of our money, and something that would be a great thing for people on campus. But would these AEDs go into residence halls?
      - Hagemeyer - No we would not be able to use this money to put these in residence halls because they are restrictive access.
    - Sizemore – how often would the AEDs need to be replaced?
      - Hagemeyer - They would not need to be replaced. The batteries and pads are the only portions that would need to be replaced, and this plan is set up to cover this in perpetuity. Especially because COGS will not be able to continue to donate funds.
    - Collins – I think this would be an excellent use of this money. Can you remind me of your plan to train students on using these devices?
      - Hagemeyer - The current plan is to get RA's trained on AED's. the AED's, however, give very clear vocal

instructions, and they do not administer a charge unless the device registers that the individual needs it.

- Wiley – I also had a concern about the training. There should be future training as well because there would be a lot of turnover with students on campus.
  - Hagemeyer - Yes, we are looking at a lot of agencies which might be able to partner with FSU and provide free training regularly.
- Smith – I appreciate the importance of this project. I've personally had heart concerns in the past and think that it is a fantastic program.
- Ahlbum – AEDs are very simple to use, but maybe videos explaining AEDs on campus and how to use them could be included in student orientations.
  - Hagemeyer - Absolutely, and the training of students will be an ongoing process. Making sure people know where these are and how to use them would be important going forward.
- Creigh – I commend you for all of the work you've put into this project, especially the sustainability of it. Being in the college of music, I did notice that there were no AED's in the area of our college. The older faculty members could be at high risk due to this problem. Have you talked with SGA about the funds that they have not used due to covid restrictions, and if they would be willing to contribute?
  - Hagemeyer – that could become part of the plan as we move forward with this. If everyone here is onboard, then we will be able to go forward with negotiations.
- Wiley – I do have a question about liability.
  - Hagemeyer - So there are already 82 on campus, so there wouldn't be any new issues with liability in this because there are already protocols and protections in place like the good Samaritan law.
- Mendez – I think that you've done a great job with your presentation and with the work you've done behind the scenes. And I think this will really be a great opportunity to use funds in a creative and beneficial way.
- Graves – Would the endowment fund be restricted so that it could only be used for the AEDs.
  - Hagemeyer - Currently we are working on if we can use these funds to create an endowment fund. But in the next stages, we will talk about making sure that money is safe. We do want to make sure it will only be used for AED's.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance**
  - We do still have a lot of funds. There haven't been as many funding requests. And the fiscal year is coming to an end, May 28<sup>th</sup> is the last day to submit a purchase request, so everything is coming to a close.

- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs**
  - Nothing to report.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications**
  - Nothing to report.

**Committee Report:**

- **C-SAC:** have not met.
- **Internal Affairs:** We did meet, and discussed our role in the coming fiscal year, including a monthly newsletter.
- **Student Advocacy:** Have not met.
- **Student Affairs:** Have not met.

**Additional concerns**

- Representative Delva – international students struggle with leasing apartments and dealing with requirements such as guarantors. This is difficult for someone new to the country with few people to rely on. Therefore, I was curious if anyone had thoughts on this, or if we could work on finding a way to maybe waive these requirements through Florida State University for international students. Perhaps the student advocacy and student affairs committees can address if there are any offices made to help them with this, or if there is a way that COGS can help.
  - Speaker Hagemeyer – perhaps long term, we can negotiate with the university, and maybe they can act as a stand in as a guarantor.
  - Sangokunle – As an international student, this is a big deal. I struggled with this when I first arrived here. And this has been exacerbated by covid because people may be reluctant to receive new roommates who may be coming over seas.

**Funding Requests:**

**Unfinished Business:**

**New Business:**

- *Bill #5: Neuroscience Graduate Student Association Transfer*
  - Presented by representative Sizemore. They wanted to move \$600 dollars that has been allocated to them from food into clothing and awards budget. They have not been able to have their regular outreach events, so this is one way they can make use of their money. These outreach event serve to bring awareness to the neuroscience program, the graduate program, as well as two new majors that would allow undergraduate students to begin early. This money would allow to create some promotional items to get the word out.
  - Questions
    - Blake-Hedges – your t-shirts quote was a little over 8 dollars per shirt. Would the rate go down if you bought more shirts, and would you use them?
      - We aren't sure how the rate would change, but we could look into it. We would definitely look into that.
  - Pros

- Morgan - Given everything going on, this is a great way for people to use their funds. And will be a physical thing that can last into the coming year.
- Cons
  - None
- Motion to call the question, Blake-Hedges; second, Creigh,
  - Bill passes.
    - 14-0-2,

**Round Table:**

**Adjournment/Finale Roll Call: 8:37 pm**

**Next Meeting:**