

# TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION  
COGS Assembly Room  
Senate Chambers Room 316 Oglesby Union  
October 1, 2012  
6:36 p.m.



**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Ard'is, Boler, Bollenback, Leslie, Lieberwirth, Manakov, Mears, Mims, Okoye, Salvador, Tazaz, Williams, Willingham

**QUORUM:** Yes

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Boler

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:** Cabrera, Howard, Hutson, Shah,

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, EXCUSED:** Leslie, Manakov

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:**

**MINUTES APPROVED:** with amendments. Mears motions. Lieberwirth seconds.

**PETITIONS INTO THE ASSEMBLY:** John Kanter

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**STUDENT COMMENTS:** None.

**MESSAGES FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT:** None.

## **SPEAKER'S REPORT:**

- Discusses the new meeting space and filling seats in the assembly.
- Bill 44 has been approved and the executive board will move offices to Room A205H in Oglesby Union.
- Sent out email notification about new graduate technology named GEMC-Graduate Enrollment Management Committee to increase enrollment.
- Serves on committee called Student Foundation. Will send email of next meeting to ones interested.
- Briefly discusses Law School RSOs allocation issues that will be addressed during funding requests.
- Discusses upcoming elections. Notifies everyone that he will not run again but is more than happy provide information to anyone interested.

## **DEPUTY SPEAKER FOR FINANCE'S REPORT:**

- Please see attached page to minutes
- COGS Allocated Accounts and Budget
- Encourages everyone to share with other graduate students about COGS travel grants.

## **DEPUTY SPEAKER FOR JUDICIAL AFFIARS:**

- Has been working on a training program for upcoming and new representatives about learning COGS procedures.
- Will be sending out the first draft via email.

## **DEPUTY SPEAKER FOR COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Inauguration is October 31 2012, be on lookout for email.
- Will take group and individual photos.
- If you have not filled out packet to be seated in the 21st Congress have to re petition.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- C-SAC: HAVE NOT MET.
- Academics & Student Life: HAVE NOT MET.
- Ways & Means: HAVE NOT MET.
- Internal Affairs Committee: HAVE NOT MET.

## OLD BUSINESS: NONE.

## FUNDING REQUEST:

Tazaz explains that LSC budget committee failed to notify other LSO organizations requesting funding of budget hearing was held. LSC Notified the present LSOs forty-five minutes via email before the meeting that they were going to discuss budget hearings at their meeting regardless if the LSO were at the meeting. Several LSO groups who did not receive funding are present tonight attesting allocations that were given them and don't think it was fair that they were given the amount because representatives from their organizations were not present to speak on behalf of their particular organization. Law school organizations requesting funds are the Law Review, AIRR, Aviation Space Law Society, American Constitution Society, Christian Legal Society, Association of Criminal Justice, and the Federalist Society. COGS will create a resolution of what is decided for Fall allocations and give suggestions to Law School Council.

- Association of Criminal Justice had no complaint but there was an issue with budget. Requested \$430. \$400 for food, \$30 in general, LSC approved and signed the forms but forgot to put what they funded in the minutes. Law student from Criminal Justice stated no complaint with what was given but more concerned with money being taken away because not in minutes. Questions: Bollenback wanted clarification that funding requests were not included and asked for a breakdown of expenses. Mears asks if they are only asking to be added to the forum. Point of clarification Ard'is states the vote will be on what is already there is fortified. Further questions by Willingham. Ard'is provides further information and background of why organizations are at meeting. Mears motion to place the resolution for \$430 for reallocation. Second by Lieberwirth. Objections NONE.

## Criminal Justice Motion passes to place in resolution for \$430.

- Law Review: Mr. Lovett shares background about the organization. The organization is a student driven organization that publishes journals of other students. Complains that hardly any money was given by LSC. Are not having any events in the Fall but asking for funding for food for the Spring for Spring meeting. Asking for general expenses of \$800, at year of year \$500 for end of year banquet for faculty and members, and OCO of \$2000 for computers. Ard'is-3 minutes of non-debatable technical questions. Salvador asks organization to go over list of expenses and how much requesting. Further questions by Mears. More questions by Mears. Point of formation by Tazaz, we can make recommendation for allocations for Spring but email sent out was for Fall requests and we want to avoid making this an unfair allocation because other organizations aren't here to make their Spring requests. More questions by Okoye. and Tazaz. Mears asked if it would be unfair if the organization put off requesting the \$500 in the Spring. Time expired. Bollenback motion to fund Law Review \$300 general expenses and \$2000 in OCO. No seconds. Point of information, OCO explained by Tazaz and Ard'is. Mears asks questions what was the problem with using surplus for computers. Tazaz motions to fund additional \$130 in general expense. Second by Mears. No Objections. **Motion Passes.** Followed by questions for clarifications by representatives. Mims motions to re-hear Law Review. Second by Bollenback. No objections. Mims motions to grant \$300 in general expense and \$2000 in OCO. Second by Bollenback. Objections by Tazaz and Okoye. 3 minutes for opening by Mims. Mims proposed amount because she knows how important it is for students to be involved in publications and producing scholarly articles. Publishing a journal not easy and takes a lot of money. If \$2000 in OCO didn't work out, can always roll over in the future. Point of information requested from Willingham do we have any budget to support \$2000. Asks to see detailed documentation for requested \$2000. **First PRO:** Bollenback state \$2000 is reasonable amount for computers, scanners, and what they are producing and for what they are producing \$30 is not sufficient. **First CON:** Tazaz has issue with granting funds because 1. Organization says they may not be using these funds and giving up funds is locking funds up so that other LSOs can't use them. 2. They are requesting funds prior to searching out other avenues and 3. As gentleman stated, the journals are sold and they would get royalties back. It is states in COGS code and State of Florida Law that if organizations receive royalties, they have to be given back to COGS. Okoye thinks we should wait until next semester to see what other organizations have to offer in terms of what they have. **Second PRO:** Mears amendment to grant Law Review \$300 in general expense, \$0 in OCO and add proviso language that "it may be

necessary for the effective operation of the execution of the Law Review to purchase new computers, money granted in OCO funds would so serve is recommended by this body.” Second by Lieberwirth. Objections by Leslie and Kanter. Mears reason added proviso language because it is important for the organization to get some kind of provisions because that is what they do, print journals and it is what the whole resolution is about, at the same time, if no funds were given it would be irony, and at the same time it would be irony if we violated our code to do so. So this is the compromise that she came up with. Questions from Leslie are you recommending money be granted in OCO to provide computers. Point of clarification by Ard’is that money is placed back on LSC to reconsider allocation into the Law Review in the OCO dollar amount. Further questions by representatives. **First PRO:** Kanter is in favor of motion. Salvador asks would organization be able to function without computers. Question by Mims. **First CON:** Leslie looking at proviso language being added is not sure whether or not we should encourage the LSC to buy computers when it is possible to obtain computers by other means, agrees with Tazaz. Tazaz agrees that adding the proviso language as it reads is inadvertently advising Law School that this is something they need to fund when it is not our intention and would rather be silent and let Law Review re-petition at the next LSC meeting and would rather them check out other options. **Second PRO:** Mears think approaching LSC is not possible and because Law Review is centered around the tools they are trying to buy, not taking it out hinders their operation in what they are trying to do. If they move it to the Spring then that hinders their whole semester. Kanter moves to amend Mears amendment and put \$300 in general expenses. Second by Leslie. No objections. Williams call to question. Leslie second. Objections NONE. **Motion Passes with amendments.**

### **Amendment Passes. 9-2.**

*According to rule #10 of Internal Rules of Procedure, Speaker Ard’is calls representative Mears to Chair.*

Aviation Space Law Society: Organization shares about its organization. Hoping to have 3 meeting in the Fall, 3 meetings in Spring and having an event informing what they are about. Want to bring in guest speakers to events and requests funding for travel expenses. Time expired. Ard’is motion to extend by to allow organization to finish statement. Okoye Second. Ard’is ask questions about the organization. Bollenback asks when it is held. Leslie has several questions and asks for breakdown of funds requested. Leslie further asks the basis for \$100 per meeting and \$3.30 per person for food at meeting. Leslie questions about travel expense requests for guest speakers. Time expired. Salvador motion to extend by 5 minutes, Bollenback Second. Further questions asked regarding travel expenses by representatives. Asks whether \$600 is too expensive for a flight? Tazaz asks is there a reason why you are not driving to New Orleans instead of flying. Tazaz asks further questions regarding travel for speakers coming in. Lieberwirth asks for clarification about 6 meetings. Williams asks for clarification for guest speaker and expenses. Salvador asks how many students going to AVA conference and if prices were for students. Time expired. Tazaz motion to fund \$400 in Contractual services and \$150 in food. Leslie Second. Objection by Ard’is. Tazaz decided \$150 because LSC allocated about \$1500 for the entire year, \$400 for speaker who is planning oncoming to speak. If event is held in Spring, they will have an opportunity to ask for more funds, hotel \$99 at Doubletree, Flight \$300, honorarium the organization can ask Law school for additional funds or other avenues, Miscellaneous they will have to cover, for Conference next week in New Orleans, not sold on it, they should have asked earlier. There are cheaper hotels in New Orleans. Ardis asks if they amount of money Tazaz suggested for organization will set them up for success. Further questions by Mims. **First PRO:** NONE. **First CON:** Bollenback does not believe amount funded was sufficient for speakers was sufficient, great event and should have the proper funding and all requests have not been fulfilled and should be reconsidered. Ard’is agrees with Tazaz amendment concerning food for the organization and that the LSC has funds to provide all organizations. Believed that some things can’t happen concerning guest speakers and honorarium but when a guest is asked to come some form of honorarium should be provided. Does agree with numbers but as far as hotel and other expenses, suggests Tazaz puts proviso language in resolution and recommends partial amount of \$1550. Salvador agrees with Ard’is with exception of conference. Supports conference and hazy and questionable about guest speaker expenses. **Second PRO:** Tazaz wants to remind everyone that the organizations doesn’t have a date for the speaker if they are coming in Spring, Law schools hasn’t allocated funds and can always ask for additional funds. We only fund \$200 for COGS grant so to fully fund students to go to their conference is unreasonable. Leslie likes to **amend** the motion to fund \$150 in food, \$500 in contractual services, and \$675 in travel. Second Willingham. Objection Lieberwirth. Leslie believes \$150 for food for is reasonable, \$500 contractual services gives them roughly \$350 to play with for airfare for travel and some money left over for hotel. This amount will cover conference registration for 3 people and hotel 3 nights at \$100. Ard’is asks Leslie if her amendment covered hotel and airfare only no honorarium or food.

Salvador asks how many rooms are the hotels calculated for the conference. Okoye asks how Leslie came up with \$665 for travel. Willingham will students have opportunity to use COGS travel grants? **First PRO:** Tazaz not in favor, \$150 in food is reasonable, \$500 in contractual services will suffice, \$675 in travel, they are only going to New Orleans. Conference is in 2 weeks and seems they don't have a list of travelers, poor planning. Bollenback agrees contractual services and food amounts are reasonable but reasonable that we don't provide travel but agrees with Ard'is that we should have some representation and to try to figure out a way supports that so we don't spend too much of our resources. **First CON:** None. **Second CON:** Ard'is would like to see more support for guest speaker and agrees with Leslie's pricing that was laid out. **Second PRO:** Tazaz motion to add proviso language that if organization does not meet the funding deadline to attend conference the organization will return funds to the Law school. Second Bollenback. No Objections. Motion passes. Ard'is motions to amend to fund contractual services to \$600, providing for at least \$100 honorarium, \$340 for airfare, \$100 hotel. Second Mims. Objection Tazaz. Ard'is believes honorarium of \$100 is reasonable. **First PRO:** NONE. **First Con:** Tazaz does not see the need for additional \$100 doesn't seem reasonable when organization can come back and ask for additional funds given they don't have a date. Lieberwirth point of clarification Ard'is amendment. Point of clarification from Ard'is, Leslie and Tazaz regarding amendments. Ard'is agrees with Tazaz regarding honorarium check but as far as the numbers his thinking on what the money is used for.. Lieberwirth not in favor of increasing to \$600. **Second PRO:** Ard'is adds that Tazaz questions are valid but is our due diligence to ask questions and Tazaz did not ask questions all at one time, if COGS doesn't ask questions, shouldn't look at them but us. **Third PRO:** NONE. Call to question Tazaz Second Bollenback. No objections. **Amendment passes 9-3** to amend Ard'is amendment to \$600 in contractual services and \$675 in travel with proviso language. Back to Leslie's original motion to approve \$675 in travel Second Williams. Call to question. Second Ard'is. Closing waived. Leslie **Motion Passes 9-4-1.**

*According to rule #10 of Internal Rules of Procedure, Speaker Ard'is calls representative Leslie to Chair*

- American Constitutional Society: Organization gives brief history. Its national group banned fundraising. Only other funds from National organization and COGS. Originally awarded \$875 in food. Organization was not granted funding from LSC. LSC never gave funding allocations for the Spring. Found out too late and if had known a week earlier would have asked the national organization for assistance and only have \$200 in food for the rest of the year. Have big event end of September beginning of October for about 125 people. Requesting additional \$200. Questions by representatives regarding already allocated money of \$875. Time expired. Bollenback moves to extend by 5 minutes. Tazaz Second. Further questions by Tazaz and Manakov. Time expired. Tazaz motion to extend by one question. Ard'is Second. Okoye asks further questions. Bollenback motion to not fund additional money. Tazaz Second. Objection Manakov. Bollenback believe organization should not be funded if fundraising is not allowed it is not our concern and persons attending are not members. Manakov states no matter how many students, can't deny food. Bollenback states should only be given food to cover members. Mears asks if reconsiderations can be made due to nature of organizations in the law school. **First PRO:** Tazaz and Ardis agree with motion to not fund \$200 in food. **First CON:** Manakov nothing wrong with giving money to organizations at least try to give something. Mears questions if organization has paying members. Williams, point of information clarify how much is left in the LC budget. Salvador asks how much is left in the organization's budget. **Second PRO:** Kanter not in favor because organization has already received \$875 and as far as food, first come first serve basis. Salvador understands financial bind and situation with law school, believes that money should not be funded. Mears calls to questions Second Bollenback. Objections NONE. **Motion Passes not to fund organization 9-1-1.**

*Invoking Rule 10 to hear Music Theory*

- Bill 46: *Allocation to Music Theory Society*  
Music Theory Society gives information about the organization and an upcoming graduate conference. Asking for \$1530 for food at conference, they have fund-raised money already through bakes sales and continuing to fundraise as well as asking College of Music for funds. Asking for \$1135 for honorarium/contractual services and \$395 for half of cost of food budget. Ard'is asks what \$1135 honorarium is for. Lieberwirth ask when event is held. Further questions by representatives. Time expired. Tazaz motion to extend by 2 minutes. Second Williams and Lieberwirth. Objections NONE. Representatives asks further questions about speakers, food costs and items, attendance, and fund raising. Tazaz motion to extend by 3 questions. Second Bollenback and Lieberwirth. Objections Manakov. **Motion Passes 9-2**

Tazaz asks further questions about fund raising, food, and keynote address. Bollenback asks if other avenues were addressed other than Aramark. Williams motion to fully fund Music Therapy Society. Ard'is Second. Objection Bollenback. Williams speaking from College of Music has seen the organization at work. An event such as this is an opportunity for graduate students to excel in presenting, great opportunity to get that access needed in our careers. The speaker is highly recognized scholar in field and provides benefits for our graduate students. **First PRO:** Lieberwirth in support of funding, the organization has done its homework, outreach, well prepared; asking for a great cause and it provides lots of benefits for graduate students. **First CON:** None. **Second PRO:** Boler call to question. Second Williams, Lieberwirth, Ard'is. Objections NONE. Bollenback yields. Williams closing waived. **Motion passes 11-0-1**

#### **Music Theory Society fully funded 1530.**

- Christian Legal Society: Boler represents the organization. Boler not requesting \$835. Not clear whether or not LSC allocated \$100 for food. If they did or didn't the organization still wants the \$100. Bring in one speaker per semester from CRU. Travel expenses are paid for by the speakers just requesting food for meeting, Salvador questions about meetings and attendance. Tazaz questions the dollar amount the organization is asking for. Further question by Manakov, Salvador, and Okoye. Time expired. Mears motion to fully fund CLS \$100. Second Ard'is. Point of clarification Bollenback funds given only if LSC has not already allocated money. Ardis motion to fund CLS \$100 with proviso language added that this allocation will not be provided if LSC has not provided the allocation. Second Kanter. Objections NONE. **Motion Passes.**
- Federalists Society: Boler states they were asking \$900 for food was originally to cover several events and speakers. Given that the issue with LSC, decided not to ask for the amount. Only asking for funds for \$300 in food and \$57 for general expenses. Salvador asks if this is just for the fall and if \$300 if for the events. Further questions regarding events from Okoye and Mims. Ardis motion to fully fund \$57 in general expense and \$300 in food. Second Mears and Salvador. Objections NONE. **Motion Passes.**

*Speaker Ard'is to chair.*

- Resolutions read by Ard'is under Rule 10 Speaker Ardis propose resolution from Congress of Graduate Students to Law School Council. No objections. Kanter motion that typos be corrected as found, Second Bollenback and Lieberwirth, No Objections. Ardis motion that the resolution be sent to COGS speaker. Second Bollenback. Objections None. **Resolution passes.**

**NEW BUSINESS:** NONE

**ROUNDTABLE & ROLL CALL:** Manakov, Willingham, Kanter, Okoye, Mims, Salvador, Bollenback, Lieberwirth, Boler, Leslie, Tazaz, Ard'is, Mears, Williams

**ADJOURNMENT:** 10:08 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** October 15, 2012