
QUORUM: YES

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Hall

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Gaboardi, Luttrell

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Raleigh

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: NONE

PETITIONS INTO THE ASSEMBLY: Aysha Rose Khan

MINUTES APPROVED: Accepted Strazzo. Hall Second.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

STUDENT COMMENTS:

MESSAGES FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

Unfinished Business

Funding Requests:

- Bill 35: Allocation to the Student Opera Society
  The organization appreciates COGS for assisting them with their previous event from last year. They would like to receive funding for the rights to “Little Night Musical”. The organization chose the piece of music to provide roles to opera students who will not be able to perform in concerts this year. The musical was chosen to diversify and expand the education of opera music to all students. The funding also entails props, music rights and costume designers. Representatives inquire who is the costume designer for the event and if the security deposit is refundable. They also inquire about the breakdown and if the event is open to all students. Other questions include
how many students are graduate students in the organization and if the organization will charge an entry fee. Deputy Speaker Leslie motions to fund the organization at $1010 in Contractual Services. Second Syme. Objection. Leslie believes that COGS should encourage the organization to continue their good work, but does not believe that the congress is in the position to fully fund the organization due to budget limitations. She also encourages the organization to fund raise more for the event. Leslie would like to fund the rights to the music. FIRST PRO: Syme is in favor of the bill and only funding the rights to the musical. Nilson would like to support the organization and covering the rights to the musical is all COGS can do due to budget restrictions in the unallocated account. Deputy Speaker Leslie motions to add proviso language to the bill. Second Strazzo. Amendment passes. Motion to call to question. Bill 35 passes unanimously. 

Contractual Services $1010.

- Bill 36: Allocation to the Pediatric Interest Group
  The organization is requesting funding to attend the American Academy of Pediatrics Conference in San Diego. The conference is great for networking and this is a good opportunity for graduate students to decide if the pediatric field is the profession that they are seeking. The conference is free to medical students. Representatives inquire how many students will be attending the conference and the budget breakdown for the trip. Other representatives inquire the out of pocket expenses ensued and the process of selection to attend the conference. Motion to $0 fund. Objection. Deputy Speaker Leslie explains the amount that the organization was allocated from COGS to fund this particular travel. She believes it is unfair to other graduate student organizations to fund the majority of the travel expenses. FIRST PRO: Strazzo agrees with Deputy Speaker Leslie. She believes the amount of the out of pocket expense is reasonable. Deputy Speaker Hall also agrees with Strazzo and Leslie. Nilson is appreciative that the organization did come to COGS to ask for more funds, but for budgetary reasons, he doesn’t think that COGS can fund the organization. FIRST CON: Marryshow enlightens the organization about medical students regarding outside employment. She informs the congress that medical school students cannot be employed outside their major and in return, they have to ask other sources for assistance because some of the conferences are more expensive than others. SECOND CON: Marryshow explains to the congress that the organization is not eligible for the presentation and attendance grants and that MSC assisted in funding as much as they could. Pratt does not want to discourage RSOs from coming to COGS for additional funding if needed. Motion to call to question. Bill 36 Failed.

- Bill 37: Master’s of Finance Association
  The vice president of the organization is requesting funds for 35 t-shirts for their organization. The executive board of the organization is trying to build awareness of their program. The organization has also held informational sessions for undergraduate students. Representatives inquire what expense was the membership dues used for and how much money was raised at their fundraising event. Representatives also inquire if the organization thought about charging a low amount for the t-shirts and if membership dues are mandatory. Motion to fully fund. Objection. Deputy Speaker Hall would like to assist the organization in their advertising expenses. He mentions that COGS have funded more money for t-shirts in the past. FIRST PRO: Churey believes that it is a good idea to fund the organization in attempts to promote awareness to their program and bring in new members. FIRST CON: Deputy Speaker Leslie believes that the organization is very important, but would rather fund them for alumni events or other recruiting events as opposed to funding them for t-shirts. Strazzo agrees with Leslie and is skeptical as to how the t-shirts will bring in members. Ward believes if the organization is 0 funded for t-shirts, she hopes they will return to COGS for funding for their promotional events. Motion to call to question. Bill 36 Failed 4-10-5.

- Bill 38: Allocation to the Art Therapy Association
  The organization is requesting funds for their annual workshop in spring 2015. The organization is also opening the workshop to 35 new guests experienced in different areas in the art therapy field. The workshop is influential in recruiting graduate students to attend FSU for the Art Therapy program. Representatives inquire if the air travel listed is the least expensive means of transportation and what is the organization doing differently that they are bringing in additional guests. Other representatives inquire the methods of raising funds by the organization. Motion to fully fund. Objection. Dangerfield believes that the annual workshop was very influential in
recruiting her into the art therapy program at the university and fully supports funding the organization. **FIRST CON**: Strazzo supports the organization and believes that their request is well organized, but would like to amend the amount requested in the bill. **FIRST CON**: Deputy Speaker Leslie reminds the congress that they recently funded the organization. She is not in favor in fully funding the organization and would like to make amendments to the bill. Deputy Speaker Nilson is in favor of the event, but has to consider that the organization recently received funds from cogs and the lack of support from the department. He would like to fund the honorarium and travel expenses. Syme agrees that this is a great event, but COGS does not have the means to fully fund the organization. Logan believes that the amount for food for non FSU graduate students is expensive. Motion to amend the bill to Contractual Services to $1485. Amendment Passes. **SECOND PRO**: Deputy Speaker Nilson likes the amendment and believes it is a fair amount to fund the organization. Motion to call to question. **Bill 38 passes as amended Contractual Service $1485.**

- **Bill 39: Allocation to the Public Administration Graduate Association**
  The organization is requesting funds to acquire speakers each month to enlighten students on what to expect in different fields of public administration and various career opportunities. The organization hosts various fundraising events. They are also in need of funds to offset the costs of attendance to conferences. The organization has requested funds from the Askew School, but was denied. The organization would also like to use the funds to offset the costs of t-shirts. Representatives asked the organization to explain the use of the funds in each category noted on the bill. How many active members does the organization have and how many will be attending the conference, will there be a guest speaker at each meeting and how many t-shirts are they planning to order. Motion to fully fund. Objection. **FIRST PRO**: Pratt believes the organization is attempting to do their best in promoting awareness and we should try to assist them with their request. **FIRST CON**: Deputy Speaker Nilson is in favor of the bill but believes the organization should request funds from the attendance grants on the website and needs a more detailed outline prior to funding their request in its entirety. Asturizaga believes that the organization could be creative in their efforts to raise funds for the organization. Motion to amend the bill to reflect $300 in Food. Amendment Passes. **SECOND PRO**: Deputy Speaker Leslie is in favor of the amendments and supports the organization. Deputy Speaker Nilson believes it is a fair compromise and in the future the organization can have a more detailed expense outline and return to COGS if needed. **Bill 39 Passes. $300 in Food.**

- **Bill 40: Allocation to the Music Theory Society**
  The Music Theory Society is requesting funding for an honorarium for their annual conference and invite-only luncheon. They will be bringing in a keynote speaker and several presenters. Representatives inquire if the organization charges registration fees and how are the luncheon attendees chosen. Motion to fully fund. Objection. **FIRST PRO**: Pratt is in favor of the bill and believes that the congress should support funding the organization. DelCiampo thinks this is a good program for the organization. **FIRST CON**: Leslie is concerned if COGS can fund the food expense if it is not open to fund all students. Syme is in favor of funding the contractual services expense, not the food expense. **SECOND PRO**: Pratt believes that the organization’s invite only luncheon serves a legitimate academic purpose because they are bringing in a scholar to speak about their academic area and the invitations are for faculty staff and students from the department. **SECOND CON**: Deputy Speaker Leslie stresses her concerns of funding an event that is not open to all graduate students. **THIRD PRO**: Strazzo states that the luncheon is the only event not open to all students, but the conference is open to all students. Motion to call to question. Objection. Motion to amend the bill to $1135 in Contractual services. Objection. Leslie shares her concerns with the food expense but is in favor of assisting the organization commute the speaker to the conference since it is open to all students. **FIRST PRO**: Deputy Speaker Nilson is in favor of the amendment and their event. Motion to amend the bill to read $361.75 in Food expense. Objection. Pratt does not believe that the COGS Code prohibits the congress from providing the organization funds for the invite only lunch. He would like to fund it partially because he understands that some representatives are hesitant in finding the organization for food expenses. Amendment withdrawn. Motion to call to question. Amendment Passes. **Bill 40 passes Contractual Services $1135.**

New Business:
Resolution 15 Sponsored by Representative Lee: Regarding Outside Employment for Florida State University’s Graduate Assistants

Representative Lee explains to the congress that the resolution is fully supporting the efforts of the Graduate Assistants United organization and the United Faculty of Florida. The resolution supports outside employment as long as it does not cause a conflict of interest with the appointment. Representatives inquire what is the procedure for signing the agreements concerning outside employment and if Representative Lee has the specific statistics related to the bill. **FIRST PRO:** Deputy Speaker Hall is in favor of the bill and doesn’t feel as if it is acceptable to put limitations on if someone can work or not. Deputy Speaker Nilson is in favor of the resolution and feels as though the practice may be somewhat unconstitutional. Motion to table the bill. Objection. Leslie is in favor of the resolution, but thinks COGS should make sure the language is clear and concise with actual averages and statistics to support the resolution. **FIRST PRO:** Edwards is in favor of tabling the resolution to add solid information supporting the resolution. **FIRST CON:** Hall does not believe that the bill should be tabled and thinks that the congress should spend some more time to think it through together as opposed to tabling. Syme agrees with Hall and would like to make amendments to the resolution. Call to question. Resolution not tabled. Deputy Speaker Hall motions to amend various areas of the resolution, submitted in writing. Amendment passes. **SECOND PRO:** Deputy Speaker Leslie is in full support of the bill and the amendments made by Deputy Speaker Hall. Motion to change “nullify” to “oppose”. Amendment passes. Motion to call to question. Objection. Pratt thinks that it is outside of the Board of Trustees’ power to prohibit outside work and may be a conflict of interest. He also explains that students have the option to work for the school and that working hard is a part of the process and students could lobby against it if they chose to. **Resolution 15 passes.**

**ROUNDTABLE:** Akinfaderin, Asturizaga, Churey, Clay, Dangerfield, Daramola, DelCiampo, Edwards, Hall, Khan, Lee, Leslie, Marryshow, Nilson, Pratt, Strazzo, Syme, Tamaskar, Wang, Ward, Williams

**ADJOURNMENT:** 10:03 p.m.