Congress of Graduate Students Florida State University

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The 25th Congress of Graduate Students

BILL 14

Sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee Substantive Edits of the COGS Code, Amending Chapter 300

On April 17, 2017, the body voted to amend the COGS Code in accordance with the attached document.

Purpose: Structural amendments to the Law School Council (LSC).

Underlines indicate additions. Strikethroughs indicate deletions.

Speaker

Matthew Uttermark

Deputy Speaker for Finance

April 17, 2017

Danielle Morgan Acosta Director of Student Affairs

Dr. Mary Coburn

Vice President for Student Affairs

Title III: Specific Provisions for Select Graduate Organizations

Chapter 300 The Law School Council

- 300.3 Composition of the Law School Council:
 - A) LSC shall be composed of seven (7) law students elected as Members-at-Large by the Law School Student Body.
 - B) Elections shall take place in February of each academic calendar year. LSC shall train the Members Elect. Members' terms will end on May 1st, at which time Members Elect shall take office.
 - 1) Applicants to the LSC will submit an application and resume to the LSC Chair.
 - 2) Applicants will be interviewed by the LSC Selections Commission.
 - 3) At the conclusion of the interviews, the LSC Selections Commission will select the 7 board members who will serve on the next LSC.
 - 4) LSC board members shall train the Members Elect. Members' terms will end at the conclusion of the final board meeting of the fiscal year, at which time Members Elect shall take office.
 - C) A rising 2L or 3L who currently serves on the LSC Board and wishes to remain on the board for the upcoming fiscal year will be permitted to submit a statement of continued interest. Those statements will be reviewed by the outgoing Chair to determine if the member is fit to remain on the board for future service. In the event that the current Chair seeks to remain on the board, the statement of continued interest will be submitted to the LSC Selections Commission for review.
 - \underline{D} C) An administrative or faculty representative appointed by the Dean of the College of Law shall serve as an advisor to the LSC Board. This representative shall assist the Board in ensuring that LSC is compliant with the COGS Code, the Florida State University Student Body Statutes, Law School Policy, and Florida State University Policies and Procedures.
 - E D) The LSC Selections Commission will be composed of the COGS Speaker, the Law School Administration Representative to LSC, the Deputy Speaker of Finance, the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee, and the outgoing LSC Chair, unless they seek reelection.
 - 1) In the event that the LSC Chair seeks reelection, a 3L appointed by the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, or an incumbent of the LSC may serve on the Commission in their place.
 - \underline{F} \underline{D}) Vacancies of the LSC Board shall be filled by appointment by the \underline{COGS} Speaker at the recommendation of the LSC Selections Commission.

- E) Before any individual may stand for election to LSC, they must be approved by the LSC Selections Commission. The Commission shall conduct interviews of all interested students to determine if they possess the requisite knowledge and availability to serve on LSC. A decision to deny a candidate the ability to run for office is non appealable.
 - 1) The Commission shall be composed of the COGS Speaker, the COGS Deputy Speaker for Finance, the COGS Internal Affairs Committee Chair, the Law School Administration Representative to LSC, and the outgoing LSC Chair, unless they seek reelection.
 - 2) In the event that the Commission fails to meet in a timely manner before an election for LSC, all candidates shall be considered approved for placement on the ballot and qualified to hold office.

300.4 The Executive Officers

- A) Prior to the installation of the new board members, the outgoing LSC Chair shall invite Members Elect to submit a statement of interest to serve on the LSC Board as Chairperson, Treasurer, or Secretary. The LSC Board shall nominate from its membership Executive Officers including, but not limited to, a chairperson and a Chairperson and a Treasurer in the Fall semester each year at the first meeting following the instillation of the newly elected officers.
- B) The outgoing LSC Chair shall appoint the Chair. Upon appointment, the outgoing LSC Chair shall consult with the new Chair to appoint the new Treasurer and Secretary.
 - 1) In the event that the outgoing Chair seeks re-appointment, they will announce their intent to serve in that capacity to the members elect.

 Should a Member Elect seek the appointment of Chair, the position of Chair will go to a vote with the members elect and the person who receives the majority will be appointed Chair.
- <u>C</u> B) Should a vacancy occur in an Executive Office, the LSC Chair shall nominate and appoint a replacement from its Board for the remainder of the term.

300.5 Duties of the Executive Officers

- 6) Act as liaison between law school student organizations and SGA Accounting.
- B) The Treasurer shall:

- 1) In the absence of the Chair, Assume assume all duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.
- 2) Be responsible for monitoring the expenditures of funds by each LSC RSO.
- 3) Be responsible for compiling and submitting the LSC Budget to the COGS Annual Budget proceedings.
- 4) Make periodic audits of Law School RSOs as requested by the COGS Deputy Speaker for Finance.
- 2 5) Keep an accurate and up-to-date budget.-Keep accurate minutes of all LSC meetings.
- 6) Submit a monthly LSC report and minutes of meetings to COGS.
- 3 7) Perform any other duties as assigned by the LSC chair or this code.
- 4) Attend any budgetary meetings as an LSC representative in the event that the LSC Chair is unable to attend.
- 5) Work with the Deputy Speaker of Finance in order to perform any requested external audits in compliance with this Code.

C) The Secretary shall:

- 1) Keep accurate minutes of all LSC meetings.
- 2) Email the minutes to the Chair at the conclusion of each LSC meeting.
- 3) Perform any other duties as assigned by the LSC Chair or this code.

300.6 Appropriation

- D) LSC, or any Law School RSOs, may petition COGS or the Student Senate for additional funds at any time during the fiscal year including the preliminary allocation.
- E) After the fact amendments to allocations greater than \$100 shall require a majority vote of LSC prior to being sent to the COGS Speaker and Deputy Speaker for Finance for signatures.
- \underline{D} F) LSC shall sub-allocate its obtained funds to its member RSOs consistent with the Florida State University Student Body Constitution, Statutes, and A&S

Fee Guidelines, as well as this code and any other applicable rules and regulations.

- \underline{E} \underline{G}) LSC shall only sub-allocate funds to law school organizations which have been registered, in accordance with COGS guidelines.
- F H) The allocation to LSC shall not be obligated or expended until the COGS Annual Budget has been approved by the COGS Speaker or Deputy Speaker for Finance, and the Vice President for Student Affairs.
- \underline{G} I) LSC RSOs shall process budget revisions and transfers on the forms prescribed by this code with all the requisite approvals prior to implementation.

300.7 The powers and duties of LSC

- A) LSC shall have the following powers and duties under this code and shall be subject to all other applicable Florida State University Student Body Statutes in the exercise of its powers and duties.
 - 1) LSC shall hold budgetary hearings at which member RSOs must be present to submit their requests. In the event that a member of an RSO that submitted a request is unable to attend, the LSC Chair may present the RSO's request on their behalf.
 - 2) LSC shall then represent its member RSOs at all budgetary hearings and procedures of COGS.
 - 3) LSC shall report to the Internal Affairs Committee of COGS as Requested by the Internal Affairs Committee, with a minimum fifteen (15) school days' notice.
 - 4) LSC may pass Resolutions on behalf of the Law School Student Body.
 - 5) LSC may remove any council member for nonfeasance by an affirmative, <u>majority</u> unanimous vote of all those board members not being considered for removal in the instant controversy.
 - 6) LSC may, by a majority vote, recommend any member for Impeachment for misfeasance or malfeasance in accordance with Chapter 114 of this code.

300.8 Meetings

A) LSC shall hold open meetings on a monthly basis and shall send copies of the minutes of such meetings to all Law School RSOs and COGS in the College of Law listserv. A copy shall also be posted in a prominent place in the Law

School student lounge.

F) Attendance at monthly meetings is mandatory for all LSC board members. If a member must be absent from a monthly meeting, they must provide adequate notice to the LSC Chair. If a member is absent from more than two monthly meetings, that member will be considered for removal by members of the board. All Board members, except for the member at issue, will vote on the removal of the member. A majority vote will effectively remove the member from the board. The vacancy will then be filled in accordance to the procedures outlined above.