

TWENTY-THIRD CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
Student Government Chambers Room, 316 Oglesby Union
August 31st, 2015
6:32 p.m.



REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Akinfaderin, Carter, Cavannaugh, Edwards, Ferraro, Gupta, Hall, James, Kerry, Lee, Luttrell, Peruche, Pfeifler, Tamaskar, Uttermark, Ward, Williams

QUORUM: YES

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Luttrell

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Asturizaga, Smillie

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: NONE

PETITIONS INTO THE ASSEMBLY: Ben Elwood, Kathleen Saunders

MINUTES APPROVED: Akinfaderin. Uttermark Second.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Abby Scheel informed the body of the resources that library has to offers and also invites students to their social event and workshops.

STUDENT COMMENTS: NONE.

MESSAGES FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT: NONE

REPORT OF THE OFFICERS:

- Report of the Speaker- Speaker Hall assigned representatives to committees, informs representatives of the responsibilities of the committees.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance- Summarized the Financial Report and the funding requests that will be reviewed and reminded new and returning members to complete the Financial Certification quiz.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs- Briefly explained the attendance policy.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Communications- Requested representatives to email any upcoming events university-wide.

Unfinished Business: NONE

Motion to reorder the agenda to hear Bill 29 first. Motion passes.

Funding Requests:

- Bill 29 Sponsored by Representative Tamaskar: *Allocation to INSAT/BONGONOLE*

INSAT and BONGONOLE would like to have a social targeting freshmen graduate students. They are expecting 100 students to attend the event and would like to serve Indian dishes. Representatives inquire how many students outside of the organization they expect to attend the event, cost of the venue, if the food will be catered and how the organization plans to advertise. Motion to fully fund. Objection. **FIRST PRO:** Representative Carter is in favor of the bill and believes that advertising the event to students across campus who would like to participate in the culture would be a great idea. Deputy Speaker Ward believes that the amount is reasonable for the expected participants. Representative Gupta agrees and believes that this is a great networking opportunity. Deputy Speaker Uttermark likes the idea of what the organization is trying to do. **FIRST CON:** Is in favor of the bill but would like to reduce the funding amount per person. Representative James likes the idea of collaborating with another organization but would like to reduce the amount of food and drink per person. Representative Akinfaderin thinks that the bill can be ratified. **SECOND PRO:** Representative Edwards believes that the culture of food provided changes the cost of food per person. Representative Gupta suggests that the organization may advertise to more people and therefore should not amend the food expense. Motion to amend the bill to \$200 General Expense and \$600 Food. Second. Amendment passes. Motion to call to question. Second. **Bill passes General Expense \$200 and Food \$600.**

- *Bill 27: Allocation to the Society for Musicology*

The organization is requesting funds for honorariums for two visiting scholars within the United States and four receptions for visiting scholars throughout the school year. The organization will also host a reception for students and faculty to meet and converse with the scholars before their departure. Representatives inquire the dates of the events, if the organization has fundraised, the expected attendance and if the organization is receiving any funding assistance provided by their department. Motion to fully fund. Objection. Representative Pfiefler believes that the organization made a reasonable request and would like to financially assist the organization with inviting quality speakers to the university. **FIRST PRO:** Representative Carter is in favor of the bill and welcoming quality scholars to the university. Representative Akinfaderin believes that the request is very reasonable for two scholars from a Top 25 school to a Top 15 university. He also notes that the event should be funded to elevate the university. Representative Luttrell believes that the request is reasonable and would be in favor of adding a time stipulation to the proviso language. Deputy Speaker Ward admires the organization's fundraising efforts and would like to reward the organization. **FIRST CON:** Representative Edwards informs the congress that if the organization is fully funded, the amount will account for eight percent of the unallocated budget. Representative James does not see the necessity of the speakers staying in Tallahassee for three nights. **SECOND PRO:** Representative Clay would like to honor the request of the organization because it is a reasonable request and would also like to judge the requests as they are received instead of basing their award amount on organizations that may come to COGS in the future. Deputy Speaker Williams believes that this is a well put together proposal and does not want the organization to be penalized for submitting their request early in the semester. Deputy Speaker Ward echoes the sentiments of Williams and does not want to be too conservative with COGS funds only to have a large amount of funds left over at the end of the fiscal year. **SECOND CON:** Representative Cavannaugh is leery of funding the organization for the event since there is no scheduled date and would be in favor of funding the organization for half of their request until more information is available. Motion to amend the bill \$1900 in Contractual Service and \$150 in Food. Motion Passes. **FIRST CON:** Representative Akinfaderin is not in favor of funding the organization for half of the request due to conflictions from last year's funding. He further explains that the organization should not be penalized because of weather and personal issues from last year's speakers. Deputy Speaker Ward agrees with Akinfaderin and thinks that it is not responsible for the congress to fund the organization half of the request and ask them to return when they have scheduled the conference; If they only receive half of the money, the organization will be back in the same position with a new set of issues that may arise. Motion to call to question. Objection. Amendment fails. **THIRD PRO:** Representative Saunders is in favor of the request. Motion to call to question. **Bill 27 passes 11-6 \$3,800 Contractual Services and \$200 in Food.**

- *Bill 28: Allocation to the Music Theory Society*

The organization is requesting funds for an honorarium for their guest speaker, Michael Klein, at the 33rd Music Theory Forum in the spring. The organization will cover the cost of other expenses for the Forum. Representatives inquire the date of the event, the cost of other expenses, the conference schedule and how many guests they anticipate at the event. Motion to fully fund. **Bill passes \$1,500 in Contractual Services.**

New Business: NONE

ROUNDTABLE: Akinfaderin, Carter, Cavannaugh, Edwards, Elwood, Ferraro, Gupta, Hall, James, Kerry, Lee, Luttrell, Peruche, Pfeifler, Saunders, Tamaskar, Uttermark, Ward, Williams

ADJOURNMENT: 8:39 p.m.