

TWENTY-THIRD CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
Student Government Chambers Room, 316 Oglesby Union
October 19th, 2015
6:36 p.m.



REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Asturizaga, Cavannaugh, Edwards, Elwood, Ferraro, Gupta, Hall, Kerry, Luttrell, Peruche, Pfeiffer, Smith, Solomon, Uttermark, Wang, Ward, Williams

QUORUM: YES

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Solomon

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: Asturizaga

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Carter, James

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Akinfaderin, Lee, Saunders, Smillie, Tamaskar

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: NONE

PETITIONS INTO THE ASSEMBLY: NONE

MINUTES APPROVED: Uttermark. Ferraro Second.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

STUDENT COMMENTS: NONE.

MESSAGES FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT: NONE

Unfinished Business: NONE

Funding Requests:

- **Bill 37: Allocation to the Student Association for Religious Studies**
The organization explains that they would like to bring three speakers to the University for their 15th annual religion conference. Last year, over 200 people were in attendance for the conference. The organization will also have students' present research. The organization would also like to rent tables and purchase small incidentals. Representatives inquire the budget breakdown of the expenses and price of hotel stay. **FIRST PRO:** Edwards believes that this is a good program and is in favor of the bill. Clay is in favor of the bill. Luttrell believes that the organization submitted a reasonable request. Motion to amend \$3000 in Contractual Services, \$450 in Food, \$350 in General Expense. Motion withdrawn. Motion to call to question. Objection. Motion withdrawn. Motion to amend the bill to read \$3250 in Contractual Services, \$350 in General Expense and \$200 in Food. Motion passes. Motion to call to question. **Bill 37 passes 16-0-0: \$3250 in Contractual Services, \$350 in General Expense and \$200 in Food.**

- *Bill 38: Allocation to the College of Criminology and Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association*

The organization is requesting funds for a fall luncheon. The organization would like to establish a relationship with current students and faculty members. They would like to bring more awareness to the criminology department. Representatives ask if there will be any speakers at the event, how many people they expect to attend the event, if the department will assist with any expenses and where the food will be purchased from. **FIRST PRO:** Edwards believes that the amount is very reasonable for 45 people. Williams would like to fund the organization at this amount. **FIRST CON:** Luttrell believes the amount is reasonable, but is concerned about the event not having any speakers and only being geared to their department. **SECOND PRO:** Edwards does not agree that this event is only for the criminology department and notes that the body has funded other organizations for similar events. Pfeifler agrees with Edwards. Motion to call to question. **Bill 38 passes 11-5: \$150 in Food.**

New Business:

COGS Advisor, Josh Kinchen read a letter to the body submitted by Representative James.

Deputy Speaker Ward presided over the meeting while Speaker Hall sponsors Bill 38.

- *Bill 39 Sponsored by Speaker Hall: Modifying RSO Group Travel Allocation*
Speaker Hall explains the intent of the modification for group travel. The goal is to have a clear and concise language in the COGS Code for RSO group travel. **FIRST PRO:** Luttrell is in favor of the bill and would like to make some amendments to the language. Motion to amend, submitted in writing. Motion to accept the amendment. Motion to call to question. **Bill 38 passes 15-0-1.**

Deputy Speaker Ward relinquishes the chair to Speaker Hall.

- *Determination on the Suspension of Representative Carter*
Representative Edwards, Chair of the Internal Affairs committee, explains the events that have taken place in regards to the impeachment of Representative Carter. The committee chose to suspend Representative Carter for the remainder of the 23rd Congress due to the ethics violation. Motion for 5 minute recess. Due to new information found during the recess, the Internal Affairs committee reverted back to the original suspension for the remainder of the fall semester. Representatives inquire if Representative Carter will be able to represent COGS at the NAGPS conference, if the representatives will be sworn into the assembly and if there is any time limit for suspensions. Motion for a roll call vote. **Suspension stands 9-2-5.**
- *Determination on the Suspension of Representative James*
Representative Edwards, Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee, explains that Representative James faced impeachment and the committee decided to suspend the representatives for the remainder of the semester. **Suspension stands 9-1-5.**
- *Determination on the recommendation to freeze the COGS Travel Account*
Representative Edwards, Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee explains the concern of the committee if the representatives were suspended from the Congress. Representatives inquire if the funds have been used for travel arrangements and if the suspended representatives will still be able to attend the conference if they no longer have funding from COGS. Roll call vote. **Recommendation to freeze the COGS Travel Account stands 8-4-3.**

ROUNDTABLE: Cavannaugh, Edwards, Elwood, Ferraro, Gupta, Hall, Kerry, Luttrell, Peruche, Pfeifler, Smith, Solomon, Uttermark, Wang, Ward, Williams

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30 p.m.