

# TWENTY-FOURTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION  
Student Government Chambers Room, 316 Oglesby Union  
May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
6:30 p.m.



**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.

**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Baker, Elwood, Garcia, Guilbeau, Oseguera, Peruche, Scriven, Sharifi-Raini, Solomon, Uttermark, Ward

**QUORUM:** YES

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Solomon

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:** NONE

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:** NONE

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:** Clark, Gupta, Sanogo, Sulentic,

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:** NONE

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, EXCUSED:** NONE

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:** NONE

*Speaker Elwood appoints Jason Guilbeau as Interim Deputy Speaker for Communications. Guilbeau accepts.*

**PETITIONS INTO THE ASSEMBLY:** Zhiaqiong Sun (Arts & Sciences), Brenton Williams (Business)

**MINUTES APPROVED:** Ward. Second Sharifi-Raini.

## **SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS AND STUDENT COMMENTS:**

- Jeanette Lehn, Action Chair for the Graduate Assistants Union explains her position within GAU and her interest in creating relationships across campus to advocate for the needs and concerns of graduate students.

**MESSAGES FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT:** NONE

## **REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

*Speaker Elwood appoints Representative Peruche as Interim Executive Editor of COGS.*

*Speaker Elwood appoints Deputy Speaker Ward as Temporary Chair as he sponsors bills 26 and 27.*

**Unfinished Business:** NONE

## **Funding Requests:**

- Bill 26 Sponsored by Speaker Elwood: *Purchase of COGS Office Supplies*

Speaker Elwood explains the intent of the bill which is to supply COGS' offices with supplies such as ink toner cartridges, paper, and binders for representative packets. Motion to call to question.

**Bill 26 passes: \$510.18 in General Expenses.**

- Bill 27 Sponsored by Speaker Elwood: *Purchase of COGS Promotional Items*  
Elwood explains that the items included in this bill are promotional flag books, pens and mugs for the 2016 Graduate Student Orientation. Additionally the bill is requesting funds for the purchase of Polos for representatives. He further explains that the items will come from ClothesLine and with the purchase of these items, there will be a cost discount. Representatives inquire the definition of a set up charge fee listed in the invoice. Motion to call to question. Second. **Bill Passes: \$4108.46 in General Expense.**

*Deputy Speaker Ward steps down as temporary Chair and returns the seat to the Speaker.*

- Bill 28 Sponsored by Deputy Speaker Uttermark: *Transfer of COGS Funds*  
The intent of Bill 28 is to remove all funds from the C-SAC account as well as the remaining funds from the Unallocated account to the presentation and attendance grant account. \$500 will be left in the Unallocated account as a contingency emergency fund and \$1000 will be transferred to the attendance grant account and \$8500 will be moved to the presentation grant account. Deputy Speaker Uttermark further explains that he has at least 50-60 grant applications that cannot be approved for funding until additional funds are added to the account. When additional funding is available, the grant application will be added back to the COGS website to approve more travel funding. Representatives inquire if the 15 business day deadline will still applied to the new applicants. Motion to call to question. Second. **Bill 28 passes.**

**New Business:**

- Resolution 5 Sponsored by Deputy Speaker Uttermark: *COGS OPS Officer's Wages*  
Deputy Speaker Uttermark explains that due to the contract established by Graduate Assistants United (GAU), post baccalaureate students are not to work more than 0.75 FTE. This resolution will limit the work of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker for Finance to 10 hours per week each and the hourly wages will increase to \$10 and \$11 respectively. The additional funds allocated to the OPS wages budget line for 2016-2017 will be moved to the Unallocated account. With this amendment, COGS will be in compliance with GAU and FSU Human Resources Department. Representatives inquire how the decrease in hours worked is justified by GAU, are the contracted hours outlined in the COGS Code, and if there were any arguments in opposition to the employment stipulations. Representatives also inquire if the changes made today will be for the upcoming fiscal year or start immediately, what account the residual funds will go to, will the officers be able to effectively do their work at 10 hours per week, and the justification for the rate increase with the contracted hours decrease. Lastly, representatives inquire if this change is more qualified as a stipend position and if there is a conversation that could be had with Human Resources to make any changes. **FIRST PRO:** Deputy Speaker Ward believes that being in favor of the resolution is the best solution since the Speaker and Deputy Speaker have to be in compliance for payment. Representative Solomon is in favor of the resolution by force and would like to see if there can be any changes made to satisfy both parties in the future. Motion to call to question. **Resolution 5 passed.**

**ROUNDTABLE:** Baker, Elwood, Garcia, Guilbeau, Oseguera, Peruche, Scriven, Sharifi-Raini, Solomon, Sun, Uttermark, Ward, Williams

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:49 p.m.