

# TWENTY FOURTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION  
Senate Chambers Room, 316 Oglesby Union  
November 4, 2015  
6:37 p.m.  
Agenda



**Call to Order:** Jean Tabares, Student Body President will preside over meeting until the Speaker is elected.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Representative Ward

**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Akinfaderin, Asturizaga, Elwood, Hall, Kerry, Lee, Luttrell, Peruche, Smith, Solomon, Uttermark, Wang, Ward, Williams

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:** NONE

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:** NONE

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:** Carter, James, Cavannaugh, Gupta

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:** NONE

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:** NONE

**Swearing in of Members not at Inauguration:** The following representatives were sworn into the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students:

- Adewale Akinfaderin
- Benjamin Elwood
- Corey Luttrell
- Michelle Peruche
- Katharine Smith
- Max Solomon
- Matthew Williams

**Petitions into the Assembly:** Clay Pfielfer, Alexis Sulentic, Joshua Scriven

*Representative Hall motion to waive the rules to hear Resolution 1: Establishing the Internal Rules of Procedure. Motion passes. Resolution 1 passes.*

**Elections:**

**Nominations from the Congress for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students Speaker of the House:**

- Representative Uttermark nominates Representative Hall for Speaker of the House.

**Election Results from the Congress for the newly elected Speaker of the House for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress:**

- Representative Tristan Hall

*Student Body President Tabares swore Representative Hall in as Speaker for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress and turns meeting over to Speaker Hall to preside.*

**Nominations from the Congress for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students Deputy Speaker for Finance:**

- Representative Ward nominates Representative Matthew Uttermark for Deputy Speaker for Finance.

**Election Results from the Congress for the newly elected Deputy Speaker for Finance for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress:**

- Matthew Uttermark

**Nominations from the Congress for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students Deputy Speaker of Communications:**

- Representative Asturizaga nominates Representative Williams as Deputy Speaker of Communications.

**Election Results from the Congress for the newly elected Deputy Speaker for Communications for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress:**

- Matthew Williams

**Nominations from the Congress for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs:**

- Representative Peruche nominates Representative Ward.
- Representative Elwood nominates Representative Luttrell.

**Election Results from the Congress for the newly elected Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress:**

- Savanna Ward

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Williams accepts. Peruche Second.

**Special Introductions and Student Comments:** NONE

**Messages from Student Government:** NONE

**Unfinished Business:** NONE

**Funding Requests:**

- Bill 1: *Allocation to INSAT*  
The organization is requesting funds to celebrate the Diwali festival. It is a cultural celebration where the attendees dress up and feast on Indian Style cuisine. They will also have performances sharing the importance of the festival. The event is open to all students. The organization plans to advertise the event around campus. Representatives inquire when the event will take place, the expected attendance, if the organization will fundraise, and how many students in the organization are graduate students. **FIRST PRO:** Pfiefler is in favor of the bill, which will help students feel more at home and become more comfortable. Akinfaderin believes that the Diwali festival is a good event and can relate to the cultural symbolism. Deputy Speaker Uttermark is also in support of funding the organization. **FIRST CON:** Luttrell would like to fund the organization, but would like to reduce the food expense. Williams echoes the sentiments of Luttrell. Motion to amend: \$200 in General Expense and \$700 in Food. Amendment passes. Motion to amend \$100 in General Expense and \$630 in Food. Objection. Luttrell would like to partially fund the organization for plates and silverware in hopes of the organization using items from the previous Diwali event as well as fund them for food at a reasonable amount. **FIRST CON:** Pfiefler would like to fund the organization for \$7 per person for food and would like to fund the organization additional funds for general expenses. Motion to call to question. Amendment fails 2-13-1 \$100 in General Expense and \$630 in Food. Return to the

original amendment. Motion to call to question. **Bill 1 passes 12-3-1: \$200 in General Expense and \$700 in Food.**

**New Business:**

- Resolution 2 Sponsored by Representative Solomon: *Request for the Florida Bar YLD Law Student Division to Host and Off Campus Event*  
Max Solomon, sponsor of the bill, requests the resolution to be stricken from the agenda. He explains that many of the plans changed since the organization submitted the request. **FIRST CON:** Luttrell states that the Law School has a policy not to allow law students to host events off campus. The organization informed the Law School that the event will be held on campus, then submitted a request to leave off campus through COGS. He further explains that the organization would not have received funding had they told LSC that the event will be off campus. Solomon informs the congress that the treasurer of the organization requested for this bill to be stricken in writing. As the sponsor of the bill, Solomon was requested to pass along the information from the organization. Motion to call to question. **Resolution 2 fails by voice vote.**

**Round Table:** Akinfaderin, Asturizaga, Elwood, Hall, Kerry, Lee, Luttrell. Peruche, Pfielfer, Scriven, Smith, Solomon, Sulentic, Uttermark, Wang, Ward, Williams

*Speaker Hall appointed Kylah Kerry as the COGS Executive Editor.*

**Adjournment:** 8:10 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** November 16, 2015