

TWENTY SIXTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION
Senate Chambers Room, 316 Oglesby Union
January 29th, 2017
6:40 p.m.
Agenda



Call to Order: 6:40 pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Gerardi

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Asturizaga, Batchelder, Blake-Hedges, Burns, Engelbrecht, Forsman, Gerardi, Lange, Lehn, Lozano, Maher, Oloye, Polischuk, Sanogo, Scriven, Sorribes, Uttermark, Zhang

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: Lange, Sanogo

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Pierce

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: NONE

Reading and Approval of Minutes: with amendments. Engelbrecht 2nd.

Petitions into the Assembly: Ericha Stewart (Social Sciences Seat 3), Saptarshi Bhowmik (Arts & Sciences Seat 2), Idris Demirsoy (Arts & Sciences Seat 3), Jorge Oseguera Gamba (Minority Student Advocate), Jorge Hernandez (Criminology Seat 1), Aaron Reyna (Education Seat 2)

Special Introductions and Student Comments:

- Representative Batchelder Graduate Student Survey

Motion to reorder the agenda to hear funding requests first. 2nd. Motion Passes

Funding Requests:

- Bill 8: Allocation to PeaceJam
Rody Thompson, PeaceJam Coordinator for the Southeastern region explained to the congress that PeaceJam brings Nobel Peace Laureates to FSU for conferences. The event is open to the community. Visiting Nobel Peace Laureate, Kailash Satyarthi will be the guest speaker. The event will be held on April 6-8. They are requesting funding assistance for the dinner reception. Representatives ask how much is the dinner in total, how do you fundraise, is the dinner open to all students, and the difference between this year and last year's request. Representatives also inquire the relationship between PeaceJam and COGS, what are the benefits of sponsoring the weekend and what are the funding requirements to become a sponsor of the event. **FIRST PRO:** Torres is in favor of funding and would like COGS to be a part of the event. Khazem also supports the request and hopes that it appeals to everyone. **FIRST CON:** Stewart is hesitant about funding the full amount due to budget constraints. Deputy Speaker Uttermark would like for reps to be mindful of the budget. Deputy Speaker Asturizaga would prefer a detailed budget. Burns would like to support the event at a lesser amount. Motion to amend the bill to strike

General Expense from the bill. Second. Objection. **FIRST PRO:** Oloye believes it is a reasonable amount for the event. Motion to call to question. Second. Roll Call Vote. Asturizaga: Ay, Batchelder: Ay, Blake-Hedges: Ay, Burns: Ay, Engelbrecht: Ay, Forsman: Ay, Gerardi: Ay, Khazem: Ay, Lehn: Ay, Lozano: Ay, Oloye: AY, Polischuk: Ay, Sanogo: Ay, Sorribes: Ay. Uttermark: Ay, Zhang: Ay, Stewart: Ay, Bhowmik: Ay, Demirsoy: Ay, Oseguera: Ay, Hernandez: Ay, Reyna: AY. Motion Passes. Return to the bill as amended. Motion to call to question. Rody Thompson thanks the congress for funding. **Bill passes: 22-0-0 Food: 3000.**

Messages from Student Government: NONE

Unfinished Business: NONE

Unfinished Business:

Speaker Scriven turns the chair over to Deputy Speaker Uttermark to Sponsor a Bill.

- Bill 7 Sponsored by Speaker Scriven: *Substantive Edits of the COGS Code, Reorganizing the Standing Committees of COGS*
Speaker Scriven explains that the purpose of the bill is to create organized committees that focuses on internal and external affairs. Speaker Scriven provided edits to the bill submitted in writing in regards to the comments and concerns from the representatives. Representatives inquire an explanation of the attendance requirements for video conferencing. **FIRST PRO:** Asturizaga celebrates the speaker for trying to establish order in the committees. Batchelder supports downsizing committees, which better allocates the duties. Engelbrecht is in support of the bill and believes it is very detailed. **FIRST CON:** Sorribes notes that larger committees are harder to coordinate. Motion to adopt amendments submitted in writing. Second. Motion Carries. Motion to call to question. Objection. Withdrawn. Return to **FIRST CON:** Sorribes is hesitant about how quorum will affect committees. **SECOND PRO:** Engelbrecht is in favor of the bill. Forsman believes that it would make more sense to put the committees together since they are working on similar things. Motion to table. Objection. **FIRST PRO:** Polischuk appreciates the time and effort the speaker and committee put into the bill but would like a chance to make amendments. **FIRST CON:** Khazem mentions the overlaps of the committee duties and believes that the bill is a good step forward since committees can be confusing to the new representatives. Forsman notes that the bill codifies the duties. **SECOND PRO:** Oloye is in favor of tabling to understand the concerns of the Academics and Student Life Committee. Motion to call to question. Second, Objection. Vote for voting 20-0-1. Motion to table. Second. Bill 7 tabled to Academics and Student Life Committee 13-8-0.

New Business:

Introduction of the 2018-2019 Annual Budget

Deputy Speaker Uttermark introduced the members of the budget committee and thanked everyone for their hard work. Deputy Speaker Uttermark broke down each section of the committee report and informed the congress that the voting on the annual budget will be on the February 19th meeting. Representatives are encouraged to review the budget in its entirety and voice their opinions.

Round Table: Asturizaga, Batchelder, Bhowmik, Blake-Hedges, Burns, Demirsoy, Engelbrecht, Forsman, Gerardi, Hernandez, Lehn, Lozano, Maher, Oloye, Oseguera, Polischuk, Reyna Scriven, Sorribes, Stewart, Uttermark, Zhang

Adjournment: 9:02 pm

Next Meeting: February 5, 2018