

## TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting  
Special Session  
Zoom  
4/12/21  
6:30PM  
MINUTES



**Call to Order:** 6:36PM

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Representative Sangokunle

**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Ahlbum, Blake-Hedges, Colins, Creigh, Delva, Graves, Hagemeyer, Hirsch, Ilesanmi, Ryan, Sangokunle, Sizemore, Smith, Sussman, Wiley

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:** Cheuwa, Mendez, Morgan

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:** Brinkman

**REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** motion to approve minutes, Hirsch; second, Graves.

**Petitions into the Assembly: Guarav Harshe (International Student Advocacy Seat)**

- Currently an international student in the US for 5 years. Previously a student in Colorado State University and was involved in student government. Excited to joining COGS as my old University did not have a student government branch specifically for graduate students and there weren't many graduate students involved. Was the innagural Deputy Director for Internaatinal Student Affairs in SGA at Colorado, which was a new department initiated, so want to continue engagement at FSU. The past year has been a TA at the Globe, helping international students with multicultural competency and has a passion for advocating for international students when they may have a hard time speaking up.
- **Questions**
  - Ahlbum – any conflicts with the COGS meeting time?

- Harshe – Not yet, hoping not in the future but still solidifying schedule.
  - Ilesanmi – can you speak further about the things you plan to achieve as well as clarify the email from GAU about your petition into COGS?
    - Harshe – At Colorado I was a student worker in International Students Services which is similar to the Globe here. I learned a lot about international students and how they are situated in the University system. I want to see how we can collaboratively come up with programs for international students that are similar to other universities through COGS, the Globe and the GAU. In particular, a lot of best practices that other Universities use such as: international student advisory committee, cultural mentor/mentee program for new international graduate students. Overall, there are a lot of missing pieces that I would like to help fix to better the FSU campus and international students. I have been working with the GAU on an ad hoc basis, not officially working for them this year. I wanted support from them in a way that would not conflict with COGS.
  - Hirsch – which committee are you interested in?
    - Harshe – The Ways and Means committee.
  - Delva – what is the GAU?
    - Hagemeyer – can answer this later on in the meeting.
- **Pros**
  - Delva – he is very passionate about international student matters and proactive in finding a group to make things happen. A first year student taking initiative during a rough year with a lot of great ideas we can work with.
  - Hirsch – he has set list of issues and things to tackle and relationships with other places on campus. He is a new student who creates the opportunity for him to be a long-term member.
- Motion to approve petitioner, Hirsch; Second, Creigh.
  - Vote: 14-0-0
- Representative Harshe is sworn in.

### **Special Introductions and Student Comments: Dr. Brittany Kraft with Healthy Campus 2030**

- A current faculty member in Biology and a former FSU graduate student. Passionate about student government and student wellness. Healthy Campus 2030 is a university-wide initiative focused on student wellness that began awhile ago. Composed of FSU faculty, student, and staff from different departments. The goal is to establish systematic and sustained positive change with existing resources. The wellness wheel was created to determine what makes a student well; how students form relationships, what makes a student feel connected, how students feel a sense of belonging at FSU. Healthy Campus 2030 is about all students and we understand that graduate experience is different than undergraduate. We really want to lift up and share the graduate student voice in

this as graduate students offer a different voice than undergraduate students. We relaunched at the beginning of this semester, we have a theoretical model that we are working under on what a healthy campus looks like and how we will measure this. We do not currently have any graduate students on this committee, and we would love to add a few graduate students. We are very flexible on the commitment required to participate. We are looking for graduate involvement and thought COGS would be a great method to include new voices. We will be holding a new meeting in May where we will meet with each individual group of this wellness wheel. If any of you are interested, please feel free to reach out.

**Messages from Student Government: SGA Spring Inauguration this Wednesday**

**Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:** none, haven't met

**Report of Officers:**

- **The Report of the Speaker:**

- Tom project update – COGS has an excess amount of money left in this fiscal year and would like to spend \$150,000 to fund this heart health awareness project. We would put the money into an endowment fund for around 50 new AEDs around campus. Currently going through the approval process right now as SGA doesn't usually do this. We are probing into legislation to make sure it would not be violating any laws by using student money for this. Also working with the student body president but he has no new updates on it right now. There is another meeting in May which is when we want to submit a Bill to have the purchase order in in time. Not using a new vendor which helps as we will be using spear mart
- GAU – they are a collective bargaining group on FSU's campus that lobby for graduate assistants. Their work aligns closely with ours, but while not every graduate student is not a graduate assistant, they are a portion of the body we represent. It is important to be involved in these organizations on campus and establish relationships throughout campus. Representative Creigh has been the most active communicating with them.

- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance:**

- No financial updates, but we do have 2 financial related Resolutions tonight. One Resolution is related to the conference travel due to the fact that we can now travel in the state of Florida. We also have a Resolution from CSAC that we will hear about later. I will be graduating this semester, which means my role will be available and elections will be held during our next meeting in May. I will help with the transition process as there is a great deal you may want to know. I am the graduate student representative on the FSU President Search Committee, they are finally starting to move things along. They are hoping everything will be finished during May and I will continue to stay on as this search is almost

complete. They have used a search firm that is recruiting people for the role. There are over 200 applicants, and they plan to narrow it down to 15. I will update once there are finalists. We pick the final 2-4 candidate, and the board of trustees will make the final decision. Documents have been put out about this and I am more than happy to pass along any comments you may have.

- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs:**
  - Deputy Speaker Brinkman will be graduating this Spring so the position will be open after this meeting.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications:**
  - Nothing to report.

#### **Committee Report:**

- **C-SAC:** met today, the Resolution later will go over what we discussed.
- **Internal Affairs:** no updates
- **Student Advocacy:** no updates
- **Student Affairs:** no updates

#### **Funding Requests: none**

#### **Unfinished Business: none**

#### **New Business:**

- *Resolution #4: Travel & Funding Guidelines*
  - Updating our language with travel requests as pertains to conferences. This includes a run-down of what we have gone through in the past and what it currently is. We do not need the vice president's approval to travel within the state of Florida. This Resolution will give COGS the language to approve or deny a request based on current travel guidelines put out by Student Affairs. Instead of having to create a new resolution, we can look at the current travel guidelines and vote based on that.
  - Questions
    - Hirsch – In the last resolution, did we use similar wording that we will follow university guidelines?
      - Creigh – Yes, but this one is pertaining to travel specifically.
      - Hagemeyer – the other Resolution had to do with in-person events, so this is about travel.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Pros
    - Collins – this will provide clear language for RSOs applying for funding in addition to the University's rules. It gets rid of any ambiguity from COGS in what we will fund
    - Hirsch – having a Resolution that reflects we are doing whatever the University is allowing makes our jobs easier. We do not have to continue to pass more Resolutions
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Cons

- none
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Pros
  - none
- Motion to call to question, Collins; Second, Hirsch.
  - Resolution passes
    - 15-0-0
- *Resolution #5: C-SAC Consent*
  - Putting in the request that the C-SAC committee received today. Master's of Science in Finance Association is requesting funding for an event they are holding to celebrate the end of the semester and graduation. This was a great opportunity for their program to meet and socialize. They are requesting \$400 for funding for food. They are allowed to have in person events and expect roughly 50 students attending. This event is open to all students which must be followed to use funding. Our Representatives thought this was a great way for their program to get involved in COGS and help their program. All representative voted in favor of approving their request. Our CSAC committee agreed to fully fund their request.
  - Questions
    - none
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Pros:
    - none
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Cons:
    - none
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> pros:
    - none
  - Motion to call to question, Creigh; Second, Ahlbum.
    - Resolution passes
      - 13-0-2

**Round Table:**

**Adjournment/Finale Roll Call: 8:05PM**

**Next Meeting:**