

TWENTY EIGHTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting
Special Session
HCB 103
January 13, 2020
6:30 p.m.
MINUTES



Call to Order: 6:33 PM

Pledge of Allegiance: Representative Creigh

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Blake-Hedges, Brinkman, Creigh, Fisher, LaBayne, Morgan, Nelson,

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Mathesie

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED: Demirsoy, Hagemeyer

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: None

Petitions into the Assembly: Fomberg, Mendez

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Motion to Approve Minutes, Brinkman; Nelson 2nd; No Objections; APPROVED.

Special Introductions and Student Comments: None

Messages from Student Government: None

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs: None

Elections:

- Speaker for the 28th Congress of Graduates Students- Blake-Hedges described the duty of Speaker. Morgan nominated representative LaBayne; Fisher seconds. LaBayne accepted the nomination. Representative LaBayne gave a brief speech for why she wants to be Speaker, her qualifications, and what she hopes to accomplish in the coming year with outreach and building COGS back up. **Q&A:** Nelson: Are you graduating in May? LaBayne: No. Fisher: what was the toughest part of your other position in undergrad in SGA? LaBayne: dealing with funding requests when we did not have the money to allocate, so we would have to just reduce the amount we could give up front and continue to figure

thing out. Mendez: do you have any other commitments that might get in the way of this position? LaBayne: No, just classes that are earlier in the day. **PRO:** Morgan: Jacqueline has the enthusiasm and would do well in this position. Brinkman: she was well prepared today, and I think she could do a good job. Demirsoy: I think she will be a good candidate. Morgan motions to Vote by Secret Ballot; Creigh seconds. **VOTE 8-0-0: ELECTED.**

Report of Officers:

- **The Report of the Speaker:**

Has been attending tech and service fee meetings and helping with that. Plans to review the report Senator Gerdt sent in regard to the graduate student seats being reapportioned.

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

We are going through our annual budgeting process and we had 21 organizations request funding and our numbers have been increasing for requests. With all the requests we received we would be \$77,000 in the hole and so the budgeting committee will be meeting on Thursday evening and the meeting is open to anyone and so we will make a decision and then send the finalized budget out by next Friday for COGS members to review by the next meeting which will be our budget meeting so please review the budget proposal to be ready for our next meeting. CBH then discussed the current state of COGS financials and made the Congress aware that we do not have enough funds in COGS unallocated to fund both of the requests tonight.

- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs**

None.

- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications**

None.

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:** Has not met.
- **Internal Affairs:** Has not met.
- **Student Advocacy:** Has not met.
- **Student Affairs:** Has not met.

Blake-Hedges motions for a 5-minute Recess so that committees can set meeting dates and times. Morgan seconds. No Objections.

Funding Requests:

- **Bill #8: Ecology and Evolution Research & Discussion Group: Transfer of Organization Funds**
 - Sponsored by Representative Brinkman- discussed the desire of this RSO to move funds from one allocation category to another. **Q&A:** Fisher: how much of a funding difference is it? Brinkman: it was a \$2 difference, so they want to reallocate some of the funds. Nelson: so, they don't want any more funds?

Brinkman: no. Creigh: will the cost of the shirt cost over \$8 per shirt? **PROS:** Nelson: I just looked up shirts on and they were all more than \$8, additionally we already gave them the money so it's not like they are asking for more money. **CONS:** Fisher: this seems like a potential loophole that could be abused in the future. Mendez: we just talked about being low on funds for this semester and it seems that we should considered how we allocate. Blake-Hedges: my con is that we already gave them \$8 per shirt, asking your organization for an extra \$5 per shirt is an option. **POINT OF INFORMATION:** Morgan: Crestline has a shirt quote at \$8. **2nd PRO:** Morgan motioned to call the question. Blake-Hedges seconds. **VOTE:** 4-5-1; **FAILED. Expense: \$226.40.**

- **Bill #9: *The Diversity and Inclusion in Research and Teaching Organization: Transfer of Organization Funds***
 - Sponsored by Representative Morgan **PROS:** Fisher: slight miscommunication about how much money they needed for the speaker and food and they do fundraising on their own so I'm in favor of this. **CONS:** None. Morgan motioned to call the question. Blake-Hedges seconds; No objections. **VOTE:** 8-1-1; **PASSED: Food Transfer: \$1,000.**

- **Bill #10: *The Diversity and Inclusion in Research and Teaching Organization: Allocation Request***
 - Sponsored by Representative Blake-Hedges. **PROS:** Mendez: they have done a lot of work to show us what will be going into this conference. Morgan: This organization does really good work to benefit the FSU graduate student body. **CONS:** Blake-Hedges: with the limited amount of money we have and the estimate which they got it would not be a good idea to fund this and the other bills. Morgan: SGA code states that we are not supposed to fund a catering bill above \$15 per person and this bill does have an item price of \$16.99 per person. **2nd PRO:** Fisher motioned to amend to make the amount \$1,100 in food. Fomberg seconds; no Objections. Motion Rescinded by Fisher after thinking about current COGS budget. Mendez motioned to amend to \$1,250 Fisher seconds; Blake-Hedges objects. Motion Rescinded by Fisher. Blake-Hedges motioned to amend to \$532. Fisher seconds; no objections. Mendez: it would be using the funds conservatively. **CONS:** Nelson: they haven't done any fundraising other than asking people for money. Blake-Hedges motioned to call the question. Mendez seconds; no objections. **VOTE:** 7 – 1 -2; Bill **PASSED Amended. Food: \$532.00.**

- **Bill #11: *Anthropology Graduate Student Association Allocation Request***
 - Sponsored by Representative LaBayne. **Q&A:** Brinkman: when will the event be held? AGSA: this will pay for the equipment to create the project. Brinkman: they are allowed to do it as long as it is on campus with a political agenda but if it is off campus, we cannot fund it. Fisher: this proposal says funded by a variety of sources, what other funding sources are going to be used? AGSA: this proposal also includes information from other universities

so I cannot say anything about that. Blake-Hedges: is your organization fundraising for this event at all? AGSA: we hope to use this and then if this did not come through try to seek other funding sources. **PRO:** Mendez: it seems like this would allow FSU students to participate in something that is nationwide. LaBayne: this will seem to benefit the student body by bringing attention to an important topic. **CON:** Brinkman: we have had a lot of difficulties with LSC sending money to 501(c)3 orgs because of political affiliation concerns. Blake-Hedges: this organization has received over \$6,000 this fiscal year from COGS. Fisher: this does not seem fiscally conservative at this time and maybe we could fund this in the future. **2nd PRO:** Fisher motion to amend – reduce total to \$1000. Creigh seconded; Morgan objects. Fisher rescinded based off ASGA saying they would need the whole \$1,500 to participate in the project. Morgan motioned to call the question. Brinkman second; No Objections. **VOTE:** 2 – 6 – 2 ; **Bill FAILED. Expense: \$1,500.**

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Resolution #2: *HiGSA After-the-fact-Payment to ASLC*
 - Sponsored by Representative Hagemeyer. Morgan motioned to use rest of Q&A time for Pro & Con. Mendez second. **PRO:** Blake-Hedges: sometimes these things happen so we should give them grace, or they will lose the money to sweepings. Demirsoy: they have a good reason for this accident so we should vote yes. **CON:** None. **2nd PRO:** Mendez motioned to call the question. Hagemeyer seconds; no objection. **VOTE:** 7 -0-1; **PASSED.**

Round Table: Please prepare for the next meeting by reviewing code and the budget packet as the next meeting we solely discuss the budget.

Adjournment: 8:35 PM

Next Meeting:

Budget Meeting: Monday, February 3, 6:30 PM, HCB 103