

## THIRTIETH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting  
Special Session  
Zoom/HCB 313  
January 24, 2022  
6:30 p.m.  
MINUTES



**Call to Order:** 6:40 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Dep. Speaker Collins

**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Adhikari, Amaraneni, Baffour-Awuah Junior, Boatright, Collins, Creigh, Delva, Gfatter, Hagemeyer, Harshe, Linsky, Ilesanmi, Neale, Noor Mustafa, Myhre, Rogowski, Ryan, Smith, Vaughn, Vouzas, Wilson, Young

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:** Adhikari

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:** Galeano, Hirsch

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:** Gfatter, Horner

**REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Creigh first, Boatright Second; Objection, Amareneni – marked as unexcused left early when he was excused. Motion to amend the minutes – Amareneni, Second: Collins.

### **Petitions into the Assembly:**

- *Luis Basualdo, Seat 1 College of Social Sciences & Public Policy*
  - Speech: First year MPA. I attended FSU for English, Editing Writing and Media in undergrad. I was interested in COGS because in undergrad, I did not participate in on-campus activities. During these last two years, I want to participate in campus activities. I'd like to learn more about our school and how I can be of help.
  - Questions:
    - Amareneni: What was your major?
    - Answer: Editing writing and Media and a second focus in Humanities
    - Amareneni: Did you join any on-campus activities during undergrad?

- Answer: I was part of the FSU Democrats and helped out during the Bernie campaign.
    - Amareneni: Why do you want to join COGS?
    - Answer: I want to take advantage of my experiences at FSU in order to better myself and my community
    - Collins: What role do you see yourself playing in COGS:
    - Answer: I want to improve things for students who cannot show up to school, especially in my program.
    - Vaughn: Which committee would you be interested in joining?
    - Answer: I want to join Student Affairs, because I feel as though I can be most present here on campus in this role and be more involved in student life.
  - Pros:
    - Linsky: I am motivated to fill the seats in COGS, and this puts us on a path to filling these seats.
    - Rogowski: I like that he has a different point of view than other people, such as working full time. With that perspective, he will be a great fit on the student affairs committee.
    - Delva: He seems dedicated to make a difference with the little time he has left on campus.
    - Mustafa: I agree, he seems very dedicated and I think COGS should provide that platform to channel that energy and motivation to improve student life here at FSU.
  - Cons:
    - Amareneni: He does not have any experience in undergrad, and he is only becoming involved to build more connections with other students.
  - Linsky: Motion to call to question; Collins: Second
  - Vote: 23-0-0
- *Andrew Goulette, Seat 3, College of Law*
  - Speech: I'm a first-year law student. I was in the criminology program at FSU in undergrad. I graduated in December 2016, and following graduation, I became a school teacher. I took on a number of different roles at my school. I coached the robotics team and I was a member of the school advisory council. As far as background goes, I wanted to work after undergrad. I want to join COGS for two reasons, 1) I'm trying to find my niche outside of the law school, and 2) I would like to get my foot in the door with SGA. I'm interested in the university defender position.
- Questions:
  - Mustafa: How do you think your skills as a teacher will apply to COGS:
  - Answer: I could handle a classroom of 36 students, and confident in management. I understand finance and budgetary concerns from my experience on the school advisory council. I am familiar with parliamentary

procedures (e.g., Robert's Rules of Order). I also am interested in the Student Affairs Committee.

- Hagemeyer: How familiar are you with the law school council? Would you be interested in being a liason?
- Answer: I wouldn't mind, but I would like to ease into things a little bit within COGS. Do they handle budgetary concerns within COGS?
- Hagemeyer: Yes.
- Answer: Then I wouldn't mind.
- Motion to extend Q&A: Adhikari, Second: Delva
- Delva: Can you elaborate on your interest in legislative matters?
- Answer: I am interested in the judicial branch of SGA, but I'm not sure I have this interest within COGS.
- Creigh: Are you financially certified?
- Answer: I saw this is something I need to do, but I have not had time to complete the courses.
- Adhikari: How do you think COGS will help you become more involved with SGA?
- Answer: My expectation of my involvement with COGS is to have my foot in the door with SGA and to fill the third position. I would also love to get a free coffee machine for the law school.
- Pros:
  - Linsky: I've been trying for a while to get people involved with SGA and nobody has showed up to my discussions about this. Andrew wants to be in COGS. He did his research and he reached out, and I appreciate that dedication.
  - Delva: I think he is much more knowledgeable about COGS – more than I was when I first petitioned. I believe we can benefit from his involvement in SGA.
  - Ryan: I do like that he has a unique perspective with being a teacher and taking some time off from undergrad. I appreciate his dedication and interest in SGA.
- Vote: 23-0-0
- Deputy Speaker Delva swears in both Rep. Basualdo and Rep. Goulette

### **Special Introductions and Student Comments: N/A**

### **Messages from Student Government:**

- *Brandon Gabay, Jewish Student Union, Director*
  - We're a new student government agency and we've established January as Jewish Heritage Month. We are doing events throughout the month. Tomorrow we are doing an event that addresses the history of the Holocaust.
  - Wednesday: Showing Schindler's List

- Thursday: Having a Holocaust survivor coming to speak to the organization
- Friday: Banquet

### **Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:**

- *Rawan Abhari, Executive Director*
  - I wanted to share our legislative agenda and what we will be lobbying for.
  - Legislators will be coming to Tallahassee this week for Rally in Tally. Please see the link for relative information:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdfCrkAwPbhxsBLksluO7qm0zCRk61qtGuK\\_cwsRxjXX3aMuA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdfCrkAwPbhxsBLksluO7qm0zCRk61qtGuK_cwsRxjXX3aMuA/viewform)
  - I want to speak about Day at the Capital. Rawan reviewed their legislative agenda for this event.

### **Report of Officers:**

- **The Report of the Speaker**

- Rawan is here to speak about OGA and how it will be impactful for Rally in Tally. Next week, to reiterate, we will be doing Day at the Capital. Within COGS, our ability to impact is limited where advocating at the state level can yield larger change. I want to encourage everyone to do that if you are available.
- We had some outreach from graduate students, and we've decided to set up a graduate student life task force. We'll be meeting weekly with several university professionals within the division of student affairs to understand more about the momentum we can have for graduate student life. We aim to create a 3-year strategic plan.
- We are trying to work on an LGBTQIA+ Initiative, which is trying to resolve that we do stand in solidarity to those in the LGBTQIA+ community.
- As a reminder for our newest members, please become financially certified.
- Please join the Slack channel.
- Please fill out the FERPA form to use your email address on the COGS website.
- Please complete the information profile sheet.
- Please send us your headshots and bios so students can reach out, as well.
- Please download and register for iClicker to be able to vote within COGS.

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

- If you look on page 3 of the bill packet for today. We haven't had any unallocated bills come in. Although LSC and MSC are spending regularly as usual. Presentation and attendance grants are slowing down as it's the end of the funding period. We do have a new funding period that opens on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- COGS Budget Hearings are currently taking place. We've gone through 15 hearings. Deliberations will take place this Friday at 5pm on Zoom. We have a packet that has so much information that RSOs have contributed.

- Please feel free to join Deliberations and the Budget Hearings to hear some of the questions and discussion. If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me know.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs**
  - If new representatives would please contact me if any questions arise, that would be great.
  - I'm working on a daily life guidebook for 2022/2023. If you want a PDF or paper copy, please let me know.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications**
  - I have been continuing to reach out to instructors and graduate program representatives.
  - I will be organizing another round of Instagram Live before the next meeting. Please join our social media pages in the meantime.

### **Committee Report:**

- **C-SAC:** Dep. Speaker Creigh
  - We met today at 5pm. I will be discussing the CSAC funding request that was passed this evening.
- **Internal Affairs:** Rep. Linsky
  - We met last Sunday. We went over Senate Bill 666, and Florida Statute 924. If anyone who is new to COGS wants to know more about the financial situation in COGS, please reach out to me.
- **Student Advocacy:** Rep. Mustafa
  - When we met last Monday, we decided to meet once per month on Mondays. We discussed how we can figure out what students require more proactively. We allocated areas to different members in the committee, and we will discuss what those areas mean to each member during the next meeting. We aim to improve our visibility with students during this process.
- **Student Affairs:** Rep. Smith
  - We met last Friday. We are still trying to get headshots together. But if you cannot make those, we are trying to schedule an event through COGS. Graduate student appreciation week during the first week in April. We discussed getting involved in Market Wednesday.

### **Funding Requests:**

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **New Business:** C-SAC Consent Resolution 01, *Anthropology Graduate Student Association*

- The Anthropology Graduate Student Association was requesting 245.39 under expense and food. This will be for a "Research Showcase" during which graduate and undergraduate students come to present during a low stake's forum. Mentors and feedback come to learn from each other and ability to present their research in this setting.

- These events usually bring about 30-40 people. I'm glad they came to us well in advance. Looking at their past allocations with COGS, it has been awhile since they've had the opportunity to use any funds from COGS, but they are starting the process again.
- Expense will be used for nametags, which will be handed out to everyone. Food will include different platters and beverage options from Publix. We voted on it and approved it unanimously during the C-SAC committee member.

Questions:

- Mustafa: You mentioned the participants and audience of this event were graduate students. Can you speak on that?
- Creigh: It is open to anyone on campus.
- Rogowski: Do you know how the event is going to be advertised?
- Creigh: They have various social media and a limited number of flyers. But they will also use word of mouth by discussing this within their department.
- Rogowski: You may want to recommend a listserv that they can use to reach out to undergraduate and graduate students.
- Rogowski: Do you know the last time they had an event like this and how successful it was?
- Creigh: The representative that came to the meeting is newer, but they haven't had anything like this in at least the past year. However, they have done the event in the past.
- Rogowski: Do you think the money for the food for the amount of people?
- Creigh: Yes.

Pros:

- Rogowski: Events like this are really great especially for graduate students who haven't presented at a professional conference before.
- Mustafa: It is a good thing that it is open to the public.

Cons:

- Seeing none.

Second round of pros:

- Seeing none.

Motion to call to question: Hagemeyer, Linsky: Second

Vote: 22-0-0

**Round Table:**

**Adjournment/Finale Roll Call: 8:40 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 7, 2022 at 6:30p.m. in HCB 313 & Zoom**