



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

**THIRTIETH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Assembly Meeting  
Monday, July 18th, 2022  
6:30 p.m.  
Agenda

**Call to Order:** 6:34 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Rep. Rogowski

**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Basualdo, Collins, Delva, Galleano, Neale, Rogowski, Smith, Vaughn, Vouzas

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:** Noor Mustafa

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:** Amaraneni, Mekala, Young

**REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:**

**REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:**

Motion to approve the minutes: Vouzas

Second: Rogowski

**Petitions into the Assembly:** N/A

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

**Messages from Student Government:** N/A

**Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:** N/A

**Report of Officers:**

- The Report of the Speaker
  - Thank you and shout out to Dep Speaker Vouzas, who helped me pack up the COGS office to move to the Union.
  - Our office hours will switch to in-person office hours, however, there will likely be hybrid options to attend
  - New Graduate Student Orientation is on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. I am going to reach out to the organizer to ask which time would be best to come. We plan to distribute merchandise and connect with new graduate students. It will be in Ruby Diamond

Auditorium. Please mark your calendars for this. I will be in touch with the best check in times. I will also send this in an email for everyone.

- I am working on updating the list of representatives and the open seats. You will be getting an email about your status in COGS.
- Our schedule in Fall: The first meeting will be August 22<sup>nd</sup>, followed by September 12<sup>th</sup>, September 19<sup>th</sup>, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup>, November 28<sup>th</sup>.
- We will be switching our meetings to in-person, as well, to work more hands on together.
- They will occur in the Senate Chambers.
- I have received a couple emails about switching committees – if the number of people in committees is less than 5, then we cannot switch around committees. Once we return in the Fall, then we can approve potentially movements in committees.
- I heard from a Senator that they would like to work more closely with COGS, especially with joint writing and legislation. As I meet with him, I will keep you updated on our communication.
- Another change that we are looking to do in the Fall is a rolling list of representatives attending to Funding Requests and Resolution bill writing.
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
  - There isn't too much to report, since it is the beginning of the fiscal year.
  - We are going to be changing COGS code to update the amount of money available for presentation/attendance grants. In the spring, we discussed presentation and attendance grants will increase by \$50. The internal affairs committee will meet to reflect this change in COGS code.
  - If there is going to be any purchasing in COGS, please consult me and the accounting office to make sure that everything is ordered from the appropriate vendors.
  - If you remember, last time we passed a budget bill, we had the budget hearing deliberations in February, then we passed the bill in March. This is traditionally very late (Senate usually does this in the Fall). In previous years, it's more traditional that COGS budget hearing deliberations are conducted just before Christmas. We hope, this year, to have the bill passed before the holiday break.
  - When I joined the budget committee, I was unsatisfied with how ill prepared I was. What I'm planning to do is to start treating the budget committee the same way as we treat the other committees – we will discuss the history of the budget committee, the expectations, etc.
  - Questions
    - Collins: Will you select the budget committee members?
    - Vouzas: I will likely just ask who is interested since I don't want to exclude anyone.
    - Collins: Great, and do you have any idea of how many members you expect on the committee?
    - Vouzas: I would like good representation across colleges, but I do not know of the exact number I need.
    - Rogowski: I like the idea of appointing, to get good representation. But I'm not sure what it says in the COGS Code. Also, I wasn't sure how I felt about having this completed around the holiday. As a member in an organization, it feels overwhelming to have to prepare something to propose that quickly. This could potentially hinder RSOs. I wanted to email you and Nella because one thing I've been thinking about is that there is a lot going on, as an RSO member, I am interested in a workshop for RSOs.

- Vouzas: Thank you. These are good suggestions. The plan would be to move the entire process earlier, so every step of the process would come earlier. I would send emails to all RSOs and executives at the beginning of the semester so they have ample time to prepare. To address your comment about helping RSOs, prior Deputy Speaker Creigh did create a whole guide on helping RSOs. However, a workshop might be helpful to provide even more help to RSOs.
- Delva: I wanted to collaborate in coming up with those trainings. Also, I wanted to brainstorm a way to figure out how to transition a little better. Our prior Deputy Speaker of Finance did create a training for RSOs. We appreciate any help from representatives to help us out.
- Vouzas: The reason I want to have budget committee meetings is to share how people can apply for presentation and attendance grants, apply for funding, manage a budget. I don't believe people have a deep knowledge about how the entire financial system of COGS functions.
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs
  - I am currently working on a mini training on COGS Financial Information
  - This will be useful especially for the budget hearings
  - I am working on a strategic plan, because it gives us more direction for attainable goals for the year
  - I will be taking the lead organizing our participation in Graduate Student Orientation, and we are working on potentially getting ice cream
  - I am hoping we can coordinate with another organization on campus, and we can share a table or flyers (e.g., food pantry, career resource center). I think it's important to collaborate more this academic year and getting to know them as an organization and letting them get to know us as graduate students
  - You will be getting an email from me regarding internal affairs meeting coming up.
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications
  - I have created a training for bill writing, so you feel more comfortable producing these when it is your turn to write a bill.
  - I will be in touch about outreach events in August
  - Keep an eye out for emails regarding the status of your seat. Please confirm or deny if you still hold your current seat, so we can update our current seat list for our outreach materials.

#### Committee Report:

- C-SAC
  - Nothing to report, have not met
- Internal Affairs
  - Nothing to report, have not met. However, we will be meeting soon to discuss updating COGS Code.
- Student Advocacy
  - Nothing to report, have not met
- Student Affairs:
  - Nothing to report, however, I want you to know we will be electing a new chair in the Fall.

Funding Requests: N/A

Unfinished Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Round Table:

Adjournment: 7:35 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** August 22nd, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in person (Location TBD)