



TWENTY SEVENTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL SESSION
HCB 103, 109 Collegiate Loop
March 11th, 2019
6:30 p.m.



Call to Order: 6:37pm

Pledge of Allegiance:

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Blake-Hedges, Brinkman, Chiodi, Lange, Morgan, Nelson, O'Neill, Oloye, Shahbandeh, Solano, Uttermark, Stewart

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: NONE

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: Asturizaga

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Uttermark, approved. Morgan, second.

Petitions into the Assembly: Caroline Nelson (Law): Student is from the law school and would like to be a member of COGS. She is interested in the student advocacy committee and is currently a 1L, so will be on campus for the next 2 years. **Uttermark, Motion to accept, Solano, second; no objections.**

Special Introductions and Student Comments: Medical School Council

- Seven members of MSC presented to COGS on the structure and rules of MSC, discussed typical events hosted by the organization and RSOs nested within it, and the overall benefit of the organization to the FSU Student Body with use of a PowerPoint presentation.

Messages from Student Government: NONE

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs: NONE

Elections: NONE

Report of Officers:

- **The Report of the Speaker:** Dealing a lot with LSC funding issue, will be before Supreme Court on April 26, because I vetoed a bill and LSC is demanding additional oversight.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance:** Couple allocations in front of us tonight, turn to second page and we will see all the remaining funds for our fiscal period. We have run out of funds for presentation grants for the current funding period. We will attempt to sweep from other accounts in the future. Everything is going very slow because we are missing a staff member. Three bill packets today. Bill 8 is coming before us because they have already exhausted the funds they got from CSAC.

- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs:** I'm working on finalizing committees so. We are working on a phone list so all members, please get with me.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications:**

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:** Has not met
- **Internal Affairs:** Has not met. Want to discuss concerns about attendance. Want to discuss MSC and LSC policies that potentially conflict with COGS code.
- **Student Advocacy:** Solano – haven't met
- **Student Affairs:** Oloye – haven't met this month but we met with PIE and had a good meeting and talked about COGS funding and hopefully will try to schedule a meeting for the committee by the end of March.

Funding Requests:

- **Bill 8: Allocation to Philosophy Graduate Student Association**
PGSA is hosting an annual conference that they take turns hosting with University of Florida, where undergraduates are able to present. The conference is on April 13. This is opportunity to network and present cutting-edge research on philosophy but the conference is not restricted by specialty. There are undergrads that applied to present and we know undergrads attend. We are asking for funds to supply food for the day, snacks not meals. We have presenters during the day, 6 from FSU and 6 from UF. We want to supply coffee and bagels. **FIRST PRO:** Blake-Hedges – shares that it's always nice to be able to practice presenting your research before you go to larger conferences and it is a collaborative program; **CONS:** None; Motion to call to question – Asturizaga; Uttermark, second; Motion to approve by acclimation; Solano – seconded. **Bill 8 Passes, \$15 General Expense, Food: \$200**
- **Bill 9: Allocation to Indian Student Association of Tallahassee**
President of Indian Student Association asking for funding for Holi festival. It is an open event; 70-80 people came to the Bali event and the organization is hoping for larger numbers for this event. **FIRST PRO:** Blake-Hedges – they hold events like this all the time and they are well attended and it is nice for people to celebrate their culture. **CON:** Asturizaga – although I am super in favor of funding these events, I want to remind the group how do we want to push the idea that every single year we fund the same quantity to the same organizations without doing some fund raising. I want to use this platform to tell the organizations to reach to other ways to secure funds. O'Neill – all future comments should relate to the bill and outside comments should be held till after in new business. Shahbandeh – the organization could talk to CGE and use the kitchen to cook. O'Neill – previous budgets have been open to this. Oloye – I am also for diversity, it would have been nice to see some more options and it doesn't seem like there has been enough attention. Uttermark, move to Call to question; 2nd. Closing statements: The organization spoke with the restaurants and they gave us prices for the deserts and we could talk more about where the food is from and the vendor has reduced the price for the foods and we can do more research **Vote 10 – 0 – 1: Bill 9 passes, Food: \$950.**
- **Bill 10: Allocation to the ChemiNoles Graduate Student Association**
Organization President and Secretary requesting \$400 for food, \$100 for extra supplies for undergrad research event. 10 speakers coming from grad students in the Chemistry department. The group is trying to increase undergraduate research participation and to get Florida A & M University and Tallahassee Community College students to come because many of them transfer. The organization also does poster sessions and offers lab tours at the end of the event. The organization receives departmental support for the tables and the easels. The group asked the graduate school to help with the reach out to FAMU and TCC and the rooms are secured. **FIRST PRO:** Sounds like a great event, clearly well prepared. Lange – this could potentially help with graduate student recruitment. **COGNS:** None. Uttermark, move to call to question, Morgan seconds. **VOTE: Bill 10 passes, 12-0-0, \$100 Expense, \$400 Food.**
- **Bill 11: Allocation to Public Health Student Association**

Vice President and Outreach Coordinator explain the fund request for End of the Year Celebration and funding allocations was detailed by the Outreach Coordinator. **FIRST PRO:** None **CONS:** Asturizaga – although I congratulate your organization on the proposal, I see a lot of red flags like the 100 for photographer and the expense general like the promotional items, seeing as this is a new I wouldn't want to spend on promotional items for this when our COGS promotional items is almost that size, I want to see numbers for this event because it is new. O'Neill – I encourage you not to compare COGS to the budgets of other organization. We are not a programming body, we are legislative; keep your comments. Blake-Hedges – I think the promotional items are a bit pricey, if they showed us they gave away all the items I might be more in favor of it later. **SECOND PRO:** Blake-Hedges – I would like to amend the bill to contractual services to \$0 and promotional items to \$350 and food \$358.69 for food; 2nd. Uttermark, objection; 2nd not withdrawn. Blake-Hedges – we can get student pubs and the promotional items is a lot for a first time event so we could cut it back down. Org – the items will be used for tabling events and other activities. **PRO:** Solano – the photographer can be provided through FSU so that can be taken into account; \$700 seems like a lot for the promotional items for an event. **CON:** Uttermark – I agree with 99% of Blake-Hedges, I want to cut the photographer. Out of the 3 items here, would you rank them for us? We would cut the fidget spinners. Brinkman – move to only remove the photographer and no budget for fidget spinners total at \$770.19; 2nd no objection. Solano, motion to call to question; Uttermark, second. **VOTE: Bill 11 passes 10-0-0.**

Unfinished Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

Round Table: Blake-Hedges, Brinkman, Chiodi, Lange, Morgan, Nelson, O'Neill, Oloye, Shahbandeh, Solano, Uttermark

Adjournment: 8:07pm

Next Meeting: April 1st, 2019