

TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting
Special Session
Zoom
March 1st, 2021
6:30
MINUTES



Call to Order: 6:33

Pledge of Allegiance: Blake-hedges

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Blake-Hedges, Mendez, Hagemeyer, Hirsch, Sussman, Ilesanmi, Delva, Creigh, Sizemore, Collins, Smith, Cheuwa

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Sangokunle

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Brinkman, Morgan

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:

Reading and Approval of Minutes: motion to approve, Blake-Hedges; second, Hirsch.

Special Introductions and Student Comments: none

Messages from Student Government: none

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:

- There has been an introduction of a bill that would take into account degrees when giving financial aid. – Hagemeyer

Elections:

Report of Officers:

- **The Report of the Speaker**
 - Presentation on COGS: discussed the duties of the separate committees, discussion of current initiatives including tuition fees and childcare. Important to remember that funding is only one aspect of COGS, it is also vital to be a voice for graduate students. Some review of the COGS code, several things that should likely be removed such as old dates, and new language might be added to help for funding. There should be a stronger

connection between COGS and SGA as well. we can also create an official liaison position in order to better manage involvement of COGs. Overall, wanted to address the list of committees that COGS can be a part of if there are interested members.

- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance**
 - MSC and LSC have become more active, and they have been able to give more of their money. We have not seen too many requests ourselves. We hope to hear back from the senate soon about approving the budget so we can move forward with our own budget hearing.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs**
 - Not present, nothing to report.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications**
 - Has continued posting meeting dates in advance on social media. And created an updated flyer for the grant funding for this period to post on our social media this week if we still have funding available. Reached out to the askew Student Life center, to assist in promoting our movie night. It is going to be on March 31st and fliers will be posted on our social media starting this week. It will be Palm Springs, live streamed from Hulu. Colleges of arts and sciences, Business, Communication and information, and Social sciences and public policy are the colleges with the most empty seats on the congress so I planned to send cogs materials to fill seat vacancies.

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:** nothing to report.
- **Internal Affairs:** has not met; still working to set up meeting.
- **Student Advocacy:** creating a sort of questionnaire for students to allow for more communication between graduate students and COGS.
- **Student Affairs:** needs to create a new system for management of the new tent, rentals, and such. nothing more to report.

Funding Requests:

- **Bill #3: *ChemiNoles Transfer Request***
 - Sponsored by Blake-hedges
 - Would like to transfer funds from contractual services to use for clothing and awards instead due to canceled events as a result of COVID. They do not have an exact quote yet, but they have a good idea of what they will be needing.
 - questions
 - none
 - pros
 - Hirsch – sounds like they have a plan, and they have already been allocated the money, so it seems reasonable.
 - Cons
 - None
 - Motion to call the question, Mendez; second Creigh.

- Motion passes
 - Vote – passes with 10-0-0
- Bill #4: *Graduate Researchers of Geography Transfer Request*
 - Sponsored by Blake-hedges
 - Would like to transfer money that was originally allocated for food to instead buy tote bags. Would be a total of 162 dollars. They would give out the tote bags at their end of the year social. They could not use the food funds due to COVID-19, so they want to be able to use the money for something meaningful. They are a very active organization, and they do a lot.
 - Questions
 - None
 - Pros
 - Mendez - Was also impressed by their budget hearing presentation, and all that they do. This seems like a great use of the money, so I support it.
 - Cons
 - None
 - Motion to amend bill #4, to strike 520 dollars for speaker request.
 - Amendment passed, 10-0-0
 - Motion to call the question, Creigh; Second Hirsch.
 - Motion passes 10-0-0

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: none

Round Table

Adjournment/Finale Roll Call:

Next Meeting: 7:58 pm