

TWENTY SEVENTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting
HCB 103
September 16, 2019
6:30 p.m.
MINUTES



Call to Order: 6:38

Pledge of Allegiance: Walton

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Blake-Hedges, Book, Brinkman, Chiodi, Demirsoy, Fisher, Morgan, Nelson, O'Neill, Oloye, Shahbandeh, Solano, Walton

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED: None

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: None

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Blake-Hedges moved to approve, Brinkman second; Minutes are approved.

Petitions into the Assembly: Robert Creigh (Music), Jean-Francois Cheuwa (Arts & Sciences), Jacqueline LaBayne (Criminology & Criminal Justice), Tiffani Mendez (Arts & Sciences)

Special Introductions and Student Comments: Megan Crowe, Career Liaison to Graduate and Pre-Graduate Students discussed a survey that graduate students could participate in to give FSU a better understanding of ways to serve the graduate student population.

Messages from Student Government: None

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs: None

Elections:

- **Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs**

There were no nominations. Speaker O'Neill explains the judicial affairs position for representatives that may want to nominate at the next meeting.

Report of Officers:

- **The Report of the Speaker:**

Speaker O'Neill: while serving as a graduate liaison was able to publish ITS Voice of the Community packet, will be submitted to ITS governance council within a week and will influence the 5-year plan. Represented COGS at the FSU Childcare marshmallow challenge and it went well. Will have to follow-up to receive approved pictures from the daycare.

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

Deputy Speaker Blake-Hedges: the financial report can be found on page three of the bill packet.

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

None.

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

Representative Morgan: pictures from the COGS Social are now posted on Facebook and the recruitment drive to get more representatives is going well.

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:** No requests.
- **Internal Affairs:** Has not met.
- **Student Advocacy:** Has not met.
- **Student Affairs:** Has not met.

Funding Requests:

- Bill 18: Music Theory Society- Bill was presented by Representative Morgan. **Q & A:** Demirsoy: why from COGS Unallocated? Speaker O'Neill: funding requests always come from COGS Unallocated. Fisher: Is this \$1,500 inclusive of all travel fees? Representative Morgan: Yes. Representative Oloye: Do you have a speaker? How are they picked? Music Theory Society representative: Yes, they are picked by a blind review process for proposals and presenters. Representative Oloye: what was last years' turn out? Music theory Society representative: There were about 40-50 people. Speaker O'Neill ends Q&A and moves to pro/con. **PRO-** Demirsoy: we have funded them before, this is a well-run program. Walton: I think they deserve funding because they have done a good job of offering this opportunity to FSU students and have done due diligence by seeking funding from other places. Shahbandeh – they have done all their work to prepare this bill appropriately. **CON-** none. Closing statement provided by Representative Morgan. Representative Morgan motions to approve. Demirsoy seconds. Bill 18 passes in a vote of 12 – 0 – 4; **Keynote Speaker: \$1,500.**
- Bill 19: Art Therapy Association- Bill was presented by Rep Blake-Hedges. **Q & A-**Oloye: how does this travel represent FSU? Art Therapy Representative: we use flyers and other materials to represent the Art therapy association and the university and we will be tabling at the event. Representative Solano: is this conference different from the conference your organization hosts? Art Therapy Rep: yes. Solano: will you be hosting that conference again? Art therapy Rep: yes. Blake-Hedges: last year COGS did not fund their travel bill, but they have worked hard this year to ensure that this bill is within

all the appropriate guidelines. Oloye: will you be doing anything else in addition to tabling? Art Therapy Rep: we will be hosting an alumni night and there will be other events. Demirsoy: how were the travelers chosen? Art Therapy Rep: I will be going and the treasurer and two first year students who will be leading this travel next year. Carolyn Harris: Permission to interject. Speaker O'Neill: granted. Carolyn: it is up to y'all to decide on if you want to pay for checked bags, but meal reimbursement is not fundable. **PRO**-Solano: they will be tabling so it is good for FSU to be represented. Demirsoy: FSU Art Therapy is one of the best in the nation, so I think we should support this bill. **CON**-Shahbandeh: I do not believe we should pay for the checked bags for materials because it can fit in their carry-on bags. Solano: Motion to Amend- strike lodging and food and change transportation to \$72 and include one checked bag (i.e., alter checked bag to \$30); Representative Morgan seconds amendment. Oloye: objection – we should pay for checked bag for two-ways. Solano retracted previous amendment. Solano: Motion to Amend- strike lodging and food and change transportation to \$72 and include one checked bag two ways (i.e., alter checked bag to \$60); Morgan seconds. Nelson-objection – they deserve the full amount for checked bags. Amendment fails in a vote of 4 – 7 – 4; Solano: Motion to Amend- strike lodging and food, change transportation to \$72 and keep 4 checked bags; Representative Walton seconds. Amendment passes with a vote of 11-1-4. Representative Solano motions to approve Bill 19. Representative Chiodi seconds. Bill 19 passes with a vote 10-2-4. **Group Travel: \$1,292.**

- Bill 20: Representative Blake-Hedges introduces Bill 20. **Q & A**- Solano: these periods are self-imposed, is there a reason for that? Speaker O'Neill: to facilitate fairness in the application process. Solano: for Nov-Feb what will we do if we run out of money then? Blake-Hedges: the reason we are doing this is not because we have too many people, it is because we already said yes to their request thinking we had the money, this is due to a technical error. Solano: are the grants usually \$200? Blake-Hedges: \$200 or \$500 but the grant funding depends on the amount requested, not a flat fee. Oloye – would it be better to take this from COGS unallocated? Blake-Hedges – there already is a deficit in the next period but the next period is already higher than this past period. Speaker O'Neil: it is more appropriate to take this from the Travel Grant funds because we would be mixing funds if we took it from unallocated. Solano: we could move it from unallocated if we wanted? O'Neil – it is possible but we not within the spirit of the allocations. **PRO**- Solano: these students were already told they would receive funding so we should fund this. Fisher: I agree, we do not want the students to lose faith in COGS. Demirsoy: we should keep unallocated for student body and use the travel funding period for this. **CON**- none. Solano motions to approve Bill 20. Shahbandeh seconds. Bill 20 passes with a vote of 11 – 1 – 4. **Travel Grants: \$1,164.**

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Fisher: Discussed Grad World FSU and how this is a project being supported by the Dean of Graduate Studies and Billy Francis. The purpose was to garner support for COGS members submitting videos for Grad World FSU to represent COGS in this endeavor and may be another way we can continue the effort to recruit future members of COGS. More information can be gathered by contacting Rep Fisher about this project.
- Time was taken to celebrate the contribution Carolyn Harris has made during her stewardship as the advisor for COGS. She has faithfully stood by COGS during her tenure and her presence will be missed.

Round Table: Blake-Hedges, Book, Brinkman, Chiodi, Demirsoy, Fisher, Morgan, Nelson, O'Neill, Oloye, Shahbandeh, Solano, Walton. Committees need to have met at least once before the next meeting.

Adjournment: 8:03 PM

Next Meeting:

Monday, October 7, 6:30 PM, HCB 103

Fall Meetings

Monday, October 21, 6:30 PM, HCB 103

Monday, November 4, 6:30 PM, HCB 103

Monday, November 18, 6:30 PM, HCB 103

Monday, December 2, 6:30 PM, HCB 103