TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
COGS Assembly Meeting
Monday, July 19th, 2021
6:30 PM
Agenda

Call to Order:
Pledge of Allegiance:
Roll Call:
Reading and Approval of Minutes:
Petitions into the Assembly:
Special Introductions and Student Comments:
Messages from Student Government: Jason Randall (Senate)
Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:
Report of Officers:
  • The Report of the Speaker
  • The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
  • The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs
  • The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications
Committee Report:
  • C-SAC:
  • Internal Affairs:
  • Student Advocacy:
  • Student Affairs:
Funding Requests:
  • Bill 12: COGS Statutes Revisions
  • Bill 13 MPHSA Funding Request
Unfinished Business:
New Business:
Round Table/Final Roll Call:
Adjournment:
Next Meeting: Monday, August 23rd, at 6:30 PM via Zoom
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<tr>
<th>ACCOUNT</th>
<th>ALLOCATION AMOUNT</th>
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<td>UNALLOCATED</td>
<td>$27,617</td>
<td>For RSO funding requests at COGS meetings</td>
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<td>ORGANIZATIONAL (C-SAC)</td>
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<td>RSO funding for allocations less than $1000 for the fiscal year</td>
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<td>LSC</td>
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<td>Funding allocations from Law School Council to Law School Student Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSC</td>
<td>$44,000</td>
<td>Funding allocations from Medical School Council to Medical School Student Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRESENTATION GRANTS (Jul-Oct)</td>
<td>$53,000</td>
<td>Presentation Grant balance for the March-June funding period</td>
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<td>PRESENTATION GRANTS (Nov-Feb)</td>
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Call to Order: 6:38 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Rep. Morgan

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Ahlbum, Creigh, Graves, Hagemeyer, Harshe, Hirsch, Morgan, Sizemore, Wiley

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Collins, Delva

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Gfatter, Sangokunle, Smith

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Morgan, 2nd by Wiley

Special Introductions and Student Comments: N/A

Messages from Student Government: N/A

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:

Elections:

Petition into Assembly:
Shibu Adhikari
- Second year PhD student. Wants to actively work in the community. He was actively involved within his own community in department. Since there is minor representation within his small department, he wants to give a voice of his colleagues, extend his connections, and improve academic process. Very interested in taking responsibilities regarding COGS. Currently working as a treasurer for his department and would be happy to be involved with COGS.
- Questions:
  o Rep. Hirsch: Have you looked at the committees in COGS? Which would you like to serve on?
o Answer: Student Affairs.
o Rep. Graves: COGS has meetings on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Do you have any conflicts?
o Answer: Since I am done with coursework, I am a full-time research assistant. There won’t be any concerns or conflicts.

- Pros:
o Rep. Hirsch: They seem eager to learn and get started. He would make a great fit into the Congress.
o Rep. Harshe: They represent Nepal and therefore a minority community. He would provide a good representation.
o Rep. Graves: It is great to have someone else in experience regarding school-related committees, along with being an international student. His perspective will help the Congress.

- Vote: 8-0-0
- Dept. Speaker Sizemore swore in Adhikari.

Report of Officers:
• The Report of the Speaker
  o Found storage for AEDs, they will arrive at Westcott and shuttle them to university storage. Now waiting on meetings for language on accounts; seeing who in Student Affairs will lead that. Will not distribute AEDs until the language is set for setting them up, maintaining them, and other details for all the buildings. Finding building locations and then instillation.
o COGS did not get sweepings this year. $2-3K was vetoed. Much of the money is not coming in. Going to set up a meeting to see why the money has not come through yet; it was supposed to take place today, but it was canceled last Friday. It will be difficult to find a time for everyone to meet for a specific time.
o Ordered new umbrellas; special thanks to Rep. Harshe for finding the money for coffee hours for international students.
o Asking all reps if there are any organizations that need funding.
o Jessie O’Reilly talked with Speaker Hagemeyer about locations of COGS assembly and videotaping for representatives that cannot attend in person. Finding locations.
o FSU Childcare funds were vetoed from the recent meeting, but they will cover those costs themselves.
• The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
  o Getting into the swing of things, i.e., the role of Deputy Speaker for Finance. Creating quick references guides for various occasions.
• The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs
  o Did first office hours today but working on reading COGS code.
• The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications

Committee Report:
• C-SAC:
• Nothing to report; has not met.

• **Internal Affairs:**
  • Looking at various ways to help out representatives, prospective representatives, and so on. Team pictures, orientation, new membership and representation for presenting bills, speaking comfortably in front of the assembly, going over the Robert’s Rules of Order (training day), and discussions of point of contact.

• **Student Advocacy:**
  • Met on Wednesday May 26, 2021. Got a lot done regarding distributing responsibilities. Dept. Speaker Creigh stepped down from co-chair of Advocacy; Rep. Graves is now the co-chair. Looked at resources for FSU Childcare; providing resources for graduate students by looking at local and federal funds for the assistance of graduate students, as well as other options other than FSU Childcare, along with explaining what the alternatives can do. Looking to see how new graduate students can get this information. Reaching out to GAU to see if childcare concerns/assistance can be introduced to become a part of the bargaining. Communication between COGS and regular graduate students; regarding concerns. Seeing to find links or Qualtrics forms for graduate students to communicate concerns to specific COGS committees, whether that be a form, someone specific, or other means. That is, making easier for students to contact COGS. Future meeting planned.

• **Student Affairs:**
  • Still haven’t met since last meeting. Sizemore was thinking about stepping down and wondering about electing a new chair for Student Affairs. A meeting will determine the new chair, along with an election during that meeting.

**Funding Requests:** N/A

**Unfinished Business:** N/A

**New Business:** N/A

**Round Table:**

**Adjournment/Finale Roll Call:** 7:35 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** July 19, 2021
Statute Revisions & Additions

29th Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 12

Sponsored by: Representative Harshe

Date: July 19, 2021

Purpose & Description: Revising the COGS statutes to improve readability, strengthen the relationship between COGS and the Student Senate, and expand the ex-officio voting rights of the COGS Speaker in the Student Senate.

Statute Number(s): 607.1

Statute/Amendment Text:

607.1. Title and Purpose

A. Title An organization entitled Congress of Graduate Students (hereinafter referred to as COGS) is established on the main campus of the Florida State University to implement the general policies of the Florida State University Student Government Association (hereafter referred to as FSU-SGA) and the specific policies of COGS.

1. An organization entitled the Congress of Graduate Students (hereinafter referred to as COGS) is established on the main campus of the Florida State University to implement the general policies of the Florida State University Student Government Association (hereafter referred to as FSU-SGA) and the specific policies of COGS.

B. Purpose of COGS

1. To provide graduate and professional students at FSU, through COGS, an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process.
2. To consider, make recommendations and act upon phases of graduate and professional student life at FSU.
3. To serve as the principal forum for decisions on matters of broad concern to the graduate and professional students at FSU.
4. To serve as the chief means by which graduate and professional students may express their university concerns for FSU-SGA.

C. Membership

1. COGS shall be composed of representatives as defined by the COGS Code.
2. The COGS Faculty Advisor shall be an ex-officio member of COGS.
3. The Speaker of COGS shall preside over COGS and shall vote only in the case of a tie among the representatives.
4. A Financial Officer shall be elected by COGS to serve in the absence, removal, or resignation of the Speaker, until election of a new Speaker.
5. Any graduate, professional or post-baccalaureate (graduate special) student admitted at FSU, taking course(s), maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, and in good standing with the University, shall be eligible to seek and hold a position in COGS.

D. Procedures

1. COGS may propose legislation to the Student Senate. Once proposed by COGS, the Student Senate President or the Senate Judiciary Committee must submit such legislation to the Student Senate.
2. COGS shall represent itself in Student Senate, either by a resolution read in Student Senate or by appearance of a delegate from COGS, on the following matters:
   a. Legislation that changes Chapter 607 of the Student Body Statutes.
   b. Legislation which is a resolution of COGS concerning university-wide matters.
   c. Other matters as the SGA shall request COGS representation.
   d. Other matters as COGS shall request to be represented before SGA.
3. COGS shall hold at least one (1) regular meeting per month.
4. All legislation approved by COGS shall be done so upon simple majority vote of quorum.
5. Legislation concerning the establishment of, or changes in, the COGS Code shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of quorum.
6. Proviso Language can be added to the funds that are guaranteed by the Student Government Constitution only if that proviso language is agreed
upon by both Student Senate and COGS. All funding in addition to those
guaranteed to COGS by the Student Government Constitution, may at the
discretion of Senate, contain proviso language.

E. Quorum
1. Quorum is required to conduct business.
2. Quorum exists if both of the following conditions are met:
   a. The speaker or a designated chair is present.
   b. A majority of representatives is present at a meeting called in
      accordance with the COGS Code and COGS Internal Rules of
      Procedure.

F. Vacancies
1. When a vacancy occurs, notice of the position will be advertised on the
   COGS bulletin boards a minimum of seven (7) consecutive days.
2. Vacancies shall be filled at the discretion and with the approval of COGS
   in accordance with the guidelines in the COGS Code.

G. Duties and Responsibilities of COGS
1. To establish rules of order and internal operating procedures (hereinafter
   referred to as Code) as necessary to implement the purpose and
   responsibilities of COGS.
2. In the event of a vacancy, to appoint qualified students to serve on COGS,
   its committees, and its task forces as necessary.
3. To write and vote on its own guidelines and Code.
4. To construct a budget for each fiscal year for portions of the Activity and
   Service Fee revenue apportioned to COGS. This revenue will total thirty
   (30%) percent of all main FSU campus A&S monies collected from
   students designated by the Registrar as five (5) or seven (7).
5. To approve the expenditure of monies allocated to the COGS budget,
   with the authorizing signature of two members of the COGS Executive
   Committee.
6. To review annually COGS Bylaws and make appropriate revisions.
7. To submit a copy of its budget to the Student Senate detailing its
   categorical spending in a timely fashion.
8. COGS will be offered a non-voting ex-officio seat on all Student Senate
   Budget Committees, budget sub committees, Central Reserves
   Committee, and Sweepings Committee.
9. COGS may establish procedures in the COGS Code to freeze funds or
   otherwise sanction non-complaint student organizations within its
   jurisdiction, subject to appeal to any competent body or officer in
   accordance with Chapter 805 of these statutes.
10. COGS may, by a two-thirds (2/3), (66%) vote, suspend and recommend to
    the Senate that any officer or member of COGS or of any entity with the
    jurisdiction of COGS, be impeached limited to the grounds of
misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance, and excessive absences. Once an individual has been suspended they will lose all privileges of their office until such time as the Senate may undertake a review. The Senate may issue an order reinstating the officer or impeach the officer in which case they will be subject to removal from the office in accordance with 405.5. In the event of a conflict between this subsection and any provision in Chapter 405, this subsection will control.

H. COGS Speaker Duties and Responsibilities
   1. To plan and coordinate the execution of all administrative work necessary for the efficient operation of COGS.
   2. To be the chief liaison between COGS and SGA.
   3. To be empowered to represent the graduate, professional, and postbaccalaureate FSU Student Body officially within the university and serve as spokesperson for COGS.
   4. To be responsible for the supervision/hiring/firing of authorized COGS OPS employees funded by A&S Fees, with the final approval by majority vote of COGS.
   5. To authorize the expenditure of A&S allocations as described in the COGS budget.
   6. To perform other duties and responsibilities as delineated in the COGS Code.

I. COGS Representative Duties and Responsibilities
   1. To attend all regular and special meetings.
   2. Prior to any contractual agreements, to make known to COGS and the SGA Business Manager any potential conflict-of-interest situation that may exist.
   3. To perform other duties and responsibilities as delineated in the COGS Code.

J. Interaction Between COGS and SGA
   1. A copy of all bills, minutes, and resolutions shall be sent promptly to COGS to SGA and vice versa. This task is the duty of the Information Officer of COGS and of the Student Senate Pro Tempore.
   2. COGS and SGA representatives shall meet a minimum of twice a year to share and discuss issues, problems, and items of mutual concern. Each group shall host one liaison meeting each year.
   3. Notification shall be given by the Student Senate Pro Tempore to COGS at the time of the first reading of bills originating in the Student Senate which change FSU Statutes, the Student Body Constitution, or any university-wide issues which affect COGS. A minimum of one week shall elapse between the first and second reading of the bill.
4. Legislation originated in Student Senate which would change Chapter 607 of the Student Body Statutes must pass the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

K. All provisions of Chapter 607 shall be considered fully severable.

607.2. Membership

A. COGS shall be composed of representatives as defined by the COGS Code.

B. The COGS Faculty Advisor shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of COGS.

C. A Speaker shall be elected by COGS.

D. A Financial Officer shall be elected by COGS to serve in the absence, removal, or resignation of the Speaker, until election of a new Speaker.

E. Any graduate, professional or post-baccalaureate (graduate special) student admitted at FSU, taking course(s), maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, and in good standing with the University, shall be eligible to seek and hold a position in COGS.

607.3. Procedures

A. COGS shall hold at least one (1) regular meeting per month.

B. All legislation approved by COGS shall be done so upon simple majority vote of quorum.

C. The Speaker of COGS shall preside over COGS and shall vote only in the case of a tie among the representatives.

D. Legislation concerning the establishment of, or changes in, the COGS Code shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of quorum.

E. Proviso Language can be added to the funds that are guaranteed by the Student Government Constitution only if that proviso language is agreed upon by both Student Senate and COGS. All funding in addition to those guaranteed to COGS by the Student Government Constitution, may at the discretion of Senate, contain proviso language.

L. Quorum
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2. **Quorum exists if both of the following conditions are met:**
   
a. **The speaker or a designated chair is present.**
   
b. **A majority of representatives is present at a meeting called in accordance with the COGS Code and COGS Internal Rules of Procedure.**

**607.4. Vacancies**

A. **When a vacancy occurs, notice of the position will be advertised on the COGS bulletin boards a minimum of seven (7) consecutive days.**

B. **Vacancies shall be filled at the discretion and with the approval of COGS in accordance with the guidelines in the COGS Code.**

**607.5. Duties and Responsibilities of COGS**

A. **To establish rules of order and internal operating procedures (hereinafter referred to as Code) as necessary to implement the purpose and responsibilities of COGS.**

B. **In the event of a vacancy, to appoint qualified students to serve on COGS, its committees, and its task forces as necessary.**

C. **To write and vote on its own guidelines and Code.**

D. **To construct a budget for each fiscal year for portions of the Activity and Service Fee revenue apportioned to COGS. This revenue will total thirty (30%) percent of all main FSU campus A&S monies collected from students designated by the Registrar as five (5) or seven (7).**

E. **To approve the expenditure of monies allocated to the COGS budget, with the authorizing signature of two members of the COGS Executive Committee.**

F. **To review annually COGS Bylaws and make appropriate revisions.**

G. **To submit a copy of its budget to the Student Senate detailing its categorical spending in a timely fashion.**
H. COGS may establish procedures in the COGS Code to freeze funds or otherwise sanction non-compliant student organizations within its jurisdiction, subject to appeal to any competent body or officer in accordance with Chapter 805 of these statutes.

I. COGS may, by a two-thirds (2/3), (66%) vote, suspend and recommend to the Senate that any officer or member of COGS or of any entity with the jurisdiction of COGS, be impeached limited to the grounds of misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance, and excessive absences. Once an individual has been suspended they will lose all privileges of their office until such time as the Senate may undertake a review pursuant to Chapter 405 of these Statutes. The Senate may issue an order in the form of a Resolution reinstating the officer or impeach the officer in which case they will be subject to removal from the office.

607.6. COGS Speaker Duties and Responsibilities
   A. To plan and coordinate the execution of all administrative work necessary for the efficient operation of COGS.
   
   B. To be the chief liaison between COGS and SGA.
   
   C. To be empowered to represent the graduate, professional, and post-baccalaureate FSU Student Body officially within the university and serve as spokesperson for COGS.
   
   D. To be responsible for the supervision/hiring/firing of authorized COGS OPS employees funded by A&S Fees, with the final approval by majority vote of COGS.
   
   E. To authorize the expenditure of A&S allocations as described in the COGS budget.
   
   F. To perform other duties and responsibilities as delineated in the COGS Code.

607.7. COGS Representative Duties and Responsibilities
   A. To attend all regular and special meetings.
   
   B. Prior to any contractual agreements, to make known to COGS and the SGA Business Manager any potential conflicts-of-interest that may exist.
   
   C. To perform other duties and responsibilities as delineated in the COGS Code.
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   c. Other matters as the Student Senate shall request COGS representation.
   d. Other matters as COGS shall request to be represented before the Student Senate.

C. The COGS Speaker or their designee shall serve as a voting ex-officio member of the Student Senate Budget, Central Reserves, and Sweepings Committees.

D. A copy of all bills, minutes, and resolutions shall be sent promptly from COGS to the Student Senate and vice versa. This task is the duty of the Communications Officer of COGS and of the Student Senate President Pro Tempore.

E. COGS, Student Senate, and Executive Branch representatives shall meet a minimum of twice a year to share and discuss issues, problems, and items of mutual concern. Each group shall host one liaison meeting each year.

F. Notification shall be given by the Student Senate Pro Tempore to COGS at the time of the first reading of bills originating in the Student Senate which change FSU Statutes, the Student Body Constitution, or any university-wide issues which affect COGS. A minimum of one week shall elapse between the first and second reading of the bill.

G. Legislation which would change Chapter 607 of the Student Body Statutes must pass the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

All provisions of Chapter 607 shall be considered fully severable.
Allocation, Revision, or Transfer

29th Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 13

Sponsored by: Representative Graves

Date: July 19th, 2021

Amount: $610

From (account name): COGS Unallocated

To (account name): Master of Public Health Student Association Clothing and Awards

Purpose & Description: We are requesting funding for MPHSA t-shirts that can be distributed amongst our FSU students on a first come first serve basis. The goal is to make them available as soon as possible to current students who would like to attend our first volunteer opportunity on August 6th/7th, 2021 for the "North Florida Homeless/At-Risk Veterans Stand Down" at FAMU. Furthermore, we would hope to distribute more t-shirts during the first week of classes for our first share-night event with Chipotle (located on Gaines) on August 31st from 5pm-9pm. At this event, we hope our students will represent the MPHSA by wearing our shirts and promote others to state they are with our event at the register to go towards our funding. The overall goal for the t-shirts past this first official event is for our students to wear them around campus to promote our RSO, the MPH Program, and public health. We have several other share-nights throughout the semester that students will wear shirts to including Panera, Panda Express, Moe’s, and Blaze Pizza. Our other goal is for students to represent the MPHSA wearing our t-shirts at campus and community volunteer events. As mentioned above, our first opportunity will be August 6th and 7th. We have another organization for the Alzheimer’s Project "Forget Me Not Walk" that will need our volunteers on November 7th. Throughout the semester, Dr. Rowan (past MPHSA advisor) gets sent many volunteer opportunities that we advertise to all MPH and MPHSA students to participate in. These shirts are meant to be worn during the Fall and Spring semester at any of these opportunities. In the Spring, we are planning to host a tabling event on campus during Public Health Week where the t-shirts will also be worn to distinguish who is hosting the event as other campus organizations have historically been involved by contributing to this event.

Itemized Expenditures:

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Total: $610
FSU Master in Public Health Student Association

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Subtotal: 604.00
Sales Tax: 
Shipping: 
Total: 604.00

Note:
This quote is valid for 30 days.

**The following are provided at no additional cost:**
- Art preparation/Design
- Screens
- Setups
- Local delivery