



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

THIRTIETH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Assembly Meeting

Monday, November 29, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Agenda

Call to Order:

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call:

Reading and Approval of Internal Rules of Procedure:

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

Elections: **Conducted by Colbi Thykadavil, Student Body Vice President**

Representatives: *Elected members who did not attend the 2021 SGA Inauguration*

Executive Board:

- *Speaker*
- *Deputy Speaker*
- *Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs*
- *Deputy Speaker of Communications*

Special Introductions and Student Comments:

- *Emma Feeks, Gift of Life Representative*
- *Maria Gabriela Cucalon Cabarcos, Business Analytics Program, College of Business00*

Committees:

- *Internal Affairs Chair*
- *Student Advocacy Chair*
- *Student Affairs Chair*

Petitions into the Assembly:

- *Shyam Amaraneni- Graduate School and Special Student Advocacy Seat 1*
- *Susan Rogowski - Seat 6 Arts and Sciences*
- *Francis Baffour-Awuah Junior - Seat 3 Arts and Sciences*
- *Amber Mustafa - Seat 1 Education*
- *Laura Vaughn- Seat 2 Education*
- *Jorge Galeano Cabral – International Student Advocacy Seat 1*
- *Parker Wilson - Seat 1 Medicine*
- *Jacob Myrhe- Seat 2 Medicine*
- *Samuel Boatright- Seat 3 Medicine*
- *Alaba Illesamni- Graduate Student Housing Advocate Seat 1*
- *Matthew Linsky - Law Seat 2*

Messages from Student Government:

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:

Report of Officers:

- The Report of the Speaker
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
 - *Electing a Budget Planning Committee*
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications

Committee Report: Recess for Committee Elections

- C-SAC:
- Internal Affairs:
- Student Advocacy:
- Student Affairs:

Funding Requests:

New Business:

Unfinished Business:

Round Table:

Adjournment:

Next Meeting: **January 2022, Date TBD**

COGS Financial Report, Fiscal Year 2021-2022

ACCOUNT	ALLOCATION AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	BALANCE
UNALLOCATED	\$27,617	For RSO funding requests at COGS meetings	\$19,886 (\$69,172 with Sweeping bill 54)
ORGANIZATIONAL (C-SAC)	\$3,000	RSO funding for allocations less than \$1000 for the fiscal year	\$2,185
LSC	\$44,000	Funding allocations from Law School Council to Law School Student Organizations	\$23,709.50 (\$73,611.50 with Sweepings bill 54)
MSC	\$44,000	Funding allocations from Medical School Council to Medical School Student Organizations	\$11,724.01 (\$69,911.90 with Sweepings bill 54)
PRESENTATION GRANTS (Jul-Oct)	\$53,000	Presentation Grant balance for the July-October funding period	\$45,421.08
PRESENTATION GRANTS (Nov-Feb)	\$60,000	Presentation Grant balance for the November-February funding period	\$57,040.01
PRESENTATION GRANTS (Mar-Jun)	\$47,000	Presentation Grant balance for the March-June funding period	\$47,000
ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Jul-Oct)	\$6,000	Attendance Grant balance for the July-October funding period	\$5,151
ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Nov-Feb)	\$6,000	Attendance Grant balance for the November-February funding period	\$5,130
ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Mar-Jun)	\$5,000	Attendance Grant balance for the March-June funding period	\$5,000



Internal Rules of Procedure

1. These Rules shall be adopted, amended, or waived by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly present at a meeting when there is quorum, unless otherwise specified in a rule.
2. The Speaker, or a designee, shall chair all meetings of the Assembly. The Speaker or chair may temporarily name another representative to chair the meeting while the Speaker is sponsoring legislation or participating in debate of measures. The Speaker or chair may only return to the chair after the measure has concluded.
3. In all procedural matters not governed by these Rules, the COGS Code, or the Student Body Constitution and Statutes, the Speaker, or Chair, shall have authority to decide upon the matter. The Congress may overturn such a decision of the Chair by majority vote.
4. Any decision of the Chair may be overturned by a majority vote of the Assembly present at a meeting when there is quorum.
5. The COGS Assembly shall meet in regular session on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30 PM over Zoom or in HCB 103 when large in-person group meetings are deemed safe, unless the time or place of the meeting is otherwise specified by the Speaker no less than twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting.
6. The Speaker may at their discretion call a special session of COGS with the endorsement of two-thirds of the remainder of the Executive Board, so long as twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided to all members.
7. Any member of the Congress may petition for a special session of COGS. Such petition must specify the date, time, and location for the meeting, and the subject matter to be considered. Such a special session will be held if endorsed by two-thirds of the COGS membership, and then twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided to all members.
8. The Agenda for COGS meetings shall be as follows:
 - a) Opening Ceremonies
9.
 - i. Call to Order
 - ii. Pledge of Allegiance
 - iii. Roll Call
 - b) Reading and Approval of the Minutes



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- c) Petitions to the Assembly
 - d) Special Introductions and Student Comments
 - e) Messages from Student Government
 - f) Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs
 - g) Report of Officers
 - i. Speaker
 - ii. Deputy Speaker of Finance
 - iii. Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs
 - iv. Deputy Speaker of Communications
 - h) Committee Reports
 - i. C-SAC
 - ii. Internal Affairs
 - iii. Student Advocacy
 - iv. Student Affairs
 - i) Funding Requests
 - j) Unfinished Business
 - k) New Business
 - l) Round Table/Final Roll Call
 - m) Adjournment
10. The agenda for the meeting at which the annual budget is considered shall consist solely of the following:
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 - e) Report of the Budget Committee
 - f) Consideration of the Annual Budget
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11. The Speaker shall have the authority to reorder the Agenda at their discretion, or to insert special items other than business.
12. The Speaker may waive items on the agenda or postpone them to a later meeting subject to a majority (50% plus 1) vote of the Assembly present at a meeting where there is quorum.
13. Proper decorum and demeanor shall be maintained in the chambers at all times.
14. Each bill or resolution shall include a sponsor(s), as well as a declaration of purpose. Bills for RSO funding may have "On Petition" in lieu of a sponsor, in



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such instances the requesting organization will serve as the sponsor of the bill for debate of measures as described in Rule 15.

15. All motions shall require a movant, and a second. The Advisor shall record both. If the motion is not objected to it shall be considered adopted.

16. Debate of Measures shall be conducted as follows:

- a) The sponsor(s) of a bill, resolution, or motion shall explain its purpose to the Assembly for up to three (3) minutes.
- b) The sponsor(s) shall take technical and non-debatable questions on the measure from members of the Assembly for up to three (3) minutes.
- c) Formal debate shall begin.
 - i. A three (3) minute round of speakers in favor of the measure shall be conducted.
 - ii. A three (3) minute round of speakers opposed to the measure shall be conducted.
 - iii. Two (2) further rounds of alternating debate shall be conducted. Motions to amend the measure may only be heard during these rounds of debate.
 - iv. A Representative may only speak twice during a round. The Chair shall give first preference to Representatives that have not spoken at all during debate.
 - v. Further rounds of alternating debate may be conducted at the discretion of the Speaker.
 - vi. All amendments to proposed legislation which are more than three words in length and include more than an amendment to strike language must be provided in writing or typed with date and reference, to the Advisor prior to a vote of the Assembly.
- d) The sponsor(s) may make a three (3) minute closing statement.
- e) A vote shall be taken in accordance with the procedures in Rule 16.

17. Voting

- a) The Assembly shall end debate and vote on a measure when the end of debate has been reached under Rule 15(e) or when calling the question succeeds.
- b) Calling the question may only be done after the first round of speakers in favor of the measure has been concluded during debate under Rule 15(c)
- c) Calling the question is a technical, non-debatable motion, requiring a second; if objected to, a Rule 16(d) vote shall immediately be taken as to whether or not to vote on the question.
- d) If the question is successfully called, debate shall be ended and the sponsor(s) of the measure on the floor shall proceed to their closing under Rule 15(d).



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- e) Once the conditions of Rule 16(a) have been met, but before the vote is taken, any member of the Assembly may move for a vote by secret ballot.
 - i. In such vote the Advisor shall distribute ballots to members; members will record their vote without their names, and submit them to the Advisor.
 - ii. Invoking a secret-ballot vote shall require a majority vote (50% plus 1) of the assembly.
 - iii. A successful motion to vote by secret ballot shall supersede any other method of voting.
 - f) Once the conditions of Rule 16(a) have been met, but before the vote is taken, any member of the Assembly may move for a vote by roll call.
 - i. In such a vote the Advisor will ask each member for their vote. The member will vote “aye” if they are in favor, “nay” if they are opposed, or “present” or “abstain” if they wish to abstain.
 - g) All voting shall be conducted by either show of hands or voice (at the discretion of the Chair) unless otherwise called for.
 - i. In a show of hands vote, the Chair will ask for those in favor of calling the question. All those in favor will raise their hands. The Chair will then ask for those in opposition. All those in opposition will raise their hands. The Chair will then ask for all those not voting. All those not voting will raise their hands. The Chair and Advisor will conduct a count of each vote and confirm each other’s count.
 - ii. In a voice vote, the Chair will ask for those voting in favor to respond, “aye.” The Chair shall then ask for those voting in opposition to respond, “nay.” The Chair shall then ask for any representatives abstaining to raise their hands. The Chair shall determine whether the measure passes by the ayes and nays. If the Chair cannot determine whether the measure passed, another voice vote or a show of hands vote may be used.
 - h) Only members present on the floor (the area designated for members of the Assembly) shall have the ability to cast a vote. The Chair shall only be able to cast a vote in the event that their vote could change the outcome.
18. Any member of the Assembly who is not serving as Chair during the consideration of a measure may move to adopt the measure by acclamation; if there is no objection to the motion, the measure shall be considered adopted.
19. Any Representative may submit a written statement of no more than 500 words explaining their vote on any measure. This statement shall be submitted to the Advisor and shall be included in the minutes.



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20. Substituting the words “Chair” for “Speaker” and “Committee” for “COGS” or “Assembly”, all of the rules contained herein excepting rules 5, 7, 8, and 9, shall be applicable against committees.
21. All Bills, Resolutions, and funding petitions must be filed with the COGS Advisor no later than 4:00 PM the Thursday immediately preceding a regularly scheduled session of the Assembly. All Bills and Resolutions must be filed with a digital copy. The Speaker may at their discretion waive this rule if a measure is important and time sensitive.
22. The COGS Advisor shall e-mail any legislation filed in accordance with Rule 20 to all COGS Representatives by 5:00 PM the Friday before a regularly scheduled session of the assembly.
23. Where the COGS Internal Rules of Procedures is silent on a matter, the Chair may follow the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.
24. Any actions taken not consistent with the COGS Internal Rules of Procedure or with the Chair’s interpretation of Robert’s Rules of Order may be objected to as a Point of Order. Such an objection must be made immediately after the infraction. The Chair will then correct the action if it was in error.
25. Proper Motions
 - a) Technical, non-debatable motions which are out of order if made without Chair’s acknowledgement, must be properly seconded and are subject to the 16(d) vote if properly objected to and not withdrawn.
 - i. “Motion for a “n” minute Recess” is a motion made when a Representative wants to move that the entire Assembly take a “n” minute break, where “n” is a positive integer no greater than 20.
 - ii. “Call the Question” is a motion made when a Representative wants to move that the Assembly close debate and vote on the matter at hand.
 - b) Technical, non-debatable interjections, which are out of order if made without the Chair’s acknowledgement, but do not need a second or to be voted on.
 - i. “Point of Privilege” is made when a Representative would like for the Speaker or Chair to address something that affects the Assembly such as personal comfort, amplification of speaker, noise of outside environment, or safety.
 - ii. “Point of Order” is made when a Representative would like for the Speaker or Chair to enforce the COGS Internal Rules of Procedure



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or the Chair's interpretation of the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

- iii. "Point of Parliamentary Inquiry" is made when a Representative would like for the Speaker or Chair to state the phrasing of a correct motion in order to accomplish a desired result, or to explain procedural issues. The Chair or a designee may then address the inquiry.
 - iv. "Point of Information" is made when a Representative would like for the Chair or a designee to give pertinent information on the matter at hand. The Chair or a designee may then address the inquiry.
 - c) Debatable motions, which are out of order if made without Speaker's or Chair's acknowledgement, must be properly seconded and may be subject to debate under Rule 15: Debate of Measures, and then vote under Rule 16: Voting, if properly objected and not withdrawn.
 - i. "Motion to Table" is a motion made when a Representative wants to move that the Assembly suspend discussion on a matter for the entire meeting.
 - ii. "Motion to Amend" is a motion made when a Representative wants to strike and/or add language to a pending matter.
 - iii. "Motion to Refer to a Committee" is a motion made when a Representative wants to move that the Assembly refer the matter-at-hand to a particular committee.
 - 1. Any matter referred to a committee must be reported on by said committee at the next sitting of the Assembly. In the event that the committee has failed to meet, the sponsor may request that the bill be revisited during the next general Assembly meeting after the matter has been referred to that committee.
 - d) Other motions may be made and heard, consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.
26. The Executive Editor and Advisor shall be empowered to correct clerical or technical errors in the minutes, bills and resolutions.

TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting
Special Session
HCB 103 & Zoom
November 8, 2021
6:30pm
MINUTES



Call to Order: 6:56pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Representative Smith

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Adhikari, Amaraneni, Collins, Creigh, Delva, Gfatter, Hagemeyer, Harshe, Hirsch, Ryan, Sangokunle, Sizemore, Smith, Sussman

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: N/A

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED: Sizemore

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Illesanmi

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: N/A

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED: N/A

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED: N/A

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes: Deputy Speaker Creigh;
Second: Representative Gfatter

Special Introductions and Student Comments:

Messages from Student Government: Renee Wang, Senate Pro Tempore, Student Government Association

- Our budget week has officially concluded
- The budget will be voted on this Wednesday; I am here to speak with you about COGS
- We would really appreciate COGS being able to cover larger organizations, such as the Globe and FSU Childcare
- If you have any amendments you'd like to propose and make amendments for SGA bylaws, please contact me

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs: Rene Wang: If you all would like to read over resolution 83 and propose amendments, please let me know by tonight.

Elections: N/A

Report of Officers:

- **The Report of the Speaker**

- Inauguration is November 17th at 5:00pm. We encourage all representatives to attend. We anticipate over 25 new representatives.
- We have our graduate student social this Friday November 12 from 6-9pm. If you are willing to help out, please let me or Representative Harshe know.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance**
 - COGS will be making an off-campus account. This will be at SunTrust. Robert Creigh, Deputy Speaker of Finance, will be the name/holder on the account. Sara Collins, Deputy Speaker of Communications, will also be a name/holder on the account.
 - The annual budget hearing will take place this January. All organizations request funds for the next fiscal year. This happens every year. Qualtrics will be up so we collect all allocations and determine how much is being requested so we can see how much we need to allocate. If you would like a run down on how we fund different events/organizations, being a part of the budget committee is a good way to see how to see funding is processed.
 - Please contact me if you are interested in being a part of the Budget Committee. Each organization will have 15 minutes to present their budget proposals. Deliberations are then on January 28th in order to approve a budget.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs**
 - Nothing to report from me. This is my last COGS meeting because I was not able to petition back into COGS.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications**
 - Please email me photos for the upcoming Inauguration by the end of the week
 - We are preparing for the upcoming social, and please tune in to our Instagram on Wednesday for a Live Chat

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:** No requests, no meeting
- **Internal Affairs:** No meeting yet, newsletter is still finishing up the newsletter. This is anticipated to release by next week.
- **Student Advocacy:** For anyone who is in COGS, I have decided to step down from the committee chair. Please let me know if you would be interested in the position.
- **Student Affairs:** Please volunteer for the upcoming social. We are currently over the limit of people who can attend (127 people).

Funding Requests:

- **Bill 17: COGS Conference Attendance Grant Transfer (July-October)**
 - Deputy Speaker Creigh: This bill is proposed to transfer funds that were not used during the previous funding period to this funding period, since it is historically the busiest. Both attendance and presentation grants are increasing.
 - Questions:
 - Seeing none
 - Pros:
 - Dep. Speaker Collins: This is only supporting students to deliver their research, which is back up and running for many, from FSU
 - Gfatter: This will provide more students the opportunity to go and participate in conferences. The timing feels right with more conferences moving to in-person.
 - Cons:

- Seeing none
 - Motion to call to question: Rep. Hirsch, Second: Rep Harshe
 - Vote: 12-0-0
- Bill 18: COGS Conference Presentation Grant Transfer (July-October)
 - Dep. Speaker Creigh: This is the same proposal as Bill 17th, rather it proposes a transfer of funds from the last period for presentation grants to the current funding period. This is a larger amount, because this depletes much quicker than the attendance grants. The majority of these grants are in person for students in need of this grant, thus far.
 - Questions
 - Gfatter: Is the request for presentation grants higher because more people are going to present rather than attend?
 - Creigh: Subjectively, there is a greater likelihood that someone presenting will need a grant to attend so they may present.
 - Pros:
 - Seeing none
 - Cons:
 - Seeing none
 - Motion to call to question: Gfatter; Second: Dep. Speaker Collins
 - Vote: 12-0-1
- Bill 19: Indian Students Association at Tallahassee (INSAT), Expense Request
 - Representative Harshe: This bill is for the Indian Student's Association and South Asian Student Association in order to hold an event to celebrate Diwali. During the event, people light up their houses with lamps, candles, etc. and exchange food and sweets. Both organizations plan to invite their members to this organization. Most food will be dedicated to food (\$2,800) and the remaining (décor/furniture) is estimated at \$400. This event is going to be hosted at Miller Hall on November 20th.
 - Questions
 - Creigh: How many graduate students will be attending?
 - Harshe: The Indian Student Association is primarily Graduate students and international students while the South Asian Student Association is primarily undergraduate students. It is difficult to say how many exactly are graduate students.
 - Adhikari: Is this open to everyone?
 - Harshe: Anyone inside or outside FSU are invited to this event. There will be an RSVP so we do not waste any food, but also so we can estimate the food amount.
 - Pros:
 - Amaraneeni: Diwali is the biggest festival celebrated in India and other Asian countries. This is a great opportunity for students to come and interact.
 - Ryan: I think this is a wonderful event. The cost seems extremely low to fund such a large event. This is also well-thought out, as well, considering the quotations provided for food vendors are provided in the proposal.
 - Cons:
 - Seeing none
 - Second round of Pros:
 - Seeing none
 - Motion to call to question: Creigh; Second: Ryan
 - Vote: 11-0-1

- Bill 20: Ecology and Evolution Research Discussion Group, Expense Request
 - Dep. Speaker Collins: The EERDG organization is requesting funds for their upcoming T-shirt meeting, which is usually the last meeting of the Fall semester where they say goodbye to their graduating graduate students. With the current funding proposal, the EERDG hopes to provide t-shirts to current members, members who have graduated in the past two years, and future members. The organization aims to provide 72 shirts in total, and the meeting is anticipated to occur December 3, 2021. Deputy Speaker Collins proposes that we amend the change of allocation to 72 shirts, rather than stating this is TBD.
 - Pros: Rep. Ryan amends to change the total amount \$864 for the t-shirts, which would make it \$12 per shirt for 72 shirts (to replace “TBD”). Rep. Delva 2nd. Amendment passes 8-1-2.
 - Creigh: The amendment would be \$12 per shirt, rather than the regular \$8 per t-shirt, as per SGA guidelines.
 - Harshe: Bringing up the financial manual code that SGA allocate \$8 per shirt.
 - Hagemeyer: Rep. Randall raised the allocation of shirts to up to \$10 per shirt, so the \$12 per shirt would be too much.
 - Ryan: Question about taking away the amendment. Is it better to withdraw the bill to have it re-amended outside of the assembly, or if it is just fine to amend it here. It might be better to provide more information about the shirts and the costs for the current bill.
 - Hagemeyer: we can either table this or amend the shirts to \$8 per shirt.
 - 2nd round of pros: Harshe question to Aaron: what should we do now? Should we
 - Aaron: we could probably find a better option for buying shirt.
 - Ryan: \$8 per shirt is low, but we should make an exception for this bill rather than tabling it for the future. The event is in December, and therefore the timeline would not be feasible.
 - Gfatter: I would not feel comfortable changing the “shirt” to “sweatshirt” to change the amount allocated for the promotional item.
 - Creigh: suggested funding the \$8 per shirt and have the organization to fundraise it.
 - Aaron: we need to meet as an executive board to assess to resubmit. Therefore, withdraw the bill.
 - Butts: There is lacking information on the bill, and therefore the assembly would not be able to vote on it because there are no breakdowns on what would be spent.
 - Hagemeyer: any motions?
 - Collins: request to withdraw the bill. Delva 2nd.
- Bill 21: ChemiNoles Graduate Student Association – Food and Clothing & Awards
 - Deputy Speaker Creigh, joined by ChemiNole Member Michael Deck: The ChemiNoles are requesting \$1,000 for catering their holiday food drive. This is hosted by the ChemiNoles as a means to give back to the Tallahassee community. However, we cannot fund any prizes, so I would recommend someone propose to amend to have this aspect of the proposal removed. Graduate students are invited to attend a holiday celebration with food; they are anticipating about 60 people will attend.
 - Questions:
 - Creigh: How many students do you anticipate attending? Which type of catering service are you using?
 - Michael Deck: We expect 60-70 students, and the vendor we’ve selected appears to be an approved vendor of FSU (Persi’s Biryani: Indian Grill).

- Hagemeyer: Are there any quotes for food or an outline of how much food will be purchased?
- Michael Deck: Our total, including sales tax, is \$1,014.69, however, we may be sales tax exempt, but that should bring it down approximately \$70.
- Hagemeyer: When is the event?
- Deck: December 10th
- Creigh: I believe we can fund up to \$15 per person?
- Hagemeyer: Yes, that is correct. We can overrule it though, with a 2/3 majority vote.
- Pros:
 - Dep. Speaker Collins: Motion to amend the bill so prizes are removed from the request to total \$960 in food.
 - Delva: Second
 - Vote on amendment: 10-0-1
- Pros: Seeing none
- Cons: Seeing none
- Motion to call to question: Ryan; Collins: Second
- Vote: 10-0-1

Unfinished Business: N/A

New Business:

Resolution 8: Deputy Speaker Hagemeyer (who steps down from his role as Speaker to present this bill; Deputy Speaker Creigh assumes the role as Speaker for the time being): Constitutional Amendment 10 proposes that there will be an increase in the allocation of graduate student activities and service fees to 50% of their annual yield. Therefore, we propose we cover the support for the Globe and FSU Childcare.

Questions:

- Creigh: Are you going to present this at the next COGS Assembly meeting?
- Hagemeyer: No, we will vote on this today.

Pros:

- Seeing none

Cons:

- Seeing none

Second round of pros:

- Motion to call to question: Collins; Second: Ryan

Vote: 10-0-1

Round Table:

Adjournment/Finale Roll Call: 9:27pm

Next Meeting: Monday, November 29, 2021 at 6:30pm in HCB 103 and Zoom