THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
Assembly Meeting
November 6, 2023
6:30pm
Agenda

Call to Order:
Pledge of Allegiance:
Roll call:
Reading and approval of the Minutes:
Petitions into the Assembly:
  At Large Seat - Steven Medarev
Special Introductions and Student Comments:
  Piers Rawling - QEP
Messages from Student Government:
Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:
Report of Officers:
  • Report of the Speaker:
  • Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance:
  • Report of the Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs:
  • Report of the Deputy Speaker for Communications:
    SGA Inauguration - November 15th
Committee Report:
  • C-SAC:
  • Internal Affairs:
  • Student Advocacy:
  • Student Affairs:
Funding Requests:
  Bill #: 34 Nepalese Student Association
Unfinished Business:
New Business:
  Bill #: 35 Law Student Council
    Resolution #6: Internal Rules of Procedure Change
Round Table:
Adjournment:
Next Meeting: November 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Senate Chambers - First meeting of the 32nd Congress
# COGS Financial Report, Fiscal Year 2023-2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCOUNT</th>
<th>ALLOCATION AMOUNT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>BALANCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNALLOCATED</td>
<td>$21,318</td>
<td>For RSO funding requests at COGS meetings</td>
<td>$14,713</td>
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<tr>
<td>ORGANIZATIONAL (C-SAC)</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>RSO funding for allocations less than $1000 for the fiscal year</td>
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<tr>
<td>LSC</td>
<td>$61,000</td>
<td>Funding allocations from Law School Council to Law School Student Organizations</td>
<td>$36,823.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSC</td>
<td>$84,817</td>
<td>Funding allocations from Medical School Council to Medical School Student Organizations</td>
<td>$38,549.48</td>
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<td>PRESENTATION GRANTS (Jul-Oct)</td>
<td>$66,250</td>
<td>Presentation Grant balance for the July-October funding period</td>
<td>$11,751.84</td>
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<td>PRESENTATION GRANTS (Nov-Feb)</td>
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<td>Presentation Grant balance for the November-February funding period</td>
<td>$43,850</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRESENTATION GRANTS (Mar-Jun)</td>
<td>$58,750</td>
<td>Presentation Grant balance for the March-June funding period</td>
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<td>ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Jul-Oct)</td>
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<td>Attendance Grant balance for the July-October funding period</td>
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Allocation, Revision, or Transfer

31st Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 34

Sponsored by: Representative Bettley

Date: November 3rd, 2023

Amount: $930

From (account name): COGS Unallocated

To (account name): Nepalese Student Association.

Purpose & Description: To fund 100 t-shirts for the Nepalese Student Association

Itemized Expenditures:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>T-Shirts</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total: $930
## Quote: 13061

**Date Quote:** 10/25/23  
**Completion Date:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Salesperson</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bhushan Dahal</td>
<td>Kayla Harty</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bd22@fsu.edu">bd22@fsu.edu</a></td>
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**Nepalese Student Association**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Part Number</th>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>SIZES</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>LG</th>
<th>XL</th>
<th>XXL</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>G200</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gildan Adult Ultra Cotton T-Shirt</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>930.00</td>
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**Note:**

This quote is valid for 30 days. Please note pricing listed on quote is unit pricing.

**The following are provided at no additional cost:**
- Art preparation/Design
- Screens
- Setups
- Local delivery
**Customer:** Nepalese Student Union  
**Job #:** 136616  
**Date:** 10-25-23

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<tr>
<th>Apparel Products</th>
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<tr>
<td>Type:</td>
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<td>Brand:</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color:</td>
<td>Light Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pocket:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Print/ Embroidery Colors:**  
- Flash White  
- Wet White  
- Black  
- 185 Red  
- 7685 Blue  
- 411 Grey  
- 8 x 7.2

**RS:**  
- Flash White  
- Wet White  
- 3 x 2.5

**Artist:** Halie  
**Sales Rep:** Kayla

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*Not all items depicted in proof are actual product to be printed. For proofing purposes only. Proof best viewed using Adobe Acrobat Reader (ZOOM).*

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**Important:** This is your proof. Please check all letters and numbers for typos. Full Press Apparel will not be liable for typos once designs have been approved. This is a digital representation of the art. There will be slight variations in color and resolution on the actual piece printed.

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Statute Revision or Addition

31st Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 35

Sponsored by: Rep. Rowan

Date: 11/06/2023

Purpose & Description: A Bill to Reform the Law School Council.

Be it enacted by the Thirty-First Congress of Graduate Students:

Section 1: This bill may be referred to as “The Law School Governance Reform Act of 2023”.

Section 2: Chapter 300 of the COGS Code is hereby amended to read:

300.1 The Law School Council (LSC) shall be organized and administered by COGS, and housed under the Student Bar Association as a funding board within its jurisdiction in accordance with the Florida State University Student Body Statutes.

300.2 The purpose of LSC is to represent Law School RSOs before all budgetary committees of SGA and COGS, to sub-allocate funds to Law School RSOs, and to monitor and coordinate the budget activities of the various Law School RSOs.

300.3 Composition of the Law School Council:

A) LSC shall be composed of seven (7) law students elected as Members-at-Large by the Law School Student Body with the following composition:

1) Three (3) members being elected from the membership of the Student Bar Association through procedures set by the Student Bar Association, provided that the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the SBA shall not serve as a member of the LSC and that the elections occur no later than the final day of February in each year,

2) The COGS Representatives for the College of Law, serving as ex officio members.

3) Five (5) members being students elected at-large from the student body of the College of Law, and

4) A chair elected by the student body of the College of Law.

B) At-Large Elections shall take place in February of each academic calendar year, the Spring SBA Elections, shall be non-partisan, and shall
take place under the same procedures used by SBA to elect their executive board.

1) Applicants to the LSC will submit an application and resume to the LSC Chair. Candidates for the at-large positions shall declare their candidacy by the candidate declaration deadline, in accordance with SBA procedures.

2) Applicants will be interviewed by the LSC Selections Commission. The at-large members shall be the five candidates who receive the most votes.

3) At the conclusion of the interviews, the LSC Selection Commission will select the 7 board members who will serve on the next LSC

4) LSC board members shall train the Members Elect. At-Large Members’ terms will end at the conclusion of the final board meeting of March the fiscal year, at which time At-Large Members Elect and the SBA representatives shall take office.

C) A rising 2L or 3L who currently serves as an at-Large Member on the LSC Board and wishes to remain on the board for the upcoming fiscal year will be permitted to submit a statement of continued interest. These statements will be reviewed by the outgoing Chair to determine if the member is fit to remain on the board for future service. In the event that the current Chair seeks to remain on the board, the statement of continued interest will be submitted to the LSC Selections Commission for review. The Chair shall be elected in the same manner as the at-large members, with the candidate receiving the most votes being the winner. Candidates must have previously served on the LSC in some capacity prior to declaring their candidacy for Chair, unless no candidates with such service have declared.

D) An administrative or faculty representative shall serve as an advisor to the LSC Board. This representative shall assist the Board in ensuring that LSC is compliant with the COGS Code, the Florida State University Student Body Statutes, Law School Policy, and Florida State University Policies and Procedures.

E) The LSC Selections Commission will be composed of the COGS Speaker, the Law School Administration Representative to LSC, the Deputy Speaker of Finance, the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee, and the outgoing LSC chair, unless they seek reelection.

1) In the event that the LSC Chair seeks reelection, a 3L appointed by the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, or an incumbent of the LSC may serve on the commission in their place.

FE) Vacancies of the LSC Board shall be filled by appointment by the LSC Selections Commission. Vacancies in the at-large positions shall be filled through two-thirds (2/3) vote of the remaining LSC members after a publicly noticed application and interview period. Vacancies in the seats representing the SBA shall be filled by the procedures set by SBA.
F) Should the Chair become permanently vacant, the Vice Chair shall become the Chair. If there is no Vice Chair when the Chair becomes permanently vacant, the Treasurer shall become Chair. If there is no Vice Chair and no Treasurer when the Chair becomes permanently vacant, the LSC shall elect a Chair for the remainder of their term from the remaining at-large members by majority vote of the LSC members. Vacancies in the Vice Chair or Treasurer shall be filled by the Chair appointing an at-large member to said position, subject to the confirmation of a majority of the LSC members.

300.4 The Executive Officers

A) Prior to the installation of the new board members, the outgoing LSC Chair shall invite Members Elect to submit a statement of interest to serve on the LSC Board as Chairperson, Treasurer, or Secretary. The at-large candidate who receives the most votes at the Spring election shall become the Vice Chair of the LSC. The at-large candidate who receives the second-most votes at the Spring election shall become the Treasurer of the LSC.

B) The outgoing LSC Chair shall appoint the Chair. Upon appointment, the outgoing LSC Chair shall consult with the new Chair to appoint the new Treasurer and Secretary.

1) In the event that the outgoing Chair seeks re-appointment, they will announce their intent to serve in that capacity to the members elect. Should a Member Elect seek the appointment of Chair, the position of Chair will go to a vote with the members elect and the person who receives the majority will be appointed Chair.

C) Should a vacancy occur in an Executive Office, the LSC Chair shall appoint a replacement from its Board for the remainder of the term.

300.5 Duties of the Executive Officers

A) The Chair Shall:

1) Preside over all LSC meetings.

2) Represent LSC in all official business and budget matters before COGS or the Student Senate.

3) Have the authority to call special meetings of LSC.

4) Be responsible for all official correspondence of LSC.

5) Perform any other duties as assigned by LSC or this code.

6) Act as liaison between law school student organizations and SGA Accounting.

7) Not vote on any matter before the LSC, except to break a tie vote.

B) The Treasurer shall:

1) Assume all duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.

2) Keep an accurate and up-to-date budget.
3) Perform any other duties as assigned by the LSC Chair or this code.

4) Attend any budgetary meetings as an LSC representative in the event that the LSC Chair is unable to attend.

5) Work with the Deputy Speaker of Finance in order to perform any requested external audits in compliance with this Code.

C) The Secretary of the LSC shall:

1) Keep accurate minutes of all LSC meetings.

2) Email the minutes to the Chair at the conclusion of each LSC meeting.

3) Keep apprised of any changes in SGA Statutes and COGS Code that may affect the bylaws of the LSC and recommend changes to the Council if needed to comply with SGA Statutes and COGS Code.

4) Serve as presiding officer of the LSC in the absence of the Chair, during which time the Vice Chair shall not vote, except as to break tie votes.

35) Perform any other duties as assigned by the LSC Chair or this Code.

300.6 Appropriation

A) LSC shall allocate those funds granted to it by COGS to the Recognized Student Organizations at the Law School in a fiscally responsible manner, keeping in mind the purpose of the allocation, which is to provide activities and services for the benefit of the maximum number of students.

B) LSC shall submit a draft budget on behalf of all Law School RSOs to COGS in compliance with all requirements of the Annual Budget process. COGS shall make all budget allocations to the LSC in the Expense category.

C) All LSC allocations, whether original allocations, or after the fact amendments to the budget, shall require the signature of either the Speaker of COGS, or the Deputy Speaker for Finance. The Speaker or Deputy Speaker may deny any allocation or amendment deemed excessive or irresponsible. If an allocation is denied, the LSC Chair may, within seventy-two (72) hours of being notified of the denial, appeal the denial to the Congress, where it shall be debated and voted on during the “Funding Requests” agenda item. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of COGS members present and voting is required to approve the allocation, notwithstanding the Speaker or Deputy Speaker’s denial.

D) LSC shall sub-allocate its ordained funds to its member RSOs consistent with the Florida State University Student Body Constitution, Statutes, and A&S Fee Guidelines, as well as this code and any other applicable rules and regulations. Within twenty days of the COGS Annual Budget being signed by the Vice President of Student Affairs, the LSC Chair shall
convene the LSC to begin the process of budgeting the yearly allocations to member RSOs.

1) The LSC Chair and Treasurer shall be responsible for ensuring that members and member RSOs are properly informed about the budgetary process, its timelines, and the total budget allocated to the LSC by COGS.

2) The LSC Chair, at the above-mentioned meeting and through email to the members and member RSOs, shall announce the dates that:
   a) The Budget Request Form opens.
   b) The Budget Request Form closes.
   c) The LSC will hold hearings on budget requests.
   d) The LSC will deliberate on the final LSC budget.

3) The Budget Request Form shall be created by the Treasurer, in consultation with the Chair, the LSC, and SG&A Accounting. If at all possible, the Form need not be overhauled every year.

4) The procedures for budgetary hearings and deliberations shall be determined under the LSC bylaws.

5) Any member representing the SBA who sits on their executive board shall abstain from voting or debating on the SBA line item, as required by Student Body Statutes. Likewise, any LSC member who sits on an RSO executive board shall abstain from voting or debating on their RSO’s line item.
   a) The LSC Chair may also determine whether a member has a conflict of interest and may bar them from voting or debating on the conflicted line item.
   b) Any such determination by the Chair may be appealed to the Board and overturned by majority vote.

6) The LSC Budget shall contain an “Unallocated” line item, which shall be used to fund requests by RSOs made outside the annual budget cycle. It shall also contain an “LSC Expense” line item, which may be drawn upon by the Chair, with the agreement of the Treasurer, in support of the mission of the LSC.

7) Line items must be split into an allocation for the Fall semester and the Spring semester. Monies in the Fall semester allocations not spent by December 31st shall be swept back into the LSC Unallocated budget and reallocated through a process set by LSC Bylaws.

8) The Chair shall make every effort to complete the budgetary process prior to the final board meeting of March.

9) A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the LSC is required for final passage of the budget.
10) Upon passage of the budget by LSC, the allocations shall be submitted to the COGS Assembly, in the form of a bill, for final approval.

E) LSC shall only sub-allocate funds to law school organizations which have been registered, in accordance with COGS and SGA guidelines.

F) The allocation to LSC shall not be obligated or expended until the COGS annual Budget has been approved by the COGS Speaker and the Deputy Speaker for Finance, and the Vice President for Student Affairs.

G) To shift funding between allocation categories, LSC RSOs shall use process budget revisions and transfers on the forms prescribed by this code with all the requisite approvals prior to implementation.

H) Notwithstanding Section 210.3, COGS Code, requests to the LSC, of $1,000 or more may be directly presented to the LSC, provided that any suballocation of $1,000 or more shall not be effectuated until the first COGS meeting after notification of the allocation was provided to the Speaker by the LSC Chair. At such meeting, COGS may disapprove the allocation by motion with a majority vote of the members present and voting.

300.7 The powers and duties of LSC

A) LSC shall have the following powers and duties under this code and shall be subject to all other applicable Florida State University Student Body Statutes in the exercise of its powers and duties.

1) LSC shall hold budgetary hearings at which member RSOs must be present to submit their requests. In the event that a member of an RSO that submitted a request is unable to attend, the LSC Chair may present the RSO’s request on their behalf.

2) LSC shall then represent its member RSOs at all budgetary hearings and procedures of COGS.

3) LSC shall report to the Internal Affairs Committee of COGS as requested by the Internal Affairs Committee, with a minimum fifteen (15) school days’ notice.

4) LSC may pass Resolutions on behalf of the Law School Student Body.

5) LSC may remove any non-ex officio council member for nonfeasance by an affirmative, majority vote of all those board members not being considered for removal in the instant controversy.

6) LSC may, by a majority vote, recommend any member for impeachment for misfeasance or malfeasance in accordance with Chapter 114 of this code.

7) LSC shall adopt bylaws at the second meeting of the LSC following the annual installation of new at-large board members by a majority vote of the total membership of the LSC.
300.8 Meetings

A) LSC shall hold open meetings, in compliance with Chapter 203, Student Body Statutes, on a twice-monthly basis and shall send copies of the minutes of such meetings to all Law School RSOs and COGS.

B) A special meeting of LSC may be called by the LSC Chair or by petition of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Presidents of the Law School RSOs.

C) Quorum shall be a majority of the total membership of LSC. A quorum must be present for LSC to conduct business.

D) All LSC action must be approved by a majority vote of those LSC members present and voting.

E) LSC shall announce and provide notice of its meetings and procedures to Law School RSOs. It shall provide notice at least five (5) school days before any forms, requests, or petitions are due for the meeting.

F) Attendance at monthly meetings is mandatory for all LSC board members. If a member must be absent from a monthly meeting, they must provide adequate notice to the LSC Chair. If a member is absent from more than two monthly meetings, that member will be considered for removal by members of the board. All board members, except for the member at issue, will vote on the removal of the board member. A majority vote will effectively remove the member from the board. The vacancy will then be filled in accordance to the procedures outlined above.

300.9 Transition

A) This section shall be automatically repealed on November 1, 2024.

B) Upon the enactment of this section, the Law School Council, as presently constituted, shall remain in office. The first elections of at-large members shall take place during the Spring 2024 SBA Elections. All members under the composition set by the Law School Governance Reform Act of 2023 shall take office upon the completion of the final LSC meeting for the month of March.

C) The LSC shall meet in December to allocate the remainder of their funding for the Spring 2024 semester in the manner laid out in COGS Code §300.6(D).

C) Due to shifting budgetary timelines for the current academic year, the FY 2024-2025 LSC Budget shall be drafted by the new LSC no later than the last day of September 2024, but preferably prior to the end of the spring semester.

Section 3: This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2024.
Resolution

31st Congress of Graduate Students

Resolution #: 6

Primary Sponsor: Representative Rivers

Date: November 6, 2023

Whereas: COGS Internal Rules of Procedure 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,

Whereas: Meeting minutes for COGS all have their own system of structure,

Whereas: In an effort to create a system and to allow for better minute taking and archival history COGS committees shall use a baseline minute template,

Be it resolved by the 31st Congress of Graduate Students of Florida State University that: Upon the majority vote of this assembly, COGS Internal Rules of Procedure shall establish that COGS committee will use an approved baseline template for meeting minutes.

Be it resolved by the 31st Congress of Graduate Students of Florida State University that: Upon the majority vote of this assembly, COGS Internal Rules of Procedure shall establish that COGS committee will use an approved baseline template for meeting minutes.

Be it further resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to

Susan Rogowski, Speaker of Congress of Graduate Students

Andrew Johnson, Student Program Director of Student Governance & Advocacy
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
      i. Call to Order
      ii. Pledge of Allegiance
      iii. Roll Call
   b) Reading and Approval of the Minutes
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:

   a) Opening Ceremonies
      i. Call to Order
      ii. Pledge of Allegiance
      iii. Roll Call

   b) Reading and Approval of the Minutes

   c) Special Introductions and Student Comments

   d) Messages from Student Government

   e) Report of the Budget Committee

   f) Consideration of the Annual Budget

   g) Round Table/Final Roll Call

   h) Adjournment

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
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).
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
      i. Call to Order
      ii. Pledge of Allegiance
      iii. Roll Call
   b) Reading and Approval of the Minutes
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:
   a) Opening Ceremonies
      i. Call to Order
      ii. Pledge of Allegiance
      iii. Roll Call
   b) Reading and Approval of the Minutes
c) Special Introductions and Student Comments
d) Messages from Student Government
e) Report of the Budget Committee
f) Consideration of the Annual Budget
g) Round Table/Final Roll Call
h) Adjournment

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
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).
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.

gh) 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.
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
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.

27. Each Committee shall use a pre-made template for their meeting minutes. This template shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Assembly. This template shall be changed by a three-thirds (3/4) vote of the General Assembly.
31st Congress of Graduate Students
Internal Affairs Committee
September 25, 2023

Call to Order: X:XX PM
Members Present:
Members Tardy:
Members Absent:
Suspended:
Guests:

Approval of the Minutes:
- [Blank] moves to approve the minutes from March 7, 2022
  - [Blank] Seconds

Announcements:
- Chair
  - Land Acknowledgement:
    - The Student Government of Florida State University acknowledges that it is located on land that is the ancestral and traditional territory of the Apalachee Nation, the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We pay respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to their descendants and to all Indigenous people. We recognize this land remains scarred by the histories and ongoing legacies of settler-colonial violence, dispossession, and removal. In spite of all this, and with tremendous resilience, these Indigenous Nations have remained deeply connected to this territory, to their families, to their communities, and to their cultural ways of life. We recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land and extend our gratitude as we live and work as humble and respectful guests upon their territory. We encourage all to learn about and educate others on the contemporary work of the
Indigenous Nations whose land we are on and to endeavor to support Indigenous sovereignty in all the ways that we can.

- Vice-Chair
- Members
- Guests

Committee Business:
- Business 1

Final Announcements:
- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Members
- Guests

Date and Time of Next Meeting: 03/29/22 at 7:00pm

Adjourned at 7:48 pm
THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
Assembly Meeting
October 16, 2023
6:30pm
Minutes

Call to Order: 6:35pm
Pledge of Allegiance: Rep. Gui

Roll call:
- Present: Balogun, Beavon, Burns, Ebuara, Gui, Joyner, Pakdehi, Risler, Rowan, Salimi, Solmaz, Vaughn, Velez, Wesner, Wheeler
- Absent Excused: Bettley, Delva, Elmi, Galeano, Hussain, Rivers, Rogowski

Reading and approval of the Minutes: Rowan, 2nd - Joyner

Petitions into the Assembly:
- At Large Seat - Steven Medarev - Was not able to attend today
- Special/Undecided Seat - Madison McCraney

Medical student at FSU. Running outside of the Medical School seats. Was here for undergrad and was highly involved on campus. Was in the Master of Public Health program and wanted to have a big event. Thought they knew about A&S funds and got help from COGS in the past when they needed the extra knowledge about things. It was successful thanks to COGS. Used the tuition waver and was a staff member for a little bit in the College of Arts and Sciences. Gained understanding of navigating the system and wants to give back. Wants to learn about what we do internally. Would be interested in joining Internal Affairs.

- Social Sciences and Public Policy Seat 1: Taylor Barber
Originally from Ocala, FL. Came here through dual enrollment. Changed to public health major and really connected with social sciences and public policy. After graduated with UG, entered the Masters of Public Health. Saw and open seat and decided to give it a try. I think that any committee would be good, but I would be interested in Student Affairs.

Questions:
- Rowan - for McCraney, will you be petitioning back in for the next Congress? I would like to continue doing it.
- Joyner - Are you both free Mondays at 6pm? Yes.
- Rowan - What would you like to focus on as a COGS rep? McCraney - I would like to focus on help people with administering funds. Barber - I want to focus on outreach and get introduced to those around.
- Pakdehi - Do you have any specific plans for students? Both - no, not yet. McCraney - I saw a goal was to bridge the gap between COGS and MSC/LSC.
- Joyner - point of information - it's okay if you don't know what you want to do yet. You can join and be willing to work and support COGS.

Pros:
Joyner - in favor of both of them. Madison has a unique perspective after being here for so long. Taylor has a unique perspective coming with an AA and only being here for 2 years in undergrad. Being here is enough.
Rowan - I second Joyner. With Taylor, a great thing is that she is on the ballot for the next congress.
Rowan - vote to call to question; Gui - 2nd 
Vote: McCraney 15-0-0
Barber 15-0-0
Swearing into COGS

Special Introductions and Student Comments:
Rowan - Special introduction are two 1L College of Law students who hope to join us the next meeting.

Messages from Student Government: N/A
Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs: N/A

Report of Officers:

- Report of the Speaker: The speaker is out today, but will be back soon.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance: Updated financial report. We are looking good with the grants for Nov.-Feb. and applications are being approved. As you can see, we have $0 for attendance grants for July-Oct., but a bill is on the agenda for that. We are looking at putting together a workshop for the presentation and attendance grant process, so look for more information coming soon.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs: N/A
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Communications: Cyber Bowl (share the word); Election donations letter - email it by Wed morning; FSU Votes’ Rock the Vote event on November 1st from 6-8pm Volunteers needed

Committee Report:

- C-SAC: N/A
- Internal Affairs: Met Monday and discussed a resolution to require all committees to use a standardized minutes format. Also discussed how to promote culinary organizations with food.
- Student Advocacy: Met last Tuesday and discussed encouraging the congress to support Resolution #5 being presented to day by Rep. Wesner. This resolution impacts veteran students and their well being at FSU. Also exploring possibilities for parking for teaching assistants. Also looking at international student admission policies. Also working on the data analysis on the presentation grants. Will next meet on October 24th. News has come out that free parking will be removed from undergraduate students in the future.
- Student Affairs: Nothing to report. Have not met.

Funding Requests:

Bill #31: Southeast Review

If you remember from our last minute, the Southeast Review is requesting $3,500 for a speaker for their event. They have selected a speaker and have submitted a breakdown of the cost and how they will get the funds for the speaker. They have attached a flyer about a fundraiser being held tomorrow.

Questions:
Pros:
Rowan - Many thanks to the organization for giving us so much information. You went above and beyond our request. The organization is bringing in a very respective author and will provide a great service to the university. Thank you for sharing this information and wishing you the best of luck.
Balogun - This all looks perfect. If we can use this as an example of how a petition should be, it would be great.
Burns - Thank you for coming back tonight and I wish you the best for this speaker.
Balogun - Motion to extinguish time; Vaughn - 2nd.

Cons - Gui - motion to call to question; 2nd - Risler

Vote: 15-0-0

**Bill #32: Music Theory Society**
This bill is from the Music Theory Society and is asking for funding for their 41st conference being held virtually with two key note speakers. The conference will have different presentations by scholars and graduate students. They expect 30-50 attendees. They will advertise it through their department, organizations, and social media. Requesting the amount for two speakers for their honorarium. Want to make it virtual in order to make it more accessible for those within the field of Music.

Question -
Rowan - Is this honorarium taking into account that this is virtual? Yes, usually this is the amount for one speaker if it is in person. This is a usual amount for speakers. Has there been fundraising efforts for this? This request is for the honorariums, but we will be fundraising in order to get a larger zoom room subscription since our Dean said that Zoom might not be renewed by FSU. We currently have 30-35 members of our organization, but we are expecting higher engagement from those outside of our organization.
Risler - motion to extend time; Gui - 2nd.
Rowan - What is your estimation of FSU students in attendance? We are expecting around 45-50 graduate students and there could also be undergraduate attendance and that student population is around 100 students. It's hard to estimate how many undergraduates might attend.
Joyner - Is this open to the community? Yes. It is free. We are asking for donations in hopes of getting more community support in the future. We will be advertising it to anyone and everyone interested.
Pakdehi - It is totally virtual? Yes. What about making it hybrid to help make connections with other people in the field? Last year's conference was hybrid, but we found that most people struggled to attend in person and most presenters were graduate students who couldn't afford to attend in person from other institutions.
Pros -
Joyner - I'm in favor of this. I like how you thought about the future and are looking at fundraising. Having it online is great for accessibility. Could be a good way to connect with HBCU students. I like that it is open to the public. It is important to bridge gaps and increase diversity. We need to uplift the arts more now than ever.
Rowan - I feel better about this bill after talking to the RSOs. Make sure that there are more accurate details on future bills. It's good to encourage events that are for graduate
and undergraduate students to help promote undergraduates to stay here. This also helps us build a representation for COGS around undergrads.

Cons -
Salimi - Call to Question; Balogun - 2nd.
Vote: 15-0-0

Bill #33: Transfer from Presentation Grants to Attendance Grants
This bill is to move funds from the presentation grants to the attendance grants from the July-Oct. 2023 funding period. We ran out of attendance grant funds and will need to increase this amount so that everyone can be approved. There is enough funds from presentation grants to be moved to attendance grants. Yield my time.

Questions -
Joyner - When you say July-October 2023, this ends October 31, 2023 right? Yes. Once someone puts in an application, it is for a conference during that time period. These are budgeted throughout the year to make sure that we aren’t running out of funds.
Balogun - is this the exact amount we need for that purpose or will we need more? This is the exact amount we need.

Pros -
Joyner - I’m in favor of this because many presentations are in the summer. People in my field usually attend in the fall to find a post-doc.
Salimi - I think the deputy speaker of finance did a great job with this.
Ebuara - Extinguish time; 2nd - Joyner

Unfinished Business: N/A

New Business:

Resolution #4: A&S Fee Increase
I will try to be fast because it affects all of us. There has been a proposal to increase the A&S fee that funds SGA. If it is passed by the Board of Governors, it will help COGS increase the budget by $70,000. It will help us fund organizations. I do understand that it will increase the amount paid by students. I think it’s good to let the Board of Governors know that we support this.

Question -
Ebuara - I do wonder how the resolution will impact the process.
Rowan - I think it will bring in the voice of graduate students on this rather than just the voice of SGA leadership. It could be impactful to show a united front from both undergraduates and graduates.
Pakdehi - Is this increase for everyone?
Rowan - Yes, it's across the board. It will impact most students.
Pakdehi - So with that, the congress will get more money, but the students might not want this increase.
Rowan - This allows us to talk about the root of funding. It is an individual question for each of us. Our different experiences is what will inform us.
Pakdehi - motion to extend; 2nd - Risler
Pakdehi - there has been a lot of work for graduate students to decrease fees and this is asking to increase the fee, what does that do to the work graduate students have done?
Rowan - I think this is a small price to pay. $.65 per credit is the increase or about $7 per semester. I think it is justifiable.
Balogun - I think this increase is going to happen, but this might be a way to show things in favor of graduate students.
Rowan - This is not a foregone conclusion. It might not be passed or presented.
Pros -
Savoya - I understand where you are coming from, but there is some inequity based on credit hours. I am in favor of the bill.
Rowan - This is based on Florida statutes on the per-credit basis.
Burns - I am in favor because we have inflation and it is more expensive for organizations to put on events. This is a way to counter those increases.
Rowan - point of information - this increase will help to keep student jobs that are funded by SGA.
Cons -
Solmaz - What bothers me about this bill is that students should be getting more benefits. There are many fights for graduate students to get services in the first place. If you put our name on this bill, then it needs to benefit the graduate students. Of course, we want more funding, but not enough graduate students know they can get funding. We need to fight to get more awareness and access out there.
Ebuara - If we have our funding increased, how many students will benefit from it. I joined COGS to help increase funding, but this seems like a back track of the work that has been done to lower costs.
Joyner - extend the time; 2nd - Salimi
Joyner - I did some number checking and it's taking away the work of the GAU to decrease fees. I no longer support this.
Salimi - I'm a little for it, but as a medical student representative, none of the medical students can take part in events who are not on campus and I cannot support it on their behalf. They aren't getting the benefits of these fees in the first place.
Joyner - There are people getting the minimum stipend and this is bad.
Solmaz - At UGA, they give fee relief for students who don't use the services being offered on campus. FSU doesn't do this.
Rowan - Call to question; 2nd - Risler
Closing Statement - I'm happy we had this conversation. While I support this, I'm okay if it does not pass. I'm glad we are getting to talk about this as a whole. Many good points have been raised here about A&S fees. I thank you all and maybe we should use this as a jumping off point to make A&S fees more equitable. There are many conversations to have moving forward.
Vote: 2-10-3

Resolution #5: Support of Graduate Student Veterans
The university has a policy where full time for graduate students is 12 credits. Most programs have full time as 9 credits and some have 6 hours as full time. Those using the GI Bill are getting their funds pro-rated based on what FSU's considers full time. FSU's policy says full time is 12 credits which means many students are losing GI Bill
funding. Some people are losing out on as much as $1,500 a month. We want to pass this resolution to encourage FSU to change their policy. Billy Francis said that FSU is the only institution in Florida with this 12 hour policy. FSU is in the minority for this policy and this policy needs to be changed to support our veterans.

Questions
Rowan - Does the faculty senate play a part in making these changes? Yes.
Rowan - Have you talked to the faculty about this? Not yet, but Billy Francis will be meeting with several decision makers tomorrow including members of Faculty Senate.
Burns - Is there any language that you would like to change? Yes, because of the different parts of the GI Bill, we need to adjust the language "this costs several hundred dollars" to a "significant amount" or "several thousand over a semester".
Rowan - extinguish time; Salimi - 2nd.
Pros:
Joyner - I am for this bill and I am for making an amendment to the language. It is important for us to work towards more equity for veteran students.
Risler - I think this is one of those issues that slip through the cracks and COGS is well suited to bringing attention to it.
Ebuara - For FSU to shortchange veterans is contrary to what FSU says. It is punishing students and this resolution is important.
Solmaz - I can see not only veterans, but international graduate students can also benefit because we must be enrolled as full time students.
Cons:
Risler - extinguish the time; 2nd - Rowan
Pros:
Rowan - Move to amend and add Ms. Bridget Birmingham, Faculty Senate President to the resolution. 2nd - Ebuara
Vote on the amendment: 15-0-0
Rowan- After the 3rd whereas, I motion to remove "by several hundred dollars" and replace with "by a significant amount". 2nd - Ebuara
Vote on the amendment: 15-0-0
Pros:
Ebuara - motion to extinguish; Joyner - 2nd
Cons:
Rowan - call to question; Balogun - 2nd
Closing statements - Thank you to the Student Advocacy Committee as well as Laura and everyone for their help with this. This is a show of unified force and will be helpful.
Vote: 17-0-0
Round Table:
Adjournment: 8:17pm
Next Meeting: **November 6, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Senate Chambers**