

Internal affairs Minutes

9/25/23 Meeting

Call to order: 6:04PM

Roll Call:

Present: Erick Rivers, Katherine Gui, Joshua Burns, Jack Rowan, Susan Rogowski, Nella Delva

Absent: none

1) MSC Constitution Amendment

Rogowski: Background/recap from spring internal affairs meeting: Medical Students could not take advantage of the activities that the RSOs were putting together so they were requesting additional funds for conferences funding that they can make use of their Activity & Service Fees. After discussion with MSC and attorney general, was tabled until it could be discussed more with the medical school.

Gui: College of Medicine is comprised of MD, PA, BMS, and Bridge students. Issue came about when students moving to the regional campuses (Orlando, Ft. Pierce, Sarasota, etc.) are unable to attend the events which happen at the Tallahassee campus while still paying for them with the A&S fees. For med students this happens during 3rd and 4th years, for PA students during years 1.5-2.5. The bill was created as a way for these students to make use of their A&S fees.

Rogowski: These medical students qualify for COGS grants, and have been applying for an receiving them. One thing is almost none of their conferences are international – they would never qualify for international grants. The main idea was to increase the funding the med students could get as a lump sum rather than limited \$250 for conference presentation. Agree that paying A&S fees while being unable to use them is extremely unfair, and is COGS and MSC responsibility to find a solution for that. Unsure how to move forward.

Gui: Pushback from attorney general mentioned inclusivity- Other grad students (college of social work, fine arts) have a similar issue.

Rowan: Law students are on main campus all 3 years, but for travel we go to mock trial competitions to increase prestige for the college. LSC travel issue can be solved in a similar way to this. LSC and MSC know the unique ways to best spend the funds for themselves, as the board members are also elected by the students from regional campuses. It is fair to entrust them to how best they allocate their funds. Example, after speaking with Rep Salimi, idea that both LSC and MSC would benefit from having a separate line item specifically for travel allocations. In past may have had troubles, but that is an issue for MSC to enforce their requirements on themselves, and similarly for us to enforce the code in COGS. Example, with this new board, I am very focused on ensuring compliance within provisions and statutes in the law community where they weren't before. We are getting to a point where MSC can be trusted with this. Looking back at the minutes and the legislation being considered, it is too vague. They could make the language of the bill more specific to bar costs.

Rivers: Agree with Rowan that lump sum should be distributed by MSC to the College of Medicine. In the Senate, there was something similar with the Sports Club receiving a lump sum; they distributed funds

how they deemed best fit. One caveat is that those funds could not 'double dip' - the money must come from Sports Club alone and additional money from Senate was not allowed. Could make line item for MSC, then reallocate. Similar with COGS for other grad students in other colleges who go off campus - make a line item specifically for them. How to get the word out is on COGS. Extra unspent funds by xx date/period can be reallocated if unused.

Rogowski: Agree that MSC should be funding source for medical students. Would want something similar for other grad students at FSU going off campus, where lump sum could be allocated to a college.

Delva: How are we going to go about the logistics of creating line items? Would want to figure out a simple way to go about this.

Rogowski: COGS grant process is streamlined for conference. Still a lot of discussion about the language and how the code would change. Special provisions for off campus students would work similar to C-SAC committee (they receive special allocation requests under \$500). It is important to set a pot of money aside for these students - COGS does not know what the students need. Ex: med students need money for conference travel, but other students may need something else.

Rowan: Idea. Perhaps conference grants could be streamline as a yes/no question: Are you a grad student at the Tallahassee main campus? That way there will be a quick sign off and it won't be too taxing on the representatives. Also for students who are requesting allocations greater than 'x' amount, the Assembly can analyze with further scrutiny before voting.

Rivers: Good ideas circulating, need to move on.

2) Newsletter 6:39PM

Gui: Newsletter plans include representative spotlights, description/outcomes of big events supported by COGS, and informing public what COGS has available for grad students to use. [draft of previous newsletter sent out by Nella, images available at end of minutes as well].

Rogowski: Impressed with the senate's Instagram posts that are all done through Canva. Is it within statutes that it is required to send a newsletter?

Rivers: Confirm it is in the code to prepare and distribute the monthly newsletter.

Rogowski: We need to be more on top of this OR change the code (semesterly rather than monthly) because COGS meets less frequently than Senate

Rivers: Monthly may be too frequent for COGS. Senate has a press secretary who does all this. We could request them for their Canva template.

Delva: Graphic design is a lot more work than expected.

Rogowski: We could put out a call for a volunteer at the next Assembly meeting. We have a representative in the college of communication who may be interested.

Burns: Could delegate certain sections of the newsletter to people.

Gui: Similar to rotating bill representative, we could have rotating

Rogowski: Laura just collected blurbs from all the representatives. We could use that for a piece of the newsletter.

3) Other Business 6:48PM

a. Meeting minute template change

Rivers: Would like to use a template to simplify the minute writing process. Would like all the committees to use the same format (same as the general assembly format. [example sent out].

Rogowski: I like the idea of simplifying the minutes. Would be a good idea to add this and update the rules and procedures for the committee chairs.

Rivers: Will investigate updating the internal rules.

Rogowski: Needs to go through the Assembly, but not sure if it needs to be done through a resolution or a bill. Andy has been working on updating senate statutes over the summer, and COGS is even more outdated. Want to work on updating the statutes and code. Too big of a task for the Deputy Speaker for Judicial affairs alone, so we could go through the process as an internal affairs subcommittee.

Rowan: Rules just need to be passed through 2/3 vote. Could simply change by motion, not necessary to change by resolution.

Rogowski: Preference is for bill or resolution for better documentation.

Rowan: Draft a resolution that states the 'adoption of a new rule/procedure' that way representatives will have the document in front of them (also for reference in the future) while we are able to openly discuss during the Assembly.

b. Process of submitting declaration of candidacy

Rivers: Trying to reach out to smaller college who do not have representation. College of business sent out flyers to their students.

Adjourn: 6:59 PM

Newsletter images:


FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

COGS NEWS

	Issue No. 1 August 1, 2021	+
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The Congress of Graduate Students is the body of student government that officially represents the graduate students at Florida State University. We provide a voice for the opinions of graduate students and provide funding for travel grants and recognized student organizations.

Upcoming Assembly Meeting: Monday, August 23, 6:30 PM EST



Congress of Graduate Students Executive Members Sara Collins, Deputy Speaker of Communications (left) and Speaker Chris Hagemeyer (right) had the pleasure of visiting the FSU Childcare Center on a guided tour led by Associate Director Tiffany Karnisky (middle).

Supporting the FSU Childcare & Early Learning Center

As students and FSU staff and faculty start to carry out their tasks back on FSU's campus, childcare is an imperative need for many who balance caregiving and work-related responsibilities. The FSU Childcare and Early Learning Center, in turn, is preparing to welcome back students with their center operating at full capacity.

FSU COGS Representatives recently toured the facility and discussed staff operations, resources, and funding needs with Associate Director Tiffany Karnisky. Ms. Karnisky and the center's staff members evidently work to accommodate attendance fees, provide food, curriculum-relevant materials, and support to the children and their family. COGS recognizes the need for scholarships and funding to maintain the support of the center, and continues to discuss ways to structure a

consistent funding source through its Student Advocacy Committee.



What's New in the Graduate School?

Highlight an RSO

The Organization of Religion for Graduate Students hosted a workshop on how to publish research in on May 7, 2021. They hosted editors from four important journals in the field of Religious Studies. Invited editors gave short presentations about different stages of the publication process and shared invaluable insight meant to make the publication process less ambiguous and accessible to young scholars. Editors also answered questions posed by current graduate students about building a rapport with editors, networking, and the state of the field. The event was well attended and well-received from graduate students, faculty, and panelists alike. The organization looks forward to their upcoming spring symposium with hopes of inviting speakers in person in February. For more information about the Organization of Religion for Graduate Students and their upcoming events, please contact Taylor Dean at fsureligionsymposium@gmail.com.

Featured Representative (BIO)

Create a poll about a particular topic that you can further discuss in the next issue. Have students send

about the Organization of Religion for Graduate Students and their upcoming events, contact Taylor Dean at fsureligionsymposium@gmail.com.

COGS Paving the Way for New AEDs on Campus

On April 29, 2020, FSU student Tom Idowu passed away from sudden cardiac arrest. Bearing this tragedy, Florida State students recognized the need for cardiovascular health resources and equipment on campus. In the spring of 2021, COGS proudly donated \$49,000 to purchase 28 new AEDs, contributing to a 38% increase in AED accessibility on campus. Funding contributions made up a total of \$100,000 aimed at paying for expenses and equipment replacement for the next 30 years. COGS is working to support the next steps of this movement, as student advocates seek to fund available CPR and AED training on campus. For more information, please contact Chris Hagemeyer at COGSSpeaker@admin.fsu.edu.



FSU students advocate for cardiovascular health resources following the passing of 22-year-old Tom Idowu, who suffered a heart attack.

COGS Latest Open Seats

Nella is a fourth year PhD Candidate in Biomedical Sciences studying mood regulation with a particular interest in major depressive disorders. As a Haitian-American, STEM minority advocate, and neuroscientist in training, Nella's goal within COGS is to amplify the voices of underrepresented minority groups, particularly in spaces where decisions are made.

COGS Latest Open Seats

- 1 SEAT APPLIED SCIENCE
- 4 SEATS ARTS AND SCIENCES
- 1 SEAT AT-LARGE
- 3 SEATS BUSINESS
- 3 SEATS COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION
- 1 SEAT CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
- 3 SEATS EDUCATION
- 1 SEAT DEDMAN SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY
- 1 SEAT ENGINEERING
- 1 SEAT GRADUATE STUDENT HOUSING ADVOCATE
- 1 SEAT JIM MORAN SCHOOL OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- 1 SEAT LAW
- 1 SEAT MEDICINE
- 1 SEAT MOTION PICTURE ARTS
- 1 SEAT NURSING
- 1 SEAT PANAMA CITY CAMPUS SENATOR
- 3 SEATS SOCIAL WORK
- 1 SEAT VETERANS ADVOCATE

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