Internal Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes 1-16-2022

Members in attendance: Collins, Creigh, Delva, Harshe, Linsky

Late excused: Neale

Late unexcused:

ABSENT EXCUSED: Myhre

ABSENT Unexcused: Ryan, Vousaz

Call to order: 7:05pm

Official business: None

Official rules of procedures: none

Speak throughout context.

Questions
Delva – you made a comment that Bill 666 will likely not be approved. What are the steps we might need to take to make it approved?
Linsky – this is a part of the Florida Legislature, so we cannot actually do this in COGS or in Senate. This is a bill put forward by Senator Cruz to waive A&S fees. I’m predicting that this bill will not pass due to the political challengers to this bill.

Linsky discusses state university fees next. I want to look at item 10(a) and 10(b) – this is a rare part of what we can do. Because we, students, have the power to expend. Is this something that would be in COGS best interest (in reference to Cruz Bill 666)? Especially when COGS relies on fees as a primary source of funding. So we want to look at how A&S fees do become increased. The Board of Governors describe in this document how fees increase. The maximum that fees can grow must equate to one single credit hour cost.

Moving on to the Florida State University Administrative Matters document. Different schools have different credit amounts, however, we have no impact on tuition. Everything else is standardized except the residential rate.

Question Dep Speaker Delva: Waivers- are there a certain amount available?
Linsky: It depends on how many students qualify for an exemption.

The state statutes allow SGA to create their own rules and procedures. It does not need to represent what works at the federal and state level, as long as it doesn’t go against anything in
state law or the federal constitution. However, this does not mention anything about COGS. It puts COGS in a position in which they will not be able to self-govern unlike SGA. I’m hoping we can make a change in this matter. Right now, we cannot change student body statutes. Right now, we need to go through the Judiciary branch on Student Senate and encourage them to present a bill.

I’d like to posit that COGS can introduce bills to allow us to have some sort of legislative authority, even if it does go through Senate, as well. We do have rule making authority, but only over ourselves. The COGS Code and Internal Rules and Procedures.

Can senate delegate legislative authority to make edits to their own governing rules?

Rep. Linsky proposes to attend Senate meetings to provide updates as needed.

Rep. Linsky provides a background on the funding and how much COGS is allocated in comparison to Student Senate, particularly in sweepings.

Floor open for questions:
Delva: I wanted to affirm that this was very informative. Thank you!
Creigh: You explained this well, and I think this would be depicted well visually to share with the rest of the congress.

Went over vacant seats and ways to fill.

Motion to adjourn at 8:03pm