

TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Assembly Meeting
Special Session
Zoom
JULY 19, 2021
6:30PM EST
MINUTES



Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Dep. Speaker Creigh

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Collins, Hagemeyer, Harshe, Smith, Graves, Wiley, Sizemore, Hirsch, Morgan, Sangokunle, Creigh, Delva, Adhikari

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Ahlbum

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Gfatter

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Hirsch, 2nd Graves

Special Introductions and Student Comments:

Senator Linksky with an announcement

- Proposing to allocate budget percentage of funding from 30% to 50%
- Requires a 2/3 vote in favor of proposed bill for this raise to reflect the spending and representation of the graduate school

Senator Randall with Student Government Association

- Here to speak on potential additional 400 thousand dollars of funding for COGS if bill passes.

Messages from Student Government:

Senator Randall – Commenting on proposed bill for tonight's voting

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs: N/A

Elections: N/A

Report of Officers:

- The Report of the Speaker

- Responded to the messages presented from Senator Randall and Linksky: “This is a big deal to find equity in the funding provided to both undergraduate and graduate students”
- We do recognize that we do get benefits, but we also do not receive as many of the amenities as our undergraduate student body
- Our supplies from Full Press have arrived
- Went to Center of Global Engagement this week. Getting Central Reserves a new food cart.
- Put in a request on COGS’ behalf for OPS wages for Campus Recreation for continued training for staff and OPS employees
 - This bill was originally vetoed
- Also proposed funding for 23 AEDs for dorms
- Money is secured with Student Affairs to fund these AEDs
- Myself and Dep. Speaker Collins went to the FSU Childcare Center recently to listen to their needs as an organization
 - Advised representatives and attendees, “Please reach out to me if you are affiliated with a program or organization that may construct a project for the childcare center”
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance**
 - We are in a new fiscal year, so our balance is full.
 - Hoping the future of these numbers will be much higher if this new bill passes.
 - I’m sure you’ve seen the email about the travel ban being lifted for conference travel. The wording is confusing, so we are looking into that for students rather than only faculty and staff.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs**
 - Nothing to report, besides changed Office hours.
 - Glad to see everyone is getting financially certified.
- **The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications**
 - Finalizing the first summer newsletter to send to community liaisons, college representatives and departments, and advertise release of newsletter to students via social media. Students will have the option to subscribe to the newsletter and receive notice via email.
 - Releasing a social media and outreach Qualtrics form. This will serve as an avenue for students and community partners to voice their needs on campus, get specific information regarding COGS, and connect more with the congress. Qualtrics form will be released to the congress for feedback within the next couple weeks.
 - Will be reaching out to RSOs previously funded for information about their events. Plans to advertise funded events in the upcoming newsletters.
 - Please reach out to the Deputy Speaker of Communications with pictures, information on events, and ways to make our information more accessible.
 - “I will be reaching out to the congress with opportunities to be more representative in social media. Please sign up through the Google form if you are interested in an Instagram Live”

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:** Nothing to report.
- **Internal Affairs:** Be on the lookout for an email for an upcoming July meeting. Aims to meet next week and discuss upcoming organization for the newsletter.
- **Student Advocacy:** Previous meeting held and discussed funding and scholarships for funding opportunities. Wanting to collaborate with FSU Childcare long-term solutions for funding and scholarship opportunities. We have ideas to pull information from the Qualtrics form. Meeting for next Wednesday scheduled.
- **Student Affairs:** Doodle Report sent to committee, and people are available tomorrow at 6 for upcoming July meeting.

Funding Requests:

Bill 12: COGS Statutes and Revisions, Presented by Rep. Harshe

- Senator Randall: "We propose to change the COGS Speaker from a non-voting member to a voting member in budget meetings, assembly meetings, etc. We are trying to get more representation of COGS in funding. This bill will be presented to the Senate floor and committee this Wednesday."
- Congress took a 7-minute recess to read over bill proposed amongst the congress. No motions to extend the minutes.
 - Hagemeyer: Moving into non-technical question period
- Questions
 - Creigh: Could you define who professional students are?
 - Randall: Professional students are law students and med students.
- Pros:
 - Hirsch: it was easy to read through, well written, and I'm interested to hear if anyone has any amendments. But I think it will be good.
 - Graves: I agree, this bill looks much better than the one that was previously presented. But there doesn't look like there's a big difference other than the Speaker's duties.
 - Hagemeyer: We are trying to establish a liaison for official duties and involvement within the committees. We are aiming to expand our roles on the committees to build better relations with SGA.
- Cons:
 - Seeing no cons (N/A)
- Second round of pros
 - Motion to call to question: Morgan, 2nd Hirsch
 - **Bill passes with a vote of 12-0-0**

Bill 13: Master of Public Health Student Association (MPHSA) Funding Request Presented by Rep. Graves

- Graves: the MPHSA have a lot of different events that are volunteer throughout the community, including the "Forget-Me-Not" walk benefitting the Alzheimer's Association. Propose getting t-shirts with \$610 so everyone has an opportunity to get a shirt.
- Visiting member of the organization Carley Mullen: "We would want everyone who gets the t-shirt to be aware of the association throughout the community and

be able to know this is something people could be a part of in the graduate school.”

- Questions:
 - Morgan: Is there a difference between the public health student association and MPHSA?
 - Mullen: As a master’s program we really wanted to differentiate ourselves. We got our officers financially certified and taken other steps to make sure this organization is known, and it is MPHSA. There is no PSHA anymore, but we are a different organization representative of graduate students.
 - Morgan: So, no students are undergraduates?
 - Mullen: All FSU students can join, but we are geared toward graduate students.
 - Wiley: How would an extra \$6 help you provide awards based on the number you provided from Full Press?
 - Mullen: I was told to round to full numbers, we were told to add a couple extra dollars in case there was an extra influx of money. The clothing awards category is what I saw on the financial manual so that’s what I used.
- Pros:
 - Morgan: the MPHSA has a history of accepting funding from COGS and has done well with observing all regularities that align with funding requests
 - Graves: This is great because you are trying to undergo some rebranding, and this is a good first step toward this transition for the master’s program.
- Comments:
 - Hagemeyer: I rounded the number proposed to the wrong number. So, if anyone can motion to amend that, I can make that change.
- Con:
 - Morgan: We have an \$8 price limit per t-shirt, per the COGS financial code. This proposal would put us at \$8.05 per shirt.
- Second round of pros:
 - Hirsch: it sounds like you all have a good line-up of events, so I think this would be worth funding. But I do think larger shirts can be priced higher. And it comes out to only \$4 difference. So, I think we should fund this.
 - Adhikari: This seems like a good initiative and way to make their organization known.
- Comments:
 - Hagemeyer: Yes, double XL sizes are more expensive, but per the code, the shirts do need to be priced within \$8 per shirt.
 - Jacalyn Butts: I would consider what you all have been doing in the past.

- Wiley: We can potentially fund the standard sizes that would fit within that \$8 limit and then advise the organization to submit another request after speaking to Full Press.
- Hirsch: I would rather fund the total number of shirts – it does not seem fair to not fund the full amount given the range of sizes.
- Hagemeyer calls on Senator Randall: “We can make these changes to t-shirt proposals by making a change to the student body statute. One of the things we can do in the future is to make XL 9 or 10 and smaller sizes a cheaper amount. This would take effect in the next fiscal year. I have voted in senate’s version in this debate, and we do not deviate from the code, so we do not fall outside of the finance code.”
- Morgan: We want to stick to the code to fund as much as we can. I don’t think it’s too much to ask an organization to fund the remaining amount of money.
- Hagemeyer: I would like to call on Carley to ask if her organization could take care of the remaining \$4.
- Carley Mullen: “We tried to be as cost efficient as possible. Full Press was able to offer the cheapest color and material. We did have to have the full skew of shirts. I finally was able to get the off-campus bank account so now we have MPHA account to use for our organization.
- Morgan: Presents motion to amend to change the amount awarded from us from \$610 to \$600
 - Morgan, Creigh 2nd
 - Pros
 - Hirsch: I believe this is a good compromise for the organization.
 - Cons:
 - Seeing none
 - Morgan call to question, Hirsch 2nd
 - **Amendment passes 11-0-0**
- Voting on the bill 12
 - **Vote passes 9-0-2**

Unfinished Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Round Table:

Adjournment/Finale Roll Call: 8:23 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 23, 6:30 PM