

THIRTIETH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



Budget Deliberation Meeting
Zoom
1/28/2022
5:00 p.m.
MINUTES



Call to Order: 5:01 p.m.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Linsky, Hagemeyer, Criegh, Harshe, Delva, Neale, Vouzas, Illesanmi, Wilson

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED: Collins (6:00 p.m.)

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:

Budget request, go in order from top to bottom, starting with RSOs, and with BGSA, and then big-ticket items,

Linsky: since we have larger items and we are overbudget, goal is to go underbudget, then could we go in big items first and then work on smaller requests later. Instead of coming back to larger organizations again, dig in already,

Creigh: yes, we can do that since we do have larger items, like the idea of looking at big ticket items

3 items covered with resolution 8, Resolution 8: FSU Childcare-\$300k, The Globe – 94k , \$180,000 in Overhead, not set in stone, but intends to fund through the Resolution, created some categories, some suggestions, etc in a excel sheet

The Globe

Linsky: how much was the globe funded last year?

Creigh: zero,

Linsky: Senate was asked 85k, allocated 35k, so expect COGS to fund it when Senate has not funded it, Globe's ask is too high, they looked at the resolution and thought everything would be funded so let's apply, expect COGS to follow through on it,

Creigh: we can look it, since it's a different amount,

Hagemeyer: Senate did not fund them, zero funded, 76k in Childcare, took on 230k in childcare plus increase in minimum wage, 94,000 in globe, plus 180,000 in overhead, childcare went up a little bit,

Linsky: looking into Senate funding of Globe from last year,

Hagemeyer: covering 500,000 overall not necessarily 94k in Globe,

Linsky: covering FSU Childcare already at 300k,

Hagemeyer: childcare was funded by both Senate and COGS, when COGS was granting 77k historically, and Senate was 230,000

Linsky: Globe was 30k last year, wondering where they are getting the 94k this year, bad experience last year in Sweepings in not knowing where the money is coming from, still funding them through Senate

Hagemeyer: got them the hotline in the kitchen, the food, and

Linsky: 41k in Sweepings, for improvements, new stuff, Senate gave them 66k in yearly budget, do not know why 30k more, is it because COGS has more money? Lets ask and see if they will cut that check, Different story if we do other cuts, 66k to start with, but too early in the game right now to see if they are actually serving graduate students to fund them entirely, okay with 66k to start with

Hagemeyer: Senate they asked 94k, but Budget committee did not enter 180,000 going into the expectation understanding The Globe would be potentially fund through the COGS budget, if Budget committee would have known that we would underfund them at 66k then the resolution would reflect that additional 30k for Globe

Linsky: reason we have bigger budget is because the student body said so and not because the budget committee said so, Bad deal, do grad students use the Globe, not sure why we did the resolution, worry about future, they ask for more money next year

Hagemeyer: none are perpetual commitments, was an appeasement made this year out of an understanding with Student Affairs, lot of finger pointing about whose fault it was about the budget, immediately fingers started to point to COGS being problematic, COGS was being blamed, very pivotal that COGS was included in that mess because it was apparent we had budget issues that had nothing to do with the COGS amendment, without that deal we are not saying that there are issues beyond COGS in terms of budget, so future years we can taper off, one time appeasement in the form of the resolution, why is it such an issue, go through other line items requests, and then come back, still have about \$180k in increased allocation due to enrollment, so we can use that judiciously,

Linsky: what assurances in terms of amendment did we get? In tangible terms, what does precedent say, and keep funding once we are out of here next year, when we are gone, what is the precedent then?

Globe comes back next year and asks the same moneys, COGS allocates just like the status quo, student body use of the Globe, is it really used by graduate students, use proviso language, not an intent to create a precedent, not officially become a COGS responsibility

Hagemeyer: Speaker Harshe has raised hand and knows about Globe more, more money on grad students, be diplomatic that doesn't raise concerns or collapse Senate budget, instead of pointing fingers and if Senate would be to overturn the amendment, every year for the next couple of years under fire because of the same amount of A&S fees,

Linsky: if they were going to go that aggressive, foreclosing on the grad students will not help, it would risk a strike, agree that every year a negotiations is to be made with the administration, if we decide to spend 500k out of 1.26m, so its not a negotiation but more of a give away, made

concessions, not being sustainable, fought hard to get extra 600k, if we already paying 50% of grad A&S fees, so are working only with 50% and then working out appeasement within that cut budget, flag this for the future, exception of Childcare which is used more by grad students than undergrads, make a deal to give away another chunk of the remainder of the 50% in terms of the 500k in the resolution 8

Hagemeyer: take on all the money request, are not capable of using all the money next year, unused amount and expect folks to be able to spend it without having a way to know that people are responsible, provide evidence to understand that year on year we are responsibly using the allocated money, increase LSC and MSC, increase HiGSA, increase just give someone a huge increase and expect them to spend it,

Creigh: wants to point out... interrupted by Linsky

Linsky: another concerns of giving lumpsums to departments, because no way to audit how the money is being used, no view into how the spending is being used or understand how it is then allocated within after the budget allocation has been approved, in contrast give to funding boards, which are compelled to adhere to finance code, but when we give 94k to Globe we don't get much of a view into it,

Hagemeyer: suggest go through other line items, if we do reach consensus, circle back,

Speaker Harshe: international students, used that way, how much Globe is using grad students, international coffee hour is happening now, Friday evening for three hours, 50% of grad students are international students, how much time Globe is actually being used by grad students, RISE office and the LLRC is housed in the Globe, we have not seen them represented in the request, also not seeing the Center for Leadership and Social Change represented in the building request if those departments are also housed in the building

Vouzas: request from the Globe is not making request from any of the orgs but the building for keeping it open after hours, we need to focus on how much grad students use after hours and focus on that, I personally am leaning towards what Linsky is arguing, more money going to RSOs, more orgs trying to pursue events bring more, bring more parts of grad student body together, talk later as well

Creigh: Nella brings up a point of the "at least 50% grad student spending" in terms of RSO/departments being funded by COGS moneys, page 5 of the pdf, many of the orgs and clubs that reserve the globe, at least 2 or 3 of them are grad student RSOs out of the entire list, just the building and who they serve

Nella: curious if only 2 are grad students, can we argue if they do not serve grad students, can we see, 10% are grad students from presentations and information they have shared, at least 50% should be grad students served,

Hagemeyer: point, \$180,000 increase, this is 4 times the largest increase COGS has gotten in ever gotten, arguing for getting more money when we do not know where we need it for, it would be more productive to go on other line items before cracking down on the Globe

Jorge: add on the usage of the globe, behalf of HiGSA, in the past five years, one space in the globe being used is used once in last couple of years, hard to reserve because its already booked out, mainly used by undergrads and thus can not be used by grad students,

Creigh: point out few things, spent half hour on one org, agree to spend this year as a one-off, hold our promise, then show SGA that we need funds later, great example needing these funds, two funds requests coming out of nowhere that are ELPS, and Sports Managements where we could say we can't fund them right now because of our obligations but if they came back next year with a pronounced need, but if we have more funds next year, then we can fund grad

departments such as ELPS and sports management next year, so propose the need that we need more funds

Linsky: lock in the money on childcare and finalise on that first, to agree on the childcare appeasement and resolution, and then work on others, then little under a million to work on,

Creigh: minutes and looking at resources sent by childcare, childcare budget is reasonable, 77k through COGS funded last year, difference is 62k in ops wages and because of increase in minimum wages, agrees funding of childcare,

Creigh : Globe: keep them open, employee been working there since 2013, since Senate has been funding it since then, if it is not funded there would be a lot of backlash because of us promising to pay the Globe, not changing anything,

Parker: before we get into more arguments about that, are those non-negotiables, isn't that a promise and obligation

Creigh: made a promise but not set in stone, brings up the resolution

Hagemeyer: suggests Creigh to explain the intention of a resolution, no power, statement of purpose, press release almost

Linsky: promise yes basically, but promise isn't inclusive of how much, except for childcare, open senate meeting it was said that COGS would fully take childcare, Hagemeyer is right, significant backlash, all the way or not is negotiable, can't cut them from what was funded last year for Globe, but not making anything for next year,

Parker: how much exactly? For Globe last year

Linsky: 66k from yearly Senate process was funded, Sweepings process they got 41k- full cost that they asked, playing adept at playing this game, take the marching order from Administration in order to ask moneys from various places,

Hagemeyer: to answer Wilson correct, 94k was requested to Senate, which Senate zero funded them, Globe wants to fund the employee, pay him for the work he is putting in overtime, did not see that presentation so,

Creigh: Speaker Harshe

Speaker Harshe: Senate can be comprised of grad students, except the Undergraduate studies seats, increase of undergraduate students over the decades, recent past mostly undergraduate, because of which COGS could have been founded because of how grad students were driven out by Senate

Creigh: Vouzas also brings up, regardless of giving them the full amount or not, we need to make it clear that we are not funding them next year onwards, coming back to the fact that we promised, the Resolution says "intends to fund" is the keyword, we'll think about it, not a promise,

Matthew: curious, 66k and 94k is a significant bump, increase of 150%, this increase is in grad student services, are they 41k from sweepings, globe is very adept is playing game of requesting money, take marching order from administrations, based on their calculations of how much we have and how much we would give them, there are administrative gloat, there are an additional \$1.9 Billion in other moneys that university departments can access, we only access 1.26 Million, why do we have to pay for it, conclusion-they can get away with it, great programming?, so here's the money, be a stickler,

Creigh: numbers from request, 30k, full-time employee, looking at cogs request, person is crucial, overnight charges for keeping building open, after hour workers, 8 positions, if get rid of ops wages?, globe will still be open obviously but this is what would suffer from the lack of funding, decrease funds at the OPS

Mat: 66 k from senate

Parker: looking at if we can fund these 30k from the globe elsewhere,

Creigh: share resolution 8, item L, add up everything, get rid of 30k off the top then, changes and send it to everyone on committee and Chris and Gaurav, be on the same page

Speaker Harshe: served as the previous international student advocate, advocate on behalf of the CGE, Center for Global Engagement, reached out to them, in the Summer 2021, got them

Umbrellas for Coffee Hour, haven't heard from CGE about any requests or demands, ,

Alaba: erring on the side of not fully funding the globe, because not the Center but the Building, not all grad students, increase in overall other funding, increase stuff travel grants, dissertation grants, other ways grad students, other ways we can spend this money in improving the quality of life for our grad students, take a vote, move on to other line items,

Creigh: suggesting we vote on the funding for the Globe itself?

Alaba: yes, for the Globe,

Creigh: do we have all the information?

Parker: are we deciding already?

Creigh: talking about it for a while already, might as well,

Linsky: motion to approve 61,206 in salary, 2460 in expenses, doesn't include 30,360 in ops wages, to Rachel, if we pass this motion this doesn't preclude us from later on doing another motion for OPS wages, give us the flexibility of cutting, in case we have more freed up money, then come back and give globe more money

Creigh: come back next, coming up on the break already, breaks at the hours, 5 minutes, and second, Vouzas seconded.

Creigh: Quick vote on it, raise of hands,

Amaraneni: what is going on? Voting for what?

Creigh: only committee can vote on this, 61706, 2460, total 64166, those on the committee, all in favor?

Amaraneni: any opinions, can I say,

Creigh: suggest afterwards because we can come back to it, move on quickly,

6-0-1, Creigh abstains, passes for now,

Amaraneni suggested to bring up points

Amaraneni: so we are funding Globe from COGS?

Creigh: used by several different orgs, mostly used by undergraduate, looking at Resolution 8,

Linsky:

Creigh: mostly undergrad as the Globe points out in the presentations, minutes can be referred to afterwards, break

Amaraneni: more money is being used for undergraduate students, and not graduate students, and none for international students,

Creigh: intending to fund the Globe as a one off, Assembly is wanting to do, don't want to go into the details, ease the SGA and Senate,

Linsky: had it my way, would not fund the Globe at all, poor budget management overall of SGA budget and A&S fees even before the COGS Amendment, we have been getting underfunded because they would take out the overhead before giving us our fees, all at once last year, they had to get it right, to get our numbers right for the 30% and then 50%, essentially the administration found themselves in an untenable financial position and to be good sports COGS

came in and said we will take the load off right now this time, take on Childcare, continue to do it, we use Childcare, our percentage of the overhead, and then the Globe to alleviate the burden for this time, agree on principle, that grad student moneys shouldn't be paying for undergraduate students, but for the sake of this budget cycle and not loosing the undergraduate trust, take it on for better or worse, made a promise,

Creigh: Suggested Amaraneni to look at minutes, at about 6 pm, break on the hour, we should make votes on Childcare and Overhead.

Recess for 5 minutes,

FSU Childcare:

Linsky: Many of the services benefit graduate students and childcare is a necessity

Wilson: But isn't the globe the same?

Hagemeyer: The OPS wages are going to undergrads

Linsky: However, the funds benefit graduate students overall

Vouzas: Yes, and unlike the Globe, the loss of funding would mean loss of childcare for up to 70 graduate students

Ilesanmi: We are attempting to work toward prioritizing graduate students and admission for their children

Harshe: Funding could benefit scholarships considering graduate students make minimum wage through their stipends. It could also potentially benefit higher wages to hire graduate students instead of undegraduates with less training.

Motion to fund childcare 301,690 in OPS wages, Vouzas: Second

Vote: 9-0-0 for OPS wages

Creigh: I am for funding the overhead costs

Delva: Where is overhead costs located in the spreadsheet?

Linsky: It is a fund that could contribute to anything. However, we won't know what it's going toward this year but we have made a deal to stick to funding this organization from SGA.

Harshe: I shared the FSU Fund structure in the chat to refer to.

Creigh: Moving forward, we will request more information from our organizations.

Linsky: I move to approve 180,000 in the overhead expense category.

Second: Ilesanmi

Vote 9-0-0 for overhead funds

Creigh: How does everyone feel about allocating unallocated funds for raising travel grants \$50?
*Discussion ensues regarding if the funding actually gets used in unallocated and gone into sweepings

Hagemeyer: We typically spend close to all of our unallocated funds, however, it is unclear how much money is not being spent within FSU organizations. When they don't spend money, it pours into sweepings. It's also good to have a larger unallocated funds to repurpose money so RSOs can come to us if they need more money.

SGA Office

Linsky: What is the extra funding to? How can the new position benefit the graduate students?

Wilson: This was explained in the presentation. These are positions that will be held by graduate students?

Linsky: I worry that we are funding our advisors' and staff's salaries.

Harshe: I don't see a job posting through HR.

Creigh: I've emailed Dr. Williams so she can talk about this.

Hagemeyer: We don't have an advisor right now, and this hasn't been filled. Then they emailed me to be on the search committee, so I don't think the search committee has been formed. But they are short staffed to be able to help COGS process grants.

Discussing telecommunications...

Discussions increasing wages for staff members on COGS...

Hagemeyer: We may get push back for increasing wages

Linsky: motion for 16k for COGS officers, Wilson: Second

Harshe: Perhaps we govern within our own organization rather than follow the guidance of an advisor

Linsky: I would rather pay graduate students a higher wage to do the work we're already doing than have a graduate advisor look after us

Delva: Yes we haven't had an advisor and we have been functioning competently

Harshe: It may also be beneficial to pay our committees instead

Hagemeyer: But with how often COGS changes, it's helpful to have one person within COGS that can provide guidance based on what they learned

Creigh: I would also advocate for keeping the position, considering how many responsibilities the advisor has

Vote for OPS wages 16k: 7-0-2

Discussions concerning office supplies...

Motion to fund office supplies: Linsky, second: Neale

Vote: 8-0-1

Discussion for maintenance and repair...

Delva: Motion to fund maintenance and repair; second: Neale:

Vote: 9-0-0 for \$500

Discussion for 1500 in food

Motion to fund \$1500 for food: Vouzas, second: Collins

Vote: 8-1-0 for \$1500 for food

Move to approve 4,000 for speaker request
Motion: Wilson; Second: Vouzas
Vote: 9-0-0

Telecommunications
Wilson: Move to approve the requested amount; Second: Linsky
Vote: 9-0-0

Conference presentation grants, dissertations, grant programs
Creigh: proposing an increase in \$50 for travel grants
Discussion about the benefit of increasing the conference proposals as we historically run out of grant money, and it decreases the hesitancy to apply

Motion to fund 160k for conference presentation grants: Linsky, Vouzas second
Vote: 9-0-0

CSAC
Motion to call to question: Linsky; Second: Wilson
Vote: 8-0-1

Policy Education program

Overall discussion about funding 7 beginning graduate assistantships
Hesitancy to fund departments rather than RSOs
They are asking for more than 10% of the total COGS budget
General discussion about how it is difficult to trust that this will benefit the student body, rather than single departments
We have to be careful about the precedents we are setting, as we fund RSOs
Creigh: It seems as though the two events
Toby Park-Gaghan: I understand all of these points, but I hope you will consider the other events beyond the assistantships so it will benefit the entire graduate student body in this department

Linsky: Movement to fund 54k (all funding minus the OPS wages), Second: Vouzas
Ilesanmi: Move to amend the motion by moving to remove 25k to travel, which will reduce to 11.2k for expenses. Second: Linsky
Funding proposed 29,100
Vote: 7-1-1

Department of Sports Management

Linsky: How many students?
K. Flanagan: 200 masters students, 30 doctoral students
Linsky: How do we split up this money across students across the schools
It may not be a fair allocation when the department does not represent a large percentage of the student body

Flanagan: Women and Sports goes into the college of business and is a new organization – 75 students filled the first meeting – supports any woman who wants anything to do with sports beyond our department to join.

Linsky: If you were to prioritize your larger tasks with fewer money, and then come back next year with a rationale for more money, would you be able to do that?

Flanagan: With our biggest items/events (top 6), it would come out to 15k

Linsky and all: I would be good with that.

Xue: We hope you can consider funding line item 8 (speakers/network events), as this will greatly benefit career projections for our students

Linsky: It may be a good event to look forward to

Ilesanmi: We have a budget to stay within, and we don't want to undermine any department. I encourage my colleagues to consider funding it without the speakers

Ilesanmi: Movement to call to question with Item 1 through 7 for 21,150. And 8,850 for item 8
Vote 7-2-0

Adjournment: 9:02 p.m.