



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

THIRTIETH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Assembly Meeting
September 19, 2022
6:30 pm
Agenda

Call to Order:

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call:

Reading and approval of the Minutes:

New Business:

Petitions into the Assembly:

Special Introductions and Student Comments:

Keith McCall, Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards (OGFA)

Messages from Student Government:

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs:

Report of Officers:

- The Report of the Speaker
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs
- The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:**
- **Internal Affairs:**
- **Student Advocacy:**
- **Student Affairs:**

Funding Requests:

Bill 24: Ecology and Evolution Research Discussion Group (EERDG) (Rep. Basualdo)

Bill 25: Indian Student Association of Tallahassee (Rep. Boatright)

Unfinished Business: *Bill 23: Nepalese Student Association at FSU (Rep. Amaraneni)*

Round Table:

Adjournment:

Next Meeting: **October 3rd, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Senate Chambers (3rd floor New StudentUnion)**

COGS Financial Report, Fiscal Year 2021-2022

ACCOUNT	ALLOCATION AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	BALANCE
UNALLOCATED	\$27,617	For RSO funding requests at COGS meetings	\$9,243.00
ORGANIZATIONAL (C-SAC)	\$3,000	RSO funding for allocations less than \$1000 for the fiscal year	\$3,000.00
LSC	\$44,000	Funding allocations from Law School Council to Law School Student Organizations	\$52,460.49
MSC	\$44,000	Funding allocations from Medical School Council to Medical School Student Organizations	\$72,774.15
PRESENTATION GRANTS (Jul-Oct)	\$53,000	Presentation Grant balance for the March-June funding period	\$23,378.46
PRESENTATION GRANTS (Nov-Feb)	\$60,000	Presentation Grant balance for the November-February funding period	\$66,875.00
PRESENTATION GRANTS (Mar-Jun)	\$47,000	Presentation Grant balance for the March-June funding period	\$66,875.00
ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Jul-Oct)	\$6,000	Attendance Grant balance for the July-October funding period	\$4,000.00
ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Nov-Feb)	\$6,000	Attendance Grant balance for the November-February funding period	\$8,500.00
ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Mar-Jun)	\$5,000	Attendance Grant balance for the March-June funding period	\$8,000.00



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Allocation

30th Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 23

Sponsored by: Rep. Shyaam

Date: September 19, 2022

Amount: \$ 850

From: COGS Unallocated

To: Nepalese Student Association at FSU

Purpose & Description: Nepalese Dashain Event 2022

This is an on-campus event traditionally celebrated both in Nepal and also in India as it is one of the major religious festivals. The event will be mainly focused to bring all the Nepalese and Indian (or anyone who wants to celebrate with us) students, along with friends and relatives to celebrate Dashain together. We will have food that we generally have during this festival (Spiced rice, chicken curry, Veg curry, etc.) and cultural events. The Nepalese Student Association is requesting money to provide food to attendees. The event is anticipated to last from 4:00-8:00pm on October 2nd.

Itemized Expenditures:

Quantity	Description	Unit Price
1	Veg pulav 2 trays	220.00
1	1 chicken curry 11/2	225.00
1	Paneer butter masala 11/2	200.00
1	Okra masala	110.00
	Tax 7.5%	56.63

Total: \$811.63

MAYURI LLC
Dine In
Order #: 1008-27549
catering
1 Guest
Server: Praveen
Cashier: Praveen
Register: Receipt 1 (receipt)
2022-09-04 13:47:09

1 veg pulav 2 tray	\$ 220.00
1 chicken curry 1 1/2	\$ 225.00
1 paneer butter masala 1 1/2 tray	\$ 200.00
1 okra masala	\$ 110.00

Subtotal:	\$ 755.00
Tax 7.5% (7.5% of \$ 755.00):	\$ 56.63
Total:	\$ 811.63

Amount Due: \$ 811.63

Mayuri Indian Restaurant - Simpson Ave

Thank you!
Send receipt by email?

Powered by **LAVU**



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Allocation

30th Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 24

Sponsored by: Representative Basualdo

Date: 9/19/2022

Amount: \$2227.00

From (account name): COGS Unallocated

To (account name): Ecology and Evolution Research Discussion Group (EERDG)

Purpose:

The Ecology and Evolution Research Discussion Group (EERDG) aims to foster solidarity among students in the Ecology and Evolution graduate program within the Department of Biological Sciences at Florida State University and disseminate scientific research to the community. By providing students with opportunities to present their research, communication is facilitated amongst graduate and undergraduate students, and faculty within the Department of Biological Science. Interdisciplinary interactions are also encouraged with students from various fields of study (Cell & Molecular, Coastal & Marine Lab, as well as Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science). Additionally, our outreach events encourage the general public to become involved in science and learn about the current ongoing research at Florida State University.

Description:

Ecology and Evolution Research Discussion Group (EERDG) Talks, are held every Friday at 3PM in King Biological Sciences Building. The request is for the availability of food, establishing outreach, and purchasing supplies for organization recognition.

COGS funding request for General Expenses: \$850

COGS funding request for Clothing/Awards: \$952

COGS funding request for Food: \$425

Itemized Expenditures:

Quantity	Description	Unit Price
3	Socially Distanced Community Outreach	\$175
3	Virtual School (Elementary/ Middle School)	\$120
1	Undergraduate Professional Development Group*	\$75
3	Virtual School/EERDG in the Classroom (High School)	\$120
3	Booth at Downtown Farmer's Market	\$240
3	Tallahassee Science Festival	\$120
144	Shirts @ \$6.61 per shirt	\$952
17 weeks	Food for EERDG Talks meeting	\$425

Total: \$2227.00

COGS BUDGET REQUEST PACKET

ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION RESEARCH DISCUSSION GROUP (EERDG) BUDGET HEARING 2022 – 2023

2020-2022 ACTIVITIES BUDGET REPORT

Mission Statement:

The Ecology and Evolution Research Discussion Group (EERDG) aims to foster solidarity among students in the Ecology and Evolution graduate program within the Department of Biological Sciences at Florida State University, and disseminate scientific research to the community. By providing students with opportunities to present their research, communication is facilitated amongst graduate and undergraduate students, and faculty within the Department of Biological Science. Interdisciplinary interactions are also encouraged with students from various fields of study (Cell & Molecular, Coastal & Marine Lab, as well as Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science). Additionally, our outreach events encourage the general public to become involved in science and learn about the current ongoing research at Florida State University.

All the activities done during the 2020-2022 session were either self-funded, free of cost, funded by COGS, or provided by individual voluntary contributions from participating members of the organization.

PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENTS IN 2020-2022:

Talks at Raa Middle School's SciGirls club

SciGirls is a club for girls that provides exposure to the STEM fields by bringing in researchers from many different fields to talk about research and engage in activities that foster excitement and learning in the fields of STEM. The SciGirls club meets in the mornings before the regularly scheduled school day and is comprised of about 25 girls. These girls have expressed interest in the STEM field and are eager to learn more about what's out there. Several members of EERDG did talks and activities at the SciGirls meeting last year, discussing we do as scientists, how we got to where we are, and why we love working in this field.



Volunteering at the Tallahassee Science Festival

The Tallahassee Science Festival is an annual event where scientists from all over Tallahassee set up booths that people can visit to learn about the different scientific research happening in Tallahassee. Last year, several members of EERDG volunteered to assist with the scavenger hunt, which sent kids around the festival to find answers to some scientific questions. This encouraged them to explore the different booths and helped them retain the information. Volunteers assisted in passing out the scavenger hunts, counting attendees, and assisting families in finding booths and prize locations.



Darwin Day Celebration

This event is hosted by EERDG and the department of Biological Sciences. Featuring live music performed by bands of Biology graduate students, a Charles Darwin themed cake, a Darwin photo booth, and of course the traditional Yo Chuck! Salute, we celebrate Charles Darwin and his contributions to biological science. Everyone across the university is welcome to join in celebrating the originator of one of history's most influential ideas. A colloquium is hosted following the celebration to learn how Darwin's theory of evolution continues to influence modern cutting-edge research. This event is advertised university wide and is hosted every year around the 12th of February.



Animal Encounters at the Museum of Natural History

Many graduate students from a variety of research labs in the Ecology and Evolution program volunteer at the Tallahassee Museum of Natural History. Every other Sunday graduate students go to the museum and participate in “animal encounters” where they present different animals (snakes, alligators, tortoises, etc.), teach the visitors about them, and let the kids see and touch them. They also help with some of the basic animal care duties, like feeding and cleaning.



Museum Venom Camp

Each summer our venom-based lab brings in kids from the museum venom camp to learn about the venom research happening at FSU. EERDG graduate students in this lab give the budding young scientists a tour of the facilities and all of the venomous animals that are worked with at FSU (snakes, scorpions, centipedes, etc.), all while teaching them about all things venom. In association with this program, they bring in several exceptional high school students each summer as part of the YSP program. They take classes at FSU and work in the research lab for a total of six weeks. These high school students conduct a research project (this past year it was looking at sex-based variation in spider venoms) and at the end the summer give a poster presentation and write a paper about their experience.



Booth for Earth Day at Tallahassee's Downtown Farmer's Market

At this event, the EERDG outreach team set up a booth focused on how people are connected to the ecosystem around us and how people can positively and negatively affect the ecosystem. As part of the booth, we had a giant food web Jenga game where participants selected cards that described actions that either hurt or helped some level of the food web. If it was a positive action, they got to add a block to that level, and if it was negative, they had to take a way a block from that level. The game continues until all of the cards are gone or the food web (Jenga tower) has collapsed. We also had a watershed model in which we demonstrated how different pollutants can seep into the watershed and wash down to our lakes, rivers, and oceans.



Saturday at the Sea

Saturday at the Sea is run by the Office of Science Teaching and Outreach and it provides opportunities for students to gain an understanding of both marine life and Florida coastal system as a whole. Middle school age students from diverse backgrounds are picked up and driven to the Coastal & Marine lab. We first teach them how to identify adaptive physiological traits on fish and how to use microscopes. They also learn about sea grasses and the importance of phytoplankton. Students also get the opportunity to go out to the gulf to collect different organisms in otter trawls. During that time students are encouraged to think about why certain organisms are found in particular locations and how they interact with their environment. This is an engaging and interactive way to get students out into the field and get excited about marine sciences. Many of the group leaders are EERDG graduate students.



Science Salon at Waterworks

Most recently, Jess Cusick, an FSU Biology PhD student and EERDG President, gave an informal presentation on her dissertation research (cooperation in birds) for Waterworks' Science Salon. As scientists, it is critically important to be able to convey your research to a general public and teach about the relevance and importance of basic biological research. To a group of about 40 people, Jess gave a ~30 minute informal talk and held a question and answer session, and even brought in specimens of the birds she talked about. Many other members of the Biology Department have also presented at Science Salon in previous years.



Outreach with Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle

Some of the EERDG outreach members work with local Girl Scout troops. Recently, the Girl Scouts have released a lot of science-related badges that troop leaders are excited to implement. EERDG members have been working with these leaders to help the troops earn these badges. In particular, several troops are pursuing a "Think Like a Citizen Scientist" patch. EERDG members have helped troop leaders construct activities that will teach the girls how to observe their surroundings like a scientist and will continue to visit these troops when they work on these activities to tell them about being a scientist.

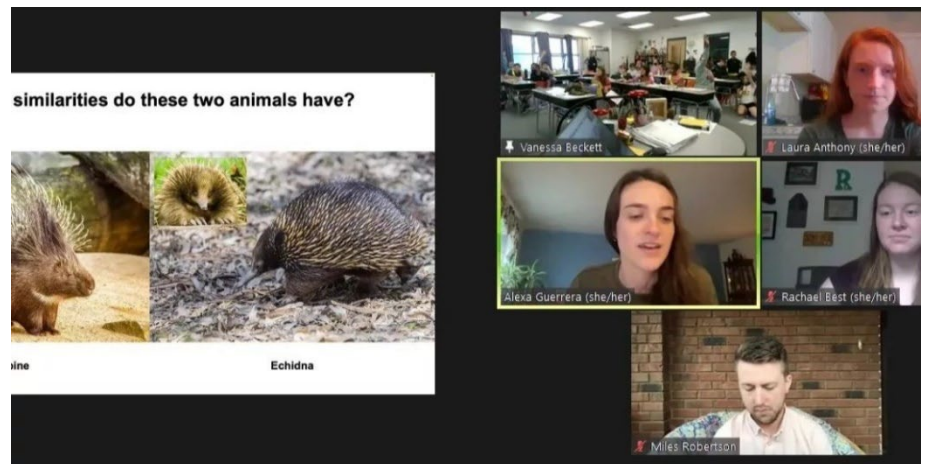
Outreach Abroad

EERDG Members doing outreach in Bonaire actively coordinate with Stichting Nationale Parken (STINAPA) Bonaire to involve STINAPA Junior Park Rangers (ages 13-17) in their research. The Junior Park Rangers dive with them to assist in setting up and maintaining scientific equipment in reef study areas, giving them an inside look at some of the research being conducted on their reefs, while encouraging more active stewardship. In Panama, during their field season, other members of EERDG bring children from the local elementary school out to field sites for activities focused on research, conservation, and appreciation for natural resources. During the outreach day they mist-net for birds to show the children how scientists catch birds for research and to give them a close-up look at wild birds. They also set up ecology and evolution games for the students to play, plant native trees in an area that was recently clear cut, and end the day with a picnic lunch on the beach and more games.



Scientist in Every Florida School

The mission of the SEFS program is to engage Florida K-12 students and teachers in cutting-edge research by providing science role models and experiences that inspire the future stewards of our planet. These visits have a focus related to Earth systems—air, water, land and life — which is in line with TESI's mission to advance public understanding of environmental issues. EERDG has completed 8 visits within the last year, and have several visits scheduled for the fall and spring semesters.



- SEFS 7th Grade Evolution Lessons: South Miami Middle Community School (125 students)
- SEFS 7th Grade Evolution Lessons: Lake City Middle School (100 students)
- SEFS 7th Grade Evolution Lessons: Tequesta Trace Middle School (400 students)
- SEFS 3rd Grade Plant Adaptation Lesson: Goldsboro Elementary School (24 students)
- SEFS 4th Grade Plant Reproduction Lesson: Alachua Elementary School (24 students)
- SEFS 4th Grade Plant Interactions Lesson: Jacksonville Heights Elementary School (24 students)
- SEFS Kindergarten Scientific Observation Lesson: Kelley Smith Elementary School (24 students)
- SEFS Kindergarten Scientific Observation Lesson: Rymfire Elementary School (24 students)

EERDG RETREATS AND EVENTS IN 2020-2022:

EERDG & TCGA Bearpaw Float Trip 2021

Members of EERDG and TCGA (The Cell and Molecular Graduate Student Group) like to start the semester off in true Floridian style by spending an afternoon floating the Chipola River! This activity allows members of the Ecology & Evolution as well as the Cell and Molecular Biology programs; both in the department of Biological Sciences; to interact, discuss research interests, and to enjoy some of Florida's natural environments. The scenic Chipola river runs through river swamps, hardwood forests, limestone bluffs, and caves; many of which are environments where graduate students conduct their research. This will be an annual retreat and is scheduled for the first weekend of October 2018.



EERDG Scavenger Hunt for New Graduate Students

This is an awesome time for both new and old graduate students to meet, have fun, goof off as they run around town, and win some fabulous prizes! The scavenger hunt acts as a way for new students to interact and meet others in the department that aren't necessarily in their lab or area of study, while also learning their way around Tallahassee. Challenges include taking pictures at assigned locations or getting a stranger to sing a song with you. This event has been going on for several years and is always a big hit for both incoming graduate students and grizzled veterans alike. Prizes, gift cards to local coffee and pizza shops, are awarded to the winning team.



EERDG TALKS: WEEKLY GRADUATE SEMINARS

EERDG TALKS are weekly seminar sessions where graduate students in the biological sciences department or other related departments can present their research or research topics of interest to peers and receive important feedback on their work and ideas. We also hold a mental health seminar, where we invite the FSU Counseling Center to present on mental issues specific to graduate students. This seminar is uniquely offered by EERDG and open to anyone in biology to attend. This year we plan to hold an additional Mental Health First Aid Course. We have been having weekly seminars since the start of this organization, but recently have been trying to increase our advertising of the seminars to increase outside participation bringing new insight to our work. Below are the 2017-present seminars that have been advertised on our Facebook page as well as through the intra-departmental email newsletter "Bionotes" which details upcoming seminars and colloquia. All speakers are from the Department of Biological Sciences at FSU unless otherwise noted.



EERDG flyer placed around campus

Date	Presenter: Talk Title	Attendance
8/27/21	Welcome to EERDG Day	35
9/3/21	Liz Lange: How social environment affects mating strategy in livebearing fish	20
9/10/21	Jasmin Graham: Tracking Movements of Sawfish using Acoustic Telemetry	24
9/17/21	Bobbie Renfro: Increasing Outreach Opportunities in EERDG	25
9/24/21	Joseph Horacek: Meiofauna in the South Pacific	18
10/1/21	Will Booker: History of Genome Duplication in Gray Treefrogs	17
10/15/21	Natali Ramirez-Bullon: Plant Populations & Rarity	21
10/22/21	Sarah Kettelkamp: Selection Experiments in <i>D. Melanogaster</i>	19
10/29/21	Luke Jones: Evolution in <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i>	18
11/5/21	Nate Spindel: Metabolic Ecology in Size-Structured Populations	19
11/12/21	Mike Hogan: Sensory perception in the Diamondback Rattlesnake	14
11/19/21	Dr. Marsha Cohen: Stress Management and Self-Care	22
11/26/21	Will Ryan: Conservation of the African Elephant (<i>Loxodonta africana</i>)	28
12/3/21	Brendan Scherer: Mangroves and their associated microbes: A proposal	10
12/10/21	EERDG cabinet: Updates and Future Plans	31
1/7/22	Bobbie Renfro: Methodology of Measuring Sponges!	17
1/14/22	Ben Pluer: Scientific Outreach with Board Games	19
1/21/22	Abbey Engleman: Reverse Engineering Coral Reefs	14
1/28/22	Ethan Cissell: Taxonomic Profiling of a Cyanobacterial mat	16
2/4/22	Scott Miller: Fish and Benthic communities in Moorea	18
2/11/22	Valentines Day Celebration!	19
2/18/22	Sarah Ruckman & Melanie Medina: Postdoc Panel	22
2/25/22	Tom Houpt: Misconduct Review Talk	25
3/4/22	Rachael Best: Grant Proposal Writing Workshop	18
3/18/22	Cheston Peterson: Habitat use of Sharks in Apalachicola Bay	18
3/25/22	Joseph Horacek: Meiofauna in the South Pacific	15
4/1/22	Brian Moe & Alexa Guerrero: Mental Health Discussion	17
4/8/22	Tyler Hunt: Beaver and Their Crazy Teeth	12

OTHER PAST EVENTS:

- Monarch Butterfly tagging with SEEDS
- Natural Areas cleanups with TCGA
- Tallahassee Virtual School
- Talks at Raa Middle School's SciGirls club
- Volunteering at the Tallahassee Science Festival
- Capital Regional Science Fair
- Darwin Day Roadshow
- Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference, FSU 2015-2016
- Raa Middle School Science Fair
- Brainshops for the Mad Scientist of Tomorrow
- Wild & Scenic Film Festival

FUTURE EVENTS IN PLANNING FOR 2022-2023:

- September 29, 2022: Scientist in Every FL School Virtual Meeting with Kindergarteners
- October 21, 2022: Scientists in Every FL School Virtual Meeting with Kindergarteners
- October 22, 2022: Tables at Tallahassee Science Festival
- October 28, 2022: Social mixer with SEEDS
- November 2022: Tour of the FSU Coastal and Marine Laboratory with SEEDS
- Date TBD: Finding Fluorescence Exhibit at the Tallahassee Museum
- Date TBD: Undergrad Professional Development Workshop: How to read a scientific paper
- Date TBD: Undergrad Professional Development Workshop: How to write a CV
- Date TBD: Undergrad Professional Development Workshop: How to apply to graduate school
- Date TBD: Undergrad Professional Development Workshop: Careers in Ecology and Evolution
- Date TBD: Virtual School of Leon County (High School)
- Date TBD: Ask a Scientist! - Tables at Market Wednesday and Booth at First Friday
- Date TBD: Science Made Simple - Graduate Science Connecting with The Public

Executive Members Attending Budget Hearing:

Ashley Dawdy, President – adawdy@bio.fsu.edu

Ben Pluer, Treasurer - bpluer@bio.fsu.edu

Emilie Broussard, Outreach Coordinator – ebroussard2@fsu.edu

EERDG COGS FUNDING REQUEST FOR 2022-2023:

We request funding for our consistent weekly events, EERDG Talks, which are held Fridays at 3pm in KING biological sciences building. **In addition, much of the funds requested will be used to further establish the outreach arm of EERDG and to prepare for upcoming events in the future.** Outline for costs is detailed below:

- *This activity is currently a socially distanced or virtual outreach activity

Category	Event or Items	Funds Requested	Purpose of Funds Requested	Justification of Costs
Outreach Events	Socially Distanced Community Outreach *	\$175	Activity 1: Skype a Scientist * Activity 2: A World of Microbes * Activity 3: Finding Fluorescence *	Costs associated with buying either one-time use or reusable kits for activities
	Virtual School (Elementary/ Middle School)*	\$120*	Activity 1: Drawing Evolution* Activity 2: Graduate Scientists Poster* Activity 3: Panhandle Plants*	Printing & supplies to encourage class interaction
	Undergraduate Professional Development Group*	\$75	Improve undergrads professional skillset, such as teaching them how to write a CV, find internships, and read scientific papers*	Setup/advertisement costs. Prizes for within discussion participation
	Virtual School/EERDG in the Classroom (High School)	\$120	Activity 1: Adaptation Kickball Activity 2: Predator Tag Activity 3: Evolution: Board Game	*Cost per activity reduction due to reuse of supplies.
	Booth at Downtown Farmer's Market	\$240	Printing of EERDG Banner Activity 1: Food Web Jenga Activity 2: Interactive Watershed Activity 3: Southeastern Sharks	Club Banner & Supplies for 3 Activities
	Tallahassee Science Festival	\$120	Activity 1: Evolution Trading Cards Activity 2: Darwin's Finches Activity 3: Panhandle Plants	Onetime costs for printing large quantities of educational materials.
EERDG	EERDG Shirts	\$952	144 shirts @ \$6.61 per shirt	Allow EERDG to be recognized both on campus & outreach events.
	Food for EERDG TALKS	\$425	Food for EERDG Talks meeting \$25 per week for 17 weeks.	Increase EERDG attendance & increase community outreach.

COGS funding request for **General Expenses**: \$850

COGS funding request for **Clothing/Awards**: \$952

COGS funding request for **Food**: \$425

TOTAL 2020-2021 FUNDING REQUEST FOR EERDG = \$2227



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Allocation

30th Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 25

Sponsored by: Samuel Boatright

Date: 9/12/22

Amount: \$1500

From: COGS Unallocated

To: Indian Student Association of Tallahassee

Description:

Diwali is the most important festival celebrated in India. The Indian Student Association of Tallahassee wants to bring a taste of the religion and culture abroad with its rituals and food. They will be having a small puja (worship) in the beginning. This is a way of seeking blessings from the Almighty. Then they will portray Indian culture with a brilliant cultural program including dance and songs. This will be followed by a sumptuous meal. Although it is an Indian festival, they want students from other countries to be a part of this event too.

Purpose

We have additional funds in our account. Requesting the additional \$1,500 as an additional fund to complete our expenses.

Itemized Expenditures:

Quantity	Description	Unit Price
6	Samosa Trays	\$779.94

12	Persis veg biryani trays.	\$1559.88
5	Chicken Khorma trays	\$799.95
1	Gulag Jamun 275 count and 6 paneer butter masala trays	\$1174.94

Total: \$4314.71



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Revision

30th Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 26

Sponsored by: Deputy speaker of Judicial affairs Delva

Date: 9/19/2022

Amendments listed below are made to **Statute Number(s)**: 108.3, 207.5, 208.2, 209.1

The purpose of this amendment is to revise the COGS statutes to improve readability and adjust presentation and attendance awards for the current fiscal year (2022-2023). Additionally, we will be striking some expired language in the code.

Statute/Amendment Text:

Chapter 108 Committees

108.3 The following are the standing committees of COGS:

- A) The Student Affairs Committee
- B) The Student Advocacy Committee
- C) The Internal Affairs Committee
- D) The Budget Committee
- ~~E) Committee leadership elections shall be held before February 19th, 2018 for any COGS Committee not existing prior to February 5th, 2018.~~
- ~~F) On February 5th, 2018, the membership and leadership of the COGS committees listed here, shall be dissolved, at which point this provision 108.3(E) shall be stricken from the COGS Code: Internal Affairs Committee, Academics & Student Life Committee and Ways & Means Committee.~~

Chapter 207

~~207.5 No student shall receive more than \$2,500 in grants in any five (5) year period as a student at Florida State University. Students are limited to no more than \$500 in total grants per fiscal year.~~

207.5 No student shall receive more than \$3,000 in grants in any five- (5) year period as a student at Florida State University. Students are limited to no more than \$600 in total grants per fiscal year.

Chapter 208

~~A) Any conference (more than 100 miles) within the Continental United States shall be eligible for a grant of up to \$200.00 of appropriate conference-related expenses.~~

~~B) Any conference outside the Continental United States shall be eligible for a grant of up to \$500.00 of appropriate conference-related expenses.~~

~~D) In the interests of fairness, the Speaker shall be authorized to permit a single \$300.00 grant for students traveling to a conference over 300 miles from Tallahassee until June 30, 2011 at which point this provision 208.2(D) shall be stricken from the COGS Code.~~

208.2 The following criteria shall govern grant awards in this category:

A) Any conference within the Continental United States shall be eligible for a grant of up to \$250.00 of appropriate conference-related expenses.

B) Any conference outside the Continental United States shall be eligible for a grant of up to \$600.00 for appropriate conference-related expenses.

Chapter 209

209.1 Academic & Professional Conference Support Grants

Grants are given to encourage attendance at academic and professional conferences by graduate students who are not making presentations. To be eligible to receive an Academic & Professional Grant, a currently enrolled graduate student must be attending a conference that is related to his or her course of study, or otherwise serves a legitimate academic and/or professional purpose. Students shall apply for an A&P grant using the designated COGS application form established by the Executive Committee.

A) The completed application must include confirmation of registration and other identifying material stating the date and location, as well as contact information for the conference the student is attending. A completed application must be submitted to COGS two (2) weeks prior to travel. Proof of attendance is due to the COGS office within thirty (30) days after attending the conference.

B) This grant shall be unavailable to any student who has received any funding for the same conference from another COGS budget line or any other entity funded by SGA.

C) This Chapter shall be reviewed by the General Assembly contemporaneously with the Annual Budget.

D) Attendance at any conference shall be eligible for up to **\$150.00** of appropriate conference-related expenses.



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

THIRTIETH CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Assembly Meeting
September 12, 2022
6:30 pm
Agenda

Call to Order: 6:36 pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Rep: Boatright

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Basualdo, Boatright, Delva, Mekala, Neale, Vaughn, Vouzas, Baffour, Galleano, Rogowski, Amaraneni.

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, EXCUSED: Mekala

REPRESENTATIVES LEFT EARLY, UNEXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, EXCUSED: Illesanmi

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT, UNEXCUSED: Myhre

REPRESENTATIVE LATE, EXCUSED:

REPRESENTATIVES LATE, UNEXCUSED:

Roll Call: Chair

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Rep. Amaraneni

Second: Rogowski

Petitions into the Assembly: None

Special Introductions and Student Comments:

- Food pantry funding support - lack of food - not sufficient for the students coming; more demand this year than in the past because there are more students now than before. Would like to have financial support - look into it.
- There were comments from other representatives about what happened in the past with previous donations to the food pantry.
- Graduate school was charged by Grad Life Task force committee to help financially support the food pantry.
- Possibly something that can be talked about in the Student Advocacy committee.
- October 20th - student food collection event

Messages from Student Government: None

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs: None

Elections:

Vouzas: Nominate Rep. Rogowski

Second: Vaughn

Chair: 3 min to speak

Rogowski: I am excited to take on this position, I was vice president to a student organization, and served as a treasurer for a student organization in Mathematics department. I am now more available and have plenty of time to take on this position.

Neale: 3 min to ask nondebatable questions

Ethan: do you have 10 hours available for office hours s

Vaughn: Do you have the necessary approval

Rogowski: not an issue, but I have to double check

Ethan: Are you international?

Rogowski: No

Motion to call a question: Amaraneni

Second: Vouzas

Pros:

Vouzas: she expressed interest to fill this position a while back, she seems motivated and focused to make sure that everybody is equitable.

Boatright: motion to move to extinguish the rest of the pros

Second: Vouzas

Second round a pros

Galleono: she is an applied mathematics person and therefore she is fit for the role

Motion to call a question

Galleano: second

Neale let's move to voting:

Voting 9/0/0

Chair: Moving on to the election of the deputy speaker of communication

Delva: I nominate Vaughn

Vouzas: Second

Amaraneni: I nominate Mikala

Rogowski: second

Mikala speech:

I just joined COGS and I am an international student, and I am interested in this position because of my background, I am a tutor, and I am a good and effective communicator. I am ready and be there and serve COGS.

Non-debatable questions:

Ethan: Are you employed as a graduate assistantship?

Mikala: No

Ethan: I just want to make sure

Mikala: yes, I have a position at the library for 15 hours and this is my last position.

Amaraneni: why are you qualify for this position

Mikala: I am a very good communicator

Rogowski: extinguished the rest of her question time

Second: Galleano

Vaughn speech:

I am interested in running for this role because my background is in higher education, I have worked full-time in higher education for quite a bit. I am fit for this role because I communicate quite a bit for my role, and I can type quite fast.

3 minutes of nondebatable questions

Ethan: what year are you in?

Vaughn: I am currently a second year

Basualdo: you seem like a busy person, what are some of your time constraints

Vaughn: I have a good work/life balance

Boatright: what is your availability?

Vaughn: I have plenty of availability to dedicate to this role

Ethan: motion to extinguish your time

Second: Rogowski

3 mins for pros

Pros Mikala

Amiraneni: she is really good with technology and communication; she is very dedicated and focused.

Rogowski: she is very passionate about being involved with COGS, she is in data science

Basualdo: She will be really good in taking notes because she is in data science, she is also an international student, and she understands how to multitask.

Ethan: motion to call a questions

Second: Basualdo

Pros Vaughn:

Ethan: Being able to put someone in that position that can stay for a while is important for COGS continuity. It looks like she will be able to take this position for while in addition to her background in higher education

Basualdo: Being that Rep. Vaughn is not graduating soon, I agree with Ethan.

Rogowski: Vaughn seems to be organized with her time and fit for her job

Second pros for Mikala:

Amiraneni: this is the only time that she can experience, she is in data science, and she can be a great support for COGS.

Second pros for Vaughn

Vouzas: she can offer much more to the job because she will be here with us for a while to support COGS as well as her higher educational background.

Rogowski: she is very passionate in advocating for international student.

Rogowski: motion to call a question

Amaraneni: Second

Vouzas: Motion for secret ballot

Rogowski: second

Vote:

Vaughn: 6/0/0

Mikali: 3/0/0

Petitions into the Assembly: None

Report of Officers:

The Report of the Speaker:

- Asked to find appointments for committees (can be cogs or other graduate students outside of cogs - really need a student's voice.)
- Tech fee committee - need full commitment for 6 weeks to review proposals for technology contracts for next year 23-24 - 6 weeks take place at end of Fall
- Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) committee - focused on improving doctoral education at FSU - first meeting is Friday, Sept. 15 from 3:15-4:15 in Westcott Room 201 - one person will be appointed by the speaker after more information is gathered.
- SGA liason - to be more involved with the whole of the student body - speaking during the cogs section of their meetings - important because SGA allocates money to COGS
- Ex-officio role in office of governmental affairs - can have a team who can act as representatives
- If interested in any of these positions, email the Speaker on which committees you are interested in.
- For the COGS Committees - need to get them back running for the Fall
- There are many COGS shirts and all representatives should get shirts and merchandise to represent members on campus. Speaker is working to get food at the meetings.
- Discussion on moving committees - people can not switch committees if members are less than 5. Deputy Speaker for finance must move to the internal affairs committee.
- Request that committees need to meet before COGS meeting next week. Need to post on website up to 24 hours before so that public can attend. These meetings can be either in person or on Zoom. Primary order of business is to elect a chair and vice chair and share availability.
- Work on recruitment and filling seats - share cogs info with those you know - we need representatives
- Also looking for representatives to lead events this semester - reach out to executives if interested in helping

The Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance:

- Nothing to report since newly elected.
- Would like to do more to support RSO's - workshop that talks about the steps for requesting funding for the RSO's.

The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Judicial Affairs:

- Make sure that you are financially certified - all must take the survey at the start of the year, not just new members

- If you have questions about bill sponsoring from RSOs, please ask about how to put together bills.
- Please ask if you have questions about the code and we ask that you do your part in reading and understanding the code so that we can properly advocate as part of the SGA. If you notice any changes to make the code, please talk to Representative Delva. Will be meeting with the Attorney General in order to help facilitate understanding and education on the code.

The Report of the Deputy Speaker of Communications:

- Nothing to report since newly elected
- Will be working with the previous Deputy Speaker of Communications to have a smooth transition.

Committee Report:

- **C-SAC:** No report, To be determined in the near future
- **Internal affairs:** No report
- **student advocacy:** No report, but will work on getting a new chair
- **student affairs:** No report, will meet and report soon.

Funding Requests:

3 representatives have financial certification for the 22-23 academic year at this time.

- Bill 23 for the Nepalese Student Association

Motion to postpone Bill 23: Rep. Amaraneni

Second: Rep. Rogowski

Rep. Amaraneni will reach out to get more information and to request that a member comes to the meeting next week.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Round Table:

Adjournment: 8:37pm

Next meeting: September 19th at 6:30pm in person (Senate Chambers, 3rd floor, Student Union)