



## **THE THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Calendar: April 7, 2025

Location: Senate Chambers

Time: 6:30 PM

### Call to Order

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

### Reading and Approval of the Minutes

- 02/03/2025 Meeting Minutes

### Petitions into the Assembly

- Fahad Hasan - College of Engineering, Graduate School and Special Student Advocate

### Special Introductions and Student Comments

### Messages from Student Government

### Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs

### Report of Officers

- Report of the Speaker
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
  - COGS Financial Report as of Feb. 17th
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Communications
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Advocacy

### Advisor Announcements

### Committee Report

- Internal Affairs
- Student Advocacy

- Outreach
- Budget
- Strategic Planning

Funding Requests

Unfinished Business

New Business

- Bill #12- CEEGSA

Round Table

Closing Announcements

Adjournment

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**THE THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS  
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Date: February 3, 2025 at 6:30 PM  
Location: Senate Chambers**

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Call to Order

- The Call to Order was issued at 6:40 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Speaker Rowan: We will now have Representative Ashley Lead us in the pledge

Roll Call

- The quorum was met and verified at 6:45 pm.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

- Speaker Rowan called for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous assembly meeting.  
Representative Stokes made a motion to approve  
Representative Alleyne made a second to the motion  
The minutes from the were approved from the January 27, 2025 meeting

- 01/27/2025 Meeting Minutes

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Petitions into the Assembly

- No new Petitions were made to the Assembly.

Special Introductions and Student Comments

- There were no special introductions or student comments.

Messages from Student Government

- There were no messages from the Student Government.

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs

- There were no reports from the Office of Governmental Affairs.

Report of Officers

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- Report of the Speaker

- Thank you for attending the retreat this weekend. It was great to learn from GAU and hear about how they are doing and their future. I have their PowerPoint, which I can share if you are interested. I have formally put in writing the March 31st special session, which will be made public shortly.

Eden and I have been a part of the CRC. The item of interest to us is Amendment 6th, which includes a provision that requires any provision or constitutional amendment changes that impact COGS or its funding to receive 2/3rds approval from graduate students. Thank you to Internal Affairs for meeting before this and for the advocacy meeting after this. If there are any chairs or Vice Chairs interested in Civic Plus, I can help explain how to use it

- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
  - We have 17,536 unallocated, 5,073 in the LSC budget, and \$0 in MSC. For grants, we have \$238 for presentation grants from July-Oct because all remaining funds were transferred to current grant cycles. We still have \$38,924 for Nov-Feb. Presentation grants are wrapping up, and we just opened the March-July presentation Grant cycle, for which we have \$100,000 allocated. We have \$18 for Attendance grants for July-Oct since we transferred all remaining funds to current funding periods. We have \$26,137 for November-February, and our newly launched funding period for March-June has \$24,000 set aside. We have emailed funded organizations that the budget cycle is set to begin soon, and I want to share our schedule with you all. The budget request survey will open on February 10th and close on February 21st. We will hold budget hearings starting on February 26th, which should end around March 4th or 5th. Then, on March 4th/5th, we will begin budget deliberations and determine our final committee budget. From there, the COGS assembly will consider our budget proposal on March 31st. We will also be hosting a webinar on February 11th to answer questions about this process.  
Deputy Speaker for Advocacy Stokes- does a competition count as a conference?  
Deputy Speaker for Finance Bethke- Yes, in most cases, especially for music, but I would need to see the conference for sure.  
Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs Balogun- Can someone apply for a second grant if they have already applied for one that is still outstanding?  
Deputy Speaker for Finance Bethke: Yes, if they have only applied for one grant. There is a maximum of two grants per fiscal year.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Communications
  - None
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs
  - None
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Advocacy
  - Keep in mind the potential of tabling at your college. To advocate, we need to know what our colleges want. I plan to test it in the College of music.

#### Advisor Announcements

- The Budget Workshop is on February 25th from 2-6pm

#### Committee Report

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- Internal Affairs
  - Representative Mederev: We had a brief meeting today on the bill we will discuss shortly
- Student Advocacy
  - Representative Alam: We were planning to meet but cannot due to not being at quorum.
- Outreach
  - Representative Judson: Considering tabling as well to reach students.
- Budget
  - Representative Bethke: Nothing new to add.
- Strategic Planning
  - Representative Fermin: Discussed the plan of mission and vision statement. A draft should be complete tonight and for the assembly by the next meeting.

#### Funding Requests

- None

#### Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.

#### New Business

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- Resolution 4: COGS standardized Templates and adopting new Templates
  - Resolution 4: Amending the IROP to Require Standardized Templates for Bills and Resolutions, and Adopting New Templates
    - Speaker Rowan: Representative Fermin, You are recognized to explain the bill
    - Representative Fermin : this allows us to have templates for our bills and resolutions. Will make our lives easier by laying out everything that goes into a bill and resolution. Is in tandem with a change in Senate Templates
    - Speaker Rowan: Any questions on the bill
    - Speaker Rowan: Any wishing to speak in pro of the bill?
    - Speaker Rowan: Any speaking against?
    - Representative Alleyne moves to call the question
    - Representative Alam 2nds the motion
    - Speaker Rowan: Representative Fermin, you may close on the bill
    - Representative Fermin: It will be good.
    - Speaker Rowan: Since changes their is a change to internal rules and procedures, resolution four requires  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote to pass

- Speaker Rowan: With 19 yes, 0 no's, and 0 abstentions Resolution 4 passes
- Attachment #1: COGS Bill Template
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- Attachment #2: Transfer Bill Template
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- Attachment #3: Resolution Template
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- Attachment #4: COGS Cover Sheet
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- Bill 11: Legislation Act of 2025
  - Bill #11: A Bill to Clarify the Approval Process for Acts of the Congress, and to Revise the Process for Amending the Annual Budget and Accompanying Proviso
    - Speaker Rowan: Since I am sponsoring the bill and Jared is taking minutes Ridwan will act as chair during this bill.
    - Representative Balogun: You may open the bill. You have three minutes.
    - Speaker Rowan Section One gives us the ability to amend the budget and budget provisos after the budget has already passed. This bill puts things into code that we do not have now and have done anyway. This was done when we funded the deputy speaker for advocacy's salary. Section 2 handles bills and resolutions in front of the assembly. Clarifies that bills are for changing code and allocating funds. Resolutions are for stating official opinions of COGS, Changes of internal rules, and waiving of rules. Section two also defines the bill signature process. Bill also offers protection of COGS that requires all written agreements to be authorized by the general assembly.
    - Representative Balogun: Any questions on the bill
    - Representative Balogun: Any wishing to speak in pro of the bill?
    - Representative Stokes: It looks great and seems to make things easier
    - Representative Balogun: Any speaking against?
    - Representative Vaughn called the question
    - Representative Alan 2nds
    - Representative Balogun: With 19 yes, 0 no's, and 0 abstentions Bill eleven passes

Round Table

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### Closing Announcements

- Speaker Rowan: Stick around if any chairs or vice chairs would like civic plus training

### Adjournment

- The COGS meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

**COGS Financial Report, Fiscal Year 2024-2025 as of February 17th, 2025**

\*Leftover funds from the previous conference funding periods were transferred to current period.

| <b>ACCOUNT</b>                | <b>ALLOCATION AMOUNT</b> | <b>DESCRIPTION</b>  | <b>AVAILABLE</b> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| UNALLOCATED                   | \$51,942                 | For RSO funding requests at COGS meetings   | \$15,954         |
| LSC                           | \$105,000                | Funding allocations from Law School Council to Law School Student Organizations         | \$5,073          |
| MSC                           | \$110,000                | Funding allocations from Medical School Council to Medical School Student Organizations | \$0              |
| PRESENTATION GRANTS (Jul-Oct) | \$78,248*                | Presentation Grant balance for the July-October funding period                          | \$238            |
| PRESENTATION GRANTS (Nov-Feb) | \$87,752*                | Presentation Grant balance for the November-February funding period                     | \$883            |
| PRESENTATION GRANTS (Mar-Jun) | \$134,000                | Presentation Grant balance for the March-June funding period                            | \$111,500        |
| ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Jul-Oct)   | \$11,619*                | Attendance Grant balance for the July-October funding period                            | \$18             |
| ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Nov-Feb)   | \$11,380*                | Attendance Grant balance for the November-February funding period                       | \$972            |
| ATTENDANCE GRANTS (Mar-Jun)   | \$49,000                 | Attendance Grant balance for the March-June funding period                              | \$46,130         |





# 33<sup>rd</sup> Congress of Graduate Students Legislation Cover Sheet

**COGS Bill #: 12**

**Sponsor(s):** Shahin Alam

**Short Title:** CEEGSA Graduate Student Research Competition Funding

**Summary of Legislation:**

This bill will support the CEEGSA of the Graduate Student Research Competition at the College of Engineering.

**Background Information:**

The Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Student Association (CEEGSA) is dedicated to fostering an enriching and supportive environment for graduate students in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. Our organization promotes academic excellence, professional development, and community engagement through various events and initiatives. We plan to host a Graduate Student Research Competition, allowing students to showcase their research while engaging with industry professionals who will serve as judges and discussion leaders. We will provide refreshments to create an inviting atmosphere, including a grilled wrap tray, strip tray, salad, cookies, fruits, and lemonade. Additionally, we will recognize and reward the top three presenters and best emerging research essay awards to encourage excellence in research and presentation skills.

Category 1: Awards for the top three presenters to recognize excellence:

- 1st Place Poster Award: \$3,000
- 2nd Place Poster Award: \$2,500
- 3rd Place Poster Award: \$2,000

Category 2:

- Best Emerging Research Essay Award, \$1,500

To ensure a successful and impactful event, we are requesting funding from the Congress of Graduate Students (COGS) to cover:

- Food and refreshments to foster a welcoming and engaging environment.

The award amount will be Sponsored by the Dean's Office and the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering.

**Event Details:**

- Estimated Attendance: 120–150 attendees, including CEE graduate students, faculty, and staff
- Location: FSU College of Engineering, Building A Lobby

**Advertisement & Outreach:**

To maximize participation and engagement, we will promote the event through:

- LinkedIn and other social media platforms
- Email announcements
- Nole Central
- Flyer distribution

With COGS' support, this event will facilitate meaningful professional connections, enhance career development opportunities, and strengthen the sense of community among graduate students. We appreciate your consideration of our request. Thank you!

**Effect of Proposed Legislation:**

The proposed COGS refreshment food bill will enhance the Graduate Student Research Competition by providing necessary refreshments for participants, judges, and attendees. This support will help create a more engaging and professional environment, encouraging greater participation and fostering academic discussions. Additionally, offering refreshments can contribute to a positive experience, ensuring that students remain energized and focused throughout the event.

**Attachment(s):**

- Attachment #1: Allocation Bill
- Attachment #2: Chick-fil-a Quote



# Allocation, Revision, or Transfer

## 33rd Congress of Graduate Students

**Bill #:** 12  
**Sponsored by:** Shahin Alam  
**Date:** February 17, 2025

**Amount Requested:** \$574.00

**From (Account Name):** COGS Unallocated

**To (Account Name):** Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Student Association  
(CEEGSA)

**Purpose & Description:**

CEEGSA Graduate Student Research Competition Funding

**Itemized Expenditures:**

| Quantity | Description | Unit Price |
|----------|-------------|------------|
| 1        | Chick-fil-A | \$574.00   |

**Subtotal: \$574.00**



Chick-fil-A at Campus Circle  
Store: (850) 262-8409 | Email: catering@chickfila-tally.com

**Quote for Services**

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|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>EVENT DAY/DATE</b>   | Friday, April 4, 2025 Pickup 4:15PM |   |   |
| <b>COMPANY NAME</b>   | CEEGSA Florida State University     |   | <b>Special Instructions</b><br><br>TAX EXEMPT & TBC. Paper goods and assortment of sauces<br><br><b>Chick-fil-A at Campus Circle</b><br><br>1650 West Tennessee Street<br>Tallahassee, FL 32304<br>(850)262-8409 Fax: (850)224-2114 |
| <b>CLIENT NAME</b>  | Maral Nazemi                        |   |   |
| <b>TELEPHONE</b>  | (850) 518-2595                      |   |   |
| <b>FAX</b>  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>EMAIL</b>  | mn22a@fsu.edu                       |   |   |
| <b>BUILDING NAME</b>  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>STREET ADDRESS</b>   |                                     |   |   |
| <b>CITY/STATE/ ZIP</b>  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>ON SITE CONTACT</b>  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>ON SITE TEL #</b>  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>NUMBER OF PEOPLE</b>   |                                     |   |   |
| <b>PRODUCT DESCRIPTION</b>  | <b>QTY</b>                          | <b>UNIT COST</b>                            | <b>TOTAL</b>  |
| Large Strip Tray  | 2                                   | \$102.00                                    | \$ 204.00   |
| Large Grilled Wrap Tray   | 2                                   | \$56.50                                     | \$ 113.00   |
| Large Salad Tray  | 1                                   | \$35.00                                     | \$ 35.00  |
| Large Cookie/Brownie Tray   | 2                                   | \$33.00                                     | \$ 66.00  |
| Large Fruit Tray  | 2                                   | \$65.50                                     | \$ 131.00   |
| Gallon of Lemonade  | 2                                   | \$12.25                                     | \$ 24.50  |
|   |                                     |   | \$ -  |
|   |                                     |   | \$ -  |
|   |                                     |   | \$ -  |
|   |                                     |   | \$ -  |
|   |                                     | DELIVERY FEE                                | \$0.00  |
| <b>Additional Fee Description</b>   |                                     | ADDITIONAL FEES                             | \$ -  |
| <b>Tax ID Number-if applicable</b>  |                                     | <b>SUBTOTAL</b>                             | <b>\$ 573.50</b>  |
| <b>Credit Card Number</b>   | <b>Exp. Date</b>                    | TAX   | \$0.00  |
|   |                                     | <b>TOTAL DUE</b>                            | <b>\$ 573.50</b>  |
| <b>PLEASE READ</b>  |                                     | I agree to the terms and price quoted here. |   |
| <small>CANCELLATION POLICY: We require 24 hours advanced notice to avoid being charged.</small> |                                     | Client Signature _____                      |   |
| <small>* Price on quote may vary from actual total due to non-taxable items</small>             |                                     | Date _____                                  |   |

Tax Rate 0.00%