



THE THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Calendar: October 6, 2025

Location: Senate Chambers

Time: 6:30 PM

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Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

- 09/22/2025 COGS Meeting Minutes

Petitions into the Assembly

- Bryan King-Veteran's Advocate Seat

Special Introductions and Student Comments

- Kyanna Austin
- David Peters, Campus Recreation: Purchasing Equipment with 2025-26 Budget Line Item
- Xanthippe Pack-Brown, GAU: End of Bargaining Update

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
 - Financial Report
- 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

Funding Requests

- Bill #32: Globe's Graduate Lounge

Unfinished Business

- Resolution #10: Recodification IROP Conforming (To be tabled)

New Business

Round Table

Closing Announcements

Adjournment

**THE THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: September 22, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Location: Senate Chambers

Call to Order

The Call to Order was issued at 6:44 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Speaker Rowan: We will now have Representative Lanane lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

The quorum was met and verified at 6:45 p.m.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

Speaker Rowan called for a motion to approve the minutes from COGS General Assembly held on 09/08/25

Representative Stokes made a motion to approve the minutes.

Representative Hissain made a second to the motion.

No objections were made.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes is approved.

- 09/08/25 COGS Meeting Minutes

■

Petitions into the Assembly

No Petitions into the Assembly were made.

- Bryan King- Veterans Advocate Seat
 - Speaker Rowan: Bryan King was unable to attend today, so this will be addressed at the next meeting.

Special Introductions and Student Comments

No special introductions or student comments were made.

Messages from Student Government

- Notice of Memo from Supervisor of Elections
 - Sarah explained the election process, outlining the different positions available, the filing procedures, and the expectations for candidates. She discussed common campaign violations and clarified what is and isn't allowed during campaigning. Sarah also noted that campaign materials should be submitted via email, either to the official election email or to the Deputy Supervisor's email for review and approval.

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs

None

Report of Officers

- Report of the Speaker
 - Speaker Rowan reviewed the agenda, noting that Bill 30 and Resolution 10 would not be voted on and will instead be referred to committee. Updates were provided regarding the State Budget, Resolution 11, various committee reports, and the University Address. Speaker Rowan also announced that on Friday, the Globe will host a **Graduate Coffee Lounge** from 5–7 p.m., replacing the traditional International Coffee Hour and now serving as a space exclusively for graduate students to connect and network. Additionally, they shared that **University Advancement** will be bringing in consultants from **October 1–3** to assist with a new marketing campaign initiative.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
 - Steven reported no major updates at this time. He shared that there have been over 300 grant submissions and encouraged members to reach out with any questions or speak with him directly.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Communications
 - No new updates were made.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs
 - Ridwan reminded new members to complete their required financial certification tests.
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Advocacy
 - Desean reported no updates at this time and shared that he is excited to begin work with the committees.

Advisor Announcements

A welcome was extended to the new members. It was noted that the SGA Office conducted the second round of interviews for the Student Program Coordinator position on Wednesday, with an offer expected to be made next week.

Committee Report

- Internal Affairs
 -
- Student Advocacy

-
- Outreach
-

Funding Requests

- Bill #31: INSAT Budget

■ **Speaker Rowan:** Thank you, William. You have 5 minutes for your opening statement whenever you're ready.

Representative Wyckoff: Good evening everyone, This bill allocates **\$14,736** from COGS Reserves to the **Indian Student Association of Tallahassee**, also known as INSAT. The funding will support two of their largest annual cultural events — **Diwali** and **Holi**. These events are major celebrations that engage both graduate and undergraduate students, promoting cultural exchange and community engagement across campus. The budget covers food and event expenses for both celebrations, with **\$6,470** for Diwali food, **\$96** for Diwali expenses, **\$7,010** for Holi food, **\$840** for Holi expenses, and **\$320** for joint event costs, totaling **\$14,736**. These are some of INSAT's biggest events of the year, drawing large attendance and contributing greatly to campus diversity and inclusion. I'm happy to take any questions about the amount or the budget breakdown

General Questioning Period:

Speaker Rowan: We are now in a period of General Questioning.

- **Deputy Speaker Stokes:** Are they using a local food company?
 - **Representative Wyckoff:** Yes, they are using a local vendor.
- **Representative Bakhshizadeh:** Is it open?
 - **Representative Wyckoff:** One location isn't one location.

Pro Debate Period:

Speaker Rowan: We are now in a period of Pro.

Deputy Speaker Stokes: We funded an event last year, it went really well, and this event is really important to the community.

Representative Kaur: A lot of people have gone in the last years. Thank you for allowing this event to proceed. Just some advice — Many people don't get enough food.

Con Debate Period:

Speaker Rowan: "We are now in a period of Con."

- No comments were made during this period.

Motion to Call the Question:

Speaker Rowan: "I will entertain a motion to call the Question."

Representative Stokes: "I motion to call the Question."

Representative Morales Guemarez: "I second the motion."

Representative Wyckoff: Thank you, everyone. To reiterate, this event is open to all students.

Vote:

- **Yes:** 17
- **No:** 0
- **Abstain:** 4

Unfinished Business

New Business

- Committee Elections



- **Outreach Committee**

- Chair: Representative Lamb
- Vice Chair: Representative Newball-Oladapo
- Scheduled Meeting: Monday at 6:00 PM

- **Internal Committee:**

- Chair: Representative Lanae
- Vice Chair: Representative Holdrum
- Tentative Meeting: Monday at 5:30 PM

- **Advocacy Committee:**

- Chair: Representative Morales Guemarez
- Vice Chair: Representative Serrone

○ Scheduled Meeting: Monday at 6:30 PM

- Resolution #10: Recodification IROP Conforming (Referred by Speaker to Internal Affairs)

- Speaker Rowan: This will be referred to Internal Affairs.

- Bill #30: COGS Code Recodification (Referred by Speaker to Internal Affairs)

- Speaker Rowan: This will be referred to Internal Affairs.

- Resolution #11: Kyanna Resolution

■ **Speaker Rowan:** Thank you, Noah. You have 5 minutes for your opening statement whenever you're ready.

Deputy Speaker Baez: Good evening everyone, It's truly an honor to stand here today to celebrate someone who has meant so much to all of us — Ms. Kyanna Austin. From the moment I joined COGS, Kyanna has been a constant source of guidance, encouragement, and wisdom. She's been more than just an advisor — she's been our foundation. Through her leadership, she's built an environment where graduate students can grow, lead, and truly make a difference. Kyanna has this incredible ability to make every challenge seem manageable and every success feel shared. She's the reason so many of us have found confidence in our roles and pride in our service. Her dedication, patience, and genuine care for each of us have left an impact that goes far beyond meetings and resolutions. As she steps into her new role as Assistant Director of the Office of Student Agencies and Institutes, we know she'll continue to inspire and empower others just as she has done for us.

General Questioning Period:

Speaker Rowan: We are now in a period of General Questioning.

Speaker Rowan: Seeing none we will move into pro

Pro Debate Period:

Speaker Rowan: We are now in a period of Pro.

Deputy Speaker Stokes: I wholeheartedly support this resolution. Kyanna has been the backbone of COGS — her professionalism, compassion, and unwavering commitment have shaped not only this organization but every student leader who's had the privilege to work with her. She truly embodies what it means to lead with integrity and care.

Deputy Speaker Balogun: I'm so proud to vote in favor of this resolution. Kyanna has gone above and beyond for us time and time again, ensuring that COGS runs smoothly and that every voice is heard. Her promotion is well-deserved, and this recognition is just a small way to thank her for the lasting impact she's made on all of us.

Con Debate Period:

Speaker Rowan: "We are now in a period of Con."

- No comments were made during this period.

Motion to Call the Question:

Speaker Rowan: "I will entertain a motion to call the Question."

Representative DeSean: "I motion to call the Question."

Representative Morales Guemarez: "I second the motion."

Deputy Speaker Baez: Thank you, everyone, for supporting this resolution.

Vote:

- **Yes:** 21
- **No:** 0
- **Abstain:** 0

Round Table

Speaker Rowan: We are now in the roundtable section of tonight's meeting.

Deputy Speaker Baez: Motion to waive roundtable

Deputy Speaker Stokes: Second the motion

Seeing no objections, the roundtable is waived.

Closing Announcements

No closing announcements

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

[MIN_FOOT]



33rd Congress of Graduate Students Legislation Cover Sheet

COGS Bill/Resolution #: 32

Sponsor(s): Deputy Speaker Baez & Representative Lamb

Short Title: Establishing the International Coffee Hour: Graduate Lounge as a Recurring Event

Summary of Legislation:

This bill allocates funding and formalizes the partnership between the Center for Global Engagement (CGE) and the Congress of Graduate Students (COGS) to host the International Coffee Hour: Graduate Lounge twice per semester. The event promotes conversation, connection, and networking among FSU graduate students in an inclusive and welcoming environment.

Background Information:

The first International Coffee Hour: Graduate Lounge, co-hosted by CGE and COGS, successfully brought together graduate students from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds to foster community and cross-cultural dialogue. Due to its positive reception and strong participation, both CGE and COGS have agreed to make this event a recurring initiative held twice each semester. The collaboration supports COGS' mission to enhance the graduate student experience through engagement, community building, and inclusivity. Stakeholders involved include CGE, COGS, and the broader FSU graduate student community.

Effect of Proposed Legislation:

This legislation establishes the International Coffee Hour: Graduate Lounge as a recurring COGS-supported event and ensures continued funding for its implementation each semester. By institutionalizing the event, COGS will provide ongoing opportunities for graduate students to connect across disciplines and cultures, strengthening the sense of community within the FSU graduate population.

Attachment(s):

- Attachment #1: Proposed Bill



Allocation, Revision, or Transfer

33rd Congress of Graduate Students

Bill #: 32

Sponsored by: Deputy Speaker Baez & Representative Lamb

Date: October 6, 2025

Amount: \$1200.00

From (account name): COGS Reserve

To (account name): Globe Facilities "Graduate Lounge"

Title: A Bill allocating \$1200 to Globe Facilities.

Itemized Expenditures:

Quantity	Description	Unit Price
3	Food for Graduate Coffee Lounge	\$400.00

Total: \$1200.00

By: _____
Jack Rowan
Speaker, 33rd COGS

By: _____
Steven Medarev
Deputy Speaker for Finance

Date: _____

Date: _____

By: _____
Dr. Amy Hecht
Vice President for Student Affairs

By: _____
Tanner McKinley
COGS Advisor

Date: _____

Date: _____



COGS Resolution #: 10

Sponsor(s): Speaker Rowan

A RESOLUTION

Amending Rule 3 of COGS Internal Rules of Procedure

1 **WHEREAS**, the recodified COGS Code includes language regulating quorum for the Assembly and its
2 committees; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Rule 3 of COGS IROP has contradictory language; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the provisions of Rule 3 limit the bills considered at the meeting where the Annual Budget
5 is proposed; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the last two Budget Nights, the rule has been suspended to allow the consideration of
7 legislation tied to the budget; and

8 **WHEREAS**, amendments to the COGS IROP are necessary to correct these two issues;

9 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 33rd Congress of Graduate Students at Florida**
10 **State University that:** Rule 3 of COGS IROP is hereby amended to read:

11 **Rule 3: Meetings Of The COGS Assembly**

12 1. The COGS Assembly shall meet in regular session on the first and third Monday of each
13 month at 6:30 PM in the FSU Senate Chambers, unless the time or place of the meeting is
14 otherwise specified by the Speaker no less than twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting.
15 Representatives living outside of Leon County, Florida, may appear by virtual means.

16 2. Special meetings of the Assembly may be called by the Speaker, with the endorsement
17 of two other members of the Executive Board, or by petition of two-thirds of the COGS
18 membership. All special meetings require twenty-four (24) hour notice to members and the
19 public.

20 (a) Any member seeking a special meeting shall notify the Speaker and Advisor by
21 filing a petition for the special meeting. Such petition must state the date, time, and
22 location of the meeting, and the topics for said meeting.

- 23 (b) Upon receipt of a petition, the Advisor or Speaker shall poll the COGS
24 membership to determine whether the required number of members are in favor of the
25 meeting. Such a poll shall occur without unnecessary delay.
- 26 (c) Should two-thirds of the members be in favor of the special meeting, it shall be
27 immediately noticed to all members and the public.
- 28 3. ~~No action may be taken at any meeting of the Assembly or its committees unless a~~
29 ~~quorum is present, except for a motion to adjourn.~~
- 30 4. The Agenda of each meeting shall be as follows:
- 31 (a) a) Call to Order
32 (b) Pledge of Allegiance
33 (c) Roll Call
34 (d) Reading and Approval of the Minutes
35 (e) Petitions to the Assembly
36 (f) Special Introductions and Student Comments
37 (g) Messages from Student Government
38 (h) ~~Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs~~
39 (i) Report of Officers
40 (1) Speaker
41 (2) Deputy Speaker for Finance
42 (3) Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs
43 (4) Deputy Speaker for Communications
44 (5) Deputy Speaker for Advocacy
45 (j) Advisor Announcements
46 (k) Committee Reports
47 (1) Internal Affairs
48 (2) Outreach
49 (3) Student Affairs
50 (l) Funding Requests
51 (m) Unfinished Business
52 (n) New Business
53 (o) Round Table
54 (p) Closing Announcements
55 (q) Adjournment
- 56 5. The agenda for the meeting at which the annual budget is considered shall consist solely
57 of the following:
- 58 (a) Call to Order
59 (b) Pledge of Allegiance
60 (c) Roll Call
61 (d) Reading and Approval of the Minutes
62 (e) Special Introductions and Student Comments
63 (f) Messages from Student Government
64 (g) Advisor Announcements
65 (h) Report of the Budget Committee
66 (i) Consideration of the Annual Budget
67 (j) Consideration of Budget Implementing and Conforming Business
68 (k) Round Table
69 (l) Closing Announcements

- 70 (m) Adjournment
- 71 6. The Speaker shall have the authority to reorder the Agenda at their discretion, or to
- 72 insert special items other than business.
- 73 7. The Speaker may waive items on the agenda or postpone them to a later meeting
- 74 subject to a majority (50% plus 1) vote of the Assembly present.
- 75 8. The Speaker, in consultation with the Deputy Speaker for Finance, shall have the
- 76 authority to designate items as "Budget Implementing and Conforming Business," to be heard
- 77 in the specified section of the agenda set out in Rule 3.5, if they believe that the item is
- 78 necessary to implement the budgetary decisions of the Congress or to conform the COGS
- 79 Code to the budgetary decisions of the Congress. A representative may raise a point of order
- 80 that the item is improperly designated under this section. Upon such a point being raised, the
- 81 Speaker shall put the following question: "Should the item be designated as an item
- 82 implementing the Budget or conforming the Code to the Budget?" The item shall remain on the
- 83 agenda only by majority vote in the affirmative to the aforementioned question.

DONE AND ADOPTED by the 33rd Congress of Graduate Students at Florida State University this DAY
of MONTH, YEAR.

FLOOR VOTE: Deputy Speaker to Add Vote Count

COMMITTEE REFERENCES AND DATES OF PASSAGE:

- Internal Affairs:

By: _____
Jack Rowan
Speaker, 33rd COGS

By: _____
Tanner McKinley
COGS Advisor

Date: _____

Date: _____