



Chittenden Hall
466 W. Circle Dr. Rm 120
East Lansing, MI 48824

FY 2019-2020 Financials
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020
Fiscal Year End

COGS 2019-2020 Executive Board

Title	Name
President	Meagan Abel abelmeag@msu.edu
VP Internal Affairs	Diondra Straiton straiton@msu.edu
VP External Affairs	Danielle Jones jones410@msu.edu
Treasurer	Kaitlyn Casulli casullik@msu.edu
Recording Secretary	Hunter McFall-Boegeman mcfallbo@chemistry.msu.edu
Parliamentarian	Nicole Walker walke761@msu.edu
Director of Events	Iris Wong wongiris@msu.edu
Law School Liaison	Hagop Mouradian mouradi2@msu.edu
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Council of Graduate Students	
Michigan State University	
466 W. Circle Dr. Room 120	
East Lansing, MI 48824	
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COGS 2020-2021 Executive Board

Title	Name
President	Meagan Abel abelmeag@msu.edu
VP Internal Affairs	Zoe Hansen hansenzo@msu.edu
VP External Affairs	Diondra Straiton straiton@msu.edu
Treasurer	Alyssa Logan tomeialy@msu.edu
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Medical Schools Liaison	Breanna Demaline demaline@msu.edu
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ORIENTATION

- COGS Eboard and representatives attended **24 department & college-wide orientations**/orientation resource fairs over 18 days in late August-September
- Distributed over **2000 informational materials**
- Distributed brochures and COGS items to various departments as requested for recruitment events and spring semester orientations.
- COGS President served on GradX panel to discuss how graduate students can make the most out of student support resources

UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

- COGS President asked and was allowed to speak at the Graduate Program Advisory Committee meeting in July 2019. This group consists of graduate secretaries & program directors from among all the college departments. She intends to attend future meetings in the hope of getting more visibility for COGS among graduate secretaries who have direct access to their graduate students.
- COGS President and VPEA attended meetings with the MSU Executive Mgt Director - Government Relations to see how COGS might navigate advocating for Graduate students on a more federal level.
- COGS President has initiated meetings with new Student Wellness dept.
- COGS President is meeting with Culinary services to discuss starting a program of cooking demos focusing on healthy eating - for graduate students to participate
- COGS leadership has served on University-wide search committees/transition teams to provide the graduate/professional student perspective on important University hires, including:
 - MSU Presidential Transition Team
 - MSU nationwide search for Provost
 - COGS has participated in searches for Title IX AVP
 - Executive Director of Career Services
 - Director of Women Student Services
 - Executive Director and Assistant Provost of Admissions and Enrollment Strategy
- COGS leadership consulted with Alumni Relations with aims to fundraise for COGS Professional Development fund endowment and plans to continue those efforts going forward.



Michigan State University Council of Graduate Students 2019-2020 Annual Report

- COGS leadership has worked to recruit/nominate graduate/professional student representation on two new, high-level University posts: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Planning Steering Committee and Strategic Planning Steering Committee (SPSC)
- COGS leadership has worked to recruit/nominate graduate/professional student representation on Hearing boards, including AUSB, USAB, SFSB and UPGJ and UJG, as well as representation on over 25 committees across the University that affect a full range of the student experience, from issues of diversity, to research, curriculum, campus issues, mental health, insurance, curriculum, transportation, community relations and more.

ADVOCACY

- In 2019-2020, COGS Full Council passed 47 pieces of legislation, which can be viewed on the COGS website (new section added this year!):
<https://cogs.msu.edu/governance/legislation/>
- In 2019-2020, COGS leadership has had a key role in revising/adopting important University policies/policy changes, including: RVSM Policy and Updates to the Student Rights & Responsibilities (SRR)
- In 2019-2020, COGS leadership has made an impact beyond the campus, including:
 - Reinstatement of COGS into active membership of the Student Activists for Graduate Education (SAGE), a national organization advocating for Graduate student education.
 - COGS represented at the SAGE Fall 2019 Summit at the University of Arizona
 - COGS has met with UM-Rackham Graduate Student Government to develop stronger avenues of communication in which to collaborate on state-level issues that affect all Graduate/Professional Students in Michigan.
- Provided **\$5000 to MSU Student Food Bank** to assist operations which serve all MSU students, including Graduate & Professional students. COGS also allocated an **additional \$3,000.00 in March to help with increased student need during the pandemic.**
- COGS stepped in to help Graduate/Professional students with unexpected costs associated with work/teach from home necessitated by the Covid-19 Crisis. They dispersed **over \$10,000 in technology/work at home related expenses** directly to students. COGS also allocated an **additional \$10,000 to the Graduate School Student Emergency Fund.**
- COGS helped to facilitate a graduate student presence among the various reopening task forces during the pandemic. COGS president additionally has



coordinated regular meetings gathering all these representing graduate students to centralize the information coming from the various task forces.

- COGS Eboard and Full Council stayed active during the summer, holding meetings and robust discussions and make sure graduate student concerns are put forth to the groups and administrators charged with developing pandemic reopening policy.

CONFERENCE AWARDS

- Total dollars allocated FY19-20: **\$29,400**
- In September 2019, COGS received a \$4,000 donation from VP Graduate Research to use toward Conference Awards.
- Conference Award winners are granted **\$300 each**.
- In Fall 2019, MSU graduate and professional students were able to attend conferences in **27 cities and 11 countries** with the help of Conference Awards.
- In 2019-20, Conference Awards were awarded to **86 students** across **34+ departments/programs**.
- COGS allowed SS20 award winners flexibility to use their award funds toward unreimbursed travel cancellation costs if affected by the coronavirus travel ban.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

- Total dollars allocated (By Graduate School) FY19-20:: \$18,000
- Professional Development Awards were distributed to **36 students** across **20+ departments** at MSU for 2019-2020

GSO SINGLE-HOST EVENT FUNDING

- Total dollars allocated FY19/20: **\$22,000.00**
- Total dollars awarded FY18/19: **\$20,904.47**
- **18 Graduate Student Organizations** were awarded over **\$16,000.00** in funding during 19-20. Though SS20 saw many events cancelled, groups spent over half of these allocated funds, while some surplus, from this and conference awards, was reallocated by resolution to other cost centers, to help students with unexpected costs from the coronavirus (via the COGS Technology Assistance Awards and Graduate School Emergency fund, and MSU Food Bank).



COVID-19 TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE AWARDS

- Students were able to apply for up to \$50 in reimbursement funds to help cover unexpected costs associated with working/learning from home due to the stay at home order during the pandemic.
- COGS awarded & processed over 200 reimbursement requests between April & May 2020.
- To cover the reimbursement awards, COGS reallocated leftover funds (per resolution 20-SS-37) from the Conference Award cost center (approx. \$4,000) and reallocated the rest of needed funds from the GSO Single Host Event Cost Center. Spending from both areas stopped when the pandemic interrupted spring semester.

CHILDCARE ENDOWMENT

- Formally stated COGS commitment to this effort by passing a resolution to support.
- FS19 - funded 5 eligible students with \$500 each for a total COGS **funds of \$678.00 and the rest of the \$1822 covered by the endowment account.**
- President Abel is seeking partners to help fundraise to be able to offer more funds for childcare in the future.

DISCIPLINARY LEADERSHIP AWARD

- 5 students were awarded **\$2,000.00 (ea.)** for this award which is funded by COGS and managed by The Graduate School. Winners announced SS20 and listed on The Graduate School website.
- Three COGS representatives (not Eboard) were chosen to serve on the application review/selection committee.
- President Abel secured future commitment for the program's continuance from Dean Jeitschko of The Graduate School. She further committed to work with Development in the Graduate School to secure new sources of revenue support for the program going forward.



2019-2020 COGS SOCIAL EVENTS

COGS social events are often coordinated or proposed by the COGS President or Director of Event Planning; all Eboard is expected to assist and attend if able.

COGS Night at Lugnuts Game - 6/29/19

- 75 students purchased \$2 tickets
- Students attended game on Sat. June 29th
- Intended to provide some summer programming and introduce students to a family friendly venue in nearby Lansing

COGS Summertime Grad Paddle - 7/19/19

- 30 Attendees (@capacity) for ea. 2 sessions at MSU Sailing Center
- Event was free for graduate & professional students
- Intended to provide some summer programming and introduce students to MSU Sailing Center offerings

COGS Potter Park Zoo Tour - 8/9/19

- 58 students purchased \$2 tickets
- Students gathered at Zoo for an educational experience with the docents and zookeepers and then were able to tour the zoo at their leisure.
- Intended to provide some summer programming and introduce students to a family friendly venue in nearby Lansing

FALL WELCOME: 2019 Fall Welcome Cookout - 8/24/19

- **884+ attendees**
- **18 vendors** providing activities, food, resources for students.
- **\$8,150.00** Total donations received: **\$ from departments**
- **75 prizes** given away from **20** different donors



Fall 2019 Football Tailgates

- August 30 v Tulsa, September 28 v Indiana and Oct. 26 v Illinois
- **100 - 200+ students attended each**
- Tailgates include free food, DJ and encourage mingling with graduate/professional student peers while celebrating Spartan pride!

Good Morning With COGS! - 8/28/19

- COGS President and Director of Event Planning were on hand at both the International Center and in Chittenden Hall with coffee/coffee coupons, donuts & treats and COGS info & swag. They were out to greet graduate & professional students from 9 to 11am on the first official day of the semester.
- Intended to show support for Graduate/Professional students and be on hand to help if advice or resources are needed.

Green Dot Social - 9/6/19

- COGS President, VP/IA and Director of Event Planning were on hand at Green Dot Stables in Lansing to host the COGS Social. A drop-in social gathering to have students meet and mingle with their peers and celebrate the first full week of the semester.
- Event was free for graduate & professional students and food was provided. Over 60 students attended.

Trivia Night at Harrison Roadhouse - 9/24/19

- **27 students** enthusiastically attended Trivia Night event, which is intended to provide social outlet and peer networking opportunity for graduate & professional students.
- TeamTrivia productions facilitates the trivia. Students are encouraged to come with teammates or come ready to meet new friends and be placed on a team.
- Students enjoyed snacks, team-style trivia and prizes, and Harrison Roadhouse gift certificates for winning trivia teams.



Annual COGS Red Wings Hockey Game Bus Trip - 10/27/19

- Brought **95** Graduate & Professional students to enjoy a Detroit Red Wings game on 10/27. Included round trip charter bus, game ticket and food voucher. Trip cost was heavily subsidised by COGS.
- Social Event intends to bring graduate & professional students together for a fun, regional sporting event that they might not otherwise be able to afford or experience.

COGS Fall Finals Week - Fun & Destress Events:

- 12/7: Bowling Night @ Spare Time - subsidized cost for. grad students/family - sold 27 tickets at \$2 each, including bowling, shoes, pizza, soda
- 12/10: Chair Massages, Pet Therapy & Pizza event with Grad Student Life & Wellness
- 12/2: NCG Movie Pass Giveaway Event - gave out 120 tickets with popcorn, cookies, cocoa and other goodies
- 12/13: Wonderland of Lights at Potter Park Zoo subsidized cost for grad students and families - sold 56 tickets at \$2 each.
- 1/10: COGS Social at Harrison Roadhouse

SPRING 2020:

- 1/24: MSU Hockey Game with COGS! Subsidized **30** tickets special seating with COGS for Graduate & Professional Students
- 1/31: Sponsored **30** free tickets to MSU Women's Basketball game
- 2/7: Tour on NCSL-FRIB - **21** grad/professional students attended
- 2/9: Ice Skating at Munn - free for Graduate/Professional students & their families/friends - covered **130** skate rentals and 1.25 hrs ice time
- 4/6-4/10: Graduate/Professional Student Appreciation Week (goes Virtual!) - Including:
 - Coffee Social over Zoom
 - Kahoot Trivia Night
 - Meditation-Mindfulness event over Zoom
 - Netflix Watch Party



COGS WORKSHOPS/FORUMS

COGS leadership has collaborated with MSU Counseling and Psychiatric Services and other Campus resource offices to bring valuable workshops for graduate & professional students. Most workshops take place Fridays from 12:30 - 2pm and include lunch. COGS also provided live-streaming via Zoom so that off-campus students could participate in the discussions. When Coronavirus intervened, COGS went online to connect with students.

- 9/13: COGS+CAPS presents: Managing Stress
- 9/20: Building a Relationship with Your Advisor – facilitated by Dr. Shannon Burton, University Ombudsperson
- 10/11: COGS+CAPS presents: Staying Motivated and Finding Purpose
- 11/8: COGS+CAPS presents: Imposter Syndrome
- 2/7: COGS+CAPS presents: Dealing with the Winter Blues
- 3/26: COGS+CAPS presents: Resolving Conflict (via Zoom)
- 4/10: COGS+CAPS presents: Managing Transitions (via Zoom)
- 4/14: COGS & PhD Career Services presents: Transitioning your CV to Resume interactive workshop (via Zoom)
- April - May, Mondays: COGS Weekly Virtual Writing Support Group

Additionally...

- COGS hosted a Bias Incident Listening Session for Grad/Professional Students on the evening of 10/24. This was in response to a number of Fall 2019 bias incidents on campus. It provided a forum for graduate/professional students to share feelings and dialogue with each other and with University administrative representatives. Counseling and Psychiatric Services was on hand to meet with any students feeling upset or unsafe.
- COGS co hosted with MSU International Student Association (ISA) on 6/9, an International Graduate Student Town Hall to discuss questions and concerns around COVID-19 and effects on the International students as we head into the fall. Recorded session is posted on COGS website here:
<https://cogs.msu.edu/2020/06/isa-to-host-town-hall-for-international-graduate-students/>



COGS SERVICES:

WHARTON CENTER SHOW TICKETS

- **133** tickets were purchased & resold to graduate/professional students for **4 FS19 Wharton Center shows**. SS20 shows cancelled due to COVID-19.

DISCOUNTED FITNESS PASSES

- Collaborated with Graduate Student Life & Wellness to provide additional funds toward allowing more graduate/prof. Students to get discounts on rec sports & fitness Group and Individual Fitness Passes.
- COGS Funds helped provide more passes PLUS a match from Rec Sports & Fitness for a total of **140** additional passes available to students FS19 and SS20. *NOTE: Students could contact Rec Sports in SS20 for refund on passes due to COVID pandemic.

LEGAL SERVICES TO GRAD STUDENTS

- COGS continues to fund free legal services through Student Legal Services for Graduate & Professional Students. annual reports for Student Legal Services are available at <http://studentlegalservices.com/annual-report.html>

SHORT-TERM LOANS

- COGS funds a \$500 (interest free for 60 days) loan program that the Office of Financial Aid administers. Applications for the \$500 loan are available in 252 Student Services, and take 2-3 business days to process.
- There is **\$8000** in a revolving account. COGS President is continuing her work from 2018-19 on an initiative with The Graduate School Development Officer to avail additional funds to be able to serve more students in need.
- COGS also sponsors a \$300 (interest free for 8 weeks) loan program that the ASMSU Office administers. (Loans are only available during the first 6 weeks of classes.)

Council of Graduate Students
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 July 2019 through June 2020

	<u>Jul '19 - Jun 20</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income		
Prior Year Surplus	0 00	20,000 00
4-2000 · Investment Income	7,740 66	6,714 36
4-2100 · Student Fees	258,640 34	250,000 00
4-2300 · Conference Grant Income	4,000 00	4,000 00
4-2810 · Meal Plans	0 00	0 00
Total Income	<u>270,381 00</u>	<u>280,714 36</u>
Gross Profit	270,381 00	280,714 36
Expense		
PD AWARD	0 00	0 00
6-1000 · Meeting Expense		
6-1200 · Full Council Meetings	7,846 18	9,000 00
6-1300 · E-Board Meetings	762 69	800 00
6-1400 · Staff Meetings	72 30	500 00
Total 6-1000 · Meeting Expense	<u>8,681 17</u>	<u>10,300 00</u>
6-2000 · Services Expense		
6-2100 · Legal Services	62,145 96	61,800 00
6-2200 · Event Funding Request	11,442 68	20,000 00
6-2300 · Conference Grant Fund	29,379 02	29,400 00
6-2680 · GAC	-3,054 13	
6-2800 · Social Events	48,490 14	50,000 00
6-2810 · Collaboration	7,970 83	8,000 00
6-2820 · Professional Development	50 00	90 00
6-2830 · Advertising - Social Events	306 83	400 00
Total 6-2000 · Services Expense	<u>156,731 33</u>	<u>169,690 00</u>
6-2440 · COGS Merchandise	6,107 84	9,000 00
6-2600 · Special Projects		
6-2620 · Dreamers Grant	495 00	2,500 00
6-2600 · Special Projects - Other	9,117 49	12,004 36
Total 6-2600 · Special Projects	<u>9,612 49</u>	<u>14,504 36</u>
6-3000 · Programs		
6-3110 · GSO Support Funding	0 00	400 00
6-3200 · COGS EBoard Retreat	1,056 09	1,300 00
6-3500 · EBoard Parking Reimbursement		
6-3505 · Eboard Parking Passes	2,764 00	3,500 00
6-3500 · EBoard Parking Reimbursement - Other	22 00	100 00
Total 6-3500 · EBoard Parking Reimbursement	<u>2,786 00</u>	<u>3,600 00</u>
6-3520 · Committee Service Parking	0 00	50 00
6-3700 · MSU Student FoodBank	5,000 00	5,000 00
6-3990 · Appreciation Gifts	488 32	1,000 00
Total 6-3000 · Programs	<u>9,330 41</u>	<u>11 350 00</u>
6-4000 · Copy Expense		
6-4300 · Copier Maintenance	1 602 00	1,600 00
Total 6-4000 · Copy Expense	<u>1 602 00</u>	<u>1 600 00</u>

Council of Graduate Students
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 July 2019 through June 2020

	<u>Jul '19 - Jun 20</u>	<u>Budget</u>
6-5000 · Payroll		
6-5100 · COGS Business Manager Salary	52,784.75	47,000.00
6-5200 · Student Payroll	8,113.65	13,000.00
Total 6-5000 · Payroll	<u>60,898.40</u>	<u>60,000.00</u>
6-6000 · Office Expense		
6-6100 · Telephone	402.45	600.00
6-6200 · Postage	0.00	20.00
6-6300 · Office Supplies	1,504.38	1,800.00
6-6800 · Account Fees	726.76	750.00
6-6900 · Technology/Maintenance	935.90	1,000.00
Total 6-6000 · Office Expense	<u>3,569.49</u>	<u>4,170.00</u>
6-6700 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	100.00
Total Expense	<u>256,533.13</u>	<u>280,714.36</u>
Net Income	<u><u>13,847.87</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>