



A-State Graduate Student Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 12, 2017

Time: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Location: 8th Floor of Ellis Library

- I. Call to Order: Ashley called the meeting to order at 12:36PM CST.
- II. Introductions: No new faces, so Ashley opted to skip introductions.
- III. Reports
 - a. President's Report
 - i. Fun day activity: game and movie night at the Pavilion
 - Pavilion rental will be about \$30.
 - We can rent a movie from the library and rent games from the International Student Association.
 - In the spring, we could do a picture scavenger hunt as our fun day activity.
 - ii. GA Handbook Committee
 - Ashley needs help making edits to the GA Handbook. Is anyone interested in being on a committee that works on the GA Handbook?
 - Emma and Wayne signed on to help with GA Handbook edits.
 - We will discuss the GA Handbook Committee more at the next meeting.
 - iii. Welcome to A-State Survival Guide for new, incoming graduate students (Do we want a committee for this? Any suggestions on content?)
 - International students should refer to their pack leader from orientation to answer many of the questions that they may have when they get here.
 - No one volunteered to help assemble the survival guide, so Ashley will work on it when she gets the chance.
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Three students were going to apply for the travel fund, but have not yet submitted their applications.
 - c. Committee Reports
 - i. Building and Grounds Committee
 - Emma, our B&GC representative, provided an update on what was discussed at the latest B&GC meeting. The B&GC is requesting proposals for small projects around campus, such as planting more trees/shrubs, installing a rain garden, building maintenance, etc. The deadline for proposals is October 20th. Ashley will post this information on the GSC Facebook page so people know who to

submit their proposals to. The call for proposals can also be found in previous A-State Daily Digest emails.

- ii. International Student Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 18th.
 - Major issues include: international student retention, scholarships and job opportunities on campus, integration into American communities, and insurance.
 - Insurance recently increased to \$670/semester.
 - The ISA wants to discuss changes in insurance with staff and administrators to try to get the maximum benefits for what is being paid. Although the cost of insurance has gone up, the quality of coverage has gone down. AIG insurance in 2015 was affordable and provided good coverage.
 - Student health insurance workshops are regularly posted in the A-State Daily Digest.

IV. Open Floor – Any thoughts?

- a. What sort of things can the GSC Travel Fund cover? It can cover student travel to present at a conference. We are also looking into whether or not we can put some of the money toward research grants that graduate students can use to purchase supplies for their research, cover publishing costs, or other things associated with research.
- b. International student organizations that need money for events can apply for the SGA Action Fund or get money from the diversity office.

V. End

- Our next meeting is on October 26th from 12:30-1:30pm on the 8th floor of Ellis Library.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:20PM CST.