



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Graduate Student Council

A-State Graduate Student Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, February 19, 2018 | 12:30 – 1:30PM | 8th Floor of Ellis Library

I. Call to Order and Introductions

- Ashley called the meeting to order at 12:35PM CST.

II. Reports

a. President's Report

- i. Updates to the GSC award nomination packets have been made. Please send nomination forms to Ashley (ashley.schulz@smail.astate.edu) by the March 31st deadline.
 - Rokib will be posting the updated forms shortly.
- ii. Annual GSC Banquet and Awards Ceremony
 - April 25th at 6:00pm in Room 201 of the Delta Center
 - Who would we like as our invited speaker?
 - Dr. Kelly Damphousse, Chancellor, A-State
 - Dr. Lori, Department of Biological Sciences, A-State
 - Dr. Zahid Hossain, Department of Engineering, A-State
 - Dr. Gabriel Tait, Department of Media, A-State
 - Sodexo will provide food. Ashley will compile a list of food options for the next meeting.
- iii. Students can now apply for the travel fund **twice** per academic year rather than once per academic year. Maximum of \$300 awarded.
 - Ashley updated the forms, and Rokib will be updating the website with these updated forms shortly.
- iv. Officer nominations will be on **March 26th** (two meetings away). Please self-nominate or nominate your peers. We need a good set of officers to lead the organization for the 2018-2019 school year.
- v. The open position on the Computers and Technology Committee has been filled by Debrath Banerjee.
- vi. Submit your abstracts for Create@State by February 26th. Portal link: (<https://create.astate.edu>).

b. Vice President's Report

- i. Fun day activity for the spring semester
 - Hot Springs, AR is far (~ 6 hours round-trip) and is not as great as it sounds.
 - If we had the fun day activity toward the end of the semester, we might be able to go on a float trip, but it will be too cold for a while.
 - Dave & Buster's in Memphis is our tentative fun day activity. Exact date and time will be determined at the next meeting.
- ii. Graduate Student Day: This will be celebrated simultaneously with the GSC Annual Banquet to be held on 25th April 2018. Rokib is still working out the other activities. Ashley will invite the Chancellor to the GSC Banquet and Awards Ceremony. She will start the discussion about Graduate Student Day with the Chancellor, but will let Rokib discuss the details since this event was his creation.

- c. Treasurer's Report
 - Three travel fund applications were turned in last week, and another five will be turned in soon.
- d. Committee Reports
 - i. Graduate Council Policy Group has been reviewing policies in the graduate bulletin regarding conditional admissions, readmissions, and time to degree.
 - ii. Education and Technology Committee: Discussion of ProctorU alternatives and Blackboard Mobile App and Canvas "test drives."
 - iii. Other committees have yet to meet for the semester.

III. Open Floor – Any thoughts?

- Ashley asked students whether they have had issues with printing. Some issues have been noted in the library concerning printing of PDF files.
- Qian talked about a serious issue regarding the mentioning of SSN on the Official Transcript.
- If GSC signed up for WhatsApp, students may more easily and quickly communicate with the GSC officers and other students in the group. This was proposed as an alternative to communicating via email and Facebook.
- Students are concerned with the TA approval process. There has been a delay in travel reimbursements, perhaps due to this TA approval process. This process is like a black box. Students don't always know where they are in the process. Dr. Fowler mentioned that the university may be changing the TA process/program again in the near future. The SPA/TA office should make the process more straightforward and publicize details of the process.

IV. End: Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM CST.