

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC) MEETING – SEPTEMBER 21, 2011



GRADUATE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE BOARD

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

LaDesta “DiDi” McCann
ladesta.mccann@smail.astate.edu
PRESIDENT

Thomas “Tom” Henry
thomas.henry@smail.astate.edu
VICE PRESIDENT

Audrey Wood
audrey.wood@mathstat.astate.edu
TREASURER

Jacob W. Sherry
jacob.sherry@smail.astate.edu
SECRETARY

Amanda Morales
amanda.morales@smail.astate.edu
COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR

Venkatesh Patil
venkatesh.patil@smail.astate.edu
TRAVEL FUND ADMINISTRATOR

I. CALL TO ORDER

☞ *Meeting is called to order at 11:00am on Sept, 21, 2011.*

II. REPORTS

☞ *DiDi - President*

- Making GSC respectable organization. Accepted SGA & GSC Liaison created by SGA. Working to build good relations between the two organizations. Look over and visit website to find minutes and other resources online. Office is located in room 147 by the South Entrance in Library and is open Monday-Thursday from 9am-6pm.

☞ *Tom – Vice President*

- Reviewed calling roll and positions of members and executive board. Accepted credentials of department representatives. Anyone wanting to be a part of the council can petition for an At-Large position if not directly representing their department.

☞ *Audrey – Treasurer*

- \$19,000 is our new working budget and has been approved by the Executive Board. Budget can be viewed in following attachment. [<See Appendix A.>](#) Guidelines and applications for travel vouchers are online. Current operational balance for GSC is \$6,646.76.

☞ *Cade – SGA/GSC Liaison*

- Wants to directly represent all grad students in SGA and GSC.

III. MINUTES

☞ *Minutes were postponed to be approved until following meeting.*

IV. SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT & ASSIGNMENTS

☞ *Shared Governance Oversight Committee (SGOC)*

- Angela Daniels of the Staff Senate is chairing the committee.

☞ *Committee Assignments <[See Appendix B.](#)>*

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☞ *Travel Fund Committee*

- Venkatesh Patil has been appointed chair of this committee as the Travel Fund Administrator. The committee for Travel Fund selection is made up of Venkatesh Patil, Sindhu Kaimal, & Traci Hudson.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. OFFICER ELECTIONS

☞ *External Vice President* <[See Constitution for Description](#)>

- Previous EVP stepped down due to time constraints. Executive Board will be presenting Constitutional Amendments in the future to remove this position.

☞ *Secretary* <[See Constitution for Description](#)>

- Nominations opened by the President. Jacob Sherry nominates himself. President closed nominations and Jacob Sherry is elected.

☞ *Communications Coordinator* <[See Constitution for Description](#)>

- Nominations opened by the President. Amanda Morales was nominated by Jacob Sherry. Nominations were closed by the President and Amanda Morales was elected.

B. CONSTITUTION REVIEW

- ☞ *Article IX of the Constitution requests all members review the Constitution by the next GSC meeting by Oct. 5th.*

C. 2011-2012 SCHEDULE <[Posted Online on Website](#)>

D. FACULTY HANDBOOK PROPOSAL

- ☞ *Proposal is being submitted to recognize the GSC as the official voice of all graduate students and SGA as the representative group for all undergraduate students.*

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- ☞ Graduate student organizations cannot receive funding through the SGA Action Fund, however, GSC can only fund travel expenditures as per agreement from University Administration when given the allocated amount. There is a gap here for funding that GSC is working to fix. For clarification, any organization with both graduate and undergraduate members may apply for funding through the SGA Activity Fund.

VI. OPEN FLOOR

- ☞ Suggested GSC Liaison to attend SGA meetings. Work to define that Graduate Senators are active members and/or attend the GSC. Talk with and possibly submit proposal to SGA.
- ☞ Graduate student Daniel Johnson stated the graduate students in math, science, nursing, and engineering degrees have to pay a new \$900 supplemental fee and that Graduate Assistants in these areas have not received a raise in multiple years. It was added that GAs were promised raises two years ago by the university and there was no follow through following the promise.
- ☞ Looking to develop tuition waivers for those in masters programs serving in departments. This would make us comparable and competitive with competing universities. Suggestions of Ad-Hoc Committee to research other institutions benefits/pay for Graduate Students followed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT (9-21-11 @ 12:45PM)

- ☞ Motioned by Daniel Copp and seconded by Audrey Wood.

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APPENDIX A - GSC 2011-2012 BUDGET

GRADUATE

Itemized	Comments	Credit	Budget
A) Salaries			
President	Required to work 20 hrs. weekly for the GSC with GA status *, which includes working in the office, attending SGOC Meetings, and other meetings.	\$ 8,976.00	
Vice President	Required to work 10 hrs. weekly for the GSC in the office + attending GSC meetings + SGOC Committee Meetings		\$ 1,600.00
Travel Fund Administrator	Required to coordinate hearings, and distribute Travel Funds + attend GSC meetings		this year the TFA is the GSC's Grad Assistant
Treasurer	Required to work 3 hrs. weekly for the GSC + GSC meetings + SGOC Committee Meetings		\$ 400.00
Secretary	Required to work 5 hrs. weekly for the GSC + GSC meetings + SGOC Committee Meetings		\$ 700.00
Communications Chair	Required to work 3 hrs. weekly for the GSC + GSC meetings + SGOC Committee Meetings		\$ 400.00
Graduate Assistant	Required to work 20 hrs. weekly for the GSC*	\$ 8,976.00	
Total	*(GA Salary is Preset)	\$ 17,952.00	\$ 3,100.00
B) Operations			
Office Space	"Yearly Value"	\$ 7,200.00	
Phone	Yearly Fee	\$ 132.00	
Office Furniture	One-Time Fee	\$ 2,000.00	
Installation of Phone & Internet	One-Time Fee	\$ 516.00	
Office Supplies	paper, ink, pens, note pads, staples...etcetera		\$ 2,000.00
Computer Workstation	One-Time Fee	\$ 3,000.00	
Miscellaneous	Promotional materials for PR and Advertising (business cards, developmental pamphlets...)		\$ 500.00
President Discretionary Fund			\$ 500.00
Total		\$ 12,848.00	\$ 3,000.00

C) Activities			
New Graduate Student Orientation	Fall & Spring		\$ 1,000.00
Graduate Fall BBQ	Food, Drinks, Supplies		\$ -
Graduate Appreciation Week	Food, Drinks, Supplies, Special Events		\$ 2,000.00
Awards Banquet	Food, Banquet Room		\$ 2,000.00
Leadership Development			
Total			\$ 5,000.00
D) Awards			
Outstanding Graduate Student	Engraving Plaque for office, Trophy, \$200 award		\$ 350.00
Outstanding Graduate Research Student	Engraving Plaque for office, Trophy, \$200 award		\$ 350.00
Outstanding Graduate TA Student	Engraving Plaque for office, Trophy, \$200 award		\$ 350.00
Faculty Mentorship Award	Engraving Plaque for office, Trophy, \$200 award		\$ 350.00
Total			\$ 1,400.00
Sub Total Operational Needs		\$ 30,800.00	\$ 12,500.00
GSC Travel & Research Fund	Graduate Student % of Action Fund to be adjusted annually		Total
2012 - 2013	amount will be adjusted when final student enrollment # are obtained in the fall		\$ 6,500.00
Grand Total 2011-2012 Budget		\$ 30,800.00	\$ 19,000.00

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APPENDIX B – SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

GRADUATE STUDENT

Shared Governance	LaDestia McCann & Tom Henry
University Planning	Tom Henry
Academic Affairs and Research Council	Tom Henry
Academic Budget	Tom Henry
Graduate Council	Tom Henry and LaDestia McCann
Library Committee	Liting Zhou and John Franks
Building and Grounds	Amanda Morales
Computers & Technology	Danny Kopp
Development, Comm. & Alumni	Brittany Reese and Amanda Morales
Disability Services	Brenda Dornbach
Financial Aid & Scholarships	Brittany Reese
Intl. Students & Scholars	Krishna Bista and Sindhu Kaimal
Diversity & Affirmative Action	Traci Hudson
Lecture Concert	Sheena Terrell
Education & Technology	William Lange
Faculty Achievement	Gabrielle Crumble
Academic Calendar	Audrey Wood

ARKANSAS

LaDestia
ladestia.m
PRESIDENT

Thomas
thomas.h
VICE PRESIDENT

Audrey
audrey.u
TREASURER

Jacob
jacob.she
SECRETARY

Amanda
amanda.
COMMUNITY
COORDINATOR

Venkat
venkates.
TRAVEL