

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC) MEETING – NOVEMBER 30, 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

Liting Zhao
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SECRETARY

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

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

☞ *Meeting is called to order at 11:05am on Nov 30, 2011.*

II. REPORTS

☞ *DiDi - President*

- Welcome

☞ *Tom – Vice President*

- No roll call was taken

☞ *Liting – Secretary*

- Liting asked for a motion to postpone the acceptance the last minutes because they were not posted on line at this time. Motion was made by Richard Hartness and 2nd by Sheena Terrell. Postponement was passed.

☞ *Audrey – Treasurer*

- Beginning balance of operation fund \$5606.49
Ending balance \$5215.84
 - This is the last meeting for Audrey; her spring schedule will not allow her to be on the GSC.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- DiDi asked for a motion to table all old business until our first meeting which will be January 25, 2012. Tom made a motion, Richard Hartness 2nd; motion passed unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- John Franks, the representative from the College of Humanities & Social Sciences expressed concern about the duties and subsequent work required to be on the GSC Executive Board.
- Tom Henry presented the duties of each officer, their corresponding stipend and the fact that the current treasurer was going to resign due to scheduling conflicts for the spring 2012 semester. Tom presented the position of treasurer to the assembly.

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- Danny Kopp from the History Department stated he would do the job if there were no others who were interested or had the time. Since no other council member was interested, DiDi appointed Danny Kopp the interim treasurer until the next election.
- John Franks inquired about the stipend for the officers. Tom provided the following information to the council.

The current stipends were:

President, \$0

Vice President \$1600

Secretary \$700

Treasurer \$400

Communications Chair \$400

Considerable discussion ensued concerning the president's stipend, the summer terms and the office GA positions. The president is now required, as of fall 2011, to be one of the GSC GA's due to the hours it takes to maintain the office and attend all required meetings. It was brought to the attention of the council that the current president established and maintained the GSC office during the summer of 2011 without any compensation and has asked for none.

- John Franks moved that the president be awarded a \$2500 stipend to allow the president to maintain the office during the summer and Interim periods, and that this stipend be retroactive to compensate the current president for maintaining the office during summer and fall 2011. Danny Kopp seconded the motion.
- The floor was opened for discussion. It was asked if there was a need to maintain the office during the summer. DiDi stated that she assisted many students both grad and undergrads that were coming on campus asking questions about the upcoming fall term. She also had to obtain many map brochures to help new and potential students with directions. DiDi further explained that many forms, such as guidelines, applications, etc. were needed to be developed during this past summer as well as coordinate with the Graduate School for the fall new graduate student orientation. DiDi stated that in her opinion it was very important that the office remain open



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during the summer and interim periods. Venkey asked whether the GSC could afford the additional stipend. From the floor, it was mentioned that the executive council should meet and decide. Tom Henry stated it would be improper for the exec committee to discuss the issue. John Franks stated the GSC must be continually represented and it was not fair to ask this of a graduate student without providing a stipend. Further discussion ensued. Danny called for the question. A vote was taken on John’s motion. The motion passed 9-2 with two abstentions Tom, Didi

V. ADJOURNMENT

- A motion was made to adjourn to eat, seconded and passed.

Merry Christmas