



2014 Graduate Student Council Meeting Minutes

Details:

Date: September 17, 2014
Time: 12:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Location: 8th floor Board room -Dean B. Ellis Library
Arkansas State University, Jonesboro
Minutes submitted by: Pamela Shultz

Meeting Minutes:

Executive Board

Dalia Tejada – President	dalia.tejada@smail.astate.edu
Josh Bramlett – Vice-President	josh.bramlett@smail.astate.edu
Juanjuan Li – Treasurer	juanjuan.li@smail.astate.edu
Pamela Shultz – Secretary	pamela.shultz@smail.astate.edu

Board Attendees: Dalia Tejada, Josh Bramlett, Juanjuan Li, Pamela Shultz, and Elizabeth Swagerty

Council Attendees: Special guest: Brittany Straw, Shaina Nicholson, Chloe Joslin, Seth Fendley, Bob Vernocey, Rachel Welicky, Robert Cowles, Shuxin Zhou, Brittany Price

I. Call to Order and Welcome Note:

Dalia Tejada, President, called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Dalia welcomed members and began introductions.

Dalia then introduced the guest speaker, Brittany Straw, from Career Services. Brittany discussed the part-time job fair that was going on that week and asked that students also participate in the Graduate School fair. She stated that the services Career Services provides are free for students and alumni.

Dalia asked members to look over the minutes and make a motion to approve. Shaina motioned to approve the minutes. Josh seconded. All attendees were in favor.

Reports:

President Report- Dalia mentioned the yearbook pictures that were scheduled for the week. Wednesday from 10-3 and Thursday from 10-6.

Dalia also reported later on the Commencement and Shared Governance committees she had attended.

Vice President Report- Josh stated that he would like to start receiving emails from the members on possible activities for each month. He also stated that a lot of the committees that everyone signed up for last week have started sending out emails to everyone concerning the meeting dates and times.

Treasurer Report- Juanjuan mentioned that \$6000 was available in our funding. She stated that travel fund has approved six applications and has denied one student as he was not presenting at that conference.

Secretary Report- meeting minutes had been approved at the start of the meeting.

Other Reports: No reports.

Committee Reports:

Commencement Committee- Dalia attended and stated that the topic of discussion was that hosting two graduation ceremonies was becoming expensive and that starting fall 2014 they will only host one ceremony. She also mentioned that it was discussed to have the bookstore open up earlier for students to pick up their cap and gowns. This year they will also have new photographers for the ceremony.

Shared Governance Committee- Dalia was in attendance and during this meeting elections were held for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. Dalia stated that two policies were under review and were asked to be reviewed by other university groups and agreed upon. These policies include Smoke-Free Campus Policy and the Selection of Department Chairs and College Deans. These policies will be up for a vote later in the meeting. Other policies up for consideration are the Patent Policy which needs to be in compliance.

Library Committee- Pamela stated that she received an email regarding the meeting, however was unable to attend due to receiving the email late.

II. Old Business:

Graduate Assistant hired was Elizabeth Swagerty she was present during the meeting and was introduced.

III. Open Floor:

Rachel discussed issues within her department, EVS, concerning travel reimbursement for travel. Approval process is a computerized system, and she believes there are issues in the process in which the documents are being sent to the wrong person for approval thus delaying her reimbursement even longer. Chain of approvers is creating errors in the system. She believes the department secretary is unaware of those in the approval process. There was a heated discussion on the approval process and travel procedures. Pamela mentioned that it may be of good use to invite someone from travel office to come visit with the council to speak on the new process.

Shaina asked Juanjuan about budgeting for travel. Juanjuan asks that everyone look to Graduate School and their Departments first for funding and then the remaining travel be from Graduate Student Council.

Juanjuan was asked by Michael Horton to share information on an opportunity for students to win \$50. Pamela asked Juanjuan to send the members a copy of the information to our emails in order to participate.

IV. New Business:

Keychains were passed out to all members in attendance. The color of the polo shirts that are to be ordered this year was voted on. All were in favor of ordering Black since the last two years the shirts have been red.

Smoke-Free Policy-

Dr. Gilbert asks for a color copy to highlight the changes that were made in the policies. As it is hard to agree to changes being made if you do not know the changes that are being made.

A student in attendance asks how effective is the smoke-free policy is at games vs every day. He believes there is a difference in enforcement when it comes game time.

Josh stated he was unsure the actual changes that are being made. There is a heated discussion on enforcement and locations. Dalia made a motion that we received and read the policy. Shaina seconded and all were in favor as having read and received the policy.

Department Chair Selection Policy-

Dalia made a motion that we read and receive the policy. Motion was seconded by Shaina and all were in favor.

Dalia mentioned that elections of new officers for President and Vice President will be before the end of the semester. The second to last Council meeting. This will be discussed in further detail on the date on the October 1st board meeting.

V. Adjournment: 1:20 pm