

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC) MEETING – OCTOBER 5, 2011



GRADUATE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE BOARD

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

LaDesta “DiDi” McCann
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PRESIDENT

Thomas “Tom” Henry
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VICE PRESIDENT

Audrey Wood
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TREASURER

Jacob W. Sherry
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SECRETARY

Amanda Morales
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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 Oct. 5, 2011.*

II. REPORTS

☞ *DiDi - President*

- We have a couple of new guests as well as a couple of members missing who are attending a forum on behalf of the GSC. We will have an Open Forum at the end of the meeting. My name is DiDi McCann. I am the president and I want to welcome you and thank you for being here. Yesterday I had surgery so the VP will be conducting the meeting on my behalf.

☞ *Tom – Vice President*

- Since our last meeting, we have added some new members to the GSC. We are still looking for graduate representatives to fill the following spots:

* ART * CHEMISTRY * MATH * POLITICAL SCIENCE
* SOCIAL WORK * TEACHER EDUCATION * MUSIC
* PHYSICAL EDUCATION * PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELING
* COMPUTER SCIENCES * HERITAGE STUDIES * THEATRE
* CRIMINOLOGY/SOCIOLOGY/GEOGRAPHY * SOCIAL WORK
* ENGLISH/PHILOSOPHY * COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

☞ *Jacob – Secretary*

- Roll is called and 14 members and 2 guests are present. Article 3 Subsection 4 of the constitution states members are to attend all GSC meetings. Any member absent at two consecutive meetings provides grounds for dismissal of said member.

☞ *Audrey – Treasurer*

- **\$396.76?** We have one charge \$1,040.27 for office supplies. Total ending balance is \$5,606.49.

☞ *Cade – SGA/GSC Liaison*

- Currently present at an SGOC meeting for Information Technology.

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III. MINUTES

- ☞ *The acceptance of the minutes from April 20, 2011 was postponed last meeting to give everyone ample time to review. Audrey Wood moved to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Traci Hudson. Vote – Approved.*
- ☞ *DiDi - Minutes are located on the GSC Website. Under the Meetings drop down bar for those of you who do not know the location.*
- ☞ *Sept. 21, 2011 Meeting Minutes- Motion to accept by Brittany Reese and seconded by Amanda Morales. Vote - Approved.*

IV. SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT & ASSIGNMENTS

- ☞ *Faculty Handbook Change*
 - Tom - First proposal has been presented to me by our GSC president. Waiting to present this document when it is strategically advantageous to us. GSC would no longer be considered an RSO, but on equal footing of SGA according to the proposal being submitted for the Faculty Handbook.
- ☞ *Committee Assignments <[See Appendix A.](#)>*
 - All assignments have been filled. Those assignments have been passed on to the chair of the SGOC who will pass it along to the committee chairs. The committee chairs are assigned to contact you when meetings come up.
- ☞ *Travel Fund Committee*
 - History has been made by the GSC this week! The travel fund committee had their first meeting this past week where the TFC approved aid to two different graduate students for their academic endeavors. This initiative will help to give aid to many more graduate students as time moves on. The next hearing is in the first part of November. The deadline for application for travel funds is the 15th of the month before you plan to travel. All information is available online and in the office.

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V. OLD BUSINESS

A. FULL EXECUTIVE BOARD

- ☞ *We are excited to once again have a full executive board.*

B. ONCE AGAIN DISAPPOINTED

- ☞ *This last week our president tried to have a meeting with the SGA president, Hunter, to discuss some items of concern. Hunter had agreed to meet and the last correspondence stated GSC wanted to meet at the library due to time constraints. Hunter e-mailed the morning of the meeting, five days following the last correspondence, to state the meeting location was unacceptable only due to its location as RSO organizations should meet in the Student Union Boardroom. Hunter wants to state he is actively involved and representing graduates, he is not working with the GSC.*

C. NEW LAYER OF BUREAUCRACY

- ☞ *Given money from RSO, and our budget has been approved up to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, we must now have the SGA adviser signing off on our purchases on top of our own adviser signing off.*

D. CONSTITUTION REVIEW FOR AMENDMENTS

- ☞ *Tom - As a body we are required to review the constitution according to Article 9, section 5. The constitution is posted online on our website. In the near future, DiDi will be proposing amendments to restructure the officer positions as well as proposing some formatting changes.*
- ☞ *When an amendment is proposed it is given to the Secretary and then brought to the Executive Committee for review. The Executive Committee will then bring it forward to the body for discussion and the amendment needs a 2/3 approval of all members present to pass it.*

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E. OFFICE WORKERS & OFFICE BENEFITS

- ☞ *Tom – We are looking for 1 to 2 individuals to help work the office of the GSC. You can come in and volunteer 1-2 hours or more. Benefits for all those who help maintain the office include networking with other graduates, getting a higher involvement in the GSC, and free coffee!*

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. ITS MEETING

- ☞ *We currently have several members attending this meeting discussing the upgrades needed to provide a dependable wireless network on campus.*

B. HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

- ☞ *Visit will be in February. Looking for more information to get graduates involved in process.*

C. LETTER TO SYSTEM PRESIDENT

- ☞ *We were looked over when the System President selected students for the selection committee of our new Chancellor. Typically GSC shares a vote with SGA and both spots were given to SGA to fill. We feel this is an oversight and want to make sure it is addressed.*

D. NAGPS

- ☞ *Around two years ago, the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students had some professional issues and since then it has degraded in the services it offers to its members. The Executive Board has decided to discontinue its membership until a later date when the organization is on more level footing.*

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E. GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL STUDENT APPRECIATION WEEK

- ☞ *Graduate students give a lot to the university and we want to emphasize and thank graduates for one week for all of their hard work. We will now have four awards during this week to hand out and we have contacted the Governor for a proclamation for this week as well as to ask him to speak as the key note during a planned banquet for the GSC and select faculty. This week will be the week of April 2. Please let us know if you have any programming ideas. We have around \$1,500 to work with to make things happen.*

F. JANUARY ORIENTATION

- ☞ *We had 50 people attend our last orientation event and we want to make sure we are still working to help stabilize the experience for graduate students as well as help them to identify their resources in their new position. We are looking for panel members and volunteers for this event. We plan on having break-out sessions during the orientation for the different areas. Any ideas or volunteers please let us know.*

F. GRADUATE EXPOSITION

- ☞ *The Career Management Center is hosting this event to showcase our professional schools and the graduate programs to students at ASU. The program will be held on Nov. 3 from 10am to 2pm on the 2nd floor corridor of the Student Union. Anyone wanting to work with the GSC to get involved, please contact DiDi or Tom.*

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VII. OPEN FLOOR

- ☞ *Next meeting on Oct. 19th we will have special guest Dean Sustich who will be speaking on his agenda for the future of GAs.*
- ☞ *Any issues can also be brought to the Executive meetings in the GSC Office at the same date and time opposing Wednesdays of the GSC meetings.*
- ☞ *Work to setup network for graduate students as well as programs for building resumes and CVs.*
- ☞ *Created A-State to show research on April 4th.*
- ☞ *Please stay after for GSC pictures to be posted online.*

VIII. ADJOURNMENT (10-5-11 @ 12:50PM)

- ☞ *Motioned by Brittany Reese and seconded by Elicia Ray.*

APPENDIX A – SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Shared Governance	LaDesta McCann & Tom Henry
University Planning	Tom Henry
Academic Affairs and Research Council	Tom Henry
Academic Budget	Tom Henry
Graduate Council	Tom Henry and LaDesta 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