

## Nomination Letter for the post of President-Elect for Graduate Student Council, Kansas State University

I'm a PhD student in Department of Grain Science and Industry here at Kansas State University. I came to know about the position of 'President-Elect' during my involvement with Graduate research forum. During interactions with present and past officers that were involved with Graduate Student Council (GSC), I was exposed to various duties and expectations of this position. I'm greatly interested in this position and see it as an opportunity to hone my leadership abilities and contribute to the graduate student community at Kansas State University.

In past I have been involved with different student organizations and served different leadership positions. During M.S. studies at University of Minnesota, I served as an activities coordinator (Food Science and Nutrition Club), graduate student representative (Minnesota International Center), president (University Cricket Club), captain (University Cricket Club) and graduate student representative (Food Science and Nutrition Head Search Committee). Currently, I'm the webmaster (Grain Science Club) and captain (Food Science College Bowl Team), member (Food Product Development Team) here at Kansas State University.

These above mentioned positions have given me insights into organizing and managing a voluntary organization. For instance, as the founder and president of University Cricket Club at University of Minnesota, I was active in promoting the game of cricket at the University. The cricket club had, a humble beginning with three individuals in 2004 however the club now has about hundred active members representing the University at the State and Regional levels. However, the success of the cricket club included lot of tribulations, which included fund raising, equipment procurement, identifying key players and role allocation. It was in these tribulations that I identified some motivated individuals who shared the same dream, i.e. of developing cricket at the university level. With proper planning we were successful in introducing a cricket course through the physical education department at the University of Minnesota. My experience with cricket club and other various voluntary organizations has taught me the values of patience and respect for other individuals. Although a leader, my colleagues and fellow members regard me as a humble and honest person with immense dedication.

Serving as activities coordinator for a specific community such as food science, we had to plan and implement ideas that were informative and fun. As a graduate student representative for Minnesota International Center, I presented information about India to various high school and colleges. It taught me the importance of streamlining your presentations according to the audience.

It is my perception that voluntary organizations are ran by a group of enthusiastic individuals with limited time. The objective of a leader of such an organization, would be efficiently utilize their time and valuable efforts; and subsequently, identify and motivate individuals into attaining an objective of greater good. I'm aware that the current position of president-elect requires foresight to plan and execute ideas, and at times demand patience and the ability to think on your feet.

After discussions with the current officers, I now understand the importance of various undertakings of GSC. However, there are some areas of concern, which upon improvement can increase visibility of GSC on the campus and at the same time increase

participation of graduate students at various GSC programs. Here are some proposals which I would like to work on upon my election to the position of president elect. Upon election a personalized website for the GSC would be developed. The website would include data of past, present and future activities of GSC; officers and other committee member contact information; participation opportunities. It would also be designed to include meeting minutes, monthly updates along with a database of all of the members on the campus. Secondly, I would make an effort to increase the number of participating graduate clubs. This would be a three tier approach which would include identifying the departments with no graduate clubs; followed by talking to the respective department heads and subsequently encouraging the graduate students to think about the benefits of forming a club. Thirdly, with help of the current officers, I would like to improve the involvement and leadership of sub-committee chairs. This would be done through interactions with the sub-committee chairs at the personal and professional level. Personal interactions would include discussing the scenario with the respective person over lunches or other free time, on a professional level I would encourage chair persons to accommodate leadership courses into their schedule.

I'm certain that my skills, personality and experience will help me being successful at the current position. I'm honored for being nominated for this post. I will look forward to working with you and serving the committee with the best of my intentions.

Sincerely,  
Shiva Garimella,  
PhD Student,  
Department of Grain Science and Industry  
Kansas State University.

I, Kara Ross, intend to run for the GSC Officer's Treasurer Position.

I believe that I have the right qualifications that would allow me to excel in the Treasurer position. I am a diligent and responsible individual and I strive to complete all of my tasks in a professional and competent manner. Furthermore, I have gained valuable experience with the allocations of the graduate student travel grants by being a member of the Allocations Committee.

During my term as a GSC Officer, I plan to allocate travel scholarships in a fair and consistent manner. Ideally, I plan to balance the GSC budget effectively and efficiently in such a manner that the appropriate resources are allocated towards graduate student travel. As a graduate student, I have attended various conferences and I know first hand the numerous expenses that are involved. I know the importance of attending professional conferences and the valuable experience gained by students either from presenting a paper and/or poster as well as networking experiences with peers in your profession. Thus, I feel that it is important to be able to distribute monetary funds to as many qualified applicants as possible to help facilitate greater participation in professional conferences.

Thank you for considering me as a possible candidate for the GSC Officer's Treasurer Position.

Sincerely,

Kara Ross

I, Pradeep R. Malreddy intend to run for the position of Secretary, Graduate Student Council.

GSC acts as a platform that unites all the graduate students from different fields of study. Being on the GSC executive committee gives me an excellent opportunity to interact with fellow graduate students and to know the problems facing them first hand. I have been closely associated with GSC for the past three years as member of Graduate Research Forum Committee that oversees the organization of our annual Graduate Research Forum and Topeka Capitol Research Summit. I have served as the Secretary of CVM Graduate Student Association, and am also the present Event Coordinator for the same association. I also involve with the local community development programs through UFM on campus. I believe that these experiences will help me serve well as the Secretary for Graduate Student Council.

If elected, I will continue to work with the present duties and responsibilities as outlined in the constitution and thus keeping up the name of our organization. I also intend to encourage various student organizations, on and off campus to affiliate with Graduate Student Council and letting they know various advantages of doing so. I hope that I will be an asset to the Graduate Student Council.

Sincerely,

Pradeep Malreddy