

GSC General Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 7th, 2021, 12:00 – 1:00 PM,

Zoom: <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/95551955888>

1.0 Call to Order – Pingping Chen

2.0 Approval of Agenda – Pingping Chen

2.1 Attendance was taken (Appendix A).

2.2 Motion to approve the agenda.

I. David Marcus moved to approve the agenda.

II. Cheryl Zelle seconded the approval of the agenda.

III. Motion passed with majority.

3.0 Approval of GSC General Minutes from December 6th, 2021 – Pingping Chen

3.1 Motion to approve the minutes from December 6th, 2021 (Appendix B).

I. Pingping Chen moved to approve the minutes.

II. Marcus Kidd seconded to approve of the minutes.

III. Motion passed with majority.

4.0 Speaker: Student Ombudsperson Kimathi Choma

4.1 As Ombudsperson, Dr. Choma is not a mandatory reporter and speaking with him is an informal process meaning he provides a safe space to express grievances.. He can serve as a neutral party in any grievance procedures. He serves all students, including global students. There is also a faculty Ombudsperson who can speak with graduate students about their role as GTA/GA positions.

4.2 After meeting with a student, Dr. Choma will assist the student for next steps according to the situation. This is often reaching out to other university entities to help the student based on what the student wants. He can only act or reach out to others with the student's permission.

4.3 The Student Ombudsperson office is located in 101J Holton Hall. Appointments are also available via Zoom. Appointments can be anonymous and confidential

4.4 Dr. Choma shared a video and flyers to explain more about what Ombuds do:

I. Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=boFZVeDwdtg&t=63s>

II. Flyer: [https://ioa.memberclicks.net/assets/Ombuds Tool kit/IOA 2020 The Modern Ombuds Double Sided Brochure.pdf](https://ioa.memberclicks.net/assets/Ombuds%20Tool%20kit/IOA%2020%20The%20Modern%20Ombuds%20Double%20Sided%20Brochure.pdf)

III. Flyer: file:///C:/Users/kchoma/Desktop/22428_StudentOmbudspersonOnePager_5_GZ.pdf

5.0 Updates from Advisors

5.1 Dean Petrescu

- I.** Reminder to check out the call for awards and research presentations listed in the GSC weekly email.
- II.** Graduating students should be aware of the graduation process. Please be aware of all changes to this process and disseminate this information to graduate students. Dr. Miller is the first point of contact for graduate student questions/concerns.

5.2 Associate Dean Reznikoff

- I.** Coffee Chat February 8th via Zoom from 12-1pm: <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/94041814009>

5.3 Dr. Miller

- I.** 51 students are registered for the 3 Minute Thesis competition. The event will take place February 23 and March 1.
- II.** Reminder about deadlines
 - i.** Feb. 7 is the last day to drop a class with 100% refund.
 - ii.** Feb. 14 is the last day to drop a class with 50% refund.

6.0 Reports from Committees & Representatives

6.1 Professional Development – Nirupama Kotian and Linah Alkotami

- I.** This year we will not be doing feedback surveys after every event, instead you will receive one survey at the end of the semester about your overall experience with the PD events. We will keep track of attendees.
- II.** Following PD events will be held virtually (Zoom links will be shared with participants who register through the link on PD webpage <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/student-council/professional-development/>)
 - i.** Grant Writing Workshop. Thursday February 17, 2022. 1:00 - 5:00 pm. Zoom
 - ii.** Leading with Your Strengths. Wednesday February 23, 2022. 12:00 – 1:30 pm. Zoom
- III.** If you would like to moderate any of the professional development events, please reach out to Linah Alkotami at Lina93@ksu.edu.

6.2 Research Forums - Adelaide Klutse & Zilfa Irakoze

- I.** The deadline for KGRAD has been extended to tonight before midnight. K-GRAD will take place on 30th and 31st of March 2022. <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/student-council/research-forums/kgrad.html>

6.3 Student Affairs –Cristiane Brazil

- I.** December 8th at 5:30pm we hosted the GSC Holiday Celebration that took place at the Multicultural Center. Thanks to everyone that helped with making the event happen!

- II.** The Student Affairs is working on a series starting in March called Grad Money Hour with Jackie Koski and Powercat Financial. For those who don't know Jackie, she is a Certified Educator in Personal Finance, author of the book "Money Letters 2 my Daughter," has been featured at multiple media channels such as NBC, Business Insider, People's Magazine, and is a Graduate Student at K-State! We will have 3 workshops in a very dynamic style covering different topics that relate to graduate students: credit and student Loans, investing your money, and transitioning to work. You will be able to ask questions in advance or during the live workshops. Jackie would also like to invite you to apply for an individual appointment with Powercat Financial. (<https://www.k-state.edu/powercatfinancial/> -> Request Appointment)

6.4 Awards & Recognitions – Leah Fields

- I.** No report.

6.5 Fundraising Committee – Nitin Mishra & Megan Underwood

- I.** Upcoming [basketball cleanup](#) on Feb 26th at 4pm.

6.6 Public Relations – Vinusha Wickramasinghe

- I.** No report.

6.7 Health Insurance – OPEN

- I.** No report.

6.8 Government Relations – Ramona Weber

- I.** No report.

6.9 Recreational Services – Kiana Schulze

- I.** No report.

6.10 Diversity Advocate – Raymond Thomas

- I.** No report.

6.11 Housing Representative – Julia Hagen

- I.** No report.

6.12 Parent/Guardian Advocate – Chandima Wekumbura

- I.** No report.

6.13 Library Services Representative – Dylan Sears

- I.** The 1st through 4th floors of Hale library are now open until midnight Sunday through Thursday. The library closes at 6PM on Fridays and 5PM on Saturdays. The special collections library is open only by appointment currently. There

are four graduate events of note in February taking place through the library. All events take place via Zoom and can be registered for on the library website [here](#).

- i. Feb. 7th 1:30PM: **Starting Your Literature Review in Social Sciences and Education**
- ii. Feb. 14th 1:30PM: **Managing Citations and References**
- iii. Feb. 21st 1:30PM: **Rights and Reuse in Research: A Primer**
- iv. Feb. 28th 1:30PM: **Understanding Academic Publishing**

6.14 Military Affiliated Representative – Jaymi Peterson

- I. All military-affiliated students should self-report their status through their KSIS account under demographic information.

6.15 Global Campus Representative – Cheryl Zelle

- I. No report

6.16 LGBTQ+ —Hunter Scott

- I. No report.

6.17 Union Governing Board – Dominic Barnes

7.0 Open Leadership Positions:

- I. Health Insurance Representative
- II. Housing Representative
- III. Public Relations Co-Chair

8.0 Open Discussion

8.1 Anya Glushko asked about resources for graduate students who are also parents. Dr. Petrescu noted the Dr. Miller is the first point of contact for these students. Jackie will also bring this concern to Powercat Financial.

- I. Dr. Miller also shared more about the student leave policy for students who become a parent while in graduate school. Students can take academic leave and leave from employment (for those with an assistantship) with pay. More information here: <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/graduate-handbook/chapter1.html#Academic%20Accommodation%20and%20Leave%20for%20Pregnant%20and%20Parenting%20Graduate%20Students> Apply for leave here: <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/about/forms/>

8.2 Jack Sytsma voiced the concern about access to high quality masks.

- I. Dean Petrescu explained that each department should have contacted the facilities to gain access to those materials. Reach out to your department head about more information about this.

8.3 Adelaide Klutse will be sending out an email asking international students with children to respond to a survey about their experience in the US.

Kansas State University | **Graduate Student Council**
GSC General Meeting 2.7.22 | **Minutes**

9.0 Reminders & Deadlines – Pingping Chen

9.1 Travel Award deadline for May travel is March 1st.

10.0 Other Business – Pingping Chen

11.0 Adjournment – Pingping Chen

Appendix A: Meeting Attendance

Name	Email
Leah Fields	leahmfields@ksu.edu
Cheryl Zelle	czelle@ksu.edu
Tyson Rodriguez	Tyrod333@ksu.edu
Pingping Chen	pingpingchen@ksu.edu
Hannah Rollison	hrollison@ksu.edu
Megan Miller	mmmiller@ksu.edu
Sarah Reznikoff	sarahrez@ksu.edu
David Marcus	Davidmarcus@ksu.edu
Adelaide Klutse	Adklutse@ksu.edu
Ademola Okerinde	okerinde@ksu.edu
Jackie Koski	Jackie937@ksu.edu
Ludmila Monteiro	Lmonteiro@ksu.edu
Cris Brazil	Cristianebrasil@ksu.edu
Jack Sytsma	Sytsmaj134@ksu.edu
Allison Blomme	ablomme@ksu.edu
Amber Pasket	apasket@ksu.edu
Anya Glushko	

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Bipin Rajpurohit	brajpurohit@ksu.edu
Chandima Wekumbura	cchandim@ksu.edu
Charles Sexton	sextonc@ksu.edu
Conrad Kabus	conradkabus@ksu.edu
Jean Francois	jeanribert@ksu.edu
Laura Bain	bainla@ksu.edu
Leah Fields	leahmfields@ksu.edu
Leslie Hufstedler	hufdl@ksu.edu
Linah Alkotami	lina93@ksu.edu
Marcus Kidd	mkidd@ksu.edu
Muhammad Ali Shafique	alishafique@ksu.edu
Nasik Muhammad Nafi	nnafi@ksu.edu
Raymond Thomas	rjthomas@ksu.edu
Rose AS	ashlei1@ksu.edu
Roselle Barretto	rosellebarretto@ksu.edu
Taylor Vargo (Simonson)	tlsimons@ksu.edu
Zilfa Irakoze	zirakoze2@ksu.edu

Appendix B: December 6th, 2021 General Meeting Minutes

GSC General Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 6th, 2021, 12:00 – 1:00 PM,

Zoom: <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/95551955888>

1.0 Approval of Agenda – Pingping Chen

1.1 Attendance was taken (Appendix A).

1.2 Motion to approve the agenda.

I. David Marcus moved to approve the agenda.

II. Tyson Rodriguez seconded the approval of the agenda.

III. Motion passed with majority.

2.0 Approval of GSC General Minutes from November 1st, 2021 – Pingping Chen

2.1 Motion to approve the minutes from November 1st, 2021 (Appendix B).

I. Tyson Rodriguez moved to approve the minutes.

II. David Marcus seconded to approve of the minutes.

III. Motion passed with majority.

3.0 Vote on the following two constitutional amendments passed by the Student Senate

3.1 Bill 21/22/13

I. This bill corrects two grammatical errors found in the SGA constitution.

II. The bill passed with 15 votes to approve.

3.2 Bill 21/22/29

I. This bill moves the election period and presidential appointment to allow for more time for campaigning.

II. The bill passed with 13 votes to approve.

4.0 Updates from Advisors

4.1 Dean Petrescu

I. The December commencement is upcoming. Tickets will be available for families and other attendees.

- II.** Updates are being made for the vaccination requirements for university employees. This includes all GTAs/GAs. A message went out for those not in compliance. January 19th is the last day for employees to meet the requirements for vaccination. This does not include the booster shot. More information can be found on the LaFene website.
- III.** Dean Petrescu will be meeting with Human Capital who is undergoing the process to raise stipends for graduate students. They are currently beginning the data analysis process.

4.2 Associate Dean Reznikoff

- I.** Applications for small research grants for non-STEM students are currently being reviewed. There will be another upcoming call for applications in the near future.

4.3 Dr. Miller

- I.** Donahue scholarships are available for domestic incoming students in the Spring semester. About 400-500 students are expected for the Spring semester. The Welcome Back program for these students will take place on Wednesday, January 12th at 1pm in the Leadership Building.
- II.** On Giving Tuesday, the Graduate School raised \$3200 toward scholarships for graduate students who are raising families.

5.0 Reports from Committees & Representatives

5.1 Professional Development – Nirupama Kotian and Linah Alkotami

- I.** No report.

5.2 Research Forums - Adelaide Klutse & Zilfa Irakoze

- I.** The committee organized the Research and the State Poster Sessions on Wednesday October 27th, 2021. The event took place in the Union Courtyard. Ten winners were selected and are set to represent K-State at CGRS in Spring 2022.
- II.** The tentative dates for K-GRAD is the last week of March 2022. Abstract submission opens 17th December 2021 and ends 31st January 2022. Students can submit abstracts to share their research in either oral or poster presentation format. More information is on the GSC website. Venue and time for the events TBD. All K-STATE Graduate Students are encouraged to participate.

5.3 Student Affairs –Cristiane Brazil

- I.** We will be hosting the GSC Holiday Celebration on December 8th at 5:30pm. The party will take place at the Multicultural Center. We will be serving food and drinks and will have some fun activities including an ugly sweater competition, card making, and a white elephant gift exchange with a limit of \$2 or from your home. We are looking

for volunteers to help decorating the party and cleaning up afterwards. We would also like to display in the event a slideshow with end-of-the year celebrations around the world, so if you can help us with that task, please reach out!

5.4 Awards & Recognitions – Leah Fields

- I.** The Awards & Recognition Committee is looking for a co-chair as well as committee members. If you know of anyone interested in getting involved with GSC, direct them to Leah (leahmfields@ksu.edu)

5.5 Fundraising Committee – Nitin Mishra & Megan Underwood

- I.** No report.

5.6 Public Relations – Vinusha Wickramasinghe

- I.** No report.

5.7 Health Insurance – OPEN

- I.** No report.

5.8 Government Relations – Ramona Weber

- I.** No report.

5.9 Recreational Services – Kiana Schulze

- I.** No report.

5.10 Diversity Advocate – Raymond Thomas

- I.** No report.

5.11 Housing Representative – Julia Hagen

- I.** No report.

5.12 Parent/Guardian Advocate – OPEN

- I.** No report.

5.13 Library Services Representative – Dylan Sears

- I.** Special collections in the library is expected to fully open up upon our return in the spring 2022 semester. At the moment students can reserve an appointment with special collections, if necessary. Floors one through four are open with floor five still in the process of returning to normal. The third floor of the library contains graduate student study areas near the great room. These quiet rooms are only for graduate students and are available until the third floor closes during the week at 10pm. Additionally, the innovation lab contains higher powered computers and tools for undergraduate and graduate students alike; check it out on the first and second floor of the library.

5.14 Military Affiliated Representative – Jaymi Peterson

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I. No report.

5.15 Global Campus Representative – Cheryl Zelle

I. No report

5.16 LGBTQ+ —Hunter Scott

I. There are two updates from recent ILC meetings:

- i.** If graduate students feel that there are issues concerning discrimination from their faculty and/or department, they should contact K-State's student ombudsperson, Dr. Kimathi Choma at [<kchoma@k-state.edu>](mailto:kchoma@k-state.edu)
- ii.** There have been updates on the [11 Step Action Plan](#) presented by Dr. Be Stoney and Chief Ronnie Grice.

5.17 Union Governing Board – Dominic Barnes

I. There are a few points for graduate students from the UGB:

- i.** Senior UGB leadership will conduct a review of alcohol at events.
- ii.** Footwear is recommended for all persons in the Union.
- iii.** Union furniture rental is restricted from locations outside the Union itself due to damage and staffing concerns.
- iv.** Esports will be housed in the union.
- v.** Union will conduct cross-organization customer service training with employees to improve service and experience

6.0 Open Leadership Positions:

- I.** Health Insurance Representative
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- IV.** Public Relations Co-Chair

7.0 Open Discussion

8.0 Reminders & Deadlines – Pingping Chen

8.1 Travel Award deadline for December travel is October 1st.

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