Graduate Student Council GSC General Meeting Minutes

Monday November 4, 2013

12:00-1:00 p.m. Waters Hall 137

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Carol Shanklin, Dr. Duane Crawford, Taylor Wadian, Amanda Fairbanks, Kavitha Penugonda, Erik Garcia, Lauren Reiter, James Wood, Jan Vosahlik, Kim O’Keefe, Jared Nyagol, Bethany Grabow, Manpreet Rai, Emilie Guidez, Emily Reinhardt, Michael Reichenberger, Bethany Quesnell, Wendy Gorman, Lacey Solheid, Amanda Umscheid, Nick Colsch, Marcus Brix, Bethany Deschamps, Chuyuan Wang, Barbara Amoah, Sarah Byrd, Neda Dadashzadeh

Call to Order

1.0 Review and Approval of Agenda

T. Wadian asked the General Council if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda as presented.

Motion #1: Move to approve the meeting agenda as distributed
Action: Motion approved. No discussion.

2.0 Review and Approval of GSC General Minutes from October 7, 2013

T. Wadian requested an approval of the October 7, 2013 General Meeting Minutes.

Motion #1: Move to approve the General Meeting Minutes
Action: Motion approved. No discussion.

3.0 Officer Reports

T. Wadian informed the General Council that the Executive Committee met with President Schulz on November 1, 2013. The Executive Committee discussed the GSC's accomplishments over the last year. President Schulz was enthusiastic about the GSC's efforts with the
Calling Campaign and encouraged GSC to do it again next year. President Schulz expressed the need to establish a formal workplace for GSC, but due to other projects and commitments that space cannot be allocated at this time. President Schulz stated he hoped to increase travel funds and Donaghue Scholarships to attract more competitive graduate students to Kansas State. President Schulz suggested that a partnership be formed with K-State graduate students and the College of Business to provide workshops on tax preparation and to provide assistance to graduate students in preparing their taxes.

A. Fairbanks present, but no report

K. Penugonda present, no report

E. Garcia present and asked J. Vosahlik to provide a quick update about the GSC Facebook page. J. Vosahlik informed the General Council that the Facebook page has approximately 300 'likes'. Please continue to ‘share’ and ‘like’ the GSC Facebook and the events that are on posted.

Advisor Reports:

**Dean Shanklin** stated she will be presenting a plan of action to Provost Mason to delay tuition payment for graduate students without penalty or late charges. Dean Shanklin will also be meeting with Noel Schulz to discuss the concern that several graduate students have expressed concerning the tax implications of tuition from grants. Currently, graduate research assistants are taxed on their stipend before they pay tuition. Dean Shanklin expressed that action and discussion is happening but the tax conundrum involves University infrastructure and will require a lot of changes. Dean Shanklin thanked everyone who volunteered at Research and the State. Dean Shanklin informed the General Council that the deadline to submit ballots and ETDRs to graduate Fall semester is November 22, 2013. Dean Shanklin announced the Graduate School unveiled its new website. The new website should be easier to use and facilitate information gathering. If graduate students notice any ‘bugs’ in the website, please contact Amanda Umscheid.

**Associate Dean Crawford** stated that Research and the State was well organized and he thanked everyone who volunteered at the event.

4.0 Graduate Student Senator Reports

J. Vosahlik stated that the architects who are working on the Union renovation will be coming to campus on Tuesday at 1:30-2:30 in the Big 12 room in the Student Union. He encouraged graduate students to participate in the focus groups and express our need for a space for graduate students to network and work on group projects.
5.0 GSC Committee Reports

Allocations: K. Penugonda stated that for January travel the Allocations committee received 71 applications, of which 29 were funded with an average award of $515.00.

Research Forums: A. Fairbanks informed the General Council that Research and the State went well and that 10 students were selected to represent Kansas State at Capitol Graduate Research Summit in Topeka on February 13th. K-State Research Forum abstract submission opens on November 11, 2013.

Student Affairs: T. Wadian reminded the General Council about the Flint Hills Discovery Center event on November 10, 2013. Tickets will cost $7 for students and $4 for children, and children under 2 are free.

International Student Affairs: M. Rai informed the General Council that on Saturday November 9, 2013 the Indian Student Association is presenting a program in Forum Hall from 3-6 PM. She also encouraged students to participate in the International Food Festival on November 10th. Students must purchase their tickets in advance of the event.

Professional Development: L. Reiter informed the General Council that on November 7, 2013 a Brownbag session will be held on Negotiation followed by two panels: one for students interested in pursuing careers in industry and the other for students who plan pursue careers in academia. The brownbag is scheduled from 12:00-1:00 in Union 226 with panel presentations in 226 and 227. L. Reiter informed the General Council that The Library and Your Research is having an event titled “Know your Copy Rights” on November 4, 2013.

Fundraising: T. Wadian informed the General Council about the event at Texas Roadhouse. On December 3, 2013 Texas Roadhouse is offering 10% of all proceeds be donated to GSC as long as the customer tells their waiter they are supporting GSC.

Awards & Recognition: No report.

7.0 University-Wide Representatives

Health Insurance: J. Nyagol informed the General Council about the informational sessions about Affordable Care Act will be presented by Dr. Roberta Rippotella. The first session is scheduled for November 5, 2013 in Leadership Studies from 5-6:30 PM. The second session is scheduled for November 13, 2013 in Throckmorton Hall room 1018 from 12-1:30 PM. The first session will be streamed live and will be video archived for students who are unable to attend the sessions.
Union Governing Board: T. Wadian reported that the Bill Nye lecture was cancelled but is rescheduled for December 3rd at 7:00 PM in Bramlage. Tickets to the cancelled lecture are now void. Students can get new tickets from UPC in the student Union and in Bramlage.

Library: No report.

Campus Master Plan: No report.

8020: T. Wadian informed the General Council that there is a pizza and politics event on November 14, 2013 at 5:30-7:00 in the Alumni Center Ballroom.

State Affairs: No report.

Women of K-State: K. Penugonda reported there is a brownbag event about breast cancer awareness in the Union on Wednesday November 6, 2013 from 11:00-1:00 PM.

University Sustainability Task Force: E. Garcia informed the General Council that three working groups have been formed. The three groups are Operations, Academics, and Engagements. All three groups are currently working and drafting plans of action to present to the larger Sustainability working group in the next 2-3 weeks.

University Budget Advisory Committee: T. Wadian informed the General Council that the purpose of the Budget Advisory Committee is to address the budget concerns and plan ahead for the next three fiscal years. President Schulz would like the University’s budget to be transparent to students.

8.0 Summary of Upcoming Events: T. Wadian briefly highlighted the upcoming events. T. Wadian reminded the General Council that there will be an online chat with President Schulz and Dean Shanklin on Thursday, November 14th at 5:00 p.m.

9.0 Adjournment: T. Wadian adjourned the General Council at 12:45 PM