Graduate Student Council GSC General Meeting Minutes

Monday September 9, 2013
12:00-1:00 p.m. KSU Union 227

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Carol Shanklin, Dr. Duane Crawford, Taylor Wadian, Amanda Fairbanks, Emily Reinhardt, Alan Tajchman, Lauren Reiter, Kelsie Doty, Bethany Quesnell, Carter Wang, Wendy Gorman, Sarah Barmore, Jay Weeker, Phillip Defae, Neda Dadashzadeh, Nick Colsch, Brady Brewer, Barbara Amoah, Sarah Diamond, Angela Anegan, Muhammad Nawaz, Heidi Swanke, Emily Robson, Nanxi Li, Han Wen, Bethany Grabow

Call to Order

1.0 Introductions

T. Wadian, President welcomed Graduate Student Representatives to the Graduate Student Council’s General Meeting, and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. T. Wadian introduced himself to the Graduate Student Representatives and asked that each member introduce themselves to the other members.

2.0 Review and Approval of Agenda

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

Motion #1: Move to approve the meeting agenda as distributed

Action: Motion approved. No discussion.

3.0 Review and Approval of GSC General Minutes from May 6, 2013

T. Wadian requested an approval of the General Meeting Minutes from the General Council.

Motion #1: Move to approve the General Meeting Minutes

Action: Motion approved. No discussion.
4.0 Officer Reports

**T. Wadian** informed the Graduate Student Group Representatives that the GSC had been active over the summer with a Calling Campaign. The Calling Campaign called all incoming graduate students and collected data on why they accepted or why they didn’t accept Kansas State’s offer of admission. The main purpose of the Calling Campaign was to welcome incoming students and answer any questions they may have had. In addition, the GSC has put together a Professional Development series. The list of scheduled events can be seen in the weekly email from the GSC. **T. Wadian** encouraged the Graduate Student Group Representatives to attend the events and inform other students about the events.

- A. Fairbanks present but no report
- K. Penugonda absent but no report
- E. Garcia absent but no report

Advisor Report:

**Dean Shanklin** introduced Jody Kaus to discuss PowerCat Financial. Jody Kaus gave a brief presentation about their services and what they can offer to graduate students. She discussed that they want to provide graduate students with a focused education series. There will be three presentations about student loans/repayments/taking out loans, overview of personal financial management/budgeting, ability to come in and meet with them individually to work out a financial plan, SALT – Jodi was looking for feedback about creating a workshop and what would work best for this group of students. **T. Wadian** addressed the entire council and asked for specific times/days that may work best for the group. The week of October 21\textsuperscript{st} was addressed as a possibility. **T. Wadian** discussed sending out a Doodle poll to find a time that is best available for graduate students. **Dean Shanklin** informed the members that there will be opportunities for other workshops. The purpose of workshops is to inform graduate students and to share experiences with other graduate students. In addition there will be two surveys administered in October of 2013 and April 2014. The October survey will gather information about financial knowledge graduate students have, and the survey in April of 2014 will gather information about graduate student financial practices. **T. Wadian** and Jodi encouraged everyone to go check out the PowerCat Financial website. **Dean Shanklin** encouraged everyone to communicate the information from GSC to their own graduate students in their departments.

**Associate Dean Crawford** present but no report

5.0 Approval of GSC Budget for FY 2014
T. Wadian provided a summary of the GSC budget to the General Council. T. Wadian explained that the budget has been approved by the Leadership Committee and will need to be approved by the General Council.

T. Wadian requested an approval of the GSC Budget for FY2014 from the General Council.

Motion #1: Move to approve the GSC Budget for FY2014

Action: Motion approved. No discussion.

6.0 Graduate Student Senator Reports

K. Grinter stated that at the latest SGA meeting people were approved to various committees.

7.0 GSC Committee Reports

Allocations: T. Wadian reported the travel process has changed and travel grants are awarded every month. Applications are due two months prior to travel period. T. Wadian provided a brief summary of the travel allocations for July and August.

Research Forums: A. Fairbanks informed the General Council that abstract submission is now open for Research and The State. The deadline for submission is September 27th. The instructions for abstract submission are available online at the GSC webpage. T. Wadian stated that the Research and the State is a selection process for Capitol Graduate Research Summit.

Student Affairs: T. Wadian informed the General Council that on September 12th the GSC will be host the Ice Cream Social from 3:00-5:00p.m. outside Fairchild Hall. Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate. On September 15th there is a Konza Prairie Hike. Friends of McCain is offering discounted tickets to the Intergalactic Nemesis Book II and after party with the cast of the show. October 6th GSC goes Wild at the Sunset zoo. A RSVP is required to attend the event.

International Student Affairs: T. Wadian passed out Coffee Hour Series bookmarks. In addition, he handed out flyer for the International Buddies schedule. There is also a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) event, New York Time in Education on September 26th. Students must register for the event because there will be free lunch served at event.

Professional Development: L. Reiter informed the General Council that the Donald Asher event had a great turnout and provided a brief overview. Coming up Library and Your Research and they will be discussing RefWorks in Hale library room 301 from 1:30-2:30. L Reiter also stated that an Industry Leaders Career Panel on Graduate Careers in Industry is coming up on September 24th from 5:00-7:00p.m. in Justin Hall.
room 163. Victoria McGovern will be speaking on October 3rd about Communicating Science to the Public in Town Hall from 3:30-5:00p.m. Everyone who attends Victoria McGovern will receive a free book: Making the Right Moves: A Practical Guide To Scientific Management for Postdoc and New Faculty, students must RSVP to the event to get the free book.

**Fundraising:** T. Wadian urged everyone to volunteer for the University Career Fair. Please contact Kavitha Penugonda if you are interested in volunteering for the Career Fair on September 24th and 25th.

**Awards & Recognition:** A. Fairbanks reported that faculty advisors/department heads will soon be receiving a link to submit information regarding graduate student awards. T. Wadian reported two more opportunities for awards: 1. Distinguished Thesis Award open to Biological Sciences and Humanities; 2. GSC GTA Teaching Excellence Award.

**8.0 University-Wide Representatives**

**Health Insurance:** No report.

**Union Governing Board:** K. Grinter reported that they met recently and they received feedback from the K-State campus store, and discussed the renovation and upcoming presentations from architects, the manager of the recreation center to discuss increase in prices. No new information regarding the bowling party.

**Library:** L. Reiter informed the General Council that the Library is looking for Library Ambassadors. There will more information in next week’s weekly email.

**Campus Master Plan:** No report.

**8020:** No report.

**State Affairs:** No report.

**Women of K-State:** T. Wadian reported that there are two events coming up: Tennis Tailgate on September 22nd starts at 10:30 at tennis courts and Women of Distinction Recognition Ceremony on September 26th 3:30-5:00 in Alumni Center Ballroom.

**9.0 Update on GSC Visibility Efforts:** T. Wadian reported that GSC is now on Facebook and please ‘like’ the Facebook page. It is being used as a tool to facilitate communication between GSC and graduate students. GSC is planning on updating the GSC website to make it more useful and
informative. Please provide suggestions about updating the GSC website to T. Wadian. Lastly, T. Wadian has been working with Marketing and Communications to help put together a GSC promotional video.

10.0 Summary of Upcoming Events: T. Wadian briefly summarized the upcoming GSC events and encouraged the General Council to spread the word and attend the events.

11.0 Adjournment: T. Wadian called the meeting to an end and adjourns the General Council.