

**GSC General Meeting Minutes**

Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 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.** Laura Bain 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.** Hunter Scott moved to approve the minutes.

**II.** Laura Bain seconded to approve of the minutes.

**III.** Motion passed with majority.

**4.0 Speaker: President Linton**

**4.1** President chose K-State because it is a land-grant university and the mission it entails. He has many ideas about enhancing interdisciplinary partnerships and improving the university for students, faculty, and staff and has had experience at other universities implementing these relationships. Graduate students are an important part of the interdisciplinary relationships he sees as important to our university.

**4.2** President Linton encourages graduate students to get involved and take advantage of the resources at K-State. He shared memorable experience from working with graduate students and seeing them succeed.

**4.3** President Linton reflected on the need to better acknowledge the mission for the military included in the K-State Land Grant Mission. He has personnel affiliated with the military who work with him to improve in this area.

**4.4** President Linton brought the graduate student issues he saw at other universities including enhancing the grad student experience, ensuring students had a voice at the table as it pertains to the future of the university, and graduate student stipends being competitive. He made sure made sure graduate students were actively involved in conversations.

**I.** President Linton also addressed the concern about GTA/GRA/GAs being left out of conversation and being largely paid, especially in the humanities fields. He stressed the importance of the humanities and stated he would be speaking with the Deans of those colleges to address these issues.

- 4.5** President Linton addressed the concern of faculty not being research focused and the impact that can have on certain departments. He mentioned that K-State is a Land Grant university and those college do have differing focuses to fulfill that mission. He wants to ensure we are pursuing the missions most beneficial to K-State and its students.
- 4.6** President Linton shared his experience with processing paperwork that could decrease the timeliness of research with outside companies and colleges. He would like to model the process in place at other universities who are able to share intellectual property effectively in a beneficial way.
- 4.7** President Linton stressed the importance of distance education both pre- and post-pandemic. He would like to see this take place in the university where it makes sense for both undergraduate, graduate, and certificate-earning students. It is tough to connect these students to the university without them physically being here. He is looking for solution to bring the feeling of belonging on campus to our global campus.

#### **5.0 Updates from Advisors**

- I.** No report

#### **6.0 Reports from Committees & Representatives**

##### **6.1 Professional Development – Nirupama Kotian and Linah Alkotami**

###### **I. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- i.** Beach Museum of Art, Visual Thinking Strategies: Communicating Complexity Across Disciplines, March 8, 2:00 - 3:00pm, Zoom [https://ksu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0pcO6gpjwjGdNOzPxdgGotDE\\_od1Ff0VI7](https://ksu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0pcO6gpjwjGdNOzPxdgGotDE_od1Ff0VI7)
- ii.** Early career preparation: Getting the most of graduate school Non-STEM session Friday, April 1st, 11:30am-1:30pm, Zoom

- II.** GSC Professional Development Certificate: Graduate students and postdocs who participate in at least five professional development events hosted by GSC and complete the feedback survey sent at the end of the 2021-2022 academic year will be recognized with a GSC Professional Development Certificate. Visit our webpage to for more information!

##### **6.2 Research Forums - Adelaide Klutse & Zilfa Irakoze**

- I.** K-GRAD will be on March 30 and March 31<sup>st</sup>. More information on K-GRAD can be found on the GSC website. Venue and time for the events will be communicated later. All K-STATE Graduate Students are encouraged to participate in this great professional development opportunity. <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/student-council/research-forums/kgrad.html>

##### **6.3 Student Affairs –Cristiane Brazil**

- I.** Today we will have the first event of the Grad Money Hour Series with Jackie Koski and Powercat Financial! It will be through zoom at 5PM, and will be saving time to go over any questions you might have. This first workshop will

cover credit and student loans. The next workshop will cover investments and is planned to happen at the end of this month. <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/student-council/studentaffairs/>

**6.4 Awards & Recognitions – Leah Fields**

- I.** No report.

**6.5 Fundraising Committee – Nitin Mishra & Megan Underwood**

- I.** Fundraising will host trivia night at JP's Union Station on March 30<sup>th</sup> from 7-9. The theme will be Marvel and we are accepting teams of up to 5. There will be prizes for the top teams of at least \$100+ in value. Call for volunteers upcoming.

**6.6 Public Relations – Vinusha Wickramasinghe**

- I.** No report.

**6.7 Health Insurance – OPEN**

- I.** No report.

**6.8 Government Relations – Ramona Weber**

- I.** Bills introduced and assessed this month that will apply to graduate students will put into effect:
  - i.** Policies on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.
  - ii.** Campus free speech act: KSU to promote a lively and fearless freedom of debate despite those who reject or even loathe other's views.
  - iii.** Campus intellectual diversity act: promote hosts and speakers from diverse backgrounds to articulate opposing and widely held perspectives on public policy issues.
  - iv.** Instilling a student officer nominated by student advisory committee to sit on the board of regents
  - v.** Increasing the availability of computer science education in Kansas schools
  - vi.** Prohibiting board of regents to increase tuition for non-resident students.

**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.** All events take place via Zoom and can be registered for on the library website [here](#). There are three graduate events of note in March taking place through the library:
  - i.** March 7<sup>th</sup> 1:30PM: **Starting Your Literature Review in Sciences**
  - ii.** March 21<sup>st</sup> 1:30PM: **Intro to Survey Design**
  - iii.** March 28<sup>th</sup> 1:30PM: **Finding Social Sciences Data Sets**

**6.14 Military Affiliated Representative – Jaymi Peterson**

- I.** No report.

**6.15 Global Campus Representative – Cheryl Zelle**

- I.** No report.

**6.16 LGBTQ+ —Hunter Scott**

- I.** The K-State LGBT Resource Center and Diversity and Multicultural Student Affairs are seeking proposals for the Kansas LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference (April 22, 2022). Proposals should exemplify a commitment to uplifting and centering diverse queer voices. We aim to foster dialogue through issue-driven community conversations, to explore the latest research by and for LGBTQ+ people, and to provide education on a variety of practical and theoretical topics. Proposals are due March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- II.** Hunter will be meeting with Tammy Byland, K-State's newly appointed executive director for recruitment and admissions. As executive director for recruitment and admissions, Byland will be responsible for leading all K-State student recruitment and enrollment initiatives, including external recruitment, on-campus visitation, admissions evaluation, orientation and enrollment programs, competitive scholarship awarding and project management in support of the university's enrollment goals. Send any questions you have to her to Hunter at [lacoste@ksu.edu](mailto:lacoste@ksu.edu).

**6.17 Union Governing Board – Dominic Barnes**

- I.** The bank in the Union is closing and a discussion is occurring about the need for a physical bank.

**7.0 Open Leadership Positions:**

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

**8.0 Open Discussion**

**9.0 Reminders & Deadlines – Pingping Chen**

- 9.1** Officer nominations (all positions) are now open until March 28<sup>th</sup>.

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

**9.2** Travel Award deadline for May travel is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**10.0** Other Business – Pingping Chen

**11.0** Adjournment – Pingping Chen

**Appendix A: Meeting Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>
Leah Fields	<a href="mailto:leahmfields@ksu.edu">leahmfields@ksu.edu</a>
Cheryl Zelle	<a href="mailto:czelle@ksu.edu">czelle@ksu.edu</a>
Tyson Rodriguez	<a href="mailto:Tyrod333@ksu.edu">Tyrod333@ksu.edu</a>
Pingping Chen	<a href="mailto:pingpingchen@ksu.edu">pingpingchen@ksu.edu</a>
Hannah Rollison	<a href="mailto:hrollison@ksu.edu">hrollison@ksu.edu</a>
Adelaide Klutse	<a href="mailto:Adklutse@ksu.edu">Adklutse@ksu.edu</a>
Jackie Koski	<a href="mailto:Jackie937@ksu.edu">Jackie937@ksu.edu</a>
Ludmila Monteiro	<a href="mailto:Lmonteiro@ksu.edu">Lmonteiro@ksu.edu</a>
Cris Brazil	<a href="mailto:Cristianebrasil@ksu.edu">Cristianebrasil@ksu.edu</a>
Jack Sytsma	<a href="mailto:Sytsmaj134@ksu.edu">Sytsmaj134@ksu.edu</a>
Amber Pasket	<a href="mailto:apasket@ksu.edu">apasket@ksu.edu</a>
Berenice Jimenez Marin	<a href="mailto:jjimenezb@ksu.edu">jjimenezb@ksu.edu</a>
Laura Bain	<a href="mailto:bainla@ksu.edu">bainla@ksu.edu</a>
Leah Fields	<a href="mailto:leahmfields@ksu.edu">leahmfields@ksu.edu</a>
Linah Alkotami	<a href="mailto:lina93@ksu.edu">lina93@ksu.edu</a>
Taylor Vargo	<a href="mailto:tlsimons@ksu.edu">tlsimons@ksu.edu</a>
Ramona Weber	<a href="mailto:Monaw@ksu.edu">Monaw@ksu.edu</a>

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

[illegible]

**Appendix B: February 7th, 2021 General Meeting Minutes**

**GSC General Meeting Minutes**  
Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 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_Tool_kit/IOA_2020_The_Modern_Ombuds_Double_Sided_Brochure.pdf)

**III.** Flyer: [file:///C:/Users/kchoma/Desktop/22428\\_StudentOmbudspersonOnePager\\_5\\_GZ.pdf](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](mailto: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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> 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. 7<sup>th</sup> 1:30PM: **Starting Your Literature Review in Social Sciences and Education**

**ii.** Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> 1:30PM: **Managing Citations and References**

**iii. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> 1:30PM: Rights and Reuse in Research: A Primer**

**iv. Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

**9.0** Reminders & Deadlines – Pingping Chen

**9.1** Travel Award deadline for May travel is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**10.0** Other Business – Pingping Chen

**11.0** Adjournment – Pingping Chen