

iii. Average: \$340.63

3.5 GSC-SGA Liaison – Laura Bain

I. No report.

4.0 Advisor Reports

4.1 Graduate School, Dean Petrescu

I. Dean Petrescu shared that the two graduation ceremonies will be joined as stated in the K-State Today announcement. The ceremony will take place at 9am. Hannah Shear will be the speaker at the ceremony. She also mentioned there is a large interest in graduate education and encouraged the student leaders in GSC to continue sharing what value they get from their graduate education and expressed the importance of working with undergraduate students to promote the interest of all students.

4.2 Graduate School, Associate Dean Dissanayake

I. Associate Dean Dissanayake shared a message from President Meyers extending support to international students. View the message here: <https://dcm.k-state.edu/k-publisher/preview.php?preview=1&id=74993>

4.3 Graduate School, Dr. Megan Miller

I. Dr. Miller shared upcoming deadlines for scholarships and awards for graduate students.

- i.** The deadline for the University Distinguished Professors Graduate Student Award is May 3rd.
- ii.** The nomination deadline for the Distinguished Thesis and Distinguished Dissertation Award is May 7th.
- iii.** The application deadline for the Science Communication Fellowship is May 9th.
- iv.** BioKansas is hosting a webinar on planning for a productive summer. Find more information here: <https://biokansas.z2systems.com/np/clients/biokansas/event.jsp?event=905&>

5.0 Reports from Committees & Representatives

5.1 Professional Development – Nirupama Kotian and Linah Alkotami

I. Students who complete the professional development certificate requirements by April 30th, 2021 will be recognized in the virtual GSC Awards and Recognition Reception on May 7th. Students can still complete requirements after that (by May 7th) and receive the certificate, but they will not be recognized in the GSC Awards and Recognition Reception.

5.2 Awards & Recognitions – Ryan Urban and Jacob Miller

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- I. The Awards and Recognitions committee is finalizing the Awards and Recognition program and is currently waiting on college awards. They have been revising the script for the ceremony. As soon as they have the script set they will distribute it. The program starts at 1pm on May 7th.

5.3 Fundraising –Zilfa Irakoze

- I. The Fundraising Committee hosted 2 events this semester that were successful thanks to the help and participation of various GSC members. On March 9th, 2021 they hosted a fundraiser with Panda Express and on May 1st, 2021 they hosted a free 5k run/walk Grad Dash. They would like to thank all of those who made the event possible.

5.4 Student Affairs –Cristiane Brazil

- I. The Student Affairs Committee thanked all of the Grad Dash volunteers and participants for making the event a success. There were about 50 runners in the events and fun rewards were given out at the end of the race.

5.5 Research Forums – Adelaide Klutse

- I. No report.

5.6 Public Relations – Sara Savatovic and Barikisu Issaka

- I. No report.

5.7 Health Insurance – Piper Brandt

- I. No report.

5.8 Government Relations – Ramona Weber

- I. The Department of Education will receive a \$129.9 million increase from funding sources for the fiscal year 2021. This includes a \$244.6 million increase in SGF. K-State will receive \$160,080 for the KSU Polytechnic campus for the fiscal year 2021.

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 – Brooke Lynn Thingvold

- I. No report.

5.13 Library Services Representative – Dylan Sears

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I. No report.

5.14 Veteran Affairs – Jaymi Peterson

I. No report.

5.15 Global Campus Representative – Cheryl Zelle

I. No report.

5.16 Open Leadership Positions:

I. Fundraising Co-Chair

II. Union Governing Board

III. Student Affairs Co-Chair

IV. Research Forums Co-Chair

V. LGBTQ+ Advocate

6.0 Reminders & Deadlines – David Marcus

6.1 Travel Award deadline for August travel is June 1st.

6.2 GSC Leadership Retreat will take place on May 20th from 2-5pm.

6.3 Awards and Recognition ceremony will be on May 7th at 1pm.

7.0 Other Business – Pingping Chen

7.1 Pingping gave a reminder of the open GSC leadership positions for the Fall semester. Information about these positions can be found on the GSC website. Interested applications can also reach out to Pingping Chen with any questions.

8.0 Adjournment – Pingping Chen

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Appendix A: Meeting Attendance

Name	Email
David Marcus	davidmarcus@ksu.edu
Devin Brand	brandleedevin@ksu.edu
Isaac Barnhart	ihb@ksu.edu
Jacqueline Koski	Jackie937@ksu.edu
Jacob Miller	tree11@ksu.edu
Jaymi Peterson	lawrencejay@ksu.edu
Jessica Flores Bravo	floresbr@k-state.edu
Khalid Abdelaziz	abdelazizk@ksu.edu
Kiana Schulze	Kiana7@ksu.edu
Mari-Esther Edwards	Mariedwards09@ksu.edu
Olabisi Ekong	oaekong@ksu.edu
Pingping Chen	pingpingchen@ksu.edu
Hannah Rollison	hrollison@ksu.edu
Hannah Shear	heshear@ksu.edu
Megan Miller	mmmiller@ksu.edu
Adelaide Klutse	adklutse@ksu.edu
Alisa Pajser	alisapajser@ksu.edu
Allison Blomme	ablomme@ksu.edu
Berenice Jimenez	jimenezb@ksu.edu

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Billy Croslow	bcroslow@ksu.edu
Brooke Lyn Thingvold	bthingvold@ksu.edu
Chelsea Arnold	carnold4@ksu.edu
Claudia Petrescu	cpetrescu@ksu.edu
David Akinbo	dakinbo@ksu.edu
Ramona Weber	Monaw@ksu.edu
Raymond Thomas	rjthomas@ksu.edu
Tyson Rodriguez	Tyrod333@ksu.edu
Zilfa Irakoze	Zirakoze2@ksu.edu

Appendix B: April 5th, 2021 General Meeting Minutes

GSC General Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 5th, 2021, 12:00 – 1:00 PM,

Zoom: <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/91234567890>

1.0 Approval of Agenda – Hannah E Shear

1.1 Attendance was taken via Zoom registration (Appendix A).

1.2 Motion to Approve the Agenda.

- I.** Billy Croslow moved to approve the agenda.
- II.** Chelsea Arnold seconded the approval of the agenda.
- III.** Motion passed with 80% majority.

2.0 Approval of GSC General Minutes from March 1st, 2021 – Hannah E Shear

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

- I.** Billy Croslow moved to approve the minutes.
- II.** Pingping Chen seconded the approval of the minutes.
- III.** Motion passed with 82% majority.

3.0 Officer Candidate Introductions

3.1 President-Elect

I. David Marcus

- i.** David is a first-year Ph.D. student in the mathematics department. David shared his motivation for running for the President-Elect position is to make the day-to-day lives of graduate students better. He shared the impression of graduate students not feeling like they have a voice in the university. He spoke on his work experience outside of graduate education and representing the interests of others to higher level individuals.

II. Sabari Rajendran

- i.** Sabari is a second-year Ph.D. student in the chemistry department. Sabari shared his motivation for running coming from his past experience in a leadership position during his undergraduate career and the desire to

assist in these areas as a graduate student. He shared some other motivations for volunteering in leadership positions. He shared the desire to encourage international graduate students to be involved with the GSC.

III. The following questions were posed to and answered by the candidates:

- i.** How would you handle a situation that is important to grad students that is being "brushed off" by others, maybe those in higher administration?
- ii.** What is the most pressing "challenge" facing grad students and where do you see the GSC working to solve that issue?
- iii.** What do you want to accomplish when you become the president?

3.2 Secretary

I. Hannah Rollison

- i.** Hannah is a first-year graduate student in the English department. Hannah expressed her desire to be involved in the GSC from what she has heard about the organization. She also intends to achieve a career in student affairs after the completion of her program. She shared her experience and skillset in her English program and how it has prepared her to take on the Secretary position.

II. Mohammad Bisheh

- i.** Mohammad is a fourth-year Ph.D. student in engineering. Mohammad shared his experience participating the GSC and learning about all of the opportunities through the GSC newsletter. He shared awards he has achieved because of the communications provided by the GSC. He shared the skillsets and experiences he will bring to the GSC executive team.

III. Usama Mangrio

- i.** Usama was not in attendance. Bailey read their response provided from the election nomination form.

IV. The following questions were posed to and answered by the candidates:

- i.** What do you see is the hardest part about communicating with the GSC's constituent population and how would you handle this difficulty?
- ii.** Please share some specific examples of how you have managed numerous people/committees/responsibilities, any obstacles you overcame during the experience and how you continued to meet deadlines and encouraged others to meet deadlines.

3.3 Treasurer

I. Tyson Rodriguez

welcoming. He shared that seven of the eight graduate student seats have been filled for the upcoming term. Billy shared the importance of the SGA to the student body.

5.0 Advisor Reports

5.1 Graduate School, Dean Petrescu

5.2 Graduate School, Associate Dean Dissanayake

- I.** Associate Dean Dissanayake shared that two commencement ceremonies will be held on May 14th. She asked student to direct questions regarding commencement to Angie and Cynthia in the Graduate School office. She reminded students of the scholarships available through the GSC. She also shared opportunities through the university for emergency funds. She thanked the current executive team for their work over the past year and thanked the candidates for putting themselves out there and taking on a leadership position.

5.3 Graduate School, Dr. Megan Miller

- I.** Dr. Miller shared updates for award opportunities that were shared through the GSC email. She shared that this week was National Graduate Student Appreciation Week and expressed thanks to all leaders, member and other for supporting graduate students and encouraged students to continue working hard and advocating for all graduate students.

6.0 Reports from Committees & Representatives

6.1 Professional Development – Nirupama Kotian and Linah Alkotami

- I.** The PD Committee has been hosting events virtually this semester. Upcoming events include:
 - i.** Promoting Your Research on the Web, April 7th from 2 - 3 pm. In this seminar, participants will learn how to effectively promote research on the web using social media platforms such as ResearchGate and Twitter. Dr. Stephanie Shames, assistant professor in the Division of Biology, will share the benefits of these platforms and how they have helped her as a scientist.
 - ii.** BioKansas - Building Professional Skills for Diverse Career Paths, April 15th from 2 - 3 pm. Learn how to position yourself as a well-rounded professional by joining the interactive session Building Professional Skills for Diverse Career Paths. Learn strategies to demonstrate professional skills in resumes, cover letters and interviews.
- II.** The Professional Development Certificate will be given out to participants who attended five PD events in the academic year 2020 - 2021 and will be recognized in the GSC awards ceremony. Details coming soon.

6.2 Awards & Recognitions – Ryan Urban and Jacob Miller

- I.** The Awards and Recognition Committee is coordinating details for the GSC Awards and Recognition Ceremony to be hosted via Zoom. The Committee is asking presenters to prepare a video of the awards being presented to be shared during Zoom.

6.3 Fundraising –Zilfa Irakoze

- I.** The Fundraising Committee hosted a successful fundraiser with Panda Express. Thanks to everyone who participates.
- II.** On May 1st, the committee will host the Grad Dash event, a 5k run/walk. It will begin at 8 am, more details and sign-up forms for participation will be displayed in the GSC weekly emails, graduate school website and social media platforms.
- III.** Volunteers will be needed to help cover the running route, check-in station and other areas on the day of the event. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up here:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1WBQcVfQ74s6sE1QiauFV4cXI9lxaAac4Gr5hz5uU4j8/edit#gid=0>

6.4 Student Affairs – Chelsea Arnold and Cristiane Brazil

- I.** The Student Affairs Committee hosted an online workshop titled “Financial Tips and Tricks” in partnership with Powercat Financial on March 2nd. Tyson Rodriguez, a Powercat Peer Counselor, gave a presentation and answered student questions about taxes and tax season, understanding employment benefits, investing on a budget, keeping a budget, and credit scores. We had a moderate turn out with plenty of student engagement. Thank you all that attended.
- II.** The SA Committee is co-hosting the Grad Dash with the Fundraising Committee. They encourage graduate students to take a break and support those running the 5K at the finish line while enjoying snacks, meeting other graduate students, and enjoy some hopefully nice weather!

6.5 Research Forums – Adelaide Klutse and Grant Gardner

- I.** The Research Forums Committee is happy to announce K-GRAD was successfully organized and executed in the virtual format. There were three session for oral presentations and one session for poster presentations. The winners are as follows:
 - i.** Nar Rahabart – Agricultural Sciences
 - ii.** Kiana Schulze – Biological Sciences 1st
 - iii.** Ramona Weber – Biological Sciences 2nd
 - iv.** Cristiane Brazil – Physical Sciences

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- v. Nadeeshani Ratnayaka – Poster Session 1st
- vi. Upasan Dhakal – Poster Session 2nd

II. The winners will be awarded a scholarship and be recognized during the GSC Awards and Recognition Ceremony and in the K-State Today.

III. The Committee is grateful for Dr. Miller’s support in coordinating and the graduate student body’s participation.

6.6 Public Relations – Sara Savatovic and Barikisu Issaka

I. No report.

6.7 Health Insurance – Piper Brandt

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 LGBTQ+ Advocate – Roxie Kennedy

I. No Report.

6.12 Housing Representative – Julia Hagen

I. No report.

6.13 Parent/Guardian Advocate – Brooke Lynn Thingvold

I. No report.

6.14 Library Services Representative – Dylan Sears

I. No report.

6.15 Veteran Affairs – Jaymi Peterson

I. No report.

6.16 Global Campus Representative – Cheryl Zelle

I. No report.

6.17 Open Leadership Positions:

I. Fundraising Co-Chair

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II. Union Governing Board

7.0 Reminders & Deadlines – Pingping Chen

7.1 Officer Elections: voting opens this afternoon and remains open until April 19th.

7.2 Travel Award deadline for July travel is May 1st

8.0 Other Business – Hannah E Shear

9.0 Adjournment – Hannah E Shear