

**GSC General Meeting Minutes**

Monday, April 4<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.** Hunter Scott moved to approve the agenda.

**II.** Taylor Vargo seconded the approval of the agenda.

**III.** Motion passed with majority.

**3.0 Approval of GSC General Minutes from March 7th, 2021 – Pingping Chen**

**3.1** Motion to approve the minutes from March 7th, 2021 (Appendix B).

**I.** Taylor Vargo moved to approve the minutes.

**II.** Pingping Chen seconded to approve of the minutes.

**III.** Motion passed with majority.

**4.0 GSC Officer Candidates**

**4.1** Kortnee Nicole VanDonge

**I.** What is the definition of a leader? John Quincey Adams once said that “If your actions inspire others to dream MORE, learn MORE, do MORE and becomes MORE, you are a leader.” A leader is inspirational. Throughout my life, I have always aimed to inspire others through academic achievement, advocating for others, challenging mindsets, and many other facets. Though out of all these, my greatest honor has been to advocate for those who can not advocate for themselves. As an undergraduate student at K-State, I was given the opportunity to travel to Guatemala to listen to the stories of devastation that the people have endured and to spread these stories in the US. Now as a concurrent veterinary and Master of Public Health student, I serve as the committee chair for the Student/Faculty Affairs Committee for the veterinary school to give students a voice as well as the vice president for the Veterinarians as One Inclusive Community for Empowerment to foster a more diverse and inclusive field. Each of us has the potential to make an impact on the world, no matter our differences. Whether you are an international or native student, study agriculture or engineering, are a first-generation or legacy student, I will stand for each and every one of you. I hope to use my voice to not only advocate for graduate students but also to inspire others as well as your 2022-2023 Graduate Student Council President-Elect. Together, we can inspire MORE!

**4.2 Tucker Graff**

- I.** Tucker is a first year master students in grain science. He is running for GSC President. He wanted to get involved in the GSC to address the problems facing the GSC including post-pandemic involvement and the loss of leadership due to graduation. He has experience in leadership roles including presidency of other organizations and involvement in city government.

**4.3 Sara Partin**

- I.** Sara is a first year MA student in English. Sara is interested in GSC because of the passion shown by those within the organization. It is important for her to be an advocate for graduate students. She plans to use her communication skills to further the goals of the GSC and improve the lives of graduate students at K-State.

**4.4 Valentina Pereyra Picabea**

- I.** Valentina is a Masters student in Agronomy. She wants to get involved in an organization outside her program that better the lives of K-State graduate students. She is impressed by the objectives of GSC and wants to expand her network and build a better community for graduate students.

**4.5 Voting for candidates will be sent out later today until April 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**5.0 Updates from Advisors**

**I. Dean Petrescu**

- i.** We need graduate students to attend the meeting with the University accrediting agency, HLC. It is important to have graduate student representation in spaces where undergraduate students are present. The purpose is to get a sense of student needs and what the university can do to address student concerns. This will be a dialogue to move things forward that will be beneficial for students.
  - a.** More information about the accreditation: <https://www.k-state.edu/assessment/aboutus/accreditation/>  
Student open forum is April 11, 3:00-3:30pm, K-State Student Union Cottonwood Room. Email Dr. Miller mmmiller@ksu.edu
  - b.** Attending via Zoom will be requested so distance students may attend.

**II. Associate Dean Reznikoff**

- i.** Naomi Oreskes's talk "Why Trust Science" is on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 12pm.

**III. Dr. Miller**

- i.** Graduate Student Appreciation month events are ongoing: <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/awards/grad-appreciation.html>
- ii.** Child care scholarships close Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**6.0 Reports from Committees & Representatives**

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

- I.** The Early Career Preparation general panel will take place Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. Register [here](#).

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

- I.** No report.

**6.3 Student Affairs –Cristiane Brazil**

- I.** Today at 5PM (Zoom): Money Hour Series with Jackie Cummings Koski - Transitioning to work: Join the GSC and Powercat Financial in the last workshop of the Grad Money Hour to learn about how to prepare to get the job, salary realities, understanding employee benefits and more! Registration

link: <https://ksu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEocOiurjssE9GIroCHfVkuoK3wBmEteuOO>

- II.** GSC Noon Happy Hour was a success and will continue monthly in the future.

**6.4 Awards & Recognitions – Leah Fields**

- I.** Awards and Recognition Reception will be April 19th in the Alumni Center Ballroom beginning at 5pm! This event recognizes graduate students for select accomplishments made within the past year. The reception is expected to be 1.5-2 hours in duration. We are still looking for a moderator/emcee for the event, so if you are interested, please contact Leah Fields at leahmfields@ksu.edu.

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

- I.** We hosted Trivia Night at JP's on March 30<sup>th</sup>. We had three teams in attendance at the event. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped organize the event.

**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.

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**6.13** Library Services Representative – Dylan Sears

**I.** No report.

**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.** No report.

**6.17** Union Governing Board – Dominic Barnes

**I.** No report.

**7.0** Open Leadership Positions:

**I.** Health Insurance Representative

**II.** Housing Representative

**III.** Student Affairs Co-Chair

**IV.** Fundraising Co-Chair

**8.0** Open Discussion

**9.0** Reminders & Deadlines – Pingping Chen

**9.1** Remember to apply for graduation by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**9.2** Travel Award deadline for July travel is May 1<sup>st</sup>. You do **not** need to be accepted into the conference before submitting for funding.

**10.0** Other Business – Pingping Chen

**11.0** Adjournment – Pingping Chen

**Appendix A: Meeting Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>
Tucker Graff	tuckerg@ksu.edu
Sara Partin	separtin@ksu.edu
Hannah Rollison	hrollison@ksu.edu
Amber Pasket	<a href="mailto:apasket@ksu.edu">apasket@ksu.edu</a>
Ludmila Monteiro	<a href="mailto:lmonteiro@ksu.edu">lmonteiro@ksu.edu</a>
Hunter Scott	lacoste@ksu.edu
Kelly Shunje	<a href="mailto:knshunje@ksu.edu">knshunje@ksu.edu</a>
Cris Brazil	<a href="mailto:cristianekbrazil@ksu.edu">cristianekbrazil@ksu.edu</a>
Valentina Pereyra	valentinapereyra@ksu.edu
Kyle Fields	<a href="mailto:kmfields@ksu.edu">kmfields@ksu.edu</a>
Conrad Kabus	<a href="mailto:conradkabus@ksu.edu">conradkabus@ksu.edu</a>
Taylor Vargo	<a href="mailto:tlsimons@ksu.edu">tlsimons@ksu.edu</a>
Pingping Chen	<a href="mailto:pingpingchen@ksu.edu">pingpingchen@ksu.edu</a>
Cheryl Zelle	<a href="mailto:czelle@ksu.edu">czelle@ksu.edu</a>
Jackie Koski	<a href="mailto:Jackie937@ksu.edu">Jackie937@ksu.edu</a>
Tyson Rodriguez	<a href="mailto:Tyrod333@ksu.edu">Tyrod333@ksu.edu</a>
Erin Fashenpour	<a href="mailto:efashenpour@ksu.edu">efashenpour@ksu.edu</a>

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[illegible]

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

**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/j/9025888888>
- 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**

**6.9 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.

**6.10 Recreational Services – Kiana Schulze**

- I.** No report.

**6.11 Diversity Advocate – Raymond Thomas**

- I.** No report.

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**6.12** Housing Representative – Julia Hagen

- I. No report.

**6.13** Parent/Guardian Advocate – Chandima Wekumbura

- I. No report.

**6.14** 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**

**6.15** Military Affiliated Representative – Jaymi Peterson

- I. No report.

**6.16** Global Campus Representative – Cheryl Zelle

- I. No report.

**6.17** 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).

**6.18** 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>.

**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