Call to Order - At 12:00pm, Kara Dillard called the meeting to order
Groups Present: 17
Groups Absent: 15

Approval of Agenda – A quorum was not present, so this action was suspended

Approval of Minutes - A quorum was not present, so this action was suspended

Officer Reports –
President Kara Dillard noted that she and Rhett Mohler visited the K-State Alumni Center, and that they are forming 2 new awards for graduate students only, and that the Executive Committee is working with the Alumni Center to change the name of the Senior Sendoff to reflect that graduate students are welcome as well. Dillard also noted that all graduating graduate students will get a lapel pin from the Alumni Center at graduation. Finally, Dillard stated that Student Body President Dalton Henry will create an advisory board, and that a graduate student (likely president of GSC) will serve on it.

President-elect Megan Miller state that she has made the link to fellowships on the Graduate Student Resource Center on KSOL more obvious and accessible by placing it on the “announcements” section

Treasurer Steven Bellinger was absent, so Dillard reported the following account balances:
- SGA FY10 Travel Grant Funds
  - Spent $3520
  - Allocated $10,200
  - Available $7,650.34
- SGA FY10 Operating Funds
  - Spent $277.91
  - Allocated $0
  - Available $1,722.09
- KSU Foundation Funds $ 676.09

A quorum was not present, so approval of the balances was suspended

Secretary Mohler stated he created a new “group” in Zimbra to replace the expensive listserv through computing services, and that any problems created by this change should be brought to his attention

Advisor Reports –
Dr. Lease was present but had no report.

Graduate Student Senator Reports –
A plan to provide escorts to students walking on campus alone at night will go before SGA soon

Committee Reports –
Bellinger, chair of the Allocations Committee, was not present but Dillard said that all money for the fall travel allocations period has been awarded, though some remain on the wait list. Srikanth Renikunta, chairman of the Student Affairs Committee noted that a meeting of his committee will immediately follow the GSC general meeting. Megan Strain, chair of the Ice Cream Social Committee, had not report. Kara Ross, chair of the Professional Development Committee, was not present and so Dillard noted that several workshops were coming up soon. Miller noted that the last workshop went well. Megan Miller, chair of the KRF Committee, noted that submissions were down, and that she would send another email calling for abstracts.

**GSC University Rep. Reports –**

Lindsey Swoyer, representative to the Union Governing Board, was not present, so Dillard gave her report. Dillard said that the food service contract will be up at the end of the year, and that the Union was looking to either keep the current contract, or look to a competitor. She said that concerns should be sent to her or Swoyer.

The International Grad. Student Affairs Committee had no report.

**Review of the Motion to Change Travel Allocation Probation Policy** – The motion to change the travel allocations probation policy was discussed. One concern was that it wasn’t clear that an extension could be granted past two weeks with an email or other means of communication. Dillard assured the group that it would be made clear. Another concern was raised about how the waiting list is addressed. Dillard stated that exactly how it is addressed has not been decided yet, but that suggestions are welcome. It was noted that “of the end of my travel” should be inserted into the text – this is to better differentiate between the travel period at large and the student’s specific personal travel period. Dillard said she would address the comments and have them in the agenda for next month. The language of the motion, as debated above, was:

**GSC Travel Grant Probation Policy:**

To more efficiently distribute GSC travel grant funds, the GSC allocations committee will be enforcing the GSC travel grant probation policy based on the following guidelines:

Any student not meeting the deadline for submitting travel receipts within two weeks of the end of their travel supported by a GSC travel grant will be placed on probation for three subsequent GSC travel grant periods. The awardee will not be eligible for GSC travel grant awards during their probation period which will begin immediately following the current award period.

*For example, if an awardee fails to submit receipts for Fall 2009 travel, he or she will be ineligible to apply for a GSC travel grant until the following Winter 2010 GSC travel grant period.*

Any GSC travel grant previously awarded for the current academic year will immediately be revoked.

*For example, if a student has GSC travel grant awards for Fall 2009 and Winter 2009 travel, but fails to submit receipts for the fall period, that student will have their winter GSC travel grant revoked and will be ineligible for the three proceeding GSC travel grant periods from the Fall 2009 period.*

Extensions may be given for awardees who cannot meet the receipts submission deadline. Such extensions must be requested before the respective two week deadline after GSC supported travel. If an awardee voluntarily forfeits a GSC travel grant award (*e.g., the awardee is unable to, or chooses not to travel for the awarded travel period*), he or she must notify the GSC allocations
committee before the applicant’s respective two week submission deadline. If the awardee does not notify the GSC allocations committee by this deadline, he or she will become ineligible to receive a GSC travel grant for the three subsequent travel periods.

Reminders will be issued to GSC travel grant awardees via email at the beginning of each month during the GSC travel grant period. Awardees have two weeks after the end of their respective travel period to submit appropriate receipts to the OSAS office. If the awardee does not submit his or her receipts within two weeks, the GSC travel grant is forfeited and reallocated to students on the waiting list (divided between all at end of travel period or first come first served).

Policy approved by the Graduate Student Council on November 2, 2009

All applicants must agree to the following before having their online application considered by the GSC allocations committee:

"I have read the GSC travel grant rules and requirements, noting the two-week receipts submission (to the OSAS office) policy. If I do not submit my receipts within two weeks, I will be placed on GSC travel grant probation and ineligible for the subsequent three GSC travel grant periods."

GSC meeting with President Schulz – Kara outlined the previous meeting between the Executive Committee and President Schulz, including his support of KRF ($5,000) and of travel funding for graduate students ($10,000-15,000) to be increased yearly. Dillard also asked for ideas about what concerns to take to Schulz for the next meeting. John Dietrich from Sociology had the following concerns

1. Better health care (example of some not getting treatment until it is too late)
2. Who pays for students when they take longer than expected to get their degree
3. What are the routes that graduate students can take in contract disputes (e.g., the exploitation of GTAs) and what are the repercussions for the offending faculty member
4. Payroll problems are not being fixed or are fixed improperly
5. Insurance for international students in the summer – they must have it, but it is prohibitively expensive during the summer

Heather Barton from Biology had one concern

1. A pay discrepancy between GRAs and GTAs exists even though they do the same amount of work. So, even when it equals out after a tax return, it doesn’t help right then

Other departments’ representatives echoed these concerns, and added that these issues of salary and benefit have major repercussions for student recruitment. Lease added that some of these problems may be specific to the department, but that the graduate school will listen to any problems students have. Dillard then asked about holding a forum about graduate student concerns, and the group expressed some interest. Lease suggested that a survey be available through which students can report problems. One member suggested that this survey option should be done first to gauge interest, then, if interest was high, the forum could be held.

Group Report – No group reports

Announcements – Kara announced the items posted on the agenda and adjourned the meeting