

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC) MEETING – SEPTEMBER 5, 2012



GRADUATE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE BOARD

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Sheena Terrell

Sheena.terrell@smail.astate.edu

PRESIDENT

Usha Ramanathan

Ushapriyadarshini.ramanathan@smail.astate.edu

INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT

Krishna Bista

Krishna.bista@smail.astate.edu

TREASURER

Brittany Reese

Brittany.reese@smail.astate.edu

SECRETARY

I. CALL TO ORDER

- ☞ Meeting was called to order at 11:05am on September, 5, 2012 at the board room, Library, ASU by President Sheena who presided.
- ☞ Sign in sheet was passed instead of roll call. (See Figure A)
- ☞ A quorum was not established

II. REPORTS

☞ *President's Report:*

Sheena introduces herself and tells the body that she is president. Sheena explained that she was elected VP. Because of the absences of the president, the VP acts as president.

Officer update

- Vice President position was open. Sheena appoints Usha, in her absence, as Interim Vice President. Usha is very knowledgeable since she was graduate assistant for the council.
- President position is a graduate assistant position. Since Sheena already holds a graduate assistant position, one is now open in the GSC office upon review of the criteria to be determined in the next Executive meeting.
- Sheena directs the council on where to find the constitution. Sheena also explains that the GSC is here to serve the council in regards to support and resources.

Meeting with Dean Sustich

- Sheena and Usha plan to meet with Sustich by next meeting.

Meeting time change

- The meeting time will be moved to 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. to accommodate Usha's class schedule.

Graduate Assistant Position

- Person should have an interest in becoming VP for the next term.
- Sheena will check with Dr. Sustich about requirements.

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- Sheena passed around a sign in sheet for those that are interested in becoming the Grad Assistant. (See Figure B)

New Name Tags

- Looking to get new name tags for Sheena and Usha reflecting their new positions and will report back to general body if the cost is more than \$10/each.

☞ **Secretary's Report:**

- Secretary notified the council members that the minutes from the last meeting, 4-18-12 needed to be accepted.
 - Bill – Motioned for the acceptance of the minutes with any corrections.
 - Sindhu – Seconded it
 - Vote: Unanimously approved.

☞ **Treasurer's Report:**

- The operating budget from last meeting 4/18/12: \$10197.19
- And the outstanding travel fund from last meeting 4/18/12: \$946.81
- Any balances will be rolled over to the next semester.
- No purchases stated since the last meeting so the budget should still be around that number. More insight will be provided at the next general meeting.

☞ **Travel Fund Report:**

- Sheena stated that minutes from the last meeting indicated that 8 people were awarded travel funds for \$300.00.
- 1 person was awarded \$150 dollars.
- On 9-6-12, Sheena, Traci, and Sindhu held an unofficial meeting travel meeting and discussed changes to the application and criteria.
 - They made suggestions to revise the application. There only will be a hearing if there is a question about what was on application. Otherwise a hearing is not necessary.

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- They will review the process for getting application into Adobe so people can type applications.
- No hearings unless a problem with application

III. NEW BUSINESS

- Travel Fund Administrator
 - In need of travel fund administrator
 - Sheena held this position and it is now open.
 - Sheena discussed the duties of the travel fund administrator as indicated in the Constitution.
- Sheena calls for nominations for TFA
 - Liting Zhao nominated herself as TFA
 - No other nominations were voiced.
 - Sheena appointed Liting Zhao the new TFA
- A notice in the Digest will indicate 9-15 as the deadline to submit Travel Fund applications.
- Report Procedures
For next meeting, have reports typed to help the secretary. Reports are due by the Monday before the general body meeting. These reports should be emailed to the secretary.

☞ **Report on SGOC:**

- No Reports. Usha will work on getting a list of SGOC

☞ **Representative's Report:**

- No Reports

☞ **Ad-Hoc Committee's Report:**

- No Reports

III. OLD BUSINESS

- All clear from the year 2011-2012

IV. OPEN FLOOR

- ☞ Bill asked the council to look into adding a nepotism clause into the Constitution where immediate family and members of the same academic department cannot serve together on the executive council.
 - Sheena said the Executive Council will look at modifying to amend the policy about representatives so there is no favoritism.

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☞ Jose Tovar had several issues to bring to the floor

- International students are required to get insurance from the university, the price of insurance has increased
- International Tuition Fee. Most charges are either fee or tuition but this one is tuition and a fee. Suggest that the council clarify this
 - In exec meeting we will see what can be done and will report back findings in the next general body meeting
- Academic Excellence Fee- everyone gets it
 - Haven't been able to get an answer about what the fee is for and where it is going.

☞ To provide clarification to the body, Krishna explains

International insurance

- Explains the insurance requirement was around \$550 then went up to \$570. The amount that most companies offer is \$20 cheaper than school's fee.
- Krishna had no idea why the fee is increasing and has received no answer from the school about why it has increased and where the \$20-\$30 is going
- Reason for \$300 for tuition fee to help for international programs on campus.
- Price of international insurance varies and continues to increase.
- Talked to International program and spoke to Bailey Gambill in the past about the increase in fees.

V. ADJOURNMENT (SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2012 @ 11:47 AM)

Note in the minutes, the Action Fund was mistakenly called the Travel Fund throughout the meeting which was reflected in the minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Reese on 9-19-12

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Figure A

GSC Representative Enrollment Sheet -Fall 2012

Department	Name
Educational Leadership	Bill Lange
Environmental Sciences	
Heritage Studies	
Molecular Biosciences	Swayonali Halder Jose Tovar
Statistics	
Physical Therapy	
Agriculture	
Biology	
Business Administration	Liting Zhao
Business Technology	
Chemistry	
English	
History	
Music Education	
Physical Education	
Political Science	
Reading	
Sociology	
Communication Studies and Theatre	
Psychology and Counseling	Elizabeth Snow
Accountancy	
Arts	

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Communication Studies and Theatre	
Business Administration	
Communication Disorders	
Engineering Management	
Public Administration	
Rehabilitation Counseling	
Computer Science	
Mathematics	
Mass Communications	
Nursing	
Social Work	
Biotechnology	

Note: Please print your name and department in the table below if we have missed it in the list.

Center-Treasurer	Krishna Bista
International Students	Sindhu Kaimal
President	Sheena Terrell
Vice President	Usha Ramanathan
Secretary	Brittany Reese

Figure B

The following people expressed interest in the GSC graduate assistant position by signing a list.

Liting Zhao