

GSAC – Graduate Student Advisory Council Meeting

Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 2:30 p.m.

Cottonwood Room, Overman Student Center

Meeting Minutes:

- Welcome/Introductions – The following were in attendance:
Alex Lahasky-History; Tillie Fathbruckner-History; Trudy Hansen-TWL/CTE; Talon Thompson-Physics; Sacha Degraffenreid-Yates-Nursing; Khyrat Fadhel-guest graduate student; Albatul Alhamid-guest graduate student; Razan Alfadhel-guest graduate student; Pawan Kahol-Dean, Graduate & Continuing Studies; Brenda Roberts-TCHL; B. B. Stotts-Graduate & Continuing Studies

Department news includes:

History – New Faculty search is underway and candidates came to campus last month. Not sure on the selection process.

Physics – Quantum Systems Exams just occurred. This class is offered every 3 semesters so many Physics students in the class.

TWL/CTE – The KCCTE held their retreat last month in north Kansas City where they worked on their mission statement and vision for the center. It was a very productive meeting and included a guest speaker from JCCC.

TCHL – PSU Teacher Interview Day is scheduled for March 3, 2016, expecting more than 80 school districts to attend; Thursday, March 3, 2016 is also Apple Day – program at 3:00 p.m. in McCray Hall.

Dr. Kahol – Reported that PSU had 5 graduate students attend the Kansas Capitol Research Summit on February 2, 2016. Two students received awards (Nursing and Polymer Chemistry).

- Comments from Dr. Kahol – Research Colloquium, April 7, 2016
Dr. Kahol spoke to the group and encouraged each member to participate in the Colloquium and to encourage others to participate as well. He explained that research creates new knowledge and it comes in all types of quantities...large and small – from all disciplines – which could include scholarly projects, performances, creative things, research projects, etc. which create new data or make new conclusions on old data. PSU has all kinds of research going on in many departments across campus. Examples include HHPR research on athletes; Nursing and the standing desk; GIT virtual reality-creating 3D pictures of engines & cars; TCHL – studying the best pedagogy styles for today's students. The Colloquium is open to all undergraduate and graduate students. One can present a poster, oral presentation or both. This is a great way to showcase your work and improve your presentation skills. Last year we had 81 students participate and our goal for this year is 100 students. Complete the online Colloquium registration by March 11, 2016 at www.bit.ly/1SSCKBw.
- Review Funding Request applications
 - Zhuo Wang – Polymer Chemistry – Conference Attendance, presenting a poster
 - Charith Ranaweera – Polymer Chemistry – Conference Attendance, presenting a posterRequests were reviewed and approved for up to \$300 for both students to attend the Energy Material Nanotechnology conference in Orlando, FL on February 21-25, 2016.
- Review Event: Graduate Student Informational Gathering, Thursday, January 28 at 5:00 p.m.
Successful event with 54 people in attendance; had to add more chairs to the room, Sunflower Room seemed to be a good location.

- Review university committee assignments – report on any meetings:
 - University Academic Honesty Committee Nominee – Trudy Hansen – no report
 - Athletic Fee Council – Talon Thompson – no report, next meeting scheduled for March 2
 - Student Health Fee Council – Cara Russell, and Sacha Degraffenreid-Yates – no report – meeting held last Friday – Sacha could not attend but maybe Cara can report more at next meeting
 - Other

- New Business/For the Good of the Order – Dr. Kuehn asked the representative from the Physics Department to inquire about an equipment fund for the sciences. Student fees is not enough to keep up with the equipment costs. Some science departments have a lab fee, Physics does not. Dr. Kahol suggested that the department chair visit with their academic dean to inquire about assistance for funding.

- The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

- Next meeting: week of March 7th (later scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.)

Dates to remember:

- March 10, 2016 – New! Deadline for the Schick Midwest Quarterly/Graduate Studies Best Essay prize

- April 11, 2016 – Distinguished Thesis registration deadline – OK to self-nominate.

- April 7, 2016 – Research Colloquium at the Overman Student Center; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; deadline to register is Friday, March 11, 2016 – online registration

- April 25, 2016 – Graduate School and Research Banquet at 6:00 p.m.

2015-2016 Officers: President – Stuart Jeck, HHPR Vice President – Tillie Fathbruckner
Secretary – Cara Russell, Nursing