

# GSAC – Graduate Student Advisory Council Meeting

February 10, 2020 at noon

Kansas 1 Room – Overman Student Center

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## MINUTES

- Welcome/Introductions
- Guest – Dr. Steve Erwin, VP Student Life – Blue Parking Permit proposal status. Dr. Erwin shared with us that the proposal from spring 2019 was approved by the Parking Committee and he sees it moving forward for Fall 2020. There are logistical issues that need to be resolved first regarding the purchasing system for permits but he feels they can make it work. See attached thank you e-mail for more details of support.
- What is happening in your area/department? The Biology department will host Science Day on April 16, department chair is working on a project to showcase all Biology graduate students and their research, discussion regarding GA pay was had and the chair encouraged them to research GA pay at similar institutions, the first Wildlife Society Chapter meeting is this week; Come to the Communication Center in the Library for assistance and share this information with any students in your classes and the Communication department has several students attending a Strategic Communication Conference in Chicago; The HPR department will host the Dance Symposium on April 15; The Materials Science department is looking to host the American Chemical Society meeting at PSU; The Math department will host Math Relays in April, and a colloquium, plus two students went to the Jayhawk Sneak Peek to learn more about the PhD program at KU; -The Bryant Health Center hosted a violence prevention/human trafficking presentation on healthy relationships and J.P. and Clinical Psychology students will be presenting their research at a conference in Chicago in April. The MST program advisor, Dr. Goris is planning a trip to NASA for interested students, and GIT students are preparing for the CCA awards.  
2019-2020 Representatives: (those in attendance are highlighted)  
Biology – Abigail Morgan and Amy Hammesfahr  
Chemistry -  
Polymer Chemistry -  
Communication – Shane Adcock  
Engineering Technology – Filipe Santos Araujo and Rhett Lokey  
English – Cody Mick and Kayla McCollough  
HPR – Abbey Sommerauer and Josh Hudiburg  
History –  
MBA –  
Materials Science – Tenzin Ingsel and J. Choi  
Mathematics – Jordan Bailey and (Robbie Custer-December 2019 Grad)  
Music – Davis Erickson and Whitley Chesney  
Nursing – Bailey Kuhlman  
Physics – Brendan Schmitz and Merab Basilaia  
Psychology & Counseling – Jose (J.P.) Parlade and Megan Woodfield  
Teaching and Leadership (Education Leadership) –  
Teaching and Leadership (Education Technology)  
Teaching and Leadership (Special Education) –  
Teaching and Leadership (Reading, Secondary or Elementary) -  
Teaching and Leadership (ESOL) -  
TWL - Technology – Abhishek Singh and Rohan Dutta  
TWL - Technology/GIT - Kelsey Colwell  
TWL – Career and Technical Education -  
TWL – Human Resource Development -

Departments still needing representation: Chemistry, History, MBA, TCHL – online representation, HRD and Career & Tech Ed.

Staff/Faculty Advisor: **B. B. Stotts**

- University Committee Representation
  - University Academic Honesty Committee – Kelsey Colwell – no report
  - Library Services Committee – J.P. Parlade – Met last week, the library will have some additional renovations to the foyer area and will be hosting an event for Valentine’s Day on Friday. Also highlighted our database systems at the meeting.
  - Information Technology Council (ITC) – Manaswini Bhamidipati – no report
  - Student Sustainability Fund Committee – Amy Hammesfahr – no report, have not met this semester
  - University Committee on Student Learning – Shane Adcock – no report, will meet later in February
  - Athletic Fee Council – (meets in the spring)
  - Health Fee Council – (meets in the spring) - Abbi Morgan – no report
  
- GSAC Funding Request – [4 requests – 3 Conference & 1 Thesis]  
*All funding requests were approved at the February 10, 2020 meeting*
  - Kali Boroughs, Biology, Conference Presentation at the Kansas Natural Resource Conference (KNRC) on January 30-31, 2020 in Manhattan, KS; Title: Have Neosho Madtom densities responded to improved water quality in the Spring River in Southeast Kansas; Request: up to \$300
  - Tiffany Eldridge, Psychology, Thesis request, Topic: Novel Interventions for Prejudice Reduction; Thesis Request: up to \$300
  - Jonghyun, Choi, Materials Science, Conference Presentation at the Material Research Society (MRS) Spring Meeting and Exhibit on April 13-17, 2020 in Phoenix, AZ; Title: Metal Organic Framework (MOF) derived Cobalt Sulfide and Colbalt Ozide for Efficient Electro Catalyst; Request: up to \$300
  - Tenzin Ingsel, Materials Science, Conference Presentation at the Material Research Society (MRS) Spring Meeting and Exhibit on April 13-17, 2020 in Phoenix, AZ; Title: Metal Organic Framework (MOF) derived Cobalt Sulfide and Colbalt Ozide for Efficient Electro Catalyst; Request: up to \$300
  
- Meeting Dates/Times for this semester – After some discussion it was recommended to select a consistent meeting date each semester to help with communication and planning. Spring 2020 meetings will be the second Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Our future scheduled meetings are March 9, April 13 and May 11 at 2:00 p.m. in the Kansas 1 Room, OSC.
  
- Additional Tasks/Events
  - GSAC Representatives to staff a booth in the Gorilla Crossing area of the student center – “Gab with a Grad at the Crossroads – Come learn more about Graduate School”. Dates are Feb. 5, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, and May 6 from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. See sign-up sheet. The following times are covered:  
March 4, 11-12 Jordan Bailey and Kelsey Colwell and 12-1 Jordan Bailey  
April 1, 11-12 Ammy Hammesfahr and 12-1 Shane Adcock
  - GSAC By-laws document – Exec team is working on updating this document. Will have at next meeting for first reading in March, second reading and approval in April.
  - Created a Canvas Community for GSAC members – please join.
  - Shane will look into activating GSAC with Gorilla Engage
  - Graduate School Essentials information session – Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sunflower Room, OSC
  - Collegio – Graduate School News

- Old Business – None
- New Business/For the Good of the Order  
Increased communication about the group was discussed. Several suggestions were made, if you cannot attend a GSAC meeting please send another person from your program to the meeting, create a poster about GSAC with meeting dates and times, and activate Gorilla Engage and post information through the Gorilla Engage system.
- Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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**Important Dates:**

- February 13, 2020 – Graduate School Essentials – What you need to know from Admission to Graduation, 5:00 p.m. in the Sunflower Room, OSC
- February 19, 2020 – PSU Teacher Interview Day – Weede
- February 26, 2020 – Graduate Student Capitol Research Summit in Topeka, KS
- March 4, 2020 – Graduate Table at the Crossroads, 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.
- March 6, 2020 – Registration Deadline for the PSU Research Colloquium
- March 12, 2020 – PSU Spring Career Day – Plaster Center
- March 23-27, 2020 – SPRING BREAK
- April 1, 2020 - Graduate Table at the Crossroads, 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.
- April 8, 2020 – PSU Research Colloquium
- April 22, 2020 – Graduate School and Research Awards Banquet, 6:00 p.m. in the Ballroom, OSC
- May 6, 2020 - Graduate Table at the Crossroads, 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.

**GSAC Officers 2019-2020:**

President: Shane Adcock    \*\*    Vice President: Megan Woodfield    \*\*    Secretary: Kelsey Colwell

## Thank you

B B Stotts <bstotts@pittstate.edu>

Fri 2/14/2020 10:22 AM

To: Steven Erwin <serwin@pittstate.edu>

Cc: Pawan Kahol <pkahol@pittstate.edu>

Steve,

On behalf of GSAC - Graduate Student Advisory Council, we would like to thank you for attending our meeting on Monday, February 10, 2020 and sharing more details about the proposal process for G.A.'s to purchase a Blue Parking Permit. We were very excited to learn that the proposal was supported and approved by the Parking Committee last spring and to learn that it is moving forward. You mentioned that perhaps it could go into effect Fall 2020 once some logistical issues were resolved. Please let us know if GSAC can assist you in any way.

Again, here are some key points for support of the proposal.

- G.A.'s are considered staff on the PSU Campus through the HR system. They are employees of the University, instructors in the classroom, and follow the same expectations and guidelines as other adjunct instructors and staff on campus.
- All other KBOR regent schools allow their G.A.'s to have a staff-parking permit.
- Allow us to give our G.A.'s a little more respect for the job they do and to show that they are valued. GTA's are a great resource to the University. (G.A.'s do not earn a high salary and this benefit would be appreciated; GTA's impact a lot of students and support faculty with important research)
- Safety – increase the safety of our students who work late hours.
- PSU has allowed G.A.'s to have a staff-parking permit in the past.
- Could produce increased revenue for the Parking Permit budget.

Thank you for your support of all graduate students at Pitt State.

Sincerely,  
B. B. Stotts

### **B. B. Stotts**

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