

October 8, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.
Kansas 1 Room, OSC and Zoom
Second meeting of the semester

MINUTES

- I. Welcome – Jenifer opened the meeting at 1:02 p.m. We had nine people attend the meeting via Zoom and six people met in-person in the Balkans Room, OSC, for a total of 15. Each person introduced themselves and told what program they represent.
- II. Minutes from last meeting, September 24, 2021, were e-mailed to the group on September 28, 2021. No changes or corrections to the minutes were suggested, minutes approved.
- III. Election of Officers – Call for nominations – Megan Munger communicated that she is interested in a leadership role (President or Secretary). Jenifer asked the group if others were willing/interested to hold a position. Mary Marine and Alexis Melson both volunteered to serve. After some discussion of the duties of each position, the following slate of officers was approved. Congratulations to our new officers!! Thank you!
 - a. President – Megan Munger
 - b. Vice President – Mary Marine
 - c. Secretary/Treasurer – Alexis Melson
- IV. University Committee Representation/Reports – All graduate representative name and contact information has been given to the committee chairs. You should be contacted by someone soon regarding upcoming meetings.
 - a. Library Services Committee - Alexis Melson – No report.
 - b. Academic Honesty Committee – Emely Monsour – No report.
 - c. Student Learning Committee - Megan Munger - No report.
 - d. Information Technology Council (ITC) – Saivardhan Banoor – Reported that he has been contacted by the committee chair and the next ITC meeting is scheduled for next week. The ITC minutes for the September 30, 2021 meeting:
<https://www.pittstate.edu/it/information-technology-services/information-technology-council.html#undefined1>
- V. Old Business
 - a. Gorilla Engage – Jenifer mentioned that she plans to update the GSAC Gorilla Engage page with the list of new officers. She also shared an e-mail we received from a Homecoming Candidate, Bella L'Heureuz, soliciting a vote from members.
 - i. Homecoming Activities – October 11 – 16, 2021 -
<https://www.pittstate.edu/alumni/events/homecoming.html>
 - b. GSAC Committee Reports
 - i. Communication & Outreach – Michelle Cronk. We are looking for others to help on this committee. Jenifer will help Michelle with the Facebook page and login.
 - ii. Events – Mary Marine and Jaquelyn Bouchie plan to meet soon regarding event ideas and will report back to the group at the next meeting.
 - iii. Ad Hoc – as needed

VI. New Business

- a. Conference Funding and Thesis Funding – The link is now updated on the Graduate School/GSAC webpage. B. B. explained that Conference and Thesis Funding is available and encouraged the group to let their Program Advisors know about this resource. Individuals can receive this funding once per academic year.
- b. Commencement – B. B. shared the following information regarding December 2021 commencement and the committee's efforts to provide students with a meaningful experience.
 - -In general, the format will be the same as May commencement, but will allow some seating in arena.
 - -All ceremonies are on Friday, December 10th Times as follows:
 - o 3:30pm - COT (grad and undergrad)
 - o 5pm - COB (grad and undergrad)
 - o 6:30pm - COAS (grad and undergrad)
 - o 8pm - COE (grad and undergrad)
 - Graduate students will follow undergraduate students and will be hooded on stage
 - -Up to 6 guests to walk with graduate in processional.
 - -Additional guests will be seated in arena (South and East bleachers) by section number.
 - -Handicapped seating will be available in arena
 - -Pre-recorded messages will play in arena using new video board
 - -Faculty will be invited to line the processional walk

VII. For the Good of the Order / Announcements / Department/Program News

- a. Chemistry department has colloquium most Fridays 3pm with student and professional speakers if anyone is ever interested
- b. HRD Four State Conference – October 29, 2021 - <https://www.pittsburgstatehrd.org/>
- c. Local Saturday fun – October 9 at 5:00 p.m. – FESTA Italiana at Frontenac Sports Complex
- d. Additional comments regarding resources available for quality housing was discussed. Searching for a place on campus to provide off-campus housing resources. Feel that this is a resource which is important to Graduate Students and the topic has been brought to the attention of SGA.

VIII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

A link of the recorded meeting:

<https://pittstate.zoom.us/rec/share/4K1U0N8dHs4oFKhA9oYB6rfS7vM9uCtO71k1NwXb39VI VaAbsJMQjPmV9KZoN5RT.fIVMGrJULYGQgjmd->

Next meeting will be on November 12, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. – In-person (Balkans Room, OSC) or via Zoom.