

Graduate & Professional Student Council

General Assembly Agenda

March 6th, 2018 5:30

Koldus, Rm 144

I. Call to Order

Quote of the meeting:

‘This quote was taken out of context’

-Randall Munroe

GPSC History: In 1971, the GPSC began investigating the possibility of having graduate students serve on university committees to increase graduate student voice.

II. Procedure and Governance

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Speaker’s Podium

GPSC Officer Candidate Introductions

V. Pending Business

VI. New Business

Immigration Presentation – Brenna Lin

Presented by Brenna Lin and Fernando Lavallo

-H1B Visa – employer sponsored

-Currently there is a cap of 65,000 + 20,000 for advanced USA degree holders from the (85,000 total)

-Currently it is a lottery system (not merit based)

-Recommendations:

-Exemption from the cap for USA advanced degree holders

-Merit based H1B visas

Long discussion followed

Motion to move to the next item on the agenda

i. Increasing H1B Visas Resolution

Resolution was read out loud by Fernando

Discussion period followed

Friendly amendment: Dr. Carol Fierke added to the delivery list

Friendly amendment: change title to “temporary”

Motion to end discussion

Resolution was tabled (voice vote)

ii. Reforming H1B Visas Resolution

Read by Fernando

Discussion

Motion to table

Discussion

Resolution was tabled (voice vote)

iii. Increasing EB Visas Resolution

Resolution was read by Fernando Lavallo

Motion to table

Resolution was tabled: standing vote of 35-5-1 Motion was tabled

Motion to hold special meeting

Discussion

-Not during spring break

Motion was not passed (vote vote, unanimous)

Student Org Travel Award Resolution – Matthew Etchells

Read out loud by Matthew

Discussion

-Friendly amendment: typo fixed

-Friendly amendment (from Chris): changing the Whereas to Let it be Resolved

Motion to move to previous question

Vote: 32-9 (standing vote)

Resolution was passed

VII. Voice Reports

a. Committees

b. Department, Program, or Organization Announcements

Physics and Engineering Festival, Saturday April 7th, Mitchell buildings
To volunteer, find more info at <http://physicsfestival.tamu.edu/>

GSO Research Symposium April 20th, Health Professions Education Building
Register at https://tamuhsc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1LCgjOufuYNf7CZ by March 30th at 5pm, direct questions to COM-GSO@tamuhsc.edu

Fernando: College Station City Council Meeting update: bicycle parking ordinance (modifying bicycle parking in commercial areas)

Angelique: HLGSA profit share at Hopdoddy: same day as this social, 7 pm.

Student Affairs Fee Advisory Board Meetings and Interviews: 2 grad students on the SAFAB board (soon to be 3)

International Women's Day conference – tomorrow (Wednesday March 7, 2018). Wilmarie is still looking for

Vet School Open House: March 24, 9-4 pm

End of the year awards time

Ecological Integration Symposium – April 5+6

VIII. Standing Committee Reports

a. Awards

Summer Travel Awards

-Deadline to apply is April 6th

b. External Legislative Affairs

Prosper Act

-See Prosper Act document

-Senator Patty Murray is taking stories (contact info is in the document)

c. Internal Legislative Affairs

Cost of Living Project

-How much is cost of living changing, going up over the past few years

-Is the salary adequate for cost of living

-Comparing cost of living to other Universities in Texas

d. Marketing and Communications

i. Pop-up Banner: Call for images (send to marketing@gpsc.tamu.edu by 3/16)

-Preliminary draft of the pop up banner

-send images to include on that

ii. GPSC Facebook

-Send to Francisco if you want your flyer put on the Facebook page

- e. Recruitment
- f. Diversity and Inclusion
- g. Programming

Community of Scholars April 10-12 (dinner on 10th), RSVP at tx.ag/COS2018

- h. Quality of Life
- i. Research
- j. International Student Affairs

X. Special Committee Reports

- a. Student Research Week
 - Coming up in 2 weeks!!
 - Every single college has committed funding
 - Competitors from every single college (except nursing)
 - 850 presenters
 - Largest SRW ever!

- b. Grad Camp

XI. Officer Reports

- a. Vice President of University Affairs
- b. Vice President of Information
- c. Vice President of Finance
- d. Executive Vice President
 - i. GPSC Officer Applications

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5WOKHIyRmNvdjk1TE56cnV5Y3c/view>

Apply on the GPSC Website, Governance and Membership > Election Information > Officer Application

- Q&A on March 20th
- Election on April 3rd

Motion to extend application deadline to March 13th

Passed (voice vote)

- ii. Elections
- e. President
 - i. IRB

Sarah and Matthew had meeting with IRB last week

- They would like a flowchart made to help clarify the IRB process
- Sometimes the IRB process prevents students from graduating

-Forming a special committee to just make the IRB process flowchart

ii. GPSLCG

- Graduate and Professional Student Leaders Communication Group: in collaboration with Dr. Pugh
- Round table discussion group

AGPCC

ASTEP

The Battalion

BGSA

GPSC

HLGSA

IGSA

ISA

LGBTAMU

SGA – SBP

Student Veteran's Association

WISE

CSSA

Reaching out to:

Pakistani Student Association

Korean Graduate Student Association

Persian Student Association

Any other groups?? If you feel any groups are missing – let Matthew know

XII. Advisor Comments

-Community of Scholars:

-April 10: Dinner

-April 11: networking social

-April 12: Aggie graduate community family fun night

XIII. Administrative Comments

XIV. Announcements

Meet with your Internal Committees

XV. Adjournment

Graduate and Professional Student Council
Texas A&M University
Student Services at White Creek
1257 TAMU
College Station, TX 77483-1257

Advocacy | Community Building | Research