

**GSA Council Meeting - List of Reports Circulated**  
Monday, August 21, 2017  
**Cancelled**

	<b>Attached Numbered Pages</b>
1. Minutes from the 17 July 2017 GSA Council Meeting <i>Attachments:</i>	
• Minutes from the 17 July 2017 GSA Council Meeting	<b>1.0 - 1.6</b>
2. President ( <b>Babak Soltannia, GSA President</b> )	
i. President's Report	<b>2.0 – 2.1</b>
ii. GSA Board	<b>2.2</b>
iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee ( <b>no meetings this reporting period</b> )	
iv. GSA Governance Committee	<b>2.3</b>
3. Vice-President Academic ( <b>Firouz Khodayari, GSA Vice-President Academic</b> )	
i. Vice-President Academic's Report	<b>3.0</b>
4. Vice-President External ( <b>Masoud Khademi, GSA Vice-President External</b> )	
i. Vice-President External's Report	<b>4.0</b>
ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee ( <b>no meetings this reporting period</b> )	
5. Vice-President Labour ( <b>Sasha van der Klein, GSA Vice-President Labour</b> )	
i. Vice-President Labour's Report	<b>5.0 - 5.2</b>
ii. GSA Negotiating Committee ( <b>no meetings this reporting period</b> )	
iii. GSA Labour Relations Committee	<b>5.3</b>
6. Vice-President Student Services ( <b>Royle Feng, GSA Vice-President Student Services</b> )	
i. Vice-President Student Services' Report	<b>6.0</b>
7. Senator ( <b>Trent Nabe, GSA Senator</b> )	
i. Senator's Report ( <b>no written report at this time</b> )	
8. Speaker ( <b>Joshuha Connauton, GSA Speaker</b> )	
i. Speaker's Report ( <b>no written report at this time</b> )	
9. Chief Returning Officer ( <b>Darcy Bemister, GSA Chief Returning Officer</b> )	
i. Chief Returning Officer's Report ( <b>no written report at this time</b> )	
10. GSA Nominating Committee ( <b>Radim Barta, GSA Nominating Committee Chair</b> )	
i. GSA Nominating Committee Report	<b>10.0 - 10.1</b>
11. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee ( <b>Leigh Spanner, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Chair</b> )	
i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report ( <b>no written report at this time</b> )	
12. GSA Management ( <b>Julie Tanguay, GSA Associate Director and Acting Executive Director</b> )	
i. Executive Director's Report	<b>12.0 - 12.4</b>

**GSA Council Meeting MINUTES**  
Monday, July 17, 2017 at 6:00 pm  
2-100 University Hall, Van Vliet Complex

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Babak Soltannia (President)	Michael Armstrong (Chemistry)	Kris Joseph (Library & Info Studies)	Janita Frantsi (Phys Ed & Recreation)
Firouz Khodayari (VP Academic)	Fereshte Talaei (Civil & Environmental Engineering)	Michelle Michelle (Math & Statistical Sciences)	Sneh Monga (Physical Therapy)
Royle Feng (VP Student Services)	Natalie Mahé (Communication Sciences & Disorders)	Fahed Elian (Medical Genetics)	Drew Shepherd (Physics)
Darcy Bemister (Chief Returning Officer)	Melissa Woghiren; Michael Disyak (Computing Science)	Ben Kostiuik (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	Yilun Wu (Physiology)
Dasha Smirnow (Councillor-at-Large)	Benjamin Denga (Educational Policy Studies)	Richard Feddersen (MLCS)	Megan Aiken (Political Science)
Andrews Tawiah (Councillor-at-Large)	Chantal Labonté (Ed Psych)	Mischa Bandet; Hailey Pineau (Neuroscience)	Michal Juhas (Psychiatry)
Brayden Whitlock (Councillor-at-Large)	Nicole Jamison (Elementary Education)	Jaclyn Hutchinson (Occupational Therapy)	Kevin Lien (Public Health)
Talisha Chaput (Anthropology)	Neil Prather (History & Classics)	Radim Barta (Oncology)	Cassidy Fleming (Rehabilitation Science)
Swai Mon Khaing (Biochemistry)	Mohammed Abdul-Bari (Human Ecology)	Ty Kim; Ashley Bahry (Paediatrics)	Ryan Stanfield (Renewable Resources)
Michele DuVal (Biological Sciences)	Kenzie Gordon (Humanities Computing)	Andrew Woodman (Pharmacology)	Yangzhe Cao (Resource Economics & Environmental Sociology)
Rongrong Zhang (Business PhD)	Shivam Srivastava (Internetworking)	Hamdah Al Nebaihi (Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences)	Robert Piazza (Secondary Education)
Karl Roesner (Cell Biology)	Ruqayyah Almirzaq (Laboratory Medicine and Pathology)	Vladimir Dukic (Philosophy)	Antonio Bruni (Surgery)

Guests: Tom Gee (GSA Auditor, Collins Barrow LLP); Heather Capel (Physiology)

Acting Speaker Roy Coulthard in the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

**Roll Call****1. Roll Call of Council Members in Attendance****Approval of Agenda****2. Approval of the 17 July 2017 Consolidated Agenda**

Members had before them the 17 July 2017 Consolidated Agenda, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. N Prather **MOVED**; K Gordon **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes****3. Minutes from the 19 June 2017 GSA Council meeting**

Members had before them the 19 June 2017 GSA Council Minutes, which had been previously distributed on 7 July 2017. M Armstrong **MOVED**; F Khodayari **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

**Changes in Council Membership**

#### 4. Changes in GSA Council Membership

- i. **Introduction of New Councillors:** J Hutchinson (Occupational Therapy); J Frantsi (Physical Education and Recreation); N Jamison (Elementary Education); H Pineau (Neuroscience); M Disyak (Computing Science); R Feddersen (Modern Languages and Cultural Studies).

- ii. **Farewell to Departing Councillors**

This was the last meeting for a number of Councillors: last meeting for Ashley Bahry (Paediatrics).

#### Councillor Announcements

##### 5. Councillor Announcements

Speaker announced that due to lack of sufficient agenda items and expected low attendance, the August meeting of GSA Council was cancelled.

#### Action Items

##### 6. 2016-2017 GSA Audited Financial Statement

Babak Soltannia (GSA President) presented the item and introduced the guest (Tom Gee, GSA Auditor).

**MOTION BEFORE COUNCIL:** That the GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2016-2017 GSA Audited Financial Statements.

T Gee was happy to present good financial statements. He noted that he would make general comments and that we welcomed questions.

He noted that Collins Barrow LLP (CB LLP) conducted a standard independent audit of the GSA and were satisfied that the statements comply with Canadian standards for not-for-profits. He stated that the GSA was in an overall strong position and had improved their financial position from the previous year. He added that the 2016 ratio was 1.96:1 and that not-for-profits should ideally have a ratio of 2:1 to have more than enough resources to cover liabilities. He indicated that the 2017 ratio was 2.34:1, which was a strong overall position.

In the Statement of Operations, T Gee noted pointed out the operating surplus and explained that this was due to the increase in total revenues. He further explained that when overall increasing revenues and no changes in expenses remain the same results in an operating surplus. He specified that there was significant growth in the Graduate Student Support Fund (GSSF) and in administrative and GSA fees but that GSA expense remained flat. He added that, a few years ago, there used to be an operating deficit and that changes implemented by the GSA staff corrected this. He noted that the GSA was operationally sound. He added that positive reserves for not-profit organizations were good as they could be reinvested in existing and future programs.

T Gee noted that the Statement of Cash Flows showed that cash increased by \$293,000 in 2017 compared to a reduction in 2016. He added that the financial situation of the GSA had improved over the previous year.

M Armstrong asked how the GSA increased their surplus. T Gee explained that revenues increased by \$130,000, the expenses remained flat and that this resulted in an increase in surplus.

T Gee concluded that every year following the audit, he issued a letter to management to identify areas of improvement for internal processes. He indicated that, this year, there was no recommendations and added that the GSA had strong and budget and processes.

**MOTION:** That the GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2016-2017 GSA Audited Financial Statements.  
B Soltannia **MOVED**. N Prather **SECONDED**.

Motion PASSED unanimously

##### 7. GSA 2017-2018 Budget and Expenditure (Quarterly) Report

Babak Soltannia (GSA President) presented the item.

**MOTION BEFORE COUNCIL:** That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA 2017-2018 Budget and Expenditure (Quarterly) Report.

B Soltannia noted that the quarterly financial report had been reviewed in depth by the GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC). He noted that the data contained within the report reflected the first two months of the GSA's current fiscal year and that, according to estimates, the 2017-2018 GSA Budget was on track and it was anticipated to remain on track for the rest of the year.

**MOTION:** That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA 2017-2018 Budget and Expenditure (Quarterly) Report. B Soltannia **MOVED**. F Khodayari **SECONDED**.

Motion PASSED unanimously

#### 8. GSA Board 2017-2018 Strategic Work Plan

Babak Soltannia (GSA President) presented the item.

**MOTION BEFORE COUNCIL:** That GSA Council, on the unanimous recommendation of the GSA Board, **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA Board 2017-2018 Strategic Work Plan, as attached.

B Soltannia noted that the GSA Directly-Elected Officers had started working on the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) in early May and that the 2017-2018 Plan built upon the 2016-2017 SWP. He reported that GSA Board (GSAB) reviewed the SWP, that the GSA had planned a Town Hall to discuss the SWP, and that the SWP was discussed with GSA Council in June. B Soltannia reported that comments and suggestions received from GSA Council had been incorporated into the SWP, and invited additional comments or questions from GSA Council members.

D Smirnow asked why the cover letter still noted that the team goal to examine funding packages was restricted to all thesis-based students, when the suggestion was raised at the previous GSA Council meeting to also examine funding packages for course-based students. B Soltannia responded that they had decided to start working on the proposal to examine funding packages only for thesis-based students as a starting point and that these questions surrounding funding for course-based students could be explored once the funding review started.

D Smirnow followed up by asking why the funding review was separated into thesis-based and course-based graduate students. B Soltannia responded that the majority of financial support from the University and departments went towards thesis-based graduate students and that currently the majority of course-based graduate students paid tuition but did not receive funding. F Khodayari noted that the GSA was already aware that course-based graduate students did not receive funding but that more data was needed to better understand thesis-based graduate students funding, since the funding situation for these graduate students varied greatly by department. F Khodayari indicated that after completing this first step, the next step would be to consider the creation of a minimum amount of funding.

D Smirnow asked why active participation on the Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIFs) Oversight Committee was singled out and highlighted as an individual goal for the GSA President's portfolio, instead of other committees. F Khodayari responded that in previous years, the GSA President, the GSA VP Academic, and the GSA VP Student Services had attended these committee meetings. He noted that it was highlighted as a goal for the year due to University's budgetary cuts, which could result in cuts to services and that, as these services are partially or fully funded through MNIFs, cuts to services would be discussed at the MNIFs Oversight Committee. He indicated that these important discussions were the reason for highlighting that specific committee in the individual portfolio goals.

D Smirnow followed up by asking if only the GSA President would serve on the MINF Oversight Committee and F Khodayari responded that there would continue to be three GSA representatives on the committee, and noted that the committee would start meeting in September.

D Bemister asked if there were any suggestions as to how the University would pay for minimum funding package, as the University would see this as an increased expense, and that the request for minimum funding packages might not be successful as a result. F Khodayari responded that, while they did not know if the University would have the funds to establish minimum funding packages, in past conversations with senior administration the DEOs had emphasized the role that minimum funding packages could have in marketing the University to both domestic and international students. He also noted that they could examine potential sources of funding for these packages in the future.

D Bemister asked if there would be value in starting an *ad hoc* committee to look at current graduate student funding and costs and noted that a student perspective on comparatives and living costs could be useful, and might indicate if graduate student

funding was currently an issue at the U of A. F Khodayari responded that if the review was initiated it would be something to consider.

A Tawiah noted that during the June GSA Council meeting, there was discussion about including more specific timelines for achieving particular objectives. He indicated that currently most timelines were listed as 2017-2018. A Tawiah asked if more specific timelines for projects could be included. F Khodayari responded that some projects, such as participation on the MINFs Oversight Committee, would potentially be completed before December, but that other projects, such as the funding package review, could take two – three years, and noted that specific timelines for SWP outcomes were not necessarily appropriate.

A Tawiah followed up by asking if it would be possible to associate more specific timelines with some of the action steps. F Khodayari responded that the GSA Board would continue to update GSA Council on the progress of the SWP goals, as this had been the practice in previous years.

D Smirnow noted that an individual goal listed for the GSA VP Labour was to negotiate for increased compensation assistantships in the Collective Agreement (CA) and indicated that an issue raised in the past year was the importance of focusing on compliance with the CA, rather than on compensation. D Smirnow asked why compensation was a focus in the cover letter. F Khodayari noted that requesting an increase to compensation was included as a priority for this year, as 2017-2018 was a bargaining year, and indicated that the issue of compliance was included in the full SWP. He noted that he would share D Smirnow's feedback with S van der Klein.

**MOTION:** That GSA Council, on the unanimous recommendation of the GSA Board, **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA Board 2017-2018 Strategic Work Plan, as attached. B Soltannia **MOVED**. N Prather **SECONDED**.

Motion PASSED unanimously

## Elections

### **9. GSA Council Elections**

Radim Barta (Chair of the GSA Nominating Committee) presented the item. He explained the election process and noted that members had three ballots to consider.

#### **GSA Standing Committees**

##### a. GSA Budget and Finance Committee (1 vacancy)

R Barta presented the item and introduced the nominee, who was given the opportunity to address GSA Council by responding to a question provided in advance.

The question for the nominee was as follows and the nominee had 45 seconds to respond: "please tell us why you'd like to serve on the GSA Budget and Finance Committee."

##### Nominee for GSA Budget and Finance Committee:

Michele DuVal (Biological Sciences).

##### b. GSA Governance Committee (1 vacancy)

R Barta presented the item and introduced the nominee, who was given the opportunity to address GSA Council by responding to a question provided in advance.

The question for the nominee was as follows and the nominee had 45 seconds to respond: "please tell us why you'd like to serve on the GSA Governance Committee."

##### Nominees for GSA Governance Committee:

Michael Armstrong (Chemistry).

##### c. GSA Labour Relations Committee (1 - 5 vacancies)

R Barta presented the item and noted that there were one (1) to five (5) positions available on the GSA LRC and that two nominations had been received. He noted that neither of the nominees were able to attend GSA Council and encouraged GSA Council members to read the bios and resume included in the Council package, prior to casting their vote. He explained that if they checked on their ballots a nominee and "none of the candidates" their ballot would be counted as spoiled.

##### Nominees for GSA Labour Relations Committee:

Katelyn Humphreys (AFNS)  
 Elisabeth Richardson (Cell Biology)

### **For Discussion**

None at this time

### **Reports**

#### **10. President**

##### **i. President's Report:**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted. In addition B Soltannia stated that highlights of his report included recent meetings with the Dean of the Faculty of the Graduate Studies and Research, Heather Zwicker and Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Steven Dew. He noted that both were in favour of the funding review proposal and that they had agreed to have further meetings to start reviewing the issue and see which committees should be involved.

Regarding the SWP, A Tawiah asked for additional details about Michener Park and who did B Soltannia meet with this respect, what was discussed, and what was agreed upon. B Soltannia explained that Michener Park was one of the action steps of the SWP, both with respect to transit issues and the conditions of the residency. He added that the meeting was mostly concerned with the conditions of Michener Park. They discussed the process and pace of resolving the issues. He added that there were no new outcomes but there were follow-up actions to be undertaken.

B Whitlock asked if in his meeting with the Dean of Students, they discussed student group freedom of expression. B Soltannia responded that this had not been discussed and asked B Whitlock if there was an issue he would like to bring forward. B Whitlock stated that the Dean of Students was proposing amendments to the Student Group Policy and that it look that the project had stopped over the summer. B Soltannia noted that he would follow-up with B Whitlock and the Dean of Students.

##### **ii. GSA Board**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted.

##### **iii. Budget and Finance Committee**

No meetings this reporting period.

##### **iv. GSA Governance Committee**

No meetings this reporting period.

#### **11. Vice-President Academic**

##### **i. Vice-President Academic's Report:**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted. In addition F Khodayari highlighted the Study Hall Program run by the Dean of Students Office. He noted that the Dean of Students Office was looking at services already available (writing classes, tutoring, etc.) to identify gaps and that they intended to hire graduate students as part of the Graduate Student Internship Program to run it so there would be paid positions for graduate students available. He added that paid tutor positions would also be available for graduate students.

Following a question by K Lien, F Khodayari noted that the first step for the Study Hall Program would be to review what was currently available and that, as the review moved forward, they would look at gaps and considered specific needs. K Lien explained that they would like to see statistic workshops for Public Health.

M Abdul-Bari asked if the services would be free and F Khodayari responded that yes it would be free for students accessing the program and that tutors would be paid.

#### **12. Vice-President External**

##### **i. Vice-President External's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted.

##### **ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee's Report**

No meetings this reporting period.

### **13. Vice-President Labour**

#### **i. Vice-President Labour's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted.

On VP Labour's behalf, Speaker noted that the second Town Hall on Bill 7 would be held on July 24 and that an RSVP link was included in the GSA VP Labour's report and in the GSA newsletter. R Coulthard added that outcomes from Bill 7 would impact the GSA in unknown ways so it is very important for students to stay informed. He encouraged GSA Council to read S van der Klein's report and to email her with any questions.

#### **ii. GSA Negotiating Committee**

No meetings this reporting period.

#### **iii. GSA Labour Relations Committee**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted.

### **14. Vice-President Student Services**

#### **i. Vice-President Student Services' Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted. In addition, R Feng stated that during the U-Pass Administrative Committee meeting, he emphasized that the GSA Board would continue to pursue the Michener Park Transit issue and that it would remain a standing item on future U-Pass Administrative Committee agendas.

He noted that, at the UPass Advisory meeting, no update on smart fare was offered and that the 2017-2021 U-Pass agreements were provided and would be distributed to institutions for signing.

R Feng asked GSA Council to be advised that the United Way campaign would kick off soon and that the committee had requested to attend GSA Council to offer a brief presentation on their work.

#### **ii. GSA Student Affairs Advisory Committee**

No meetings this reporting period.

### **15. Senator**

#### **i. Senator's Report**

No written report at this time.

### **16. Speaker**

#### **i. Speaker's Report**

No written report at this time.

R Coulthard explained that it was typical for many items to take three to four years to come to fruition and most items roll over from one year to the the next. As an example, he noted that the professional development was first discussed in 2010 and only implemented in 2016.

M Woghiren asked if it was possible to opt-out of the current mandatory professional development requirements. F Khodayari asked M Woghiren wanted to opt out. M Woghiren responded that she was not sure how the Individual Development Plan (IDP) was useful. M Armstrong added that students did not receive credits for professional development activities they had participated in until their IDP had been created. F Khodayari noted that both Masters and PhD students were required eight hours of professional development activities and that doing activities that students were interested in could be beneficial for now and their future careers.

M Abdul-Bari noted that graduate students in his department found the IDP really useful. M Woghiren explained that, in Computing Sciences, students took a full course on professional development and that she felt that adding these extra eight required hours was repetitive. B Whitlock responded that he was one of the people who debated this issue at the GFC Academic Planning Committee two years ago and he noted that his preference would have been to not make it mandatory. He added that Department Chair could opt their graduate students out fairly easily. He also noted that if the IDP had been optional it might have been difficult for certain students to take advantage of this opportunity if their supervisors were not supportive.

R Almizraq noted that many students she knows feel positively about the IDP but she suggested extending the time to complete it. She pointed out that currently the IDP needed to be finished six months before graduation but that Masters students had more time to devote to this in their second year.

#### **17. Chief Returning Officer**

##### **i. Chief Returning Officer's Report**

No written report at this time.

#### **18. GSA Nominating Committee**

##### **i. GSA Nominating Committee Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted. In addition, R Barta stated that there were still a number of vacancies, including the Deputy Speaker and Deputy Returning Officer positions. He encouraged GSA Council members to watch for advertisements in last August and early September and to reach out to graduate students who would be interested in the various positions.

#### **19. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee**

##### **ii. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report**

No meetings this reporting period.

#### **20. GSA Management**

##### **i. Executive Director's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 14 July 2017. The report stood as submitted. In addition, J Tanguay stated that the next Bill 7 Town Hall would take place on July 24, 2017 and that there were various GSA Bylaw and Policy changes that would be brought forward to GSA Council in September and October.

#### **Question Period**

##### **21. Written Questions**

None at this time.

##### **22. Oral Questions**

A Tawiah noted that graduate student engagement and maintaining a robust social media presence and investigating innovative new methods for communication were included in the 2017-2018 SWP. He indicated that he thought the GSA website could be improved to increase engagement and suggested that the GSA website, Facebook, and Twitter pages could feature graduate student work and achievements. He also suggested increasing the use of pictures on the GSA's social media accounts in order to better engage students. B Soltannia thanked A Tawiah for his suggestions and noted that the GSA website was a formal representation of the GSA and that they could consider the suggestions to include stories from graduate students in different faculties and departments on the GSA Facebook and Twitter pages.

R Coulthard reminded GSA Council members that the August meeting of GSA Council had been cancelled at the discretion of the Speaker and President as there were no urgent agenda items for the upcoming month.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.



**GSA President**  
**Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Babak Soltannia  
Date: August 18, 2017

Dear Valued Councillor Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you have found this chance to take time out of your busy schedules to enjoy the gorgeous sunny summer. For me, the past month flew away faster than what I could imagine. And while my work load was slightly lower than previous months, but there were several interesting meetings that I enjoyed attending. Some highlights of these meetings follow.

There were several different opportunities to interact with graduate students inside and outside of the University, and to learn more about their concerns and suggestions. I had an opportunity to speak with the Chinese Students and Scholars Association about their organization of a symposium and provided feedback on their proposed event. As reported by Sasha, we attended another meeting with the Ministry of Advanced Education with respect to Bill 7 and you can learn more about this in Sasha's report.

There was a three-day Student Leaders' Orientation with the Government through which different student groups (ab-GPAC, ASEC, and CAUS) introduced their goals and services. It was a great networking opportunity and great chance to introduce the U of A GSA and our goals and services. It was also a unique opportunity to strengthen bonds with other student groups and to continue working with academic allies. During this event, different units of the Ministry of Advanced Education introduced their activities. Discussion topics included data acquisition, post-secondary education in Alberta, aboriginal and community connections, apprentices and industry training for students, learners' pathways, entrepreneurship and innovation, mental health, funding models, Bill 7, and tuition and fees. The Honorable Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education, also provided us with valuable information about his ministry.

The ab-GPAC Board of Directors Retreat was a great opportunity to review the ab-GPAC strategic work plan, discuss priorities, define new working groups, and review financial statements from the previous year.

During my meetings with Dr. Zwicker I had the opportunity to talk about the FGSR Travel Awards. Last but not the least, we continue meeting regularly with the Office of the Dean of Students to address various graduate student issues.

I wish each of you a fabulous rest of summer and I hope you may find some time to enjoy the summer. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me to let me know about your concerns or questions. Your comments and advice are highly appreciated and helps me to assess and improve myself and the service I provide to our constituents.

Kindest regards,  
Babak

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between July 17, 2017 and August 21, 2017. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.*

July 19	Meeting with the Chinese Students and Scholars Association
July 21	Meeting with a Graduate Student
July 21	Ab-GPAC Alberta Funding Review Meeting
July 24	Meeting on Bill 7 with Alberta Advanced Education
July 27	Meeting with Andre Costopoulos, Dean of Students
August 1-2	Government Student Leaders' Orientation
August 1	Social Mixer with CAUS and ASEC
August 2-3	ab-GPAC Board of Directors Retreat
August 3	Meeting with Heather Zwicker, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 9	Meeting with Heather Zwicker, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 15	GSA Governance Committee
August 16	Professional Development Network Meeting
August 17	Meeting with Heather Zwicker, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 18	Meeting with Katherine Zwicker and Sarah Wolgemuth, Office of the Dean of Students
August 21	Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students

**GSA Board (GSAB)**  
**Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
 From: Courtney Thomas, Executive Director; Julie Tanguay, Acting Executive Director and Acting Coordinator of the GSA Board; Heather Hogg, Director of Operations; and Lisa Hareuther, Assistant Director  
 Date: August 18, 2017

The GSAB reports regularly to GSA Council by listing its agenda items, Motions/agreements, and main items of discussion (meeting reports are also offered at each meeting). Motions of Agenda approval and approval of the Minutes are not included unless there were amendments made. Closed session items are not minuted. Open session Minutes are available upon request. The President, Vice-Presidents, Director of Operations, Associate Director, and I will be happy to answer any questions or provide more information at the GSA Council meeting. Also see the weekly Management Reports to the GSAB in Item 20 (Executive Director's Report to GSA Council) on pages 12.1-12.4.

**19 July 2017 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items:

Bill 7

Motions and Agreements:

Members **AGREED** to approve the Agenda of July 19, 2017, which had been previously distributed, after the addition of the "Student Focus Groups with Scholarly Writing Support Website" to FK's meeting reports. BS **MOVED**. FK Seconded. **CARRIED**.

GSAB **AGREED** to send a letter to the CFB confirming that the CFB otherwise satisfied the requirements requested by the GSA in their April 1, 2016 letter.

**26 July 2017 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items:

TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Semi-Annual Report for the Period Ending June 30, 2017: To Receive for Information; Bill 7; and Music Rooms Proposal

Motions and Agreements:

That the GSA Board **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the attached semi-annual participation report, as provided by TD Meloche Monnex Insurance. BS **MOVED**. FK Seconded. **CARRIED**.

Members **AGREED** to move in **CLOSED SESSION**.

Members discussed **Bill 7**.

Members **AGREED** to move out of **CLOSED SESSION**

**2 August 2017 GSA Board Meeting:** Cancelled

**9 August 2017 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items: Bill 7

Motions and Agreements: None at this time

**16 August 2017 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items:

Bill 7; and Departmental Orientation and Fall Orientation

Motions and Agreements:

Members **AGREED** to approve the Agenda of Aug 16, 2017, which had been previously distributed, with the correction that RF did not attend the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations Leadership Workshop. BS **MOVED**. RF Seconded. **CARRIED**.

Members **AGREED** to move in **CLOSED SESSION**.

Members discussed **Bill 7**.

Members **AGREED** to move out of **CLOSED SESSION**.

Members **AGREED** to move in **CLOSED SESSION**.

Members discussed **Meeting with H Zwicker**.

Members **AGREED** to move out of **CLOSED SESSION**.

Members **AGREED** with extension of the collection period of the PAW fee for another 3 to 4 years to support renovations to the change rooms with the understanding that the collection period would not exceed what was approved by the 2013 graduate student referendum.

Members **AGREED** to move in **CLOSED SESSION**.

Members discussed **Meeting with J Johnson and K Huising**.

Members **AGREED** to move out of **CLOSED SESSION**.

**GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC)  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Babak Soltannia  
Date: August 18, 2017

Dear Council Colleagues,

The GSA GC met on August 15, 2017. At this meeting, members reviewed a series of proposed changes to the GSA Policy on Nominating and the GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC). GSA NoC members were also invited to attend this meeting as guests. The GSA NoC had discussed this proposal at their meeting of July 17, 2017. The GSA GC approved recommending to GSA Council the proposed changes to GSA Policy. The GSA Board will review this proposal, for information and onward transmission to GSA Council, at its meeting of August 23, 2017. The proposal will then be brought forward to GSA Council at its September 18, 2017 meeting.

The GSA GC also approved an editorial change at its August 15, 2017 meeting. The change was to include the GSA Financial Manager in two sections of GSA Policy, including the GSA Policy on GSA Standing Committees and GSA Budget and Finance Committee. The proposed changes were factual in nature, to clarify that the GSA Financial Manager has a standing invitation to attend any committee discussing financial matters and is a non-voting member of the GSA Budget and Finance Committee.

Sincerely,  
Babak Soltannia, GSA President and Chair, GSA GC

**GSA Vice-President Academic  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Firouz Khodayari  
Date: August 18, 2017

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope that everyone is enjoying the summer and making the most out of it before it is over! As Vice-President Academic, I have attended several meetings and been involved with various discussions during the last month; I will share the highlights with you in this report.

**Professional Development hours and the Co-Curricular Record**

Currently, the Professional Development (PD) hours which graduate students have to finish as a requirement for their program are not recorded on their transcripts or Co-Curricular Record (CCR). The CCR serves as an official record of various developmental activities. Since last year, I have been trying to connect the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) and the CCR Committee in order to have PD hours recorded under the CCR for graduate students. There were some limitations because the required minimum hours for an experience to be reported on the CCR is 10 hours and the PD requirements for graduate students is only 8 hours. After meeting jointly with FGSR and the CCR committee, it was decided that graduate students who would like their PD hours reported on their CCR would need to finish two more PD hours (which means in total 10 hours). FGSR is trying to have all of the PD opportunities on eClass, which will make it easier to track students who finish their hours.

I am happy to answer any questions or comments that you might have regarding this report. Also, I would be more than happy if you would like to share your suggestions or concerns regarding any academic related issue you have encountered at the University.

Thanks,

Firouz Khodayari, GSA Vice-President Academic

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between July 17, 2017 and August 21, 2017. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.*

July 19	Co-Curricular Record Committee Meeting
August 1	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Mentorship Academy Advisory Board
August 3	Meeting with Heather Zwicker, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 14	Meeting with the Co-Curricular Record Committee and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 16	Professional Development Network Meeting

**GSA Vice-President External  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August, 21 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Masoud Khademi  
Date: August 18, 2017

Dear Council Colleagues,

As we are heading towards the end of summer I hope you have enjoyed the beautiful sunny weather we have had during the past couple of months. Normally, from the administrative perspective, the summer time is not a busy time of the year compared to the rest of the academic year. Therefore, the list of meetings that I have attended in August is not very long. I also had the chance to return to my home country from July 4 to August 4.

One of the meetings that I attended during the past month was the Edmonton Students' Alliance. In this meeting, the upcoming municipal election was discussed, and I was informed that several schools such as the U of A, MacEwan, and NAIT, are planning to hold a series of info sessions and advanced polling stations. For example, the U of A Students' Union during their GovWeek (which happens at the end of September) is planning to have forum for many of the municipal election candidates and one specific mayoral forum. It is worth mentioning that these forums will be open to the general public and graduate students are encouraged to attend.

The other two meetings I attended were regarding Michener Park (MP). My first meeting was with a group of nursing students who worked with Michener Park residents during their nursing practicums. In this meeting, they shared the list of issues with the GSA that MP residents had communicated to them, such as transportation and the cleaning of common areas. The nursing students also showed great interest in supporting the GSA advocacy efforts regarding MP. The second meeting that I had regarding MP was with Katherine Husing and Janice Johnson. In this meeting we discussed a series of problems that MP residents have encountered in the past few years. Since both Katherine and Janice are new in their roles, this meeting served as a productive and informative introductory meeting and I look forward to our future meetings.

At the end, as always, if you need more information or have any questions regarding the meetings that I have attended this past month, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Masoud Khademi, GSA Vice-President External

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between July 17, 2017 and August 21, 2017. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Please note that I was away July 3-August 4.*

August 8	Edmonton Students' Alliance (ESA) Meeting
August 10	Meeting with Nursing Students re: Michener Park Transit
August 16	Meeting with Katherine Husing, Associate Vice President (Facilities and Operations) and Janice Johnson, Assistant Dean of Students (Residences)
August 18	Meeting with Katherine Zwicker and Sarah Wolgemuth, Office of the Dean of Students

**GSA Vice-President Labour  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Sasha van der Klein  
Date: August 18, 2017

Dear Council Colleagues,

Well, I haven't seen you in a while, but that doesn't mean I haven't been busy! "Summer is downtime at the University" they say... which is the biggest lie ever, but I think many grad students can relate to that. Here's a summary of what I've been busy with, apart from my chicken research of course.

**1) Bill 7**

In my last report to GSA Council, I provided a summary of the changes that Bill 7 will impose on the GSA. This month Babak and I had one additional meeting with the Alberta Government to clarify the changes once more and to provide the Government with advice on the default bylaws that the Government is preparing. These default bylaws will come into effect in July 2018 if the Labour Relations Board has not approved the new GSA bylaws before that deadline. We will have to put forward these bylaws to comply with the new legislation. The new bylaws will go through the regular GSA governance route which will end by GSA Council's approval. This is a heads up for those serving on GSA Council later this year.

Additionally, to help in the development of these new bylaws, I have been contacting other GSAs, Graduate Student Societies, and Graduate Students' Unions across Canada, to learn about their perspectives on graduate student labour issues and organization. There is a wide range of experiences, which really depend on the legislation in each province, the culture within the University, and the level of engagement of students. At most Universities, only Teaching Assistants (TAs) are covered by a collective agreement, and Graduate Research Assistantship Fellowship (GRAF) holders do not fall under any collective agreement at the Universities I spoke with. My conclusion from these conversations so far is that every University is unique, and that our province is even more unique, because we are the only place in Canada where a Graduate Students' Association represents both graduate students in their students' roles and in their employee's role. This is the advantage with the current structure it allows the GSA to support and advocate for students in both roles as academic and labour rights are often intertwined in situations of conflicts.

**2) Teaching Assistantship Survey**

I have discussed the results of the TA survey (which I shared with you last month) with the Dean of Students and the Dean of FGSR, and the next step are yet to be determined. We will continue to advocate for TA positions to be advertised with clearly listed eligibility requirements. To increase awareness of the Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement (CA), I was invited by the Associate Dean in FGSR to present to new professors together with Faculty Relations of the Provost Office. Hopefully this will be an annually occurring invitation so new professors become aware of the agreement and the rights and protections that it provides for students.

**3) Tuition Deductions for Scholarship Holders**

I met with FGSR to discuss whether large scholarship holders, just like students who are paid under the CA, could have their tuition deducted from their pay checks. However, FGSR has investigated this with the Human Resources department and has indicated that the current payment system does not allow such deductions if students are not employed by the University. Therefore, what FGSR proposed was working with the Office of the Registrar to waive the late fee for automatic installments of tuition payment for large

scholarship holders. We still have to hear back from them, but hopefully I got the ball rolling. In general, I'm working wherever I can to allow for more flexibility in payment schedules for tuition for graduate students.

#### 4) Mental Health Portfolio

First off, the ACCESS Selection Committee that I was part of selected the second Community Broker position within the Office of the Dean of Students that will work on the ACCESS Open Minds projects and help student navigate services at the University of Alberta. In addition, I have been working with the Office of the Dean of Students, the Community Social Work Team and FGSR on a proposed orientation for exam proctors, TAs, and TA-Principal Instructors, which would likely look like a front-line workers training. This will help TAs to know what to do if they come across a student in distress when proctoring exams or throughout the term. The details have yet to be worked out, but I thought it was a great initiative from the Office of the Dean of Students to take on.

That was August! Let me know if you have questions, and feel free to contact me at any time! I will be away August 23 to September 7<sup>th</sup>, so I will answer emails in my absence with a slight delay, sorry for that in advance!

Thanks,

Sasha van der Klein, GSA Vice-President Labour

July 24	Meeting on Bill 7 with Alberta Advanced Education
July 24	GSA Town Hall Bill 7 Overview
July 25	Meeting with A and Dambrowitz, Assistant Dean (Administration) of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) and B Hogeveen, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
July 25	Meeting with a Graduate Student
July 26	ACCESS Community Broker Interview
July 26	Meeting with a Graduate Student
July 27	Meeting with Andre Costopoulos, Dean of Students
July 27	Meeting with a Graduate Student
July 31	Phone Meeting re: Labour Legislation and Practices
August 1	Meeting with a Graduate Student
August 1	Phone meeting with Naomi Krogman, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 1	Departmental Orientation
August 1	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Mentorship Academy Advisory Board
August 2	Phone meeting with Robin Everall, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 2	Student Homeless Support Working Group
August 2	Phone Meeting re: Labour Legislation and Practices
August 2	Phone Meeting re: Labour Legislation and Practices
August 3	Meeting with Heather Zwicker, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
August 3	Meeting with Office of the Provost
August 3	GSA Labour and Relations Committee
August 4	Skype Meeting with ThinkGrad
August 9	Meeting with Graduate Student



August 9	Friendship Bench Programming Meeting
August 14	Meeting with Tiffany Sampson, Community Social Work Team
August 15	GSA Governance Committee
August 16	Days of Action Committee Meeting
August 17	Unwind Your Mind Collective Meeting
August 21	Meeting with Andre Costopoulos, Dean of Students
July 24	Meeting with the Government re: Bill 7
July 24	Bill 7 Overview Town Hall
July 25	Meeting with FGSR re: Tuition Deduction for Scholarship Holders
July 25	Meeting with a Graduate Student
July 26	ACCESS Community Broker Interviews
July 26	Meeting with a Graduate Student
July 27	Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students
July 27	Meeting with a Graduate Student
July 31	Phone Meeting re: Labour Legislation and Practices
August 1	Meeting with a Graduate Student
August 1	Meeting with an Associate Dean of FGSR
August 1	Departmental Orientation
August 1	FGSR Mentorship Academy Advisory Board
August 2	Meeting with an Associate Dean of FGSR
August 2	Student Homeless Support Working Group
August 2	Phone Meeting re: Labour Legislation and Practices
August 2	Phone Meeting re: Labour Legislation and Practices
August 3	Meeting with H Zwicker, Dean of FGSR
August 3	Meeting with the Office of the Provost
August 3	GSA LRC
August 4	Skype Meeting with ThinkGrad
August 9	Meeting with Graduate Student
August 9	Friendship Bench Programming Meeting
August 14	Meeting with Community Social Work Team re: Unitea
August 15	GSA Governance Committee
August 16	Days of Action Committee
August 17	Unwind Your Mind Collective Meeting
August 21	Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students

**GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC)  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Sasha van der Klein  
Date: July 18, 2017

Dear Council Colleagues,

The GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) met on August 3 to discuss the feedback received at the town halls on Bill 7 and to review elements to include in the GSA's first draft of the Opening Position for the upcoming round of collective bargaining, which will begin in the fall.

I am happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully,  
Sasha van der Klein, GSA Vice-President Labour and Chair, GSA LRC

**GSA Vice-President Student Services  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Royle Feng  
Date: August 18, 2017

Dear Council Colleagues,

Due to most people taking their vacations off-campus, this month seemed to be relatively quiet. This past month I was involved in the following activities:

In terms of the United Way Campaign Committee meeting, a UAlberta ambassador program is being built in order to encourage the campus community to give donations to the United Way. Due to both human resource and time limitations for the committee, they are starting with a small group of ambassadors. In order to pilot the program better, it was advised that campaign committee members will be used as ambassadors. At this meeting, the progress of the micro giving website and online donation process was introduced. I will be receiving the new version of these materials shortly to review.

For the U-Pass Advisory and Admin Committee meetings I attended, there were no important updates at this time. However, I informed the U-Pass Admin Committee that the GSA met with a group of nursing students to discuss Michener Park transit. Masoud discusses this meeting in his report.

Finally, I was also involved in the Coalition for Action on High Risk Drinking. This was the first time a GSA representative attended this meeting. It was quite interesting and positive and I look forward to working with this Coalition in the future.

Best regards,  
Royle

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between July 17, 2017 and August 21, 2017. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.*

July 20	Coalition for Action on High Risk Drinking (CAHRD)
July 27	Meeting with Andre Costopoulos, Dean of Students
August 9	United Way Working Group Committee
August 10	Meeting with Nursing Students re: Michener Park Transit
August 14	United Way Campaign Committee
August 15	U-Pass Advisory Committee
August 17	U-Pass Administrative Committee
August 18	Meeting with Katherine Zwicker and Sarah Wolgemuth, Office of the Dean of Students
August 21	Meeting with Andre Costopoulos, Dean of Students

**GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC)  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Radim Barta  
Date: August 18, 2017

Dear Council Colleagues,

The report from the GSA NoC this month is a summary of discussions/decisions the GSA NoC has made since its last report, together with a list of all vacancies filled and those which will be filled shortly.

GSA Policy governing the GSA NoC is located in GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating. As provided for in its Terms of Reference, the GSA NoC has been conducting business via e-mail.

Sincerely,

Radim Barta, Chair of the GSA NoC

**GSA Standing Committees**

None to report at this time.

**External Committees**

None to report at this time.

**Current Vacancies**

**1) GSA Deputy Speaker and GSA DRO (2 Graduate Student Positions in Total)**

These positions were first advertised in the GSA newsletter in advance of the June 2017 meeting of GSA Council but no nominations were received. These positions were again advertised in the August 18, 2017 GSA newsletter with a nomination deadline of September 1, 2017.

**2) GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (1 GSA Council Member, 1 Graduate Students)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Council member was circulated via email to GSA Council with a deadline of September 1, 2017. The position for one (1) graduate student was advertised in the August 18, 2017 GSA newsletter with a nomination deadline of September 1, 2017.

**3) GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) (1 GSA Council Member)**

Information regarding this position was circulated via email to GSA Council with a deadline of September 1, 2017.

**4) GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) (3 Graduate Student Positions)**

These positions were advertised in the August 18, 2017 GSA newsletter with a nomination deadline of September 1, 2017.

**5) Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Council (Up to 25 Graduate Student Positions)**

These positions were advertised in the August 11, 2017 GSA newsletter with a nomination deadline of September 1, 2017.

**6) Learning Technologies Advisory Committee (LTAC) (1 Graduate Student Position)**

This positions was advertised in the August 4, 2017 GSA newsletter with a nomination deadline of August 23, 2017.

**7) Student Library Advisory Committee (SLAC) (1 GSA Council Member)**

Information regarding this position was circulated via email to GSA Council with a deadline of August 16, 2017. No nominations were received. As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, GSA NoC is currently conducting a directed search to identify a representative.

**Addendum – Meeting of the GSA NoC**

On July 17, 2017, GSA NoC met regarding proposed changes to the GSA Policy on Nominating and the GSA Nominating Committee. Members were asked to review and provide feedback on the proposal. The proposed changes were then reviewed and recommended to GSA Council by the GSA Governance Committee. The GSA Board will review this proposal, for information and onward transmission to GSA Council, at its meeting of August 23, 2017. The proposal will then be brought forward to GSA Council at its September 18, 2017 meeting.

**GSA Executive Director  
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled August 21, 2017 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Courtney Thomas and Julie Tanguay  
Date: August 18, 2017

The GSA office has been busy planning for the Departmental Orientations that we offer each year (in collaboration with the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research). We hope to visit between 40 and 45 departments this year.

We are also engaged with planning for our Fall Orientation, which will be held on August 30 at 1:00 PM in the Telus Centre; all are welcome to attend and there will be a draw for an iPad (generously provided by the Alumni Association), several other door prizes, and light refreshments. Additionally, we recently completed the 2017-2018 GSA Planner; if you haven't done so already come by the GSA Office to pick one up (we print a limited number each year and they go quickly!).

In addition to organizing the orientation events mentioned above, we are working closely with the GSA Vice-President Labour to both ensure the GSA's compliance with Bill 7 and to prepare for the bargaining process for the next Graduate Assistantship Collective Agreement that will start in the Fall.

Best,  
Courtney Thomas, Executive Director, and Julie Tanguay, Associate Director and Acting Executive Director

### Management Report to the GSA Board, July 19, 2017

The following issues have dominated management's attention in the two weeks since the last GSA Board meeting on July 12, 2017:

#### Strategic

- **Main Issues Dealt With in the Past Week:** Design of the GSA Planner for 2017-2018; researching graduate student unions at other Canadian institutions and their Collective Agreement; forward planning for the 2018 GSA General Election; file clean up and associated document archiving and destruction; supporting CEEGSA election; election of the Occupational Therapy GSA Councillor; planning for Fall Orientation and Departmental Orientations; and preparing the release of the 2017-2018 GSA Board SWP to stakeholders and partners.
- **Bylaw and Policy Review:** Follow up work associated with the GSA Nominating Committee's recent review of GSA Policy on Nominating (meeting of the GSA NoC and review of a twelfth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy in advance of a meeting of the GSA GC in August); reviewing a sixth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on the Legal Defense Fund; and reviewing a fourth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Policy of Budget Principles, Practices, and Procedures.
- **Graduate Student Groups:** Ongoing strategizing related to residence associations; relationship building and maintenance with Student Group Services (revisiting an outdated MoU, etc); and review of various group constitutions.

#### Grants and Office Operations

- Sending the 2017-2018 GSA Planner to the printer and reviewing the proof.
- Planning for fall events (including departmental orientations).
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee (filling the seat for a graduate student on a Academic Appeal Committee).
- Transfer of content to Sitecore 3.
- Facebook = 976 likes (up 1 from July 12); Facebook posts reached 762 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 78. Twitter = 749 followers (down 1 from July 12); our tweets earned 952 "impressions" over the last week.

	Total Amount Available This Period	Total Amount Remaining This Period (Post-Processing)	Number of New Applications Since Last GSAB	Total Number of Applications This Period
<b>ATAs</b>	\$90,586.67	\$56,105.22	18	74 (25 pending processing)
<b>CCGs</b>	\$60,824.38	\$11,824.38 <b>CLOSED</b>	0	34 (4 pending processing)
<b>ASGAs</b>	\$5,937.50	\$3,807.07	0	2 (0 pending processing)
<b>EBs</b>	\$133,952.00 (no periods)	\$83,266.00	0	12 (0 pending processing)

### Management Report to the GSA Board, July 26, 2017

The following issues have dominated management's attention in the two weeks since the last GSA Board meeting on July 19, 2017:

#### Strategic

- **Main Issues Dealt With in the Past Week:** Researching graduate student unions at other Canadian institutions and their Collective Agreement; forward planning for the 2018 GSA General Election and Early Call; advance scheduling for the fall coffee breaks; file clean up and associated document archiving and destruction; supporting CEEGSA election; planning for Fall Orientation and Departmental Orientations (up to 30 requests); and release of the 2017-2018 GSA Board SWP to stakeholders and partners.
- **Bylaw and Policy Review:** Follow up work associated with the GSA Nominating Committee's recent review of GSA Policy on Nominating (review of a thirteenth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy in advance of a meeting of the GSA GSA GC in August); reviewing a seventh draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on the Legal Defense Fund; and reviewing a fifth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Policy of Budget Principles, Practices, and Procedures.
- **Graduate Student Groups:** Ongoing strategizing related to residence associations; relationship building and maintenance with Student Group Services (revisiting an outdated MoU, etc); and review of various group constitutions.

#### Grants and Office Operations

- Planning for fall events (including departmental orientations).
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee (development of a replenishment schedule).
- Transfer of content to Sitecore 3.
- Facebook = 982likes (up 6 from July 19); Facebook posts reached 517 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 71. Twitter = 753 followers (up 4 from July 19); our tweets earned 1,500 "impressions" over the last week.

	Total Amount Available This Period	Total Amount Remaining This Period (Post-Processing)	Number of New Applications Since Last GSAB	Total Number of Applications This Period
<b>ATAs</b>	\$90,586.67	\$51,605.22	11	83 (12 pending processing)
<b>CCGs</b>	\$60,824.38	\$11,824.38 <b>CLOSED</b>	0	34 (1 pending processing)
<b>ASGAs</b>	\$5,937.50	\$3,557.07	1	3 (1 pending processing)
<b>EBs</b>	\$133,952.00 (no periods)	\$83,266.00	0	12 (0 pending processing)



### Management Report to the GSA Board, August 9, 2017

The following issues have dominated management's attention in the two weeks since the last GSA Board meeting on July 26, 2017:

#### Strategic

- **Main Issues Dealt With in the Past Week:** Researching graduate student unions at other Canadian institutions and their Collective Agreement; GSA LRC meeting and work associated with changes to the Collective Agreement; forward planning for the 2018 GSA General Election and Early Call; file clean up and associated document archiving and destruction; and planning for Fall Orientation and Departmental Orientations (up to 30 requests).
- **Bylaw and Policy Review:** Follow up work associated with the GSA Nominating Committee's recent review of GSA Policy on Nominating (review of a thirteenth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy in advance of a meeting of the GSA GSA GC next week); reviewing a eight draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on the Legal Defense Fund; and reviewing a fifth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Policy of Budget Principles, Practices, and Procedures.
- **Graduate Student Groups:** Ongoing strategizing related to residence associations; relationship building and maintenance with Student Group Services (revisiting an outdated MoU, etc); and review of various group constitutions.

#### Grants and Office Operations

- Planning for fall events (including departmental orientations).
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee (Student Library Advisory Council, FGSR Council, GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee, and GSA Nominating Committee; election of the GSA Deputy Returning Officer and GSA Deputy Speaker; and development of a replenishment schedule).
- Transfer of content to Sitecore 3.
- Facebook = 985 likes (up 3 from July 26); Facebook posts reached 3,893 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 1,195. Twitter = 759 followers (up 6 from July 26); our tweets earned 1,200 "impressions" over the last week.

	Total Amount Available This Period	Total Amount Remaining This Period (Post-Processing)	Number of New Applications Since Last GSAB	Total Number of Applications This Period
<b>ATAs</b>	\$90,586.67	\$43,325.22	17	100 (18 pending processing)
<b>CCGs</b>	\$60,824.38	\$11,824.38 <b>CLOSED</b>	0	34 (0 pending processing)
<b>ASGAs</b>	\$5,937.50	\$3,557.07	0	3 (1 pending processing)
<b>EBs</b>	\$133,952.00 (no periods)	\$82,766.00	1	13 (1 pending processing)

### Management Report to the GSA Board, August 16, 2017

The following issues have dominated management's attention in the two weeks since the last GSA Board meeting on August 9, 2017:

#### Strategic

- **Main Issues Dealt With in the Past Week:** Researching graduate student unions at other Canadian institutions and their Collective Agreement; work associated with changes to the Collective Agreement; researching exam deferrals and accommodation at other Canadian institutions; Council mailing; forward planning for the 2018 GSA General Election and Early Call; file clean up and associated document archiving and destruction; and planning for Fall Orientation and Departmental Orientations (up to 36 requests).
- **Bylaw and Policy Review:** Follow up work associated with the GSA Nominating Committee's recent review of GSA Policy on Nominating (meeting of the GSA GC; the proposal will be presented to GSAB next week); reviewing a ninth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on the Legal Defense Fund; and reviewing a fifth draft of potential proposed changes to GSA Policy of Budget Principles, Practices, and Procedures.
- **Graduate Student Groups:** Ongoing strategizing related to residence associations; relationship building and maintenance with Student Group Services (revisiting an outdated MoU, etc); and review of various group constitutions.

#### Grants and Office Operations

- Planning for fall events (including departmental orientations and Fall Orientation).
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee (Student Library Advisory Council, FGSR Council, GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee, and GSA Nominating Committee; election of the GSA Deputy Returning Officer and GSA Deputy Speaker; and development of a replenishment schedule).
- Transfer of content to Sitecore 3.
- Facebook = 985 likes (up 0 from August 9); Facebook posts reached 921 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 43. Twitter = 761 followers (up 2 from August 9); our tweets earned 1,610 "impressions" over the last week.

	Total Amount Available This Period	Total Amount Remaining This Period (Post-Processing)	Number of New Applications Since Last GSAB	Total Number of Applications This Period
ATAs	\$90,586.67	\$30,919.22	9	125 (11 pending processing)
CCGs	\$60,824.38	\$11,824.38 <b>CLOSED</b>	0	34 (0 pending processing)
ASGAs	\$5,937.50	\$3,257.07	0	4 (1 pending processing)
EBs	\$133,952.00 (no periods)	\$80,551.00	1	14 (0 pending processing)