

GSA Council Meeting CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

Monday, 13 May 2019 at 6:00 pm
2-100 University Hall, Van Vliet Complex

The GSA acknowledges that the University of Alberta is situated on Treaty Six territory and Métis homelands.

Substantive material is sent to all GSA Council members at least one week prior to the date of the meeting to give members abundant time to review. Any additional substantive material received after this mailing will be emailed as soon as possible.

Reports from committees, Directly-Elected Officers, and GSA Management are emailed the Friday before a Monday meeting so that the content is as current as possible.

Speaker Pranidhi Baddam in the Chair

A pizza dinner will be served at 5:15 pm.

OPEN SESSION

Attached Numbered Pages

1. Approval of the 13 May 2019 Agenda (*suggested time: 1 min*)
2. Approval of the Minutes from the 15 April 2019 GSA Council Meeting (*suggested time: 1 min*)
Attachment:
 - i. Minutes from the 15 April 2019 GSA Council Meeting
3. Changes in GSA Council Membership (*suggested time: 1 min*)
 - i. Introduction of New GSA Council Members (*If you are new to GSA Council, please let us know it is your first meeting*)
 - ii. Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members (*If this is your last GSA Council meeting, or if your last GSA Council meeting is approaching, please let us know*)

2.0 - 2.5

GSA Council Member Announcements

4. GSA Council Member Announcements (*suggested time: 5 mins*)

Action Items: None at this time

Presentation

5. Athletics and Recreation Presentation (*suggested time: 20 mins*)
Fahed Elian (GSA President) will present the item and introduce the guests.

Guests: Cheryl Harwardt, Director of Campus and Community Recreation and Katie Spriggs, Athletics Associate Director

Attachment:

- Athletics and Recreation Presentation

5.1 - 5.13

Elections

6. GSA Council Elections (*suggested time – 15 – 20 minutes*)
David Tandio (GSA Nominating Committee Member) will present the item.

GSA Senator (1 vacancy)

Attachment:

Prepared by C Thomas, L Hareuther and J Tanguay for GSA Council 13 May 2019

/Volumes/GoogleDrive/My Drive/GSA Council/Meetings/2019 - 2020/May 2019/Second Mailing/GSA Council 13 May 2019 Item 1 - Consolidated Agenda (Second Mailing).docx

- i. Nominees for GSA Senator (1 vacancy) 6.0 - 6.6
- GSA Standing Committees
- a. GSA Board (GSAB) (2 vacancies)
- Attachment:*
- i. Nominee for the GSAB (2 vacancies) 6.7 - 6.9

Discussion Items: None at this time

Reports (suggested time: 15 mins)

- 7. President (Fahed Elian, President)**
 - i. President's Report
 - a. 2018-2019 President 7.0 - 7.1
 - b. 2019-2020 President 7.2 - 7.4
 - ii. GSA Board Report 7.5 - 7.6
 - iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee Report **(no written report at this time, next meeting will be scheduled for July 2019)**
 - iv. GSA Governance Committee Report 7.7
- 8. Vice-President Academic (Dylan Ashley, GSA Vice-President Academic)**
 - i. Vice-President Academic's Report
 - a. 2018-2019 Vice-President Academic 8.0 - 8.1
 - b. 2019-2020 Vice-President Academic 8.2 - 8.3
- 9. Vice-President External (Marc Waddingham, Vice-President External)**
 - i. Vice-President External's Report
 - a. 2018-2019 Vice-President External 9.0
 - b. 2019-2020 Vice-President External 9.1 - 9.2
 - ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 10. Vice-President Labour (Shanawaz Mohammad, Vice-President Labour)**
 - i. Vice-President Labour's Report
 - a. 2018-2019 Vice-President Labour 10.0
 - b. 2019-2020 Vice-President Labour 10.1
 - ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee Report 10.2
- 11. Vice-President Student Services (Chantal Labonté, Vice-President Student Services)**
 - i. Vice-President Student Services' Report
 - a. 2018-2019 Vice-President Student Services 7.2 - 7.4
 - b. 2019-2020 Vice-President Student Services 11.0
- 12. Senator (Ahsan Ahmed, Senator)**
 - i. Senator's Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 13. Speaker (Pranidhi Baddam, Speaker)**
 - i. Speaker's Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 14. Chief Returning Officer (Vahid Ayan, Chief Returning Officer)**
 - i. Chief Returning Officer's Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 15. GSA Nominating Committee (David Tandio, GSA Nominating Committee Member)**
 - i. GSA Nominating Committee Report 15.0 - 15.1
- 16. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (Leigh Spanner, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Chair)**

Prepared by C Thomas, L Hareuther and J Tanguay for GSA Council 13 May 2019

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- i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report **16.0**
- 17. GSA Management (Courtney Thomas, Executive Director)**
 - i. Executive Director's Report **17.0 - 17.4**

Question Period

18. Written Questions (none at this time)

19. Oral Questions

Adjournment

GSA Council Meeting MINUTES
Monday, 15 April 2019 at 6:00 pm
2-100 University Hall, Van Vliet Complex

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sasha van der Klein (President)	Rongrong Zhang (Business PhD)	Bethany McMillan (History & Classics)	Khushmol Dhaliwal (Paediatrics)
Masoud Aliramezani (VP Academic)	Brett Roughead (Cell Biology)	Jonathan Lai (Human Ecology)	David Tandio (Pharmacology)
Zhihong Pan (VP External)	Hareem Shafi (Chemical & Materials Engineering)	Deanna Starr (Indigenous Graduate Students' Association)	Hamda Al Nebaihi (Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences)
Beth Richardson (VP Labour)	Michael Armstrong; Alvaro Omaña (Chemistry)	Janita Frantsi (Kinesiology, Sport, & Rec)	Mattia Sorgon (Philosophy)
Fahed Elian (VP Student Services)	Lindsay Moore (Communication Sciences & Disorders)	Jiaao Yu (Lab Medicine & Pathology)	Yilun Wu (Physiology)
Pranidhi Baddam (Speaker)	Moein Owahdi Kareshk; Christoph Sydora (Computing Science)	Milad Rezvani Rad (Mechanical Engineering)	Jason Zhang (Political Science)
Amritha Prasad (Deputy Returning Officer)	Julia Piche (Dentistry)	Nathan Nadolski (Medical Genetics)	Daniela Gomez (Psychiatry)
Amran Howlader (Councillor-at-Large)	Kenzie Gordon; Cate Peter (Digital Humanities)	Kevin Joannou (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	William Service (Psychology)
Peter Jun (Councillor-at-Large)	Deneh'Cho Thompson (Drama)	Sabitha Rajaruban (Medicine)	Alesha Reed (Rehabilitation Science)
Nuanyi Liang (Councillor-at-Large)	Alex Sheen (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)	Héloïse Torck (Modern Languages and Cultural Studies)	Owain Bamforth (Religious Studies)
Marc Waddingham (Councillor-at-Large)	Alexandra San Diego (East Asian Studies)	Subash Giri (Music)	Justine Lejoly (Renewable Resources)
Melissa Woghiren (Councillor-at-Large)	Chantal Labonté (Educational Psychology)	Rebecca Long (Neuroscience)	Yicong Luo (Resources Economics & Environmental Sociology)
Andrew Woodman (Councillor-at-Large)	Mohammad Daryaei (Electrical & Computer Engineering)	Albina Karpman (Nursing)	Jon Mora (Surgery)
Megan Paranich; Kyla Cangiano (Anthropology)	Kristin Kis (Elementary Education)	Heather Capel (Occupational Therapy)	
Brianna Greenwood (Biochemistry)	Ashmita De (Biomedical Engineering)	Braden Chow; Joanne Smith (Oncology)	
Ruhul Amin (Biological Science)	Krista Coté (English & Film Studies)	Matthew Benson (Ophthalmology)	

Guests: Colten Yamagishi (Studentcare); Shanawaz Mohammad (Electrical & Computer Engineering; 2019-2020 VP Labour); Landon Wu (Computing Science; Councillor-at-Large candidate); Osama Mohsen (Civil & Environmental Engineering; Councillor-at-Large candidate); Dylan Ashley (Computing Science; 2019-2020 VP Academic).

Speaker Pranidhi Baddam in the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Speaker acknowledged the Traditional Territory of Treaty Six.

Approval of Agenda**1. Approval of the 15 April 2019 Consolidated Agenda**

Members had before them the 15 April 2019 Consolidated Agenda, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. K Gordon **MOVED**; Z Pan **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

2. Minutes from the 18 March 2019 GSA Council meeting

Members had before them the 18 March 2018 GSA Council Minutes, which had been previously distributed on 5 April 2019. F Elian **MOVED**; L Moore **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Changes in GSA Council Membership

3. Changes in GSA Council Membership

i. Introduction of New GSA Council Members:

New GSA Council members K Cangiano (Anthropology), M Owahdi Kareshk (Computing Science), C Sydora (Computing Science), and H Torck (Modern Languages & Cultural Studies) introduced themselves.

ii. Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members

A number of GSA Council Members indicated it was their last meeting and they were thanked for their service.

GSA Council Member Announcements

4. GSA Council Member Announcements

K Gordon invited graduate students to participate in a consultation and planning meeting to discuss roles and opportunities for graduate students in the Intersections of Gender Signature Area on Wednesday, 17 April at 5 PM in 2-21 Humanities Centre.

O Bamforth invited graduate students to the 2019 Religious Studies Graduate Student Society Symposium taking place on 16-17 April in 0-51 SUB.

B Richardson encouraged graduate students to fill out the survey on safety and security on campus circulated via email by the Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security Working Group.

B Greenwood invited fellow graduate students in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry to reach out to her if they were interested in translational medicine as she was starting an MD/PhD group in that area.

Action Items

5. Approval of Changes to Dental Coverage Under the GSA Health and Dental Plan

Fahed Elian (Vice-President Student Services) presented the item and introduced the guest, Colten Yamagishi (Program Manager, Studentcare).

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council **APPROVE** that dental coverage under the GSA Health and Dental Plan be increased from an annual maximum of \$500 per Plan member per policy year to an annual maximum of \$650 per Plan member per policy year to begin 1 September 2019.

F Elian reminded GSA Council members that, at the last GSA Council meeting, it was noted that the GSA Board was discussing a possible increase to dental coverage under the GSA Health and Dental Plan from an annual maximum of \$500 to an annual maximum of to \$650 per Plan member per policy year to begin 1 September 2019, and those discussions had resulted in the proposal before GSA Council. He added that this increase would still allow for around \$5 per Plan member to be deposited in the GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund to offset potential future increases in the cost of the Plan. F Elian indicated that C Yamagishi was in attendance to answer any specific questions.

GSA Council members posed a series of questions including, but not limited to, potential drawbacks to this proposed dental coverage increase (F Elian noted that this might result in an increase in the cost of the Plan in future years as the cost is driven by both the volume and amount of claims and expanding coverage may result in an increase in claims and C Yamagishi noted that many graduate students already used their dental coverage up to \$500, so this increase would be beneficial for them); if the number of scaling units that could be claimed in a year would increase with this change (it was noted that the number of covered scaling units would not change); what this increase meant for the coverage of major restorative procedures (the Plan did not cover major restorative procedures but graduate students, by using the Studentcare Network, could save 30% on those procedures and C Yamagishi noted that adding coverage for major restorative procedures could be a change made to the Plan in the future); if the Alberta dental fee guide was simply a guideline or if it was binding on dentists (it was confirmed that the Alberta dental fee guide was simply a guideline for dentists' use and C Yamagishi noted that Studentcare Network members

were asked to abide by the Canadian Health and Life Insurance Association fee guide over the provincial fee guide, though the two were very similar).

MOTION: That GSA Council **APPROVE** that dental coverage under the GSA Health and Dental Plan be increased from an annual maximum of \$500 per Plan member per policy year to an annual maximum of \$650 per Plan member per policy year to begin 1 September 2019. F Elian **MOVED**; K Gordon **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

6. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Membership

Sasha van der Klein (President) presented the item.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council **APPROVE**, having been unanimously recommended by the GSA Governance Committee and the GSA Board, the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section B: Members and associated changes throughout GSA Bylaw and Policy, as shown in the attached double column document and track changes document and effective upon the second reading by GSA Council in the case of GSA Bylaw and the approval of GSA Council in the case of GSA Policy.

S van der Klein noted that this proposal was before GSA Council for the second reading of GSA Bylaw, and the sole reading of GSA Policy. She further noted that, following the March GSA Council meeting, the GSA office had reviewed the document and noticed some additional purely editorial changes, which were reflected in the track changes document circulated with the meeting materials. There were no questions.

MOTION: That GSA Council **APPROVE**, having been unanimously recommended by the GSA Governance Committee and the GSA Board, the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section B: Members and associated changes throughout GSA Bylaw and Policy, as shown in the attached double column document and track changes document and effective upon the second reading by GSA Council in the case of GSA Bylaw and the approval of GSA Council in the case of GSA Policy. K Gordon **MOVED**; M Aliramezani **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

7. Recommended Changes to GSA Recognition Awards

Sasha van der Klein (President) presented the item.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council **APPROVE**, having been unanimously recommended by the GSA Governance Committee and the GSA Board, the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards, GSA Policy, GSA Recognition Awards and Adjudication Criteria as noted in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council.

S van der Klein noted that the recommended changes introduced language to clarify that, for the self-nominated GSA Recognition Awards, in order to be eligible, individuals only needed to have been a GSA member at the time the nomination period was open.

K Gordon asked if it was possible, in the recommended changes to Section O.POL.1.6, to replace the wording “at the time” with “at any time during the nomination period” and GSA Council members agreed to this change.

MOTION: That GSA Council **APPROVE**, having been unanimously recommended by the GSA Governance Committee and the GSA Board, the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards, GSA Policy, GSA Recognition Awards and Adjudication Criteria as noted in the attached double column document and including the above change agreed to by GSA Council and effective upon approval by GSA Council. H Torck **MOVED**; M Aliramezani **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Elections:

8. GSA Council Elections

Kenzie Gordon (GSA Nominating Committee Vice-Chair) presented the item. K Gordon explained to GSA Council members that they should have received two ballots on their way in and also reminded members of the proper procedure for voting.

Nominees for GSA Councillor-at-Large (5 vacancies):

Braulio Marfil Garza (Surgery)
 Sasha van der Klein (Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science)
 Osama Mohsen (Civil and Environmental Engineering)
 Landon Wu (Computing Science)

GSA Standing Committees

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

Nominees for GSA Budget and Finance Committee (1 vacancy):
 Milad Rezvani Rad (Mechanical Engineering)

K Gordon introduced the nominee, who was given the opportunity to address GSA Council by responding to a question provided in advance. K Gordon asked the following question of the candidate for GSA Budget and Finance Committee and the candidate was given 45 seconds to respond: “taking 45 seconds, please tell us why you’d like to serve on the GSA Budget and Finance Committee.”

Discussion Item:

9. GSA Board Strategic Work Plan: Final Update to GSA Council

Sasha van der Klein (President) presented the item.

S van der Klein noted that this was her team’s final update on their strategic work plan. She further noted that a document outlining the key achievements from the past year had been developed and that this document would be distributed to key stakeholders. She reminded GSA Council that the next team would be developing their 2019-2020 strategic work plan over the summer.

S van der Klein indicated that, for her portfolio, she had continued to advocate for guaranteed, transparent, and sustainable funding packages. She added that a draft proposal had been presented to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council and that the draft would be presented at the next meeting of the General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee. She noted that the second priority for her portfolio was to advocate for the creation of a supervisory college within FGSR, which would be mandatory for supervisors to develop the necessary skills for their supervisory role, and noted that she anticipated these conversations would continue with the new Dean of the FGSR. She further noted that N Krogman, FGSR Associate Dean, had been working on developing certain training resources for supervisors.

M Aliramezani indicated that his portfolio highlights included advocating for quality supervision, including monitoring of the frequency of supervisory committee meetings and advocating for more involvement and a better acknowledgement (academically and financially) of graduate students in undergraduate research projects. He reported that one outcome was that the Undergraduate Research Initiative had agreed to discuss adding a modest stipend for graduate students involved in the Initiative’s work. He also noted that, in his work with the FGSR Learning Outcomes Working Group to prepare templates for learning outcomes for PhD students, he emphasized the need to include annual supervisory committee meetings. He noted that this working group would be reaching out shortly to graduate students to get more feedback, and that these opportunities would be advertised through the GSA newsletter. Finally, he noted that each Faculty would be working to develop their own program learning outcomes, based on the templates, and encouraged GSA Councillors to reach out to the incoming Vice-President Academic if they were not consulted about the development of these learning outcomes.

Z Pan highlighted that his priorities focused on advocating for graduate students who live in residences, for better supports for students who parent, and participating in the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council’s meetings with representatives from Alberta political parties.

B Richardson reported that one of her achievements for the year overlapped with S van der Klein’s work on increased accountability for supervisors and involved consulting with N Krogman in FGSR on mandatory supervisory training with respect to provincial legislation on Occupational Health and Safety. She noted the second main achievement for her portfolio was the successful negotiation of a substantial increase to the Graduate Student Support Fund.

F Elian reported that the first highlight from his portfolio was working on initiatives to improve graduate student mental health, including advocating against the provincial government’s directive to not use provincial grants to fund clinical and counselling services and working with the Students’ Union, Indigenous Graduate Students’ Association (IGSA), and Dean of Students Office on a national project to develop mental health standards for post-secondary students. He noted that the second achievement

from his portfolio was improving the GSA Health and Dental Plan without increasing Plan fees, through the addition of coverage for occupational therapy and an increase in dental coverage.

GSA Council members posed a series of questions, including but not limited to, whether the mental health standards would be part of a broader policy or whether they would be more administrative (F Elian responded that the Canadian Mental Health Commission (CMHC) had started this project to develop standards a year ago, and that the CMHC had wanted to collect feedback from undergraduate and graduate students at post-secondary institutions across Canada through town halls and surveys and he further indicated that, due to time constraints and short deadlines, the Dean of Students office was unable to host town halls before the deadline of 4 May and that this office would be using feedback around mental health collected through other projects and conversations; the GSA and the IGSA would have a chance to review the proposed submission before it is sent to the CMHC); the types of standards that would be suggested as part of this project (F Elian responded that the CMHC would use the feedback received to develop the standards and he noted that the GSA would ensure that better access to mental health services and the importance of the supervisory relationships would be highlighted in the submission); *and* what the GSA's plans were to address the upcoming closure of Michener Park, and the need to assist/support the 400 families that would be moving out of this residence (S van der Klein responded that following that announcement in June 2018 (providing Michener Park residents with two years notice), the University had done multiple consultations on housing for students who parent and that this process had shown that students who parent do not necessarily want housing but want child care. S van der Klein further indicated that, in the previous year, the GSA had pushed for the University to provide supports for residents in their transition out of Michener Park and F Elian emphasized that, during his term, he would work to ensure that the University worked with the Michener Park community to address the supports that would be required for students and their families, including the necessity of offering low income housing for graduate students, though it was noted that the University was not planning on building a new residence for student families).

Reports

10. President

i. President's Report:

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition S van der Klein thanked GSA Council members for their feedback and good questions. S van der Klein also thanked her team and the office staff for all of their support over the past year.

ii. GSA Board

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted.

iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee

No written report at this time.

iv. GSA Governance Committee

No written report at this time.

11. Vice-President Academic

i. Vice-President Academic's Report:

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition M Aliramezani thanked GSA Council members and S van der Klein. He also invited graduate students to share their concerns, if any, when the FSGR Learning Outcomes group circulated the learning outcome templates.

12. Vice-President External

i. Vice-President External's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted. Z Pan also thanked GSA Council members for their support, thanked his colleagues and the office staff.

ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee's Report

No written report at this time.

13. Vice-President Labour

i. Vice-President Labour's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted.

ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee

No written report at this time.

14. Vice-President Student Services

i. Vice-President Student Services' Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition F Elian thanked the office staff and thanked the other member of the team, specifically, F Elian thanked S van der Klein, who motivated him to run and involved him in higher governance.

15. Senator

i. Senator's Report

No written report at this time.

16. Speaker

i. Speaker's Report

No written report at this time.

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 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition K Gordon brought three vacancies (on the GSA Governance Committee, GSA Board, and for the GSA Senator) to the attention of GSA Council members.

19. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee

ii. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report

No written report at this time.

20. GSA Management

i. Executive Director's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 April 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition C Thomas stated that with the financial year recently ended, the GSA office was preparing for the annual audit, the results of which would come before GSA Council over the summer.

Question Period

21. Written Questions

Question submitted by A Howlader: could the Directly-Elected Officers discuss the steps taken by the GSA concerning the recently approved rent increases for graduate housing?

S van der Klein noted that, at the Board of Governors where this increase was approved, she stated that she found it ridiculous that rent for Michener Park was increasing as it was closing and that she opposed the Motion to increase the rent. She also noted that the GSA had worked with graduate students living in Michener Park on a variety of issues affecting them over the years, including traveling times from and to campus and on issues related to the state of disrepair of the premises. She also encouraged graduate students living in residences to come forward to the GSA with any issues they may have.

22. Oral Questions

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Report to Graduate Students' Association

Athletic and Recreation Fee



Principles

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Partnership
- Collaboration
- Consultation



Key Points

- Transparency
 - Students pay approximately \$5.8 million in A&R Fees
 - Students want to know what their fees pay for
 - Athletics and Recreation fees pay part of the cost to provide sport and recreation services to students



Key Points

- Accountability
 - A&R Fee is part of the MNIF, therefore overseen by MNIF Oversight Committee
 - Who is responsible for the allocation of the funds and therefore the provision of services?
 - The Dean of the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation delegates the responsibility to the two Directors; Cheryl Harwardt and Ian Reade



Campus & Community Recreation

- Who we are:
 - Vision: Inspiring and empowering exceptional life experiences through recreation, sport and wellness
 - Mission: Facilitate and deliver leading-edge programs, events, services and facilities for our communities
 - Values: Leadership - Collaboration - Kaizen - Civility - Inclusiveness



Campus & Community Recreation

- Services Provided:
 - Access to Facilities – Arena, Climbing Centre, Fitness Centre, Gymnasiums, Studios, Activity spaces, Pavilion, Squash Courts, Swimming pools
 - Programs/Events – Club Sports, Intramurals, Group Exercise, Instructional Recreation classes, residence programming, LiveWell
 - Events – Turkey Trot, Big Pink, RecStock
 - Employment Opportunities



Campus & Community Recreation

Funding Partnerships

- Major Sources of Revenue:

- U of A Operating Contribution \$1.60 million

- Revenue raised - \$3.27 million
(rentals, memberships, program fees)

Total non-fee revenue **\$4.87 million**

Athletic & Recreation fee **\$2.20 million**

LiveWell funds **\$.14 million**

Total CCR **\$7.21 million**

NOTE: (UA also provides utilities, cleaning and facility envelope maintenance)



Campus & Community Recreation

- Major Expenses
 - Facility staff wages \$2.48 million
 - Programming staff wages \$2.01 million
 - Operating Costs \$2.42 million
 - Capital Replacement/Repair \$0.30 million
 - **Total Expenditures CCR** **\$7.21 million**
(including LiveWell)



Campus & Community Recreation

Key Stats

- Fitness Centre
 - January 2018 – December 201 – 535,593 uses – 8% increase
- Locker Rooms
 - January 2018 – December 2018 – 1,128,020 uses
- Dance
 - More than 850 dancers participated in 25 different dance disciplines
- Aquatics
 - Over 90,000 visits to the Aquatics Centre (including 1 robot visiting 28 times)
- Intramurals
 - 2,787 Hours of Intramural games played



Golden Bears and Pandas Athletics

Funding Partnerships

- Major Sources of Revenue:

– U of A Operating	\$1,100,000	
– Donors	\$ 600,000	
– Sponsors	\$ 300,000	
– Gate	\$ 400,000	
– Alumni	\$1,800,000	
– Community Programs	<u>\$ 600,000</u>	
Total non-fee revenue	\$4,800,000	
A&R Fee to Athletics	\$3,200,000	
Total Expenditures Athletics		\$8,000,000



Golden Bears and Pandas Athletics

Funding Partnerships

- Major Expenses:

– Salaries (ATS) and NASA	\$4,400,000
– Travel	\$1,900,000
– Supplies	\$1,400,000
– Rentals	<u>\$ 300,000</u>
- Total	<u>\$ 8,000,000</u>

Student Scholarships (in addition) \$1,500,000

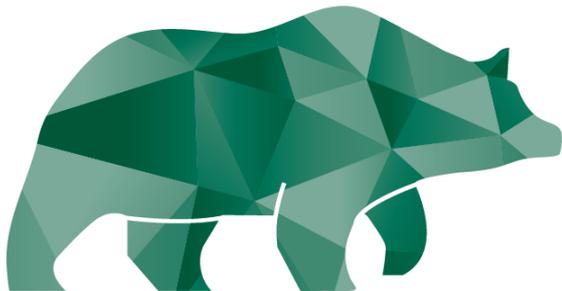


Key Points

- Collaboration and Consultation
 - Bi-annual report to SU/GSA
 - Athletics and Recreation fees policy advisory committee
 - MNIF Oversight Committee
 - Need to develop a short term and a long term strategy to ensuring viability of services



Golden Bears and Pandas on the Road Watch on Canadawest.tv



GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)
GSA SENATOR (1 POSITION):
3 NOMINEES

As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, "Nominations for Senator will open on or about 1 April of every year. The nomination period will normally be one (1) month" (Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, Council-Elected Officers, Section D.BYL.3.2.b). This position was first advertised in the GSA newsletter of 5 April with a nomination deadline of 8 May 2019. Three (3) nominations were received.

Qualifications as set out in Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officers, Section D.POL.11.2.a

"The Senator should have prior experience acting as a representative for the GSA and/or as a liaison with bodies external to the University."

Duties as set out in Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officers, Section D.BYL.3.3.b

"The Senator is the GSA's representative to the University of Alberta Senate."

Duties as set out in Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officers, Section D.BYL.3.3.e

"All GSA Council-Elected Officers and Deputies are non-voting members of GSA Council."

There will be an anonymous paper ballot vote held at the 13 May 2019 GSA Council meeting to elect the GSA Senator for 2019-2020.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the 13 May 2019 meeting of GSA Council and would like to cast an electronic vote for this position, you must contact the GSA Nominating Committee Coordinator (gsa.nomcomm@ualberta.ca) BEFORE 3:00 PM on Monday 13 May 2019 in order to cast your vote in advance of the GSA Council meeting.

Nominees for this position are listed in alphabetical order by last name and will be presented in *reverse alphabetical* order on the ballot. 'None of the Candidates' will also be considered a nominee.

- 1. Rajesh Kumar (Civil and Environmental Engineering)**
- 2. Milad Nazarahari (Mechanical Engineering)**
- 3. Alesha Reed (Rehabilitation Science)**

Jurisdiction:

Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, Section D.BYL.3.1.d

"The GSA NoC will follow its legislated process in forwarding one or more nominations to GSA Council except that the GSA NoC may not waive advertising. Note that the legislated GSA NoC process specifies that all vacancies will be advertised at least twice in advance of the nomination deadline."

Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, Section D.BYL.3.2.d

"The Senator will be elected by a simple majority vote of GSA Council, for a term lasting from 1 June to 31 May of the following year."

The names and biographies received for the three (3) nominees are BELOW on pages 6.1 - 6.6. Biographies and resumes are presented as received (ie not edited).

**Nominations for GSA Senator
(1 Vacancy for a Graduate Student)
Three (3) Nominees**

1. Rajesh Kumar

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	GFC STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY COMMITTEE (Recently)
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Statement of Interest

The skills I gained over the past are as follows:

1. Teamwork: I lead my team for the project during my undergraduate studies and we got the Second position.
2. Self-motivated, Independent decision & adaptability: There were times when I had to face adverse circumstances, yet I figured out how to finish the errand allocated at a given time.
3. As a site engineer, I had supervised the works done by the labor and coordinated with clients. I think this skill of mine can be helpful for the advisory group or planning with different boards of committees.
4. At last, I would say I will try my best to help the council for its smooth functioning.

Bio

I was born in a small town where I got my secondary education. Then I shifted to a metropolitan city to pursue my undergraduate in Civil Engineering. Initially, I faced challenges to adopting in the environment but I adapted to it in minimal time. In my undergraduate studies, I represented my class and was the class coordinator. Also, I participated in the events at my college and volunteered. I did my capstone project on "Shaking table studies on Geotextile Reinforced Soil Slopes" and won 2nd prize. After, completing my degree I got placed at one of the reputed construction company in India.

Apart from that, I love helping the needy and poor and have helped them by giving foods, clothes, and money at a personal level.

Summary Resume

At present, I am pursuing MEng in Structural Engineering at the Department of Civil and Environment Engineering. I am interested to work in the field of Structural Health Monitoring for my capstone project. In my undergraduate, I did project survey project which included Highway Project, New Tank, and Old Tank Project, Village Mapping, Shaking Table Studies on Geotextile Reinforced Soil Slopes and delivered a seminar on

the topic "Measures to mitigate the effects of terrorist attacks on building".

After completion of my bachelor degree, I worked in Nagarjuna Construction Company Pvt. Ltd. where I supervised structural detailing, finishing works, retaining wall construction and concreting. Thereafter, I worked for the client "Bangalore Metro Railway Corporation Ltd". Where I supervised the construction of Viaduct, piling works, steel detailing and site inspection.

I have volunteered for NGO called "Art of Living" and helped to conduct yoga session at my college back in India. After coming to UoA, I volunteered with "Campus UNICEF" as a planning committee member for two events i.e., "Trivia Night" and "March into Fun".

2. Milad Nazarahari

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	GFC Committee on the Learning Environment
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Statement of Interest
<p>A dynamic and vibrant academic environment can guarantee a successful program for students from different backgrounds. For this purpose, continuous connection between departments, including professors and staff, and students is required to share the major concerns among department and students and develop plans to maximize the efficiency of the program for all students.</p> <p>As the VP Academic of Mechanical Engineering Graduate Students Association (MEGSA 2017), I extensively developed my interpersonal and communication skill during a liaison with the faculty and graduate students. I also had the chance to serve as the Mechanical Engineering Department Councillor at the GSA meetings. Recently, I have been selected as a member of the “GFC Committee on the Learning Environment” to contribute to the process of enhancing the quality of teaching and learning environment at UoA. Considering my past experiences in student bodies, I would like to further enhance my skills by serving as the GSA Senator.</p>
Bio
<p>I was born and raised in Tehran, Iran. I did both B.Sc. (2012) and M.Sc. (2014) programs at the Iran University of Science and Technology. Taking advantage of my experience in Mechanical Engineering and Mechatronics, I started working in the R&D office of a manufacturing company with a focus on developing mass production lines. Motivated by the joy of learning, I considered pursuing my graduate studies in a well-recognized international institution not only to benefit from research facilities but also to develop my interpersonal skills in a multi-cultural environment.</p>
Summary Resume
<p>I started my third year of Ph.D. studies in September 2018 at the Department of Mechanical Engineering under the supervision of Dr. Hossein Rouhani. My research is related to biomedical and rehabilitation engineering, particularly, developing technologies for facilitating the rehabilitation of stroke survivors. As an RA, not only I had the chance to develop biomedical technologies and conduct clinical studies, but also I mentored undergraduate students during their co-op program. As a TA, I am engaged in teaching activities both in content delivering and marking. I also have been awarded several prestigious scholarships like Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship (2018) and Alberta Innovates – Graduate Studentship Scholarship (2017). Regarding voluntary activities:</p>

1. Member of GFC Committee on the Learning Environment.
2. VP Academic, Mechanical Engineering Graduate Students Association (MEGSA).
3. Member of Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Council.
4. Member of University of Alberta's Alumni Community.
5. Mechanical Engineering Building 4th Floor Fire Warden, University of Alberta.

3. Alesha Reed

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	General Faculties Council & Graduate Student Association
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Statement of Interest

Once accepted into the combined Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology and PhD in Rehabilitation Medicine program, I immediately immersed myself in the graduate student community. Within my faculty association (Rehabilitation Medicine Students' Association - RMSA), I served as a Class Representative and as the Vice President-Academic (VPA) from September 2016- September 2018. In addition to the planning, coordination, and execution of existing academic initiatives, I revitalized the organization's services and events offered to students as VPA. I strategically planned events designed to increase the sense of community between the departments, including professional development sessions and social events. I have also served as a departmental representative on the GSA for the past two years. Through these experiences I've had the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of university structure through service on a number of committees, including my faculty's dean selection committee. I believe my experience in advocating for students at a faculty and university level make me an ideal candidate to serve as a University of Alberta Senator.

Bio

I was born and raised in central Alberta before moving to Edmonton in 2009 to complete a BSc at the University of Alberta. Throughout my undergraduate degree I volunteered through a number of on campus organizations, such as Safewalk and the New Student Orientation Program. I eventually went on to be hired as student staff at the orientation program where I had an opportunity to build my leadership skills through collaboration with campus partners. Following my graduation in 2014 I served as a research coordinator in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, where I continued to develop my project management and research skills. In 2016 I began my graduate training in a combined MSc in Speech Language Pathology & PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences. When I'm not in class or doing research I enjoy gardening and attending Edmonton's summer festivals.

Summary Resume

I am now a third year PhD candidate in the Department of Rehabilitation Science studying changes in muscle coordination during speech production. Throughout my undergraduate and graduate career I have demonstrated a dedication to improving the experience of students through my involvement in campus organizations. I believe I have gained the skills necessary to serve as an effective advocate for students on the

GFC. My schedule is flexible enough to allow me to not only attend the meetings of the GFC as a student representative but to also join additional standing committees.

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)
GSA BOARD (GSAB) (TWO (2) POSITIONS FOR A GSA COUNCILLOR):
ONE (1) NOMINEE

Information regarding the position for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated on two (2) instances via email to GSA Council with a deadline of 8 May 2019. One (1) nomination was received.

The GSAB is the senior administrative authority of the GSA. As set out in GSA Bylaw and Policy, GSA Councillors on GSAB “These Councillors are expected to provide a link between the DEOs and GSA Council. Accordingly, they present information, as needed, to GSA Council when GSAB business is discussed and, likewise, represent the voice of GSA Council at GSAB meetings and advise DEOs on matters discussed by the GSAB” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section F: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Board, Section F.POL.3.1.e.i).

There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 13 May 2019 GSA Council meeting.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the 13 May 2019, meeting of GSA Council and would like to cast an electronic vote for this position, you must contact the GSA Nominating Committee Coordinator (gsa.nomcomm@ualberta.ca) BEFORE 3:00 PM on Monday 13 May 2019 in order to cast your vote in advance of the GSA Council meeting.

Nominees for this position are listed in alphabetical order by last name and will be presented in *reverse alphabetical* order on the ballot. ‘None of the Candidates’ will also be considered a nominee.

- 1. Harleen Kaur Dhaliwal (Councillor-at-Large, Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science)**

GSA Councillors Leaving GSAB: Dylan Ashley (Computing Science), Nuayni Liang (Councillor-at-Large, Agricultural, Food, and Nutritional Sciences)

GSA Councillor Staying on GSAB: Milad Rezvani Rad (Mechanical Engineering)

Jurisdiction:

Section F: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Board, Section F.POL.3.1.e

“Up to three (3) Councillors elected by GSA Council as non-voting members.”

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, Nominating, Section E.POL.3.1.a

“The GSA NoC provides GSA Council with the names of nominees to fill vacancies on GSA Standing Committees, ad hoc committees, and subcommittees, unless otherwise noted. All vacancies will be advertised at least twice in advance of the nomination deadline noted in the advertisement.”

The name and biography received for the one (1) nominee is BELOW on pages 6.8 - 6.9. The biography and resume is presented as received (ie not edited).

Nominations for GSA Board (GSAB)
(1 Vacancy for a GSA Councillor)
One (1) Nominee

1. Harleen Kaur Dhaliwal

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	GSA Councillor-at-large, ALES GSA VP Finance
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Statement of Interest

In my two years of working experience as a technical executive, I have honed my skill set and accomplished a great deal. My responsibilities while working with different department caused me to develop my skills in problem-solving, decision making and complaint resolution. Throughout my industrial career, I have contributed to positive business results through effective organization prioritization. During my masters, I was a part of the hostel committee headed by the general secretary where the monthly meetings were conducted to discuss about the student issues on the food quality, menu and cleanliness. As part of the monitoring of the hostel finances, we conducted regular audits of expenditures, assets and liabilities, making sure the recorded figures were verifiable and accurate. I have also worked as an event coordinator in organizing the college events like Manzar and Yuvam catering for the student interests. My strengths are an ideal match for the GSAB member position requirements and will be an immediate value to the committee.

Bio

I am from India. After obtaining a B.tech degree in Food technology, I did my masters in Food biotechnology. I then worked for two years in the research and development department of an Indian based MNC specialising in the innovative flavours and fragrances. My two year work experience has helped me gain a clear insight in the food industry and helped me in developing my interpersonal and communicational skills.

Summary Resume

I am working on a Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology studying the effects of hurdle technologies on low moisture food safety. My work and academic experiences have helped me develop analytical ability to understand and assimilate issues quickly and to review and clarify them regarding any conflict.

I am serving as a GSA councillor at large and ALES GSA VP- finance starting 2019-2020. I am also volunteering for International student services (ISS) of UofA and am once again in the process of broadening my network by volunteering in many activities at the University of Alberta. Due to my involvement in various governance bodies, I believe that I can further strengthen the network among these bodies by becoming part of the

GSA Board.

Due to my flexible schedule, I can accommodate any meeting scheduled for the committee.

**GSA President
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Sasha van der Klein
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

This is my final report to Council! It is short because it only covers a couple of weeks and I have other responsibilities now that I am not the President anymore.

External

Ab-GPAC – We had our transition meeting in Calgary and Marc will take on the role of ab-GPAC Vice-Chair, so for future updates on provincial matters please refer to his reports. The provincial election also happened and the UCP won with a majority government, which could have implications for the post-secondary sector, but the new team will keep you updated if they receive information on issues that could directly affect graduate students.

Internal

Board of Governors – I had a couple of Board committee meetings before I left office, and most of the discussions were around the provincial election results and the implications for Bill 19 regarding tuition. The Board Finance and Property Committee talked about asset management and the Dentistry Pharmacy building, which will be completely renovated and partially demolished. You may have noticed that a bunch of fences went up around this building, and demolition will begin soon.

Tuition – The University is looking for solutions to comply with Bill 19, particularly around the stipulation requiring Universities to provide guarantee tuition to international students for the length of their studies with their offer of admission. They may be looking at completely changing the international student tuition model and implementing a program-based tuition structure, to replace the current pay-per-course model. This would be an incredible undertaking, and a big change in how tuition works for international students, so Fahed will keep you updated when decisions are reached. The biggest question that remains is what would happen to current international students.

That was it! Sorry I couldn't be there today to answer your questions if you have any, but you can always contact Fahed or the GSA office.

Thanks,

Sasha van der Klein, 2018-2019 GSA President

7.1

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 15 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

16 April	Board Finance and Property Committee (BFPC)
16 April	Meeting with the Students' Union Executives
17 April	General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
18 April	University Space Procedures Consultation
24 April	Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC)
24 April	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council
25 April	Monthly Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students
25 April	Presentation for the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Students' Association (MEGSA)
26 April	Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee (BRPAC)
26 April	Board Learning and Discovery Committee (BLDC)
29 April	Meeting with N van Kuppeveld, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director
29 April	General Faculties Council (GFC)
29 April	Meeting with S Dew, Provost and Vice-President Academic
30 April	International Steering Committee

**GSA Vice-President Student Services (2018-2019) and GSA President (2019-2020)
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Fahed Elian
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

This is my first report to you as GSA President, thanks to everyone who helped me along the way. I am looking forward for this term, as we have a motivated, excited and dedicated team of Directly-Elected Officers (DEOs) who have already hit the ground running. My vision as the GSA President will not be accomplished without GSA Council members' help, support, ideas, and suggestions. I am eager for a collaborative relationship with all GSA Council members. We will be bringing forward proposals and ideas to navigate solutions for some of the ongoing problems that graduate students experience, and I highly encourage you to get involved and engaged with the GSA executive team this year. We are here to listen and act on what would be best for all graduate students. You play a critical role in GSA advocacy work through your efforts to connect the GSA with graduate students in your departments. We thank you for all the hard work you have done so far, and we are looking forward to work with you on advocacy priorities for your department and the GSA. I am happy to share my activities and to give you a brief update on the meetings I attended in the past month as 2018-2019 VP Student Services and 2019-2020 President.

Job Shadowing

I attended several job shadowing meetings while preparing to start my term as GSA President; Board Finance and Property Committee (BFPC), Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee (BRPAC), Board Learning and Discovery Committee (BLDC), General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC), Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC), the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council, General Faculties Council (GFC), and a meeting with Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic). For more details on these meetings, please refer to the former GSA President's final meeting report (Item 7).

Meetings with Board of Governors Members

To kick off my presidency, I reached out to Board of Governors members to meet and discuss a few issues concerning graduate students. The main discussions were around international tuition fees, graduate student-supervisor relationships, the upcoming closure of Michener Park, and a Charter of Student rights. The discussion was more focused on how the GSA can navigate these issues in the most efficient way and what advocacy practices would be fruitful, based on the Board of Governors' culture, mandate, and member backgrounds.

Memorial for a Graduate Student

With sadness and grief, the GSA and the University of Alberta received the news of a graduate student's death last month. The Dean of Students office and the student's friends had a memorial to celebrate his life. The GSA DEOs and I attended the memorial and gave our support and condolences on behalf of the GSA. The GSA would like to thank the Dean of Students office for all their work on this.

General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)

The GFC APC committee voted in favor for proposed increases to minimum English language proficiency entrance requirements for graduate programs. The proposed increases can be viewed [here](#).

Completing My Term as GSA Vice-President Student Services

Since my last report to GSA Council in April, my term as GSA Vice-President Student Services ended on 30 April 2019. During the last few weeks of my term, I continued to transition Chantal into her role as the incoming Vice-President Student Services, and I am looking forward to her continuing the work that occurred in my portfolio last year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or shall require further information about any of these sessions or meetings. Also, please reach out to me if you have any ideas, suggestions, concerns, or comments, I would be more than happy to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Fahed Elian, 2018-2019 Vice-President Student Services and 2019-2020 President

Please find below a list of meetings I attended as Vice-President Student Services between 15 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

16 April	Board Finance and Property Committee (BFPC)
16 April	Meeting with the Students' Union Executives
17 April	General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
18 April	University Space Procedures Consultation
18 April	U-Pass Administrative Committee Meeting
23 April	Meeting with Z Somani, Board of Governors (BoG) Member
23 April	Meeting with the Students' Union Marketing Team
24 April	Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC)
24 April	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council
25 April	Monthly Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students
25 April	Campus Clean Air Strategy Working Group
26 April	Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee (BRPAC)
26 April	Board Learning and Discovery Committee (BLDC)
29 April	General Faculties Council (GFC)
29 April	Meeting with S Dew, Provost and Vice-President Academic
30 April	Meeting regarding Graduate Student Assistance Program (GSAP)

Please find below a list of meetings I attended as President between 1 May 2019 and 13 May 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Additionally, I attended a series of training sessions with the GSA office.

1 May	Wellness Coffee
2 May	Meeting with L Paradis, Board of Governors (BoG) Member
2 May	Memorial for a Graduate Student

7 May	Meeting with a Graduate Student
7 May	Meeting with A Brown, Students' Union Vice-President External
8 May	Board of Governors (BoG) Strategies Discussion with the Students' Union (SU)
8 May	General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
8 May	University of Alberta Celebrate Mentorship Event
9 May	Energy Systems Signature Area Launch
9 May	Board of Governors (BoG) Dinner
10 May	Board of Governors (BoG)
10 May	Meeting with T Carter re: Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Engagement (SAGE) Initiative
13 May	Community Connections Awards

**GSA Board
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Courtney Thomas, Executive Director; Julie Tanguay, Associate Director; and Lisa Hareuther, Assistant Director
Date: 10 May 2019

The GSA Board (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. GSA Council members are always able to ask questions about items that were discussed in closed session. Open session Minutes are available upon request. The President, Vice-Presidents, and the administrative team 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 17 (Executive Director's Report to GSA Council) on pages 17.1 - 17.4.

17 April 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Recommended Changes to GSA Board Policy on Section 2: Government of Alberta Graduate Citizenship Award and GSA Recognition Awards: Application/Nomination and Adjudication Processes; and Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

MOTION: That the GSA Board **APPROVE** the recommended changes to GSA Board Policy, Section 2: Government of Alberta Graduate Citizenship Award and GSA Recognition Awards: Application/Nomination and Adjudication Processes as noted in the attached "track changes" document, effective immediately (with the exception of the removal of the current Section 2.4, which will be effective pending GSA Council approval of related changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy). SvK **MOVED**. BR Seconded. **CARRIED**.

24 April 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Actual Expenses for Attendance at the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Annual General Meeting, 20-22 March 2019 in Halifax, NS: Business Travel Expenses; Graduate Student Financial Aid Procedure – Request For GSA Feedback From FGSR; and Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

MOTION: The GSA Board is asked to **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the attached summary of actual expenses incurred through attendance at the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Annual General Meeting, 20-22 March 2019, in Halifax, NS. SvK **MOVED**. FE Seconded. **CARRIED**.

1 May 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Line of Succession for Chair of the GSA Board; Designation of Executive Vice-Presidents and Line of Succession for Acting President; Attendance at the Canadian Alliance of Student Association (CASA) Foundations Conference, 27-31 May 2019, in Ottawa, ON: Estimated Expense; and Communication and Supports Following a Campus Death.

Motions and Agreements:

MOTION: That the GSA Board **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the line of succession for Chair of the GSA Board as follows: 1) Vice-President Student Services, 2) Vice-President Academic, and 3) Vice-President Labour. FE **MOVED**. MW Seconded. **CARRIED**.

MOTION: That the GSA Board **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the designation of Executive Vice-President and the line of succession for Acting President as follows: 1) GSA Vice-President External, as Executive Vice-President, and 2) GSA Vice-President Labour. FE **MOVED**. MS Seconded. **CARRIED**.

MOTION: That the GSA Board **APPROVE** the estimated expense for one (1) representative of the GSA to attend the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) 2019 Foundations Conference, 27-31 May 2019 in Ottawa, ON. FE **MOVED**. MW Seconded. **CARRIED**.

8 May 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Career Centre 2018-2019 Summary Report on the Use of the GSA's Subsidy; Canadian Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators 2019 Conference: Request for an External Grant; and Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

MOTION: That the GSA Board **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the attached summary report, as submitted by the Career Centre. FE **MOVED**. CL Seconded. **CARRIED**.

MOTION: That the GSA Board **APPROVE** an external grant of \$500 for the Canadian Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators 2019 conference, as requested in the attached letter from Fiona Halbert (Assistant Registrar, Student Financial Support). FE **MOVED**. DA Seconded. **CARRIED**.

Board Members **AGREED** to move into **CLOSED SESSION**.

Board Members discussed the **Meeting with L Paradis, Board of Governors (BoG) Member**.

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

**GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC)
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Fahed Elian
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

The GSA GC reviewed and approved a series of recommended editorial changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, via email, on 18 April 2019. As per the GSA GC's terms of reference, the GSA GC can "make any editorial changes (such as factual inaccuracies and other editorial issues) to the GSA governing documents as deemed necessary by the GSA GC" (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section F: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, Section F.POL.4.2.b).

The editorial changes in Section D: GSA Officers reflected modifications in the names of University committees that were previously included in GSA Bylaw and Policy (such as those of several Board of Governors standing committees) and the removal of other committees that no longer exist.

Additionally, upon the recent approval of the GSA Health and Dental Plan fee at the March 2019 meeting of GSA Council, it was determined that an editorial change was required to clarify the current practice that GSA Council approves the Plan fee annually (regardless of whether the Plan fee increases, remains the same, or decreases).

Finally, as reported by the outgoing GSA Vice-President External, Zhihong Pan, in his March 2019 report to GSA Council, the GSA was informed that Advanced Education has decided to no longer offer the Alberta Graduate Citizenship Award as of September 2019. As such, a factual change was required to remove reference of this award, and the GSA Awards Selection Committee's adjudication processes for this award, from our governing documents.

Sincerely,
Fahed Elian, President and Chair of the GSA GC

**GSA Vice-President Academic
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Masoud Aliramezani
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

My term as the VP Academic of the GSA finished a week ago and I already miss you. This is my last report to the Council, which summarizes the meetings I attended between the last Council meeting and the end of my term as VPA.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council meeting was one of the important meetings that I attended, where the FGSR PhD learning outcomes and graduate students' financial supports were discussed. FGSR Council members discussed the wording of the template document for PhD learning outcomes and they also discussed research-oriented and teaching-oriented learning outcomes. It was emphasized during the meeting that not all graduate students will have the chance to acquire teaching experience in their programs. Graduate student financial support was the other important topic discussed in this meeting. Distinguishing between merit-based and needs-based financial supports seems something that still needs to be addressed. Transparency of the adjudication process for awards, grants, and scholarships was also discussed.

The General Faculties Council (GFC) was the other important meeting that I attended last month, where the PhD minimum funding proposal was discussed. Despite some questions from some GFC members regarding the minimum funding package, I was glad to see that almost all of the key stakeholders at the U of A support this proposal. Of course, there are many issues and details that need to be addressed before this proposal is approved, but I hope these conversations go well and that the policy is approved eventually. Enrolment management policy and procedures was another important topic discussed at this meeting, and I tried my best to emphasize the importance of including the workforce as one of the driving factors when it comes to enrolment management. I am happy that this was finally included as a factor in the enrolment policy, but it seems that this work will be up to departments, rather than central administration, to factor into their enrolment management. Personally, I believe that workforce demand is an essential part of the enrolment management policy, and that not considering this factor carefully at various levels within the University may be a detriment to future U of A alumni or it may adversely affect the Alberta economy.

At the end, I wish you my friends and the new GSA team all the best. Hope to see you around!

Warm Regards,

Masoud Aliramezani, 2018-2019 GSA Vice-President Academic

8.1

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 15 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

16 April	Meeting with the Students' Union Executives
17 April	General Faculties Council Nominating Committee (GFC NC)
17 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
23 April	GSA Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council Caucus
24 April	Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC)
24 April	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council
25 April	GSA General Faculties Council (GFC) Caucus
26 April	University Research Policy Committee (URPC)
26 April	GSA Coffee Break
29 April	General Faculties Council (GFC)
30 April	Undergraduate Research Initiative (URI)

**GSA Vice-President Academic
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Dylan Ashley
Date: 10 May 2019

Hi Fellow Grads,

It's been a pretty eventful past few days for me in my new role as your VP Academic. I am thrilled to be a part of such a vibrant team and excited by the prospect of working with you all. I've spent the past month going through extensive training in how to best carry out my duties, and I believe I have now been well prepared to work towards enacting the change graduate students want to see.

A lot has happened in the past month while I've been working diligently in my role as your VP Academic, but here are a few highlights I have which I believe are particularly noteworthy for one reason or another:

- I had my first meeting with the FGSR Learning Outcomes Working Group. This is the group developing a set of learning outcomes for Thesis-based Masters and PhD students. The reason this is notable is that the group has included in their learning outcomes expectations of what feedback programs will provide to their students, such as annual supervisory committee meetings for PhD students. The enforcement of these feedback mechanisms was something pushed for in this working group by my predecessor, Masoud, and which I have been and will continue to push for here and elsewhere. While small, having this appear in these documents represents a key first step towards better student-supervisor relationship oversight.
- I attended the FGSR Policy Review Committee, and it seems like FGSR is looking at increasing parental leave in response to new legislation passed by the federal government. One takeaway from this meeting for me was the knowledge that supposedly some departments may require you to take some form of competency test after returning from parental leave. In light of this, I highly recommend that if you or anyone else is considering taking parental leave, they should consult with their department to better understand how this will affect your program.

As always if you have any questions or concerns feel free to email me at gsa.vpacademic@ualberta.ca.

Sincerely,

Dylan Ashley, 2019-2020 Vice-President Academic

8.3

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 1 May 2019 and 13 May 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Additionally, I attended a series of training session with the GSA office.

1 May	Council on Experiential Learning
1 May	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Policy Review Committee (FGSR PRC)
2 May	Memorial for a Graduate Student
8 May	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Learning Outcomes Working Group
8 May	University of Alberta Celebrate Mentorship Event
9 May	Energy Systems Signature Area Launch
10 May	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Professional Development Advisory Board
13 May	General Faculties Council Executive Committee (GFC Exec)

**GSA Vice-President External
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Zhihong Pan
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope all is fine and that you are all enjoying the summer. I am reporting on the meetings I attended between the April GSA Council meeting on 15 April, and the end of my term of office on 30 April 2019.

Along with my colleagues, I met with Students' Union Executives. We talked about what we've worked on the past year and exchanged our ideas on possible priorities for the 2019-2020 term.

The Alumni Council meeting this month, which Marc Waddingham as the incoming GSA Vice-President External was able to attend, focused on the recap of their initiatives during the last year, including the Alumni Student Support and Engagement Team (ASSET) program.

At the end of last month, I had my last GSA Coffee Break. During this event, I met many new faces and talked with them to see how we as the GSA can do more for our graduate students.

Thanks for having me as your VPE for the past year and have a nice summer.

Sincerely,
Zhihong Pan, 2018-2019 Vice-President External

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 15 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

16 April	Meeting with the Students' Union Executives
25 April	Killam Mentoring Award Adjudication
26 April	GSA Coffee Break

**GSA Vice-President External
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Marc Waddingham
Date: 10 May 2019

Greetings to my GSA colleagues,

I hope this report finds you well and that your recovery from the winter semester is well underway. I am looking forward to working with you all over the coming year, as we have much to do in this short amount of time together. As you are all aware, there are never guarantees in the realm of advocacy, but by combining our voices and talents, we can assist in reforming this institution into a better place for current and future graduate students. As VP External, my portfolio involves the communication of the advocacy priorities of graduate students to relevant stakeholders, and as such, I need your feedback on the issues I am to speak on. Included below are summaries of meetings which content is most pertinent to this Council, and I gladly welcome questions and input. Additionally, along with the other members of my team, I have been participating in a series of training sessions and job shadowing in order to transition into my role as VP External.

Residence Advisory Committee (RAC)

The Board of Governors (BoG) is discussing the delegation of some fee structuring authority to Ancillary Services, specifically to allow Ancillary Services to increase residence fees and meal plan rates by up to 5% annually. Currently, this authority is held solely by the BoG through the BoG Finance and Property Committee (BFPC), of which the Students' Union and the GSA are members; there is still an open question as to whether Ancillary Services would need to have their proposals approved by the BFPC. Any reductions in fees would need to go through the BoG proper.

Work has begun on restructuring residence internet services, dubbed "ResNet." There have been complaints about connectivity issues with the University's wireless internet service (UWS) in residence buildings, especially in the larger complexes. These changes would focus on increasing bandwidth and improving service stability to provide a more "at-home" experience, allowing for interruption-free streaming and entertainment. Requests have been made for proposals from private companies, and Ancillary Services is now awaiting those responses.

I raised the issue of the Michener Park closure and was informed that working groups have been formed to address issues that will arise from the closure of this residence. I will be maintaining contact with the Residence Assistants at Michener Park and would encourage Michener Park residents to do the same and/or to contact me with suggestions as to which services would be most helpful during the transition process.

Community Engagement Advisory Committee (CEAC)

The CEAC has completed its primary consultation phase with a selection of internal and external stakeholders and is now beginning the second phase of sessions over the summer. The aim of these

consultations is to gauge how the University interfaces with the external community at-large, and how initiatives that relate to this connection can be properly recognized and supported. Furthermore, the CEAC is also looking into how the University itself can become a more open space for the general public to locate faculty members whose research may serve to solve challenges in their communities. We are aiming to have the directors from the Office of Community Engagement present at the June GSA Council meeting to discuss their work and to invite GSA Councillors and their constituents to the internal consultation process, as graduate student voices have been largely absent from the process.

Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) – General Update

Aside from these items, I have also been occupied with the ab-GPAC transition process, as I was elected Vice-Chair of the organization, and I hope to have specific updates for next month's Council meeting. We have tentatively set our first board retreat meeting for the end of June, during which our top advocacy priorities for 2019/2020 will be discussed.

As with all matters related to my portfolio, please contact me with any opinions or suggestions you might have.

Kind regards,

Marc Waddingham, 2019-2020 Vice-President External

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 1 May 2019 and 13 May 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Additionally, I attended a series of training session with the GSA office.

2 May	Residence Advisory Committee (RAC)
2 May	Memorial for a Graduate Student
3 May	Community Engagement Advisory Committee
7 May	Meeting with A Brown, Students' Union Vice-President External
6 May	Meeting with N van Kuppeveld, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director and Chair of the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC)
8 May	United Way Committee
9 May	Campus Clean Air Strategy Working Group
10 May	Meeting with MP Barry, Board of Governors (BoG) Member
13 May	Community Connections Awards

**GSA Vice-President Labour
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Beth Richardson
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

Hope you're enjoying the early May snow... hopefully the final gift of Edmonton winter this spring! This is also my final Council report of the year, covering the last 3 weeks of my GSA term. I would like to wish the new VP Labour, Shanawaz Mohammad, every success during his term, and I hope that the union business of the GSA continues to be collegial, respectful, and productive.

Labour Relations Committee

The GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) met at the end of April to discuss the ongoing direction of the GSA as a union and bargaining unit. We are planning methods to increase engagement in the coming year to ensure that the GSA's role as a union is known around campus and is engaged with its members. We also discussed the ongoing collective bargaining for all the unions on campus, and the state of the GSA's Collective Agreement negotiations (for an update, see below).

Collective Agreement negotiations

Though we were hoping for a new provisional agreement to be in place for ratification by the end of my term, we were unsuccessful in reaching an agreement with the University and collective bargaining is therefore ongoing. I advise everyone to continue to stay informed via email updates from the GSA LRC and the GSA VP Labour.

Best wishes,

Beth Richardson, your VP Labour May 2018 – May 2019

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 15 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

16 April	Meeting with the Students' Union Executives
25 April	GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC)
26 April	GSA Coffee Break
30 April	Campus Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Working Group

**GSA Vice-President Labour
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Shanawaz Mohammad
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope you are all well and enjoying the warm weather. I'm really excited to start my term as VP Labour and to serve the interests of graduate students. Before I start my report, I would like to thank the graduate students who voted and supported me during the election and I'd also like to thank the GSA office team, outgoing Directly-Elected Officers (DEOs) and everyone who helped me during the transition process. During the transition period in April, I attended the meetings for the FGSR Council, GSA Board, and GSA Council and also participated in other training sessions such as ASIST 11 - Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training.

In May, I attended the meetings of the GSA Board, and some training sessions, including sessions on GSA Governance and a GSA Budget 101. Moreover, I had a meeting with the office team to discuss the Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement (CA) and on-going negotiations. As a part of my portfolio I will continue to support and assist any graduate students who have had supervisory concerns, issues with their contracts, and questions regarding the CA.

I look forward to working with all of you in the 2019-2020 academic year.

Best Regards,
Shanawaz Mohammad, 2019-2020 Vice-President Labour

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 1 May 2019 and 13 May 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Additionally, I attended a series of training session with the GSA office.

2 May	Memorial for a Graduate Student
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**GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC)
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Shanawaz Mohammad and Beth Richardson
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear GSA Council Colleagues,

The GSA LRC met on 25 April 2019. Members discussed the current state of collective bargaining, outreach, and the creation of a strike fund. They also discussed the University and the recent ratification and subsequent approval of the new Association of the Academic Staff of University of Alberta (AASUA) Collective Agreement. It was also noted that the GSA office continues to look into the elements needed to establish a strike fund. Finally, the GSA LRC discussed possible outreach events and other communications to disseminate information about the Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement to graduate students. This summary of the meeting was also circulated to Academically-Employed Graduate Students. The GSA LRC will meet again over the summer.

I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,
Shanawaz Mohammad, Vice-President Labour and Chair of the GSA LRC,
and
Beth Richardson, 2018-2019 Vice-President Labour

**GSA Vice-President Student Services
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Chantal Labonté
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

I am excited to begin my work as VP Student Services, and I look forward to a great year ahead. Over the month of April, I was able to attend and shadow important meetings for initiatives that I am eager to contribute to as VP Student Services. I would like to thank Fahed Elian for his mentorship as outgoing VP Student Services during the transition period.

I spent the first few days of my term on academic leave as I attended the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting in Montreal. Since my return, I have been able to attend a few meetings. Mainly, I would like to draw your attention to a meeting I attended as part of the Centre LRT Working Group Committee. This meeting served mainly as a consultation between City of Edmonton planners and various stakeholders from the University, Alberta Health Services, and the Garneau Community regarding possible route options for the proposed Centre Line LRT. This Centre Line will cross the river and service campus before making its way to Whyte Avenue. Six proposed routes were presented by the City of Edmonton. The routes varied in their use of 111 st and 112 st, and 87 and 89 ave as main corridors. The City of Edmonton will return with follow up plans after taking into account feedback from various stakeholders. Concerns and considerations that have been noted include safety and security, traffic congestion, access disruption and obstructions, and access to the campus community.

I welcome any questions or concerns regarding this report. Please do not hesitate to share your suggestions and comment regarding any student service-related issue you or anyone from your department may be experiencing.

Sincerely,

Chantal Labonté, 2019-2020 Vice-President Student Services

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 1 May 2019 and 13 May 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Please note that I was on academic leave 1 May – 3 May 2019. Additionally, I attended a series of training session with the GSA office.

8 May	Centre LRT Working Group Committee Meeting
9 May	Campus Food Bank Board Meeting

**GSA Nominating Committee
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Radim Barta
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

The report from the GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) this month is a summary of discussions/decisions the committee 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 Councillor-at-Large By-Election

1) GSA Councillor-at-Large (1 Graduate Student Position)

Following the 2019 GSA General Election and the subsequent by-election at the April 2019 meeting of GSA Council, one (1) out of ten (10) Councillor-at-Large positions remains vacant. As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, GSA Council fills any remaining positions from nominations forwarded by the GSA NoC (Section I: Elections, GSA Policy, Elections, Section I.POL.16.3). This position was first advertised in the GSA newsletter of 26 April 2019 with a nomination deadline of 8 May 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

GSA Council-Elected Officers

1) GSA Senator (One (1) Graduate Student Position)

As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, "nominations for Senator will open on or about April 1 of every year. The nomination period will normally be one (1) month" (Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, Council-Elected Officers, Section D.BYL.3.2.a). This position was first advertised in the GSA newsletter of 5 April 2019 with a nomination deadline of 8 May 2019. Three (3) nominations were received. **See Item 6 – Nominees for GSA Senator.**

GSA Standing Committees

1) GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) (One (1) GSA Council Member Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Council member was circulated on two (2) instances via email to GSA Council with a deadline of 8 May 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

2) GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC) (One (1) GSA Council Member Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Council member was circulated on two (2) instances via email to GSA Council with a deadline of 8 May 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

3) GSA Board (GSAB) (Two (2) GSA Council Member Position)

Information regarding the positions for two (2) GSA Council members was circulated on two (2) instances via email to GSA Council with a deadline of 8 May 2019. One (1) nomination was received. **See Item 6a – Nominee for GSA Board.**

Current Vacancies

None at this time.

Addendum – Meeting of the GSA NoC

On 12 April 2019, members of the GSA NoC met to discuss the proposed election procedures pertaining to GSA Council-Elected Officer positions (Senator, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Returning Officer (CRO), and Deputy Returning Officer (DRO)) based on feedback gathered from GSA Councillors at the 18 March 2019 meeting. In concluding the discussion, members agreed to implement new election procedures for the GSA Council-Elected Officer positions, as follows:

- Nominees for a given GSA Council-Elected Officer position will be invited to attend the meeting of GSA Council for a question period. One at a time, the GSA NoC representative conducting the election will ask them one generic question similar to what was asked previously (i.e. "Please briefly introduce yourself and tell us why you would like to serve in this capacity") and then the floor will be opened for questions from GSA Council members;
- The GSA NoC representative will work to ensure all nominees for a given position are asked approximately the same number of questions, either by using a number of backup questions approved by the GSA NoC, or by carrying over a question asked by a GSA Council member of one of the other nominees for that given position;
- GSA Council members may be asked to reframe questions deemed not directly relevant to the position in question;
- Where possible, a GSA Council member will not ask consecutive questions of the same nominee;
- There is no time limit imposed for each question for each nominee, but nominees will be informed in advance of the meeting of GSA Council that each nominee can expect their questioning period to last up to 5 minutes; *and*
- Attendance by the nominees is not mandatory. If nominees are unable to attend, they will have the option to come to the GSA office to provide answers to questions (generic question plus two backups) on film. The video will then be shown to GSA Council.

This procedure will be effective immediately for GSA Council-Elected Officer position elections, beginning with the election of the GSA Senator at the 13 May 2019 meeting of GSA Council.

**GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC)
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Leigh Spanner
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear GSA Council Colleagues,

The GSA ERC met on 16 April to debrief the 2019 GSA General Election. The main topics discussed (arising from the most recent GSA General Election) were various areas of GSA Bylaw and Policy that could benefit from further clarification, including the regulations surrounding posting on social media accounts other than the candidate's own personal one, campaigning on messaging platforms, the definition and the role of campaign volunteers, and campaigning at GSA events.

Additionally, the GSA ERC discussed the role of the Deputy Returning Officer in the GSA General Election when the Chief Returning Officer encounters conflicting time commitments, as occurred in the course of this past election.

Next, the GSA ERC will review recommended changes to GSA Election Bylaw and Policy to address these items in the coming months.

Questions about this report can be addressed to me via email.

Sincerely,
Leigh Spanner, Chair of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee

**GSA Executive Director
Report to GSA Council for the 13 May 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Courtney Thomas
Date: 10 May 2019

Dear GSA Council Members,

Below are some highlights of what the office support team has been engaged with over the past month. I, and the other members of the team, am happy to answer questions and, as usual, the detailed reports submitted to the GSA Board are also attached below.

Fiscal Year End and Annual Audit

Our Accountant and our Financial Manager are wrapping up the annual process of reconciling all of the GSA's accounts following the official end of our fiscal year on 31 March. They are also working to prepare for our annual audit, as required by the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* (once the audit is completed we submit the GSA's audited financial statements to the Board of Governors). The auditors will be in the office at the beginning of June and the audit itself will come forward to GSA Council in July; our auditor, Tom Gee, will be in attendance. The Spring/Summer Term Financial Report will also come forward to GSA Council at this time.

Directly-Elected Officer (DEO) Transition and Board Strategic Work Plan Development

Incoming DEOs began job shadowing current team members in April and we also held a day-long transition session in April for current and incoming DEOs. To help support the transition to a new team of DEOs, the office also hosts a series of individualized training sessions based on portfolios and provides a transition manual that includes key information about the GSA and the roles of DEOs. The office is also further supporting the new team of DEOs as they begin the process of drafting the 2019-2020 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.

Orientations for New Councillors-at-Large (CALs)

Last year we developed some orientation sessions for new CALs (consisting of a review of the Standing Orders of GSA Council, a GSA 101 information session, and an overview of GSA Council's annual work plan). We have provided a few training sessions so far this April and May for newly elected CALs. I'd like to remind members of GSA Council that if they want, at any time, to arrange for a 101 information session (Budget 101, Health and Dental 101, GSA Services 101, Governance 101, or GSA 101), they are welcome to contact the office.

GSA Planner

While the printing of the GSA Agenda/Handbook does not occur until August, we begin the process of designing it and selling advertising space (the ad revenue generated, by and large, determines the final number of agenda/handbooks printed) in May and June.

Association of Managers in Canadian College University Student Centres (AMICCUS-C)

The GSA is a member of AMICCUS-C and the group meets annually for a conference that gathers together the staff of student associations across Canada. This year's conference will be held in Calgary at the end of May and Julie and I will be participating. We are looking forward to information sharing with our colleagues around several pivotal issues.

As always, I am happy to answer any questions.

Courtney

Management Report to the GSA Board, 17 April 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 10 April 2019:

Strategic

- Working on designing a poster and updating the GSA website and newsletter to feature member benefits more prominently in light of possible voluntary student unionism in Alberta, and still awaiting a proposal from the marketing firm consulted earlier concerning GSA member outreach (follow up email sent last week, may need to move on with another firm).
- Working on a union vision/mission statement and a handbill to spread awareness of the GSA's role as a union (part of the labour communications developed with the Vice-President Labour).
- Preparing for an upcoming meeting of the GSA Labour Relations Committee and supporting recent meetings of the GSA Nominating Committee and the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee.
- Forward planning concerning the development of the next GSA Board Strategic Work Plan and beginning to organize an initial draft.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement and supporting negotiations processes and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

Grants and Office Operations

- GSA coffee break organizing/hosting.
- Designing the 2019 GSA handbook and sending letters to potential advertisers.
- GSA Council action (updates to GSA Bylaw and Policy, etc) and preparing materials for the May GSA Council meeting.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (14 vacancies on General Faculties Council).
- Facebook = 1,301 likes (up 2 from 10 April); Facebook posts reached 775 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 110. Twitter = 942 followers (up 1 from 10 April); our tweets earned 1,400 "impressions" over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed within two hours (66 applications funded and \$127,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed 10 April (8 applications funded (7 for events and 1 for start-up costs and \$6,513.96 disbursed).

Management Report to the GSA Board, 24 April 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 17 April 2019:

Strategic

- Working on designing a poster and updating the GSA website and newsletter to feature member benefits more prominently in light of possible voluntary student unionism in Alberta, and still awaiting a proposal from the marketing firm consulted earlier concerning GSA member outreach (follow up email sent last week, have also reached out to another firm and met with the SU's marketing team).
- Preparing to attend an AMICCUS-C meeting in Calgary at the end of May.
- Working on a union vision/mission statement and a handbill to spread awareness of the GSA's role as a union (part of the labour communications developed with the Vice-President Labour) and preparing for an upcoming meeting of the GSA Labour Relations Committee.
- Supporting a meeting of the GSA FGSR Council Caucus.
- Forward planning concerning the development of the next GSA Board Strategic Work Plan and beginning to organize an initial draft that integrates the current Plan with the platforms of those who were elected in the 2019 GSA General Election.
- Circulation of the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan highlights for 2018-2019 to the University community.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement and supporting negotiations processes and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

Grants and Office Operations

- GSA coffee break organizing/hosting and forward planning for GSA Fall Orientation.
- Designing the 2019 GSA handbook and sending letters to potential advertisers.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (working on proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy following the 2019 GSA General Election) and the GSA Nominating Committee.
- Facebook = 1,304 likes (up 3 from 17 April); Facebook posts reached 473 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 82. Twitter = 945 followers (up 3 from 17 April); our tweets earned 1,400 "impressions" over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed within two hours (66 applications funded and \$127,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed 10 April (8 applications funded (7 for events and 1 for start-up costs and \$6,513.96 disbursed).

Management Report to the GSA Board, 1 May 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 24 April 2019:

Strategic

- Preparing for the transition of Directly-Elected Officers.
- Training sessions for incoming Councillors-at-Large.
- Working on designing a poster and updating the GSA website, social media, and newsletter to feature member benefits more prominently in light of possible voluntary student unionism in Alberta, and preparing to meet with a second marketing firm about strategy development.
- Drafting on a union vision/mission statement and a handbill to spread awareness of the GSA's role as a union (part of the labour communications developed with the Vice-President Labour) and supporting a meeting of the GSA Labour Relations Committee.
- Preparing to attend an AMICCUS-C meeting in Calgary at the end of May.
- Organizing an initial draft of the 2019-2020 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan and internal task lists that integrate the current Plan with the platforms of the incoming Directly-Elected Officers.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement and supporting negotiations processes and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

Grants and Office Operations

- Forward planning for GSA Fall Orientation.
- Designing the 2019 GSA handbook and sending letters to potential advertisers.
- Organizing the first mailing of GSA Council material for the May meeting.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (working on proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy following the 2019 GSA General Election) and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on the GSA Board, GSA Governance Committee, and GSA Nominating Committee, and a Councillor-at-Large vacancy).
- Facebook = 1,305 likes (up 1 from 24 April); Facebook posts reached 457 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 25. Twitter = 947 followers (up 24 from April); our tweets earned 1,100 "impressions" over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed within two hours (66 applications funded and \$127,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed 10 April (8 applications funded (7 for events and 1 for start-up costs and \$6,513.96 disbursed).

Management Report to the GSA Board, 8 May 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 1 May 2019:

Strategic

- Providing various info/training sessions associated with the transition to a new team of Directly-Elected Officers.
- Reviewing external committee meeting materials and proposed changes to UAPPOL policy on student groups.
- Working on designing a poster and updating the GSA website, social media, and newsletter to feature member benefits more prominently in light of possible voluntary student unionism in Alberta, and preparing to meet with a second marketing firm about strategy development.
- Drafting on a union vision/mission statement and a handbill (both are drafted and in process of being reviewed) to spread awareness of the GSA's role as a union (part of the labour communications developed with the Vice-President Labour) and supporting a meeting of the GSA Labour Relations Committee.
- Preparing to attend an AMICCUS-C meeting in Calgary at the end of May.
- Organizing an initial draft of the 2019-2020 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan and internal task lists that integrate the current Plan with the platforms of the incoming Directly-Elected Officers.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (will be seeking legal advice on several issues as bargaining moves forward) and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

Grants and Office Operations

- Forward planning for GSA Fall Orientation.
- Designing the 2019 GSA handbook and sending letters to potential advertisers.
- Organizing the second mailing of GSA Council material for the May meeting.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (working on proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy following the 2019 GSA General Election) and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on the GSA Board, GSA Governance Committee, and GSA Nominating Committee, and vacancies for a Councillor-at-Large and the GSA Senator).
- Facebook = 1,310 likes (up 5 from 1 May); Facebook posts reached 1,247 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 363. Twitter = 949 followers (up 2 from 1 May); our tweets earned 1,200 "impressions" over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed within two hours (66 applications funded and \$127,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April and closed 10 April (8 applications funded (7 for events and 1 for start-up costs and \$6,513.96 disbursed).