

GSA Council Meeting CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

Monday, 16 September 2019 at 6:00 pm

2-100 University Hall, Van Vliet Complex

The GSA respectfully acknowledges that the University of Alberta is located on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

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 16 September 2019 Agenda (*suggested time: 1 min*)
2. Approval of the Minutes from the 15 July 2019 GSA Council Meeting (*suggested time: 1 min*)
Attachment:
 - i. Minutes from the 15 July 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 - 2.7

GSA Council Member Announcements

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

Presentations

5. Free Expression Consultation (*suggested time: 30 mins*)
Marc Waddingham (Vice-President External) will present the item and introduce the guests.

Guest: Wendy Rogers (Deputy Provost)

Information about the University's consultation process, as well as the draft principles can be found [here](#).

6. Career Centre Presentation (*suggested time: 30 mins*)
Chantal Labonté (Vice-President Student Services) will present the item and introduce the guests.

Guests: Tyree McCrackin (Career Centre Career Advisor) and Andrea Spevak (Graduate Student Internship Advisor)

Action Items

7. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Elections and Referenda (*suggested time: 20 mins*)
Leigh Spanner, Chair of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC), will present the item.

GSA ERC Members Invited to GSA Council as Guests: Jennifer Bertrand, Brent Constantin, Hayden

Prepared by C Thomas, L Hareuther and J Tanguay for GSA Council 16 September 2019

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Danyluk, and Rehan Pradhan

Attachments:

- i. Cover Letter from the Chair of the GSA ERC **7.0 - 7.1**
- ii. Outline of Issue **7.2**
- iii. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Elections and Referenda: Double Column **7.3 - 7.21**

- 8. Change to GSA Health and Dental Plan Coverage: Repatriation of Bodies (suggested time: 10 mins)**
Fahed Elian (President) will present the item.

Attachment:

- i. Outline of Issue **8.0**

- 9. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on the GSA Health and Dental Plan (suggested time: 10 mins)**
Fahed Elian (President) will present the item.

Attachments:

- i. Outline of Issue **9.0**
- ii. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on the GSA Health and Dental Plan: Double Column **9.1**

- 10. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on GSA Recognition Awards (suggested time: 10 mins)**
Fahed Elian (President) will present the item.

Attachments:

- i. Outline of Issue **10.0**
- ii. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on GSA Recognition Awards: Double Column **10.1 - 10.2**

Elections

- 11. GSA Council Elections (suggested time: 15 mins)**
Damandeep Singh (GSA Nominating Committee Member) will present the item.

Dean of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Selection Committee (1 vacancy)

Attachment:

- i. Nominee for the Dean of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Selection Committee (1 vacancy) **11.0 - 11.1**

GSA Deputy Speaker (1 vacancy)

Attachment:

- i. Nominees for Deputy Speaker (1 vacancy) **11.2 - 11.7**

GSA Standing Committees

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

Attachment:

- i. Nominees for the GSA BFC (1 vacancy) **11.8 - 11.11**

b. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (2 vacancies)

Attachment:

- i. Nominees for the GSA ERC (2 vacancies) **11.12 - 11.13**

c. GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) (2 vacancies)

Pranidhi Baddam (Speaker) will present the item.

Attachment:

- i. Nominees for the GSA NoC (2 vacancies) **11.14 - 11.19**

Reports (suggested time: 15 mins)

12. President (**Fahed Elian, President**)
 - i. President's Report 12.0 - 12.3
 - ii. GSA Board Report 12.4 - 12.5
 - iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee Report (**no written report at this time, next meeting scheduled for 7 October 2019**)
 - iv. GSA Governance Committee Report (**no written report at this time**)
13. Vice-President Academic (**Dylan Ashley, Vice-President Academic**)
 - i. Vice-President Academic's Report 13.0 - 13.1
14. Vice-President External (**Marc Waddingham, Vice-President External**)
 - i. Vice-President External's Report 14.0 - 14.1
 - ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee Report (**no written report at this time**)
 - iii. Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Report 14.2 - 14.4
15. Vice-President Labour (**Shanawaz Mohammad, Vice-President Labour**)
 - i. Vice-President Labour's Report 15.0 - 15.1
 - ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee Report 15.2
16. Vice-President Student Services (**Chantal Labonté, Vice-President Student Services**)
 - i. Vice-President Student Services' Report 16.0 - 16.2
17. Senator (**Alesha Reed, Senator**)
 - i. Senator's Report (**no written report at this time**)
18. Speaker (**Pranidhi Baddam, Speaker**)
 - i. Speaker's Report (**no written report at this time**)
19. Chief Returning Officer (**Amritha Prasad, Chief Returning Officer**)
 - i. Chief Returning Officer's Report (**no written report at this time**)
20. GSA Nominating Committee (**Damandeep Singh, GSA Nominating Committee Member**)
 - i. GSA Nominating Committee Report 20.0 - 20.1
21. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (**Leigh Spanner, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Chair**)
 - i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report (**no written report at this time**)
22. GSA Management (**Courtney Thomas, Executive Director**)
 - i. Executive Director's Report 22.0 - 22.5

Question Period

23. Written Questions (**none at this time**)
24. Oral Questions

Adjournment

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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|--|--|---|--|
| Fahed Elian (President) | Allan Yarahmady (Biochemistry) | Olivia Cornwall (History & Classics) | Matthew Benson (Ophthalmology) |
| Dylan Ashley (VP Academic) | Jessica Grenke (Biological Science) | Jonathan Lai (Human Ecology) | Khushmol Dhaliwal (Paediatrics) |
| Marc Waddingham (VP External) | Ashmita De (Biomedical Engineering) | Julienne Cancio (Kinesiology, Sport, & Recreation) | Nicholas Ruel (Pharmacology) |
| Shanawaz Mohammad (VP Labour) | Damandeep Singh (Business MBA) | Anusha Sajja (Lab Medicine & Pathology) | Hamdah Al Nebaihi (Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences) |
| Chantal Labonté (VP Student Services) | Ke Feng (Business PhD) | Julia Guy (Library & Information Studies) | Robert Reklow (Physiology) |
| Pranidhi Baddam (Speaker) | Brett Roughead (Cell Biology) | Lex Giesbrecht (Linguistics) | Jessica Luki (Psychiatry) |
| Amritha Prasad (Chief Returning Officer) | Nagesh Pai (Chemical & Materials Engineering) | Michelle Michelle (Mathematical & Statistical Sciences) | William Service; Lane Liddle (Psychology) |
| Alesha Reed (Senator) | Alvaro Omaña (Chemistry) | Milad Rezvani Rad (Mechanical Engineering) | Misha Miazga-Rodriguez (Public Health) |
| Harleen Kaur Dhaliwal (Councillor-at-Large) | Lindsay Moore (Communication Sciences & Disorders) | Kevin Joannou (Medical Microbiology & Immunology) | Carlee Wilson (Rehabilitation Science) |
| Md Minhajul Islam (Councillor-at-Large) | Christoph Sydora; Calvin Eng (Computing Science) | Nathan Nadolski (Medical Genetics) | Lea Lavy (Religious Studies) |
| Braulio Marfil Garza (Councillor-at-Large) | Julie Piche (Dentistry) | Brendan Todd (Medical Microbiology & Immunology) | Laura Bony (Renewable Resources) |
| Osama Mohsen (Councillor-at-Large) | Cate Peter (Digital Humanities) | Sabitha Rajaruban (Medicine) | Yunxuan Chen (Resources Economics & Environmental Sociology) |
| Ronan Noble (Councillor-at-Large) | Alex Sheen (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences) | Amber Peters (Modern Languages & Cultural Studies) | Robert Piazza (Secondary Education) |
| Kanishk Patel (Councillor-at-Large) | Alexandra San Diego (East Asian Studies) | Subash Giri (Music) | Ashley Kyle (Sociology) |
| Konstantin Tebenev (Councillor-at-Large) | Jingyang Gao (Educational Psychology) | Rebecca Long (Neuroscience) | Jon Mora (Surgery) |
| Brasathe Jeganathan (Ag, Food & Nutritional Science) | Mohammad Daryaei (Electrical & Computer Engineering) | Jennifer Stevenson (Nursing) | |
| Jacqueline Green (Anthropology) | Krista Coté (English & Film Studies) | Braden Chow (Oncology) | |

Guests: Michael Phair (U of A Board of Governors Chair); Sheri Somerville (Board of Governors member and Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee Chair); Mary Pat Barry (Board of Governors member, Board Governance Committee Vice-Chair, and Board of Governors Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee Vice-Chair); Matthew Barnett (Non-Academic Staff Representative on the Board of Governors); Charbel Baaklini (Neuroscience); Siddharth Singh (Mechanical Engineering); Pardeep Kumar (Mechanical Engineering); Britt Fedor (Neuroscience); Sushmitha Thirumalaivasan (Chemical & Materials Engineering); Saurabh Meena (Mechanical Engineering); Palak Jain (Mechanical Engineering).

Speaker Praniidhi Baddam in the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm. Speaker acknowledged the Traditional Territory of Treaty Six.

Approval of Agenda

1. Approval of the 15 July 2019 Consolidated Agenda

Members had before them the 15 July 2019 Consolidated Agenda, which had been previously distributed on 12 July 2019. F Elian **MOVED**; D Ashley **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

2. Minutes from the 17 June 2019 GSA Council meeting

Members had before them the 17 June 2019 GSA Council Minutes, which had been previously distributed on 5 July 2019. S Mohammad **MOVED**; C Labonté **SECONDED**. Physiology abstained.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Changes in GSA Council Membership

3. Changes in GSA Council Membership

i. Introduction of New GSA Council Members

New GSA Councillors J Cancio (Kinesiology, Sport and Recreation), C Wilson (Rehabilitation Science), C Baaklini (Neuroscience), B Fedor (Neuroscience), N Al-Zanoon (Rehabilitation Science), A Norouzi Yengeje (Councillor-at-Large), and A E Peters (Modern Languages and Cultural Studies) introduced themselves.

ii. Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members

This was the last meeting R Long (Neuroscience).

GSA Council Member Announcements

4. GSA Council Member Announcements

None.

Action Items:

5. 2018-2019 GSA Audited Financial Statements

Fahed Elian (President) presented the item and introduced the guest, Tom Gee, GSA Auditor (MBA, FCA, RSM Canada).

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2018-2019 GSA Audited Financial Statements.

T Gee first noted the transition of his firm from Collins Barrow to RSM Canada, an international firm with only a recent presence in Canada. He then highlighted some of the main points in the audit. He noted that the GSA's current ratio between assets and liabilities was 2.69:1 and that, generally, a non-profit organization should see a ratio of at least 2:1 to ensure that the organization had enough resources to cover any liabilities. He reminded GSA Council that, several years ago, the GSA's finances were not in good condition, whereas today the GSA's financial position was strong. He also noted an operations surplus of \$491,676, increased from \$386,744 in 2018. This surplus was an indication that the GSA would have resources to continue operating for some time, even in the case of expected legislative changes to introduce voluntary student unionism in Alberta. T Gee concluded that the GSA was in very good standing from a financial perspective.

GSA Councillors posed a number of questions, including whether there was any requirement for not-for profit organizations to to expand surpluses before the end of the fiscal year (no specific requirements on what to do with surpluses other than that there should some long-term plan for their use; the GSA, following approval by the GSA BFC, typically transferred surpluses to various reserve funds (Financial Stabilization Fund, Legal Defence Fund, etc), and whether possible provincial budget cuts to education would impact the GSA (it was noted that the GSA didn't receive revenue directly from the government however a significant potential budgetary risk for the GSA would be the introduction of voluntary student unionism, similar to what happened in Ontario).

MOTION: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2018-2019 GSA Audited Financial Statements. F Elian **MOVED**; J Lai **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**. A Yarahmady Abstained.

6. 2019-2020 GSA Spring/Summer Term Budget and Expenditure Report

Fahed Elian (President) presented the item.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA 2019-2020 Spring/Summer Term Budget and Expenditure Report.

F Elian noted that the GSA was on track overall and in good financial health. It was asked what explained the decrease in revenue associated with ad sales in the GSA Planner and if this was expected to be a long-term trend. CT noted that this decrease was not due to any specific long-term trend, but that a few offices that had advertised in the GSA Planner in the past had some budgetary constraints and she added that this lower revenue would be accounted for when building next year's budget.

MOTION: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA 2019-2020 Spring/Summer Term Budget and Expenditure Report. L Moore **MOVED**; M Miazga-Rodriguez **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Presentations

7. Board of Governors Presentation

Fahed Elian (President) presented the item and introduced the guests, Michael Phair (U of A Board of Governors Chair), Sheri Somerville (Board of Governors Reputation and Public Affairs Committee), Mary Pat Barry (Board of Governors Governance Committee Vice-Chair and Board of Governors Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee Vice-Chair), Matthew Barnett (Non-Academic Staff Representative on the Board of Governors).

F Elian indicated that he had invited the Board of Governors (BoG) Chair, M Phair, along with other members of the BoG, to hear feedback and questions from GSA Council members in relation to the GSA Board's Strategic Work Plan. He emphasized that though the formal vote for GSA Council to receive the 2019-2020 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan for information would occur later in the meeting, a confidential advanced draft of this document was sent to the BoG members in attendance. F Elian provided GSA Council members with an overview of the BoG's overall mandate and voting membership, and then provided some brief background on the BoG members in attendance, along with an overview of the various BoG Standing Committees they served on.

M Phair thanked F Elian for the invitation to attend GSA Council, and outlined the membership and terms of office for BoG members (21 total members, with 15 public members appointed by the provincial government, and with terms normally lasting for three years with the possibility of renewal, with the exception of the student representatives). He noted that one of the major tasks of the BoG was to select and evaluate the President. He further reported that, as D Turpin was leaving in a year, they had started the selection process for a new President. M Phair noted that he chaired this selection committee, and that the GSA President was also a member of this committee, along with representatives from across the University. He reported they anticipated having a new President selected by February or March 2020, but that it would be a lengthy process conducted with the support of an executive recruitment firm. He indicated that the selection committee was interested in hearing input on what the University community was looking for in the next President. He discussed the recent change in the provincial government, and indicated that the province had mandated that all post-secondary institutions establish free speech policies that followed the Chicago Principles. He also noted that senior administration was awaiting the new provincial budget and its impact on the University's budget. Furthermore, he noted that the upcoming federal election could impact the U of A, as they received a significant research funding from the federal government. M Phair reported that the BoG was preparing a letter to every federal candidate in the Edmonton area and across the province to emphasize the importance of continuing federal funding to support research and innovation.

GSA Council members posed a series of questions and comments including, but not limited to:

The fact that many graduate students experience bullying, discrimination, and harassment, which contributed to poor mental health and wellbeing, and that other students experienced issues such as homelessness, and food insecurity, and it was asked how the University could better support graduate students experiencing these issues. In response, it was noted that the University had done a lot of work to increase security on campus, and that the provision of housing was more challenging as the University did not receive any government funding for housing. These costs had to be fully covered by rental rates, and there were challenges with the competing private rental market; it was also noted that the BoG discussed student wellbeing at-length, including issues of student mental health, safety, and accessibility, and that there was a commitment within the University to address these issues; and M Phair indicated that the University currently received a grant to support mental wellness from the provincial government, and that he was unsure if this funding would be continued).

That the upcoming closure of Michener Park would be a financial burden for residents and a stressor for residents who would lose their community, and it was asked what strategies were developed to support students affected by the closure. lin

response, it was noted that the closure resulted from the end of the effective life of the buildings. It was also noted that A Sherman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) was currently working on the transition and that BoG members would ask his office to report on the tangible plans to support current residents moving forward. It was further noted that BoG members were aware that the many of the residents had additional challenges with having families and being international students without accessible family supports.

Given the upcoming closure of Michener Park, whether the University had any strategies for supporting students who are parents, or plans to provide replacement housing for those affected by the Michener Park closure. In response, it was noted that members were aware that the daycares on campus were oversubscribed and that finding affordable childcare was challenging across the city and a key element in broader efforts to eliminate poverty; and it was noted that increasing the number of facilities and spaces across the city was long overdue.

It was asked whether the University was taking any action to push for wage increases of the Graduate Student Internship Program (GSIP) positions and for an increase to the number of positions available. In response, it was noted that the current provincial government expressed the importance of increasing the number of international students within the post-secondary system, and that this had the potential to open additional government funding in this area.

At the June meeting of GSA Council there was extensive discussion about the prevalence of student-supervisor issues, and it was asked how the University planned to work to improve the quality of graduate student-supervisory relationships and to make quality supervision an institutional priority. In response, it was noted that the BoG had discussed this issue many times and that one of the recommendations they had made was to provide mandatory training for supervisors, given the impact these relationships could have on the mental and emotional health of graduate students. The need for better reporting systems was also discussed and it was noted that it would be important to raise the need to have this as an institutional priority for University President candidates.

The fact that the University frequently brought up mental health, which was contradicted by actions taken by senior administration, such as the University trying to evict a student from residences for self-harm and attempted suicide, and it was asked what the University was actually doing for mental health. In response, it was noted that the Alumni Association had introduced a pilot program called the Alumni Student Support and Engagement Team (ASSET) through which alumni had the opportunity to assist students with regards to their mental wellness. It was also noted that while the University did provide a certain amount of mental health services on campus, these needs to be coordinated with services provided in the City, as outlined through provincial guidelines. It was further indicated that the province had also recently created an Associate Minister for Mental Health and Addictions and it was the BoG's understanding that they would be looking at how to support those in the 16 – 25 age group. It was also emphasized that the University was aware that the need for mental health supports was greater than the current resources, and that the University needed to be innovative in approaching mental health and wellness, and that students were best suited to advise the University on how to best intervene.

Whether, in building a profile for the next University President, it emphasized the need for a commitment to mental health. In response, it was noted that they were currently in the process of developing a profile, and that this suggestion could be brought to the Presidential Search Committee as they worked to create the profile.

Given that deferred maintenance had been identified as a critical issue facing the University in recent years, and given more stringent budgeting, it was asked how the University community could work to maintain and restore ageing infrastructure. In response, it was noted that the BoG had identified deferred maintenance as a major issue, and they were pushing hard at the provincial and federal levels for funding. It was further noted that deferred maintenance could not be addressed with the provincial grant received for the provision of educational services and that in.

Given the high costs associated with pursuing a graduate education and the 0% stipend the University offered during the current round of collective bargaining, it was asked whether the University was concerned about its ability to attract top-tier graduate students and how the University planned to better support current students who were struggling financially. In response, it was noted that, when compared to other Canadian provinces, the province of Alberta put the least amount of money into scholarships, that this had been frequently raised as an issue with the province, and that, when it came to soliciting private donations for students, personal stories could help with these efforts.

Frustration was expressed about the frequency with which advocacy work was passed onto graduate students, when it should be the University's responsibility to advocate for higher provincial funding. In response, it was noted that the University had done some advocacy work on this topic but that personal stories could generate emotional connection from the general public

and hence increase funding from the province; it was stated that the University would continue these advocacy efforts but it was highlighted that more groups asking for increase funding could help reach the government.

It was asked if there was a way to provide feedback to the University and for the Presidential search and, in response, GSA Council members discussed the importance of informing graduate students about the work of the Presidential Search Committee and ways in which they could offer their opinions, as well as the challenges associated with communicating with the entire University community and getting people engaged.

Given that mental health issues could be affected by factors such as overwhelming workloads, inability to eat properly, access to proper housing and food, and having limited time to reach out, what were the mental health initiatives that took into account preventative measures. In response, it was noted that BoG members were hoping to see more technology-supported mental health services introduced to compliment one-on-one services, and that the city was exploring innovative supports for mental health services. The importance of having access to supportive networks was also discussed, along with the fact that broader discussions around these topics also had to happen within the community.

Finally, it was asked whether the University was working to identify why its rankings on post-secondary institution lists had fallen. In response, it was noted that there were a number of different ranking systems, and that their statistics indicated that the U of A was the top-ranked University in Canada for the number of graduates who found employment within five years of graduation. It was also noted that these rankings were impacted by the fact that there were strong universities emerging in other parts of the world outside of North America.

M Barnett indicated that, as a University administrator who had worked almost exclusively with graduate students for the past eight years, he was aware of issues that graduate students were dealing with on a daily basis, including challenging financial situations and student-supervisor conflicts. He spoke about the importance of getting involved in University consultation sessions, given that the BoG had seen low student engagement in previous consultation sessions, such as the consultations related to Michener Park and housing for students who parent, and emphasized the importance of strategizing on how to get the graduate student voice heard. He discussed the work of the GSA to advocate for minimum funding packages for PhD students, and acknowledged that graduate students' work was essential to the University's mandate.

F Elian indicated that once the Presidential Search Committee had developed its portal to collect feedback from the University community, they would advertise this resource to GSA Council members and graduate students.

Action Items:

8. GSA Board Strategic Work Plan – 2019 – 2020

Fahed Elian (President) presented the item.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA Board 2019-2020 Strategic Work Plan.

F Elian, GSA President, presented the GSA Board 2019-2020 Strategic Work Plan (SWP), which, as in the previous year, appeared in two formats: an outward-facing document and an internal task list, both of which were circulated in hard copy to GSA Council members in attendance. He noted that this year's main priorities had been grouped into the three categories of "Connect," "Support," and "Advocate."

The main audience for the outward facing document was the broader U of A community, such as the U of A President, the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR), members of the BoG, etc. Given this audience, the outward facing document was shorter and visually attractive in order to make it more engaging and more in line with best practices concerning strategic work plan design/presentation. Last year, this new design and format was well received by external stakeholders.

He further indicated that the internal task list was seen as a living document that would constantly evolve as the GSA President and the Vice-Presidents strategized about issues and approaches and as goals were realized or otherwise addressed. The internal document would not be shared publicly on the GSA website as this was an internal document with confidential, detailed information. He also added that each Directly-Elected Officer (DEOs) had their own working version of this internal task list, which included their specific plans for trying to move goal forward.

Following GSA Council's receipt of this plan for information, F Elian outlined that the outward facing document would be circulated to external stakeholders and that the DEOs would begin meeting with key stakeholders to discuss elements of this plan. He added that updates on the SWP progress would be brought forward to GSA Council in October, January, and April.

MOTION: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA Board 2019-2020 Strategic Work Plan. F Elian **MOVED**; D Singh **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Elections

9. GSA Council Elections

Nominees for GSA Councillor-at-Large (CAL) (1 vacancy):

Claudia Holody (Pediatrics)
Sushmitha Thirumalaivasan (Chemical and Materials Engineering)
Muhammad Zubair (Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science)

Radim Barta (GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) Chair) presented the item, introduced the nominees, and asked them the following question: taking 45 seconds, please tell us why you'd like to serve as a GSA CAL.

Nominees for GSA Deputy Returning Officer (DRO) (1 vacancy):

Reza Azadi (Mechanical Engineering)

Radim Barta (GSA NoC Chair) presented the item and introduced the nominee. He reminded GSA Council members that the nominee would be invited to answer a series of questions from GSA Council, with himself asking the first question as a GSA NoC Chair, and then opening the floor to GSA Councillors for their questions. He asked that GSA Council members keep their questions relevant to the position, and noted that the nominee would be given up to a maximum of five minutes to answer questions. R Barta introduced the nominee, who was given the opportunity to address GSA Council and answer questions from GSA Council members.

Nominees for GSA Board (GSAB) (2 vacancies):

Damandeep Singh (Business MBA)
Areej Alshammiry (Educational Policy Studies)

Not all nominees for the GSAB positions were in attendance and, as such, none were invited to address GSA Council.

Reports

10. President

i. President's Report:

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 July 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition F Elian highlighted that the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) strategic work plan which had been developed during their recent retreat with himself and M Waddingham in attendance. He noted that two items identified as priorities were: scholarships and internships for graduate students, and express permanent residency entry for graduate students. He added that during the recent student leader orientation meeting with the provincial government, issues such as mental health funding, scholarships and internships, and next steps for red tape reduction were discussed. Lastly, F Elian added that he had established contact with the office of the mayor and that he hoped to foster collaboration, especially as they pertain to low income housing and mental health funding, between the GSA and the City of Edmonton.

GSA Council members posed a number of questions including, but not limited to, the implementation of Smart Fare (F Elian and C Labonté noted that this was a very slow process and the University and other post-secondary institutions had received little communication from Edmonton Transit Services, but that a pilot program was expected to launch in September 2020), and what the position of the GSA was in advocating for immigration opportunities for graduate students and PhD students in particular (F Elian noted that it was a priority to advocate for immigration avenues for graduate students and that the topic was well-received by D Nicolaidis, Alberta Minister of Advanced Education as well as J Copping, Alberta Minister of Labour and Immigration).

ii. GSA Board

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

iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee

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

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 July 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition D Ashley noted that B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the FGSR, had recently begun her term and encouraged members to say hello when they see her.

A GSA Council member raised a concern regarding plans to address deferred maintenance on the Gunning/Lemieux Chemistry Centre (D Ashley noted that deferred maintenance was a widespread concern and that it was a University priority to find ways to tackle it).

12. Vice-President External

i. Vice-President External's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 July 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition M Waddingham highlighted the work of the Freedom of Expression Advisory Group, which was planning to lead consultations with students, and the discussion at the student leader orientation with the provincial government where the government expressed their desire to reduce regulations and rules that made the student experience more cumbersome. He added that, as mentioned by F Elian, ab-GPAC priorities were advocacy to streamline Permanent Residency processes for international students as well as scholarships and internships for all students, including international ones. He also noted that his report included the June comminiqué from ab-GPAC, and that the latter included a call for volunteers to join policy writing groups.

ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee's Report

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

iii. Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Report

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

13. Vice-President Labour

i. Vice-President Labour's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 12 July 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition S Mohammad informed members of new GSA labour handbills intended to reach out to academically-employed graduate students, and encouraged members to take some on their way out to distribute in their department.

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 July 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition C Labonté informed members that she and F Elian had met with the FGSR Office of Advancement to discuss fundraising priorities including mental health, professional development, and interdisciplinary collaboration. In their discussion, C Labonté suggested that they considered support for graduate students who parent and for graduate students affected by the Michener Park residence closure. She also noted that she had joined the University Leadership Network, and she encouraged members to inform her of any leadership opportunities they were aware of.

GSA Council members posed a number of questions regarding the GSA Health and Dental Plan including, but not limited to, if there was a possibility to augment the dental coverage, in particular for more dental care services than simply regular cleaning (C Labonté noted that she would raise that with Studentcare) and whether there was a possibility that the vision care could be

made more comprehensive (C Labonté indicated that she could look into how this might impact the cost of the overall plan).

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 July 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition R Barta stressed the importance of GSA Councillor positions on the GSA Governance Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee, both of which worked primarily via email, and the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee, which meets regularly in person. He encouraged members to consider these opportunities as a great way to bolster professional resumes as well as to get engaged with the greater University community. He further encouraged members to contact him directly at radim@ualberta.ca with any questions.

GSA Elections and Referenda Committee

ii. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report

No written report at this time.

19. GSA Management

i. Executive Director's Report

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

Question Period

20. Written Questions

None.

21. Oral Questions

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.



Dear GSA Council Colleagues,

6 September 2019

Following the 2019 GSA General Election, the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) met on 16 April and 22 July to discuss changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda. The recommended changes were developed through considering issues that were raised in the election.

The recommended substantives changes before you can be summarized as follows (these changes also apply to the section on referenda with necessary modifications to align with the referendum process):

- Addition of definitions for campaign materials and campaign volunteers;
- Clarification to outline that candidates cannot volunteer for the campaign of another candidate given that candidates are prohibited from campaigning jointly (ie, as a slate) and acting as campaign volunteers for each other could be construed as joint campaigning;
- Introduction of a new section that stipulates that no campaigning will be done during GSA meetings or events;
- Clarification of when the GSA elected officers can participate in campaigning (DEOs and the Senator (or their delegates) may not campaign at meetings or events at which they are acting in an official GSA capacity, while the Speaker and CRO and their deputies may not campaign at all);
- Restructuring of the section on campaigning with the creation of a new subsection containing all information about campaign materials in one place, structured around print material, email material (including the new provision that the CRO need only approve email material when it is being sent either from or to a University of Alberta email address), and social media material (including an addition of a statement concerning messaging accounts);
- Removal of a section with regards to penalties when exceeding the spending limit or failure to report campaign expenses as this section implies either that disqualification is the only penalty for these breaches, or that these breaches, more than all the others listed, could result in disqualification;
- Introduction of a new section outlining a process for the CRO to follow when the CRO directly discerns an alleged breach, as opposed to it being reported to them;
- Addition of a statement that clarifies that provisional results become official if no complaints are received by the outlined deadline, in order to complement the existing statement stipulating that results will become official after any existing alleged breaches or appeals have been handled; *and*



- Modification of the timeline to fill vacant Councillor-at-Large seats; the process to fill these seats will stop on 1 December, instead of continuing until the seats are filled as is currently stipulated.

In addition to these substantive changes, the GSA ERC recommends various editorial changes.

Finally, as noted in the Outline of Issue, if the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda are approved, sections listed at the end of the double document will be updated accordingly to ensure alignment.

I look forward to presenting these changes to you at the September meeting of GSA Council and welcome any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Leigh Spanner, Chair of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee

Outline of Issue

Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section I: Elections and Section J: Referenda

Suggested Motion for the GSA Council:

That the GSA Council, on the unanimous recommendation of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee, **APPROVE** recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section I: Elections and Section J: Referenda, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council.

NOTE 1: If these recommended changes are approved, additional sections listed at the end of the double column document will be updated as well.

NOTE 2: This is the first reading of proposed changes to GSA Bylaw, proposed changes to GSA Policy are presented for information. The second reading of proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and approval of proposed changes to GSA Policy will be presented at the October GSA Council meeting.

Background:

The recommended changes have been discussed on 16 April and 22 July by the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC), following the 2019 GSA General Election. The GSA ERC recommended to GSA Council for approval via email vote on 8 August 2019. The GSA Board reviewed the recommended changes for information and onward transmission to GSA Council at its 21 August 2019 meeting.

Please see the attached draft cover from the GSA ERC Chair to GSA Council for more background information.

Jurisdiction:

Section I: Elections, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee, Section I.POL.19.4

"The GSA ERC will review GSA Elections and Referenda Bylaw and Policy annually and make any recommendations to GSA Council through the GSA Board."

Section A: Authority, GSA Bylaw, Authority, Section A. BYL.1.2

"These Bylaws ... may be amended by two two-thirds majority votes of Council held on seven calendar days' notice of motion and no less than one week apart."

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section A: Authority, GSA Bylaw, Authority, Section A.BYL.2.2

"GSA Policy is under the jurisdiction of GSA Council (Section C: GSA Council, GSA Bylaw, GSA Council) and may be amended by a simple majority vote of GSA Council at any meeting of GSA Council."

Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section I: Elections, Section J: Referenda, and Section D: Officer Portfolios

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|--|
| Section I: Elections | <i>No change.</i> |
| Purpose and Scope | <i>No change.</i> |
| Definitions | <i>No change.</i> |
| <u>“Campaign Materials” are defined as any materials designed to be disseminated to promote a candidate</u> | <i>Recommended addition of a broad definition of campaign materials.</i> |
| <u>“Campaign Volunteers” are defined as individuals or groups who campaign on behalf of a candidate with their awareness</u> | <i>Include a clear definition of Campaign Volunteers that emphasizes that volunteers are only deemed as such when a candidate is aware that they are campaigning on their behalf</i> |
| <u>“Campaigning” is defined as any form of promotion of a candidate an individual; this includes all verbal, electronic, and visual forms of communication</u> | <i>To provide clearer language.</i> |
| <u>“Deemed Delivered” ...</u> | <i>No change.</i> |
| <u>“Moderated Mailing List” is defined as an email list where the membership is compiled by a third-party and/or communications are sent to email list owners for review and/or approval prior to circulation to subscribers</u> | <i>Make it clear that moderated mailing lists and the associated prohibition on their use relate to campaigning done via email (as is currently clear in Section I.POL.11.6).</i> |
| <u>“Provisional Results” ...</u> | <i>No change.</i> |
| <u>“Working Day” ...</u> | <i>No change.</i> |
| Other Specifically Related Sections of GSA Governing Documents | <i>No change.</i> |
| GSA Bylaw: Elections | <i>No change.</i> |
| I.BYL.1-I.BYL.3.2 ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| I.BYL.3.2.a Each position will be elected on a per ballot basis. | <i>Moved to new Section I.BYL.4.2, below.</i> |

| Current Policy (deletions noted by a strikethrough) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|---|
| | |
| I.BYL.3.3-I.BYL.4.1 ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| I.BYL.4.2 Each position will be elected on a per ballot basis. | <i>Moved from current Section I.BYL.3.2.a, above.</i> |
| I.BYL.5 Campaign Restrictions | <i>Moved to Section I.POL.10 on campaigning, below.</i> |
| I.BYL.5.1 Any individual associated with the GSA office (whether standing as a candidate or not) will not use the GSA office or any GSA office resources (eg, email accounts, staff) for campaign purposes on behalf of any candidate. | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.BYL.5.2 DEOs (whether standing as a candidate or not) will not campaign on behalf of any candidate during any committee meetings or events at which they are acting as elected representatives of the GSA. | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.BYL.5.3 DEOs may endorse candidates provided they do not do so in their capacity as elected representatives of the GSA, and they do not speak for the GSA as an organization. | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.BYL.5.4 The Chief Returning Officer (CRO), Deputy Returning Officer, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, members of the GSA Nominating Committee, members of the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, and members of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee will remain neutral and not campaign for or endorse any candidate whatsoever. | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.BYL.6 <u>1.BYL.5</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| GSA Policy: Elections | <i>No change.</i> |
| I.POL.7 I.POL.11.3 <u>I.POL.6-I.POL.7.1</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.7.2 On the Directly-Elected Officer (DEO) nomination forms, candidates will include a minimum of five (5) signatures from GSA members. The purpose of the signatures is to attest that the nominators, in their view, believe the candidate has | <i>Editorial.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|---|---|
| the ability and/or experience for the <u>position</u> office for which they are running. | |
| I.POL.7.3-I.POL.7.4 ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| I.POL.7.5 Candidates can change the position they wish to run for, but must do so <u>prior to the nomination deadline</u> before the close of nominations . If a candidate changes the position they are running for, the candidate will be required to fill out and submit a new nomination form for the new position prior to the nomination deadline and must meet the requirements as set out in Section I.POL.7.4, above. | <i>Editorial.</i> |
| I.POL.7.6-I.POL.10.1 ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| I.POL.10.2 No form of campaigning (verbal, electronic, and visual) will contain misinformation , slander, inappropriate , discriminatory content, or <i>ad hominem</i> attacks of individuals. | <i>Recommended removal as unenforceable.</i> |
| I.POL.10.3 ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| I.POL.10.4 Candidates will campaign as individuals <u>and may not serve as Campaign Volunteers for other candidates</u> . Slates are not permitted. | <i>Recommend change to clarify that candidate cannot volunteer for the campaign of another candidate given that candidates are prohibited from campaigning jointly (ie, as a slate) and acting as campaign volunteers for each other could be construed as joint campaigning.</i> |
| I.POL.10.5 The GSA office and any associated resources (eg, email accounts, staff) <u>will not be used for campaign purposes, notwithstanding that all candidates will be given the opportunity to submit information about themselves for inclusion on the GSA website.</u> | <i>Moved from current I.BYL.5.1, above, and reworded to enhance clarity.</i> |
| I.POL.10.6 <u>Campaigning will not take place at any GSA meetings or events.</u> | <i>Addition to stipulate that, not only can current GSA Officers not campaign at events in which they are acting as GSA representatives (see below), but no candidate should campaign at GSA meetings or events.</i> |
| I.POL.10.7 <u>DEOs and the Senator, or their delegates (whether standing as a candidate or not), will not campaign during any committee meetings or events at which they</u> | <i>Moved from current I.BYL.5.2, above, and clarification that DEOs and the Senator (or their delegates) may not campaign at meetings or events at which they are acting in an</i> |

| Current Policy (deletions noted by a strikethrough) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|---|
| <u>are acting as elected representatives of the GSA.</u> | <i>official GSA capacity, while the Speaker and CRO and their deputies may not campaign at all.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.8 DEOs and the Senator, if not standing as candidates, may serve as Campaign Volunteers, provided that they do not do so in their capacity as elected representatives of the GSA and that they do not speak for the GSA as an organization.</u> | <i>Moved from current I.BYL.5.3, above, and clarification that DEOs and the Senator may serve as Campaign Volunteers, while the Speaker and CRO and their deputies may not.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.9 The CRO, DRO, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, members of the GSA Nominating Committee, members of the GSA ACB, and members of the GSA ERC will remain neutral and not serve as Campaign Volunteers for any candidate whatsoever.</u> | <i>Moved from current I.BYL.5.4, above, and clarification that the Speaker and CRO and their deputies may not serve as Campaign Volunteers.</i> |
| I.POL.11.5 The CRO will approve campaign materials that are physically posted or circulated via email to personal contacts. The CRO will review such materials to ensure they comply with Sections I.POL.11.2 and I.POL.11.4, above, and any other relevant GSA Bylaw and Policy. The CRO is not responsible for reviewing the editorial content of such campaign materials (eg, grammar, punctuation). | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i> |
| I.POL.11.5.a Such campaign materials prepared in a language other than English will be accompanied by an English translation when submitted to the CRO for approval. The CRO is not responsible for the accuracy of translations. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i> |
| I.POL.11.5.b The turnaround for approving campaign materials will be approximately one (1) working day. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i> |
| I.POL.11.6 Candidates will only distribute campaign materials through email to their personal contacts. Candidates will not utilize moderated mailing lists. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i> |
| I.POL.11.7 The CRO will be provided access to campaign materials posted or circulated on social media accounts or other online platforms, and reserves the right to penalize candidates for any breaches of GSA Bylaw and Policy. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10 Dissemination and Approval of Campaign Materials</u> | <i>Recommended addition of new subsection containing all information about campaign materials in one place, structured around print material (which the CRO approves and can only be printed using SUBprint (as per current GSA Bylaw and Policy), email material</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|---|
| | <i>(preserves the prohibition on the use of moderated mailing lists and sending things to non-personal contacts and stipulates that the CRO need only approve email material when it is being sent either from or to a University of Alberta email addresses), and social media material (preserves the regulation that CRO does not approve materials circulated via social media but states this explicitly and adds a statement concerning messaging accounts). Recommended section also contains existing GSA Bylaw and Policy concerning the turnaround time for approval of materials by the CRO and other assorted matters (materials produced in languages other than English, editorial review of materials, etc).</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.a Candidates will only use SUBprint to print campaign materials to be physically posted or distributed.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.a.i Campaign materials that are physically posted or distributed will require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.a.ii Candidates will be responsible for removing all physically posted campaign materials after voting has closed.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.b.i Campaign materials circulated either to or from a University of Alberta email address to personal contacts will require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.b.ii Campaign materials circulated via non-University of Alberta email to personal contacts will not require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.c Candidates will post campaign materials, or circulate them via messaging accounts, only through their personal social media accounts or other personal online platforms.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.c.i Campaign materials posted on personal social media accounts or other personal online platforms, or circulated via messaging accounts, will not require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.10.10.c.ii Notwithstanding Section I.POL.10.10.c.i, above, the CRO will be</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|---|---|
| <u>provided access to campaign materials posted or circulated on personal social media accounts or other personal online platforms on which candidates intend to campaign.</u> | |
| I.POL.10.10.d When approving campaign materials as noted in Sections I.POL.10.10.a.i and I.POL.10.10.b.i, above, the CRO will ensure they comply with Sections I.POL.10.2 and I.POL.10.3, above, and any other relevant GSA Bylaw and Policy. Additionally: | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.POL.10.10.d.i <u>Candidates will not use the University or GSA logos on any physical or electronic campaign materials.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.POL.10.10.d.ii <u>The CRO is not responsible for reviewing the editorial content of campaign materials (eg, grammar, punctuation).</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.POL.10.10.d.iii <u>Campaign materials prepared in a language other than English will be accompanied by an English translation when submitted to the CRO for approval. The CRO is not responsible for the accuracy of translations.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.POL.10.10.e <u>The turnaround for approving campaign materials will be approximately one (1) working day.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| I.POL.11.8 I.POL.11.11 ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.11.9 Candidates will only use SUBprint to print campaign materials. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, above.</i> |
| I.POL.11.10 Candidates will not use the University or GSA logos on any physical or electronic campaign materials. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, above.</i> |
| I.POL.11.11 I.POL.11.12 ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.11.12 Candidates will be responsible for removing all campaign materials after voting has closed. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, above.</i> |
| I.POL.11.13 I.POL.11.13.b I.POL.10.13-I.POL.10.13.b ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|---|
| | |
| I.POL.11.13.c Exceeding the spending limit or failure to report campaign expenses and submit receipts constitute grounds for disqualification from the current election. | <p><i>Recommended removal as it implies either that only disqualification is the associated penalty, as opposed to the range of options open to the CRO for other breaches, or that this breach, more than all the others listed, could be grounds for disqualification.</i></p> <p><i>Recommend stressing to candidates at the All-Candidates Meeting that, providing receipts are submitted at the specified deadline (after voting closes), the options available to the CRO as penalties are more limited, making disqualification more likely.</i></p> |
| I.POL.11.13.d <u>I.POL.10.13.c</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.10.11.14 <u>I.POL.10.14</u> Candidates are encouraged to ask the CRO before acting if they have any questions about GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections (including questions related to the development of campaign materials and the planning of campaign events), <u>interpretations issued by the CRO, or other applicable policies or laws</u> , and to report any alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw or Policy on elections to the CRO, in accordance with the procedure outlined below. | <i>Editorial, to parallel other sections.</i> |
| I.POL.12 <u>I.POL.11</u> Alleged Breaches and Complaints | <i>Recommended distinction between the reporting or discernment of an alleged breach.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.11.1</u> Alleged Breaches | <i>Editorial, introduction of headers to break up the section.</i> |
| I.POL.12.1 <u>I.POL.11.1.a</u> Those with <u>questions or concerns</u> about alleged breaches are encouraged to contact the CRO in a timely fashion. The CRO will advise on associated processes. | <i>Renumbering and editorial.</i> |
| <u>I.POL.11.1.b</u> When the CRO believes they have discerned a breach of GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections, of an interpretation issued by the CRO, or of other applicable policies or laws, they will work to resolve the alleged breach through informal resolution. If the CRO is unable to resolve the alleged breach through informal resolution, or deems informal resolution to be inappropriate, then they will follow the process outlined in Section I.POL.11.4 to Section I.POL.11.7, below. | <i>Recommended addition of a process for the CRO to follow when the CRO directly discerns an alleged breach, as opposed to it being reported to them.</i> |
| I.POL.12.2 <u>I.POL.11.1.c</u> All alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections, of | <i>Renumbering.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|--|
| interpretations issued by the CRO, or other applicable policies or laws must be reported to the CRO as soon as possible by filing a complaint. | |
| I.POL.12.3 I.POL.12.3.a <u>I.POL.11.2</u> - I.POL.11.2 ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.12.3.a <u>I.POL.11.2.a</u> While complaints may be brought forward at any point during the campaigning period , individuals have twenty-four (24) hours after the release of provisional results to lodge a complaint with the CRO about an alleged breach of GSA Bylaw or Policy. Complaints lodged after this deadline will not be considered. | <i>Renumbering and editorial.</i> |
| I.POL.12.3.b <u>I.POL.11.2.b</u> To be considered by the CRO, in consultation with the GSA ERC , a complaint must include the following: | <i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended I.POL.11.7.</i> |
| I.POL.12.3.b.i I.POL.12.3.c <u>I.POL.11.2.b.i</u> - I.POL.11.2.c ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.12.3.d <u>I.POL.11.2.d</u> The CRO, in consultation with the GSA ERC , can dismiss a complaint if it is unfounded, frivolous, or vexatious. | <i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended I.POL.11.7.</i> |
| I.POL.12.3.e I.POL.12.5.d.i <u>I.POL.11.2.e</u> - I.POL.11.4.a ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.12.5.b <u>I.POL.11.4.b</u> Based on the complaint and the written response (or solely on the complaint if no written response was provided by the set deadline), the CRO will normally reach a decision on the complaint within seventy-two (72) hours. If more time is required to reach a decision, the CRO will <u>make a decision</u> consult with the GSA ERC regarding extensions. | <i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended I.POL.11.7.</i> |
| I.POL.12.5.c I.POL.12.5.d.i <u>I.POL.11.4.c</u> - I.POL.11.4.d.i ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.12.5.d.ii <u>I.POL.11.4.d.ii</u> A list of parties to the complaint (unless anonymity was granted, see Section I.POL.12.3.e <u>I.POL.11.2.e</u> , above), | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.12.5.d.iii I.POL.12.7.a <u>I.POL.11.4.d.iii</u> - I.POL.11.6.a ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |

| Current Policy (deletions noted by a strikethrough) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|---|---|
| I.POL.12.8 <u>I.POL.11.7</u> Throughout this process, the CRO will consult, where reasonable, with the DRO, available member(s) of the GSA ERC, and the <u>ED Executive Director</u> (or delegate), concerning deadlines and other related matters. | <i>Renumbering and editorial.</i> |
| I.POL.13 I.POL.14 <u>I.POL.12-I.POL.13</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.14.1 <u>I.POL.13.1</u> Upon completion of the ballot count, the CRO will announce provisional results. Results will be made official only after <u>the deadline to lodge a complaint with the CRO about an alleged breach of GSA Bylaw or Policy has expired and none have been received</u> or when the GSA's process of dealing with alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw or Policy on elections and any appeals within that process are exhausted. | <i>Renumbering and recommended addition of a clear statement that provisional results become effective if no complaints are received (just a statement that results become official when all appeal processes are exhausted).</i> |
| I.POL.14 I.POL.16.2 <u>I.POL.13.2-I.POL.15.2</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.16.3 <u>I.POL.15.2</u> In the event that any CAL positions are not filled by the end of the GSA General Election, or a CAL position is vacated, prior to 1 December (or the next working day) GSA Council will be responsible for electing any remaining CALS <u>prior to 1 December (or the next working day)</u> . When electing any remaining CALS, GSA Council will aim to elect GSA members from as broad a range of disciplines as possible. The GSA NoC will decide on procedures and then provide one (<u>1</u>) or more names to GSA Council for consideration, 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 noted in the advertisement. If the matter is urgent, GSA Council can hold this election electronically. | <i>Renumbering, editorial, and clarifying that the process to fill CAL seats unfilled in the General Election will cease at the same time as the process associated with filling a CAL seat vacated following the General Election.</i> |
| I.POL.17 I.POL.19.1.d <u>I.POL.16-I.POL.17</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| I.POL.18.1 <u>I.POL.17.1</u> Notwithstanding, Section I.POL.17.1 <u>I.POL.16.1</u> , above, all members of the GSA are eligible to serve on the GSA ERC unless they intend to run in or serve as a Campaign Volunteer in the <u>upcoming</u> GSA General Election <u>and/or</u> by-election, serve as a Campaign Representative or Campaign Volunteer in an upcoming | <i>Renumbering, editorial to parallel recommended changes above, and recommended removal of a clause that is redundant.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| <p>referendum, or they have run in the <u>most recent</u> previous GSA General Election and/or by-election or served as a Campaign Representative or volunteer in the <u>last most recent</u> referendum. If standing for election to the GSA ERC, GSA ERC nominees agree not to campaign for or endorse any individual running in the GSA General Election or by election, and not to serve as a Campaign Volunteer in any referendum. GSA ERC members must also be neutral and impartial (ie having no immediate or vested interest in the outcome of GSA General Elections and referenda).</p> | |
| <p>I.POL.18.2 <u>I.POL.17.2</u> If a GSA ERC member intends to run in <u>or serve as a Campaign Volunteer in the upcoming GSA General Election and/or by-election, or serve as a Campaign Representative or Campaign Volunteer in an upcoming referendum</u> a GSA General Election or by election, campaign in an upcoming referendum, campaign for or endorse any individual running in the GSA General Election or by election, or serve as a Campaign Representative or volunteer in a referendum they will resign from the GSA ERC.</p> | <p><i>Renumbering and editorial to parallel recommended changes above.</i></p> |
| <p>I.POL.19 I.POL.19.1.d I.POL.18 I.POL.18.1.d ...</p> | <p><i>Renumbering.</i></p> |
| <p>I.POL.19.1.e <u>I.POL.18.1.e</u> Receiving, managing, and ruling on alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw or Policy, <u>of interpretations issued by the CRO, or other applicable policies or laws in accordance with Section I: Elections, GSA Bylaw, Elections, Section</u> I.POL.12 <u>I.POL.11</u> and Section J: Referenda, GSA Bylaw, Referenda, Section J.POL.13 <u>J.POL.12</u>.</p> | <p><i>Renumbering and editorial to parallel recommended changes above.</i></p> |
| <p>I.POL.19.2 I.POL.19.6 <u>I.POL.18.2</u> I.POL.18.6 ...</p> | <p><i>Renumbering.</i></p> |
| <p>I.POL.19.7 <u>I.POL.18.7</u> "In the case of a resignation or other vacancy (as determined by the GSA ERC) in the CRO or DRO positions during any GSA General Election, by-election, referendum, or any other associated election or referenda matter, the GSA NoC may take necessary action to fill the vacancy, including direct appointments, or appointments of former CROs, to ensure an Acting or Interim CRO and/or DRO is appointed" (Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Nominating Committee, Section E.POL.7.5 <u>8.5</u>).</p> | <p><i>Editorial and recommended removal as redundant.</i></p> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| | |
| Section J: Referenda | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| Purpose and Scope | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| Definitions | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| "Asker" ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| <u>"Campaign Materials" are defined as any materials designed to be disseminated to promote a 'Yes' or 'No' campaign</u> | <i>Recommended addition of a broad definition of campaign materials.</i> |
| | |
| "Campaign Representatives" ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| <u>"Campaign Volunteers" are defined as individuals or groups who campaign on behalf of a 'Yes' or 'No' campaign with the awareness of the Campaign Representative</u> | <i>Include a clear definition of Campaign Volunteers that emphasizes that volunteers are only deemed as such when a Campaign Representative is aware that they are campaigning on behalf of a 'Yes' or 'No' campaign</i> |
| | |
| "Deemed Delivered" ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| <u>"Moderated Mailing List" is defined as an <u>email</u> list where the membership is compiled by a third-party and/or communications are sent to <u>email</u> list owners for review and/or approval prior to circulation to subscribers</u> | <i>Make it clear that moderated mailing lists and the associated prohibition on their use relate to campaigning done via email.</i> |
| | |
| "Provisional Results" ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| "Referendum Question" ... | <i>No change.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| | |
| "Working Day" ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| Other Specifically Related Sections of GSA Governing Documents | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| GSA Bylaw: Referenda | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| J.BYL.1-J.BYL.5.1... | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| J.BYL.6 Campaign Restrictions | <i>Moved to Section J.POL.11 on campaigning, below.</i> |
| | |
| J.BYL.6.1 The CRO, Deputy Returning Officer, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, members of the GSA Nominating Committee, members of the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, and members of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee will remain neutral and not campaign for or endorse any 'Yes' or 'No' campaign whatsoever. | <i>Moved to Section J.POL.11 on campaigning, below.</i> |
| | |
| GSA Policy: Referenda | <i>No change.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.7 J.POL.12.1 <u>J.POL.6-J.POL.11.1</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.12.2 J.POL.11.2 <u>No form of campaigning (verbal, electronic, and visual) will contain misinformation, slander, inappropriate, discriminatory content, or <i>ad hominem</i> attacks of individuals</u> | <i>Renumbering and recommended removal as unenforceable.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.12.3 J.POL.11.3 ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.11.4 <u>The CRO, DRO, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, members of the GSA Nominating Committee, members of the GSA ACB, and members of the GSA ERC will remain neutral and not campaign for any 'Yes' or 'No' campaign whatsoever.</u> | <i>Moved from current J.BYL.6.1, above.</i> |
| | |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| <p>J.POL.12.4 The CRO will approve campaign materials that are physically posted or circulated via email to personal contacts. The CRO will review such materials to ensure they comply with Section J.POL.12.2, above, and any other relevant GSA Bylaw and Policy. The CRO is not responsible for reviewing the editorial content of such campaign materials (eg, grammar, punctuation).</p> | <p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p> |
| <p>J.POL.12.4.a Such campaign materials prepared in a language other than English will be accompanied by an English translation when submitted to the CRO for approval. The CRO is not responsible for the accuracy of translations.</p> | <p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p> |
| <p>J.POL.12.4.b The turnaround for approving campaign materials will be approximately one (1) working day.</p> | <p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p> |
| <p>J.POL.12.5 Campaign Representatives will only distribute campaign materials through emails to their personal contacts. Campaign Representatives will not utilize moderated mailing lists.</p> | <p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p> |
| <p>J.POL.12.6 The CRO will be provided access to campaign materials posted or circulated on social media accounts or other online platforms, and reserves the right to penalize candidates for any breaches of GSA Bylaw and Policy.</p> | <p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p> |
| <p><u>J.POL.11.15 Dissemination and Approval of Campaign Materials</u></p> | <p><i>Recommended addition of new subsection containing all information about campaign materials in one place, structured around print material (which the CRO approves and can only be printed using SUBprint (as per current GSA Bylaw and Policy), email material (preserves the prohibition on the use of moderated mailing lists and sending things to non-personal contacts and stipulates that the CRO need only approve email material when it is being sent either from or to a University of Alberta email addresses), and social media material (preserves the regulation that CRO does not approve materials circulated via social media but states this explicitly and adds a statement concerning messaging accounts). Recommended section also contains existing GSA Bylaw and Policy concerning the turnaround time for approval of materials by the CRO and other assorted matters (materials produced in languages other than English, editorial review of materials, etc).</i></p> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| <u>J.POL.11.5.a Campaign Representatives will only use SUBprint to print campaign materials to be physically posted or distributed.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.a.i Campaign materials that are physically posted or distributed will require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.a.ii Campaign Representatives will be responsible for removing all physically posted campaign materials after voting has closed.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.b Campaign Representatives will circulate campaign materials through email only to their personal contacts and will not utilize moderated mailing lists.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.b.i Campaign materials circulated either to or from a University of Alberta email address to personal contacts will require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.b.ii Campaign materials circulated via non-University of Alberta email to personal contacts will not require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.c Campaign Representatives will post campaign materials, or circulate them via messaging accounts, only through their personal social media accounts or other personal online platforms.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.c.i Campaign materials posted on personal social media accounts or other personal online platforms, or circulated via messaging accounts, will not require the approval of the CRO.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.c.ii Notwithstanding Section J.POL.11.5.c.i, above, the CRO will be provided access to campaign materials posted or circulated on personal social media accounts or other personal online platforms on which Campaign Representatives intend to campaign.</u> | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| | |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| <u>J.POL.11.5.d</u> When approving campaign materials as noted in Sections <u>J.POL.11.5.a.i</u> and <u>J.POL.11.5.b.i</u> , above, the CRO will ensure they comply with Sections <u>J.POL.11.2</u> and <u>J.POL.11.3</u> , above, and any other relevant GSA Bylaw and Policy. Additionally: | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.d.i</u> Campaign Representatives will not use the University or GSA logos on any physical or electronic campaign materials. | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.d.ii</u> The CRO is not responsible for reviewing the editorial content of campaign materials (eg, grammar, punctuation). | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.d.iii</u> Campaign materials prepared in a language other than English will be accompanied by an English translation when submitted to the CRO for approval. The CRO is not responsible for the accuracy of translations. | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| <u>J.POL.11.5.e</u> The turnaround for approving campaign materials will be approximately one (1) working day. | <i>See above rationale.</i> |
| J.POL.12.7 <u>J.POL.11.6</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.12.8 Campaign Representatives will only use SUBprint to print campaign materials. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i> |
| J.POL.12.9 Campaign Representatives will not use the University or GSA logos on campaign materials. | <i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i> |
| J.POL.12.10 J.POL.12.12.b <u>J.POL.11.7</u> - <u>J.POL.11.8.b</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.12.12.c Exceeding the spending limit or failure to report campaign expenses and submit receipts constitutes grounds for disqualification for the campaign. | <i>Recommended removal as it implies either that only disqualification is the associated penalty, as opposed to the range of options open to the CRO for other breaches, or that this breach, more than all the others listed, could be grounds for disqualification.</i> <i>Recommend stressing to candidates at the Meeting of the Campaign Representative</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| | <i>that, providing receipts are submitted at the specified deadline (after voting closes), the options available to the CRO as penalties are more limited, making disqualification more likely.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.12.12.d <u>11.13.c</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.12.13 <u>J.POL.11.14</u> Campaign Representatives are encouraged to ask the CRO before acting if they have any questions about particular <u>GSA Bylaw or Policy on referenda (including questions related to the development of campaign materials and the planning of campaign events), of interpretations issued by the CRO, or other applicable policies or laws, and to report any alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw or Policy on referenda</u> to the CRO, in accordance with the procedure outlined below. | <i>Renumbering and editorial.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.13 <u>J.POL.12</u> Chief Returning Officer's Decision on Penalties, Remedial Action, and Referrals <u>Alleged Breaches and Complaints</u> | <i>Editorial and to parallel recommended changes to section on elections.</i> |
| | |
| <u>J.POL.12.1</u> <u>Alleged Breaches</u> | <i>Editorial, introduction of headers to break up the section.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.13.1 <u>J.POL.12.1.a</u> Those with <u>questions or</u> concerns about alleged breaches are encouraged to contact the CRO in a timely fashion. The CRO will advise on associated processes. | <i>Renumbering and editorial.</i> |
| | |
| <u>J.POL.12.1.b</u> When the CRO believes they have discerned a breach of GSA Bylaw and Policy on referenda, of an interpretation issued by the CRO, or of other applicable policies or laws, they will work to resolve the alleged breach through informal resolution. If the CRO is unable to resolve the alleged breach through informal resolution, or deems informal resolution to be inappropriate, then they will follow the process outlined in Section <u>J.POL.12.4</u> to Section <u>J.POL.12.7</u> , below. | <i>Recommended addition of a process for the CRO to follow when the CRO directly discerns an alleged breach, as opposed to it being reported to them.</i> |
| | |
| J.POL.13.2 <u>J.POL.12.1.c</u> All alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw and Policy on referenda, of interpretations issued by the CRO, or other applicable policies or laws must be | <i>Renumbering.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| reported to the CRO as soon as possible by filing a complaint. | |
| J.POL.13.3 <u>J.POL.12.2</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.13.3.a <u>J.POL.12.2.a</u> While complaints may be brought forward at any point during the campaigning period, individuals have twenty-four (24) hours after the release of provisional results to lodge a complaint with the CRO about an alleged breach of GSA Bylaw or Policy. Complaints lodged after this deadline will not be considered. | <i>Renumbering and editorial.</i> |
| J.POL.13.3.b <u>J.POL.12.2.b</u> To be considered by the CRO, in consultation with the GSA ERC, a complaint must include the following: | <i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended J.POL.12.7.</i> |
| J.POL.13.3.b.i J.POL.13.3.d <u>J.POL.12.2.b.i</u> - <u>J.POL.12.2.d</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.12.3.3 <u>J.POL.12.2.e</u> The CRO, in consultation with the GSA ERC, can dismiss a complaint if it is unfounded, frivolous, or vexatious. | <i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended J.POL.12.7.</i> |
| J.POL.13.3.e J.POL.13.5.a <u>J.POL.12.2.f</u> - <u>J.POL.12.4.a</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.13.5.b <u>J.POL.12.4.b</u> Based on the complaint and the written response (or solely on the complaint if no written response was provided by the set deadline), the CRO will normally reach a decision on the complaint within seventy-two (72) hours. If more time is required to reach a decision, the CRO will <u>make a decision</u> consult with the GSA ERC regarding extensions. | <i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended J.POL.12.7.</i> |
| J.POL.13.5.c J.POL.13.5.d.i <u>J.POL.12.4.c</u> - <u>J.POL.12.4.d.i</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.13.5.d.ii <u>J.POL.12.4.d.ii</u> A list of parties to the complaint (unless anonymity was granted, see Section I.POL.12.3.e <u>J.POL.12.2.e</u> , above), | <i>Renumbering.</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| J.POL.13.5.d.iii J.POL.13.7.a <u>J.POL.12.4.d.iii</u> - <u>J.POL.12.6.a</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.13.8 <u>J.POL.12.7</u> Throughout this process, the CRO will consult, where reasonable, with the DRO, available member(s) of the GSA ERC, and the ED Executive Director (or delegate), <u>concerning deadlines and other related matters.</u> | <i>Renumbering and editorial.</i> |
| J.POL.14 J.POL.15 <u>J.POL.13</u> - <u>J.POL.14</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| J.POL.15.1 <u>J.POL.14.1</u> Upon completion of the ballot count, the CRO will announce provisional results. Results will be made official only after <u>the deadline to lodge a complaint with the CRO about an alleged breach of GSA Bylaw or Policy has expired and none have been received or when the GSA’s process of dealing with alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw or Policy on referenda and any appeals within that process are exhausted.</u> | <i>Renumbering and recommended addition of a clear statement that provisional results become effective if no complaints are received (just a statement that results become official when all appeal processes are exhausted).</i> |
| J.POL.15.2 J.POL.16.1 <u>J.POL.14.2</u> - <u>J.POL.15.1</u> ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| <u>GSA Policy: GSA Officer Portfolios</u> | |
| D.POL.4-D.POL.10.1.d.ix ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| D.POL.10.1.d.x With advice from the GSA ERC, the CRO receives, manages, and rules on complaints regarding <u>alleged breaches of GSA Bylaw or Policy, of interpretations issued by the CRO, or other applicable policies or laws in accordance with Section I: Elections, GSA Bylaw, Elections, Section I.</u> I.POL.12 <u>I.POL.11</u> and Section J: Referenda, GSA Bylaw, Referenda, Section J.POL.13 <u>J.POL.12.</u> | <i>Editorial, as “complaints” are a category under the heading of “alleged breaches,” and renumbering.</i> |
| D.POL.10.1.d.x-D.POL.10.3.a ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| D.POL.10.3.b “The Chief Returning Officer (CRO), DRO Deputy Returning Officer, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, members of the GSA Nominating Committee, members of the GSA ACB [GSA Appeals and Complaints Board], and members of the GSA ERC Elections and Referenda Committee will remain neutral and not campaign for or | <i>To align with recommended changes to I.POL.10.9 and J.POL.11.2, above, and elimination of the suggestion that there is a functional difference between campaigning for someone and endorsing them (in alignment with other changes recommended above).</i> |

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
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| endorse any candidate whatsoever” in an election (Section I: Elections, GSA Bylaw Policy, Elections, Section I. BYL.5.4 <u>I.POL.10.9</u>) and “not campaign for or endorse any ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ campaign whatsoever” in a referendum (Section J: Referenda, GSA Bylaw Policy, Referenda, Section J. BYL.6.1 <u>J.POL.11.2</u>). | |
| <u>D.POL.10.3.c The CRO and DRO must not have run in the most recent GSA General Election and/or by-election or served as a Campaign Representative in the most recent referendum.</u> | <i>Recommended addition to align with Section I.POL.17.1, which stipulates that GSA ERC members cannot have run in the previous General Election or served as Campaign Representatives in the previous referendum.</i> |
| D.POL.10.3.c <u>D.POL.10.3.d</u> -D.POL.12.3.a ... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| D.POL.12.3.b The Speaker and Deputy Speaker will <u>remain neutral and</u> not campaign for or endorse any candidate or team whatsoever in a GSA General Election or by-election (see Section I: Elections, GSA Bylaw Policy, Elections, Section I. BYL.5.4 <u>I.POL.10.9</u>) and not campaign for any ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ campaign whatsoever in a referendum (see Section J: Referenda, GSA Policy, Referenda, Section J.POL.11.2). | <i>To align with recommended changes to I.POL.10.9 and J.POL.11.2 (including a reference to referenda campaigning alongside that related to election campaigning that was moved from GSA Bylaw on Referenda to GSA Policy on Referenda), above, and elimination of the suggestion that there is a functional difference between campaigning for someone and endorsing them (in alignment with other changes recommended above).</i> |
| CHANGES TO OTHER SECTIONS OF GSA BYLAW AND POLICY TO ALIGN WITH THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES ABOVE | |
| <p>Remove the language “or endorse” in Sections E.POL.6.1, E.POL.6.2, H.POL.9.2, H.POL.9.3, I.POL.18.1, and I.POL.18.2 and renumbering I.POL.18.1 and I.POL.18.2 to I.POL.17.1 and I.POL.17.2.</p> <p>In Sections E.POL.6.1, E.POL.6.2, and H.POL.9.3, amend language around members’ previous involvement (and potential future involvement) in GSA elections and referenda to align with the changes above.</p> <p>Amend Section E.POL.8.5.</p> <p>Standardize the usage of plural and singular in the phrase “GSA General Elections, by-elections, and referenda” (and permutations thereof) throughout GSA Bylaw and Policy.</p> <p>Check all other sections of GSA Bylaw and Policy for numbering embedded in cross-references that may need to be amended.</p> | |

Outline of Issue

Addition of Repatriation of Bodies to the GSA Health and Dental Plan Coverage

Suggested Motion for GSA Council:

MOTION: That the GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSA Board, **APPROVE** the addition of coverage for the repatriation of bodies to the GSA Health and Dental Plan to a maximum of \$10,000 within 365 days after an incident resulting in death, to begin retroactively on 1 September 2019, with the cost of the Plan to remain at \$500.36/annum for 2019-2020, as approved by GSA Council on 18 March 2019.

Note: This addition will be at no cost, and hence still allow for around \$6/per Plan member to be deposited in the GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund (HDPRF), as noted in March when GSA Council approved the Plan fee for 2019-2020.

Background:

In response to a discussion arising in the spring of 2019, the GSA requested that Studentcare investigate the possibility of adding this feature to the GSA Health and Dental Plan coverage. The repatriation of bodies coverage consists of the reimbursement of the expense of homeward carriage of the body of the insured for burial, subject to a maximum payment of \$10,000, within 365 days following an incident resulting in death. This addition would be at no cost. Please note that any future increases to the Plan fee resulting from the addition of this coverage would be the result of usage of this aspect of coverage. The GSA Board reviewed this proposal and recommended it the GSA Council at its 7 August 2019 meeting.

As noted on 18 March 2019 when GSA Council set the Plan fees for 2019-2020, there was no increase in premiums for 2019-2020 and the approved fee for the Plan was \$500.36/year for 2019-2020 (remaining the same as the 2017-2018 and the 2018-2019 fee). Additionally, it was noted that, even after increases in coverage for dental services (increase approved at the 18 March 2019 meeting), around \$6 per Plan member could still be deposited in the HDPRF. Should GSA Council approve the addition of the repatriation of bodies coverage to the Plan, as noted above, the surplus to the HDPRF would remain the same.

Jurisdiction:

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section M: GSA Health and Dental, GSA Policy, GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund, Section M.POL.9.1:

"The GSA Board (GSAB) is mandated to oversee the implementation, administration, and performance of the GSA Health and Dental Plan, and to make recommendations to GSA Council regarding the Plan (quoted in Section F: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Board, Section F.POL.3.2.c)."

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section M: GSA Health and Dental, GSA Policy, GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund, Section M.POL.10.2:

"GSA Council on the recommendation of the GSAB, approves modification of Plan coverage."

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section M: GSA Health and Dental, GSA Policy, GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund, Section M.POL.11.1.b:

"All surpluses from Plan fees must be transferred into the HDPRF at the end of the fiscal year."

Outline of Issue

Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section M: GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund

Suggested Motion for the GSA Council:

That the GSA Council, on the unanimous recommendation of the GSA Governance Committee and GSA Board, **APPROVE** the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section M: GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council.

Background:

The GSA Governance Committee reviewed and recommended this proposal to GSA Council via an email vote on 1 August 2019. The GSA Board also reviewed and recommended to GSA Council this proposal at their 28 August 2019 meeting.

The recommended change is to align GSA Policy with Section M: GSA Health and Dental Plan, GSA Policy: GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund, M.POL.10.1 and M.POL.10.2 (which state “GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSAB, approves the annual Plan fee” and “GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSAB, approves modification of Plan coverage,” respectively) and with current practice and wherein the GSA Board reports regularly to GSA Council on the administration of the Plan.

Jurisdiction:

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section A: Authority, GSA Bylaw, Authority, Section A.BYL.2.2

“GSA Policy is under the jurisdiction of GSA Council (Section C: GSA Council, GSA Bylaw, GSA Council) and may be amended by a simple majority vote of GSA Council at any meeting of GSA Council.”

Section F: Standing Committees, GSA Policy, Standing Committees, Section F.POL.4.2.a

The GSA GC will *“advise GSA Council on matters of GSA Bylaw and Policy not in the purview of any other GSA Standing Committee, or other governance issues, and recommend changes to GSA Council.”*

Proposed Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, GSA Policy, Section M: GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|---|
| GSA Policy: GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund | <i>No change.</i> |
| M.POL.4 – M.POL.8.2 ... | <i>No change.</i> |
| M.POL.9 Oversight by GSA Board | <i>No change.</i> |
| M.POL.9.1 The GSA Board (GSAB) is mandated to oversee the implementation, administration, and performance of the GSA Health and Dental Plan, and to make recommendations reporting regularly to GSA Council regarding the Plan, and to make recommendations to GSA Council concerning the coverage and fees associated with the Plan. | <i>Recommended change to align GSA Policy with Sections M.POL.10.1 and M.POL.10.2 (which state “GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSAB, approves the annual Plan fee” and “GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSAB, approves modification of Plan coverage,” respectively) and with current practice and wherein the GSA Board reports regularly to GSA Council on the administration of the Plan.</i> |
| M.POL.10 Increases in Fees and Modification of Plan Coverage | <i>Editorial, to align with Section M.POL.10.2 (“GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSAB, approves modification of Plan coverage”).</i> |
| M.POL.10.1 – M.POL.11.2.d ... | <i>No change.</i> |

In addition to the above, section F.POL.3.2.c of GSA Bylaw and Policy, which cross-references M.POL.9.1, will be amended.

Outline of Issue

Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards

Suggested Motion for the GSA Council:

That the GSA Council, on the unanimous recommendations of the GSA Governance Committee and GSA Board, **APPROVE** the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council.

Background:

The GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC) reviewed and recommended this proposal to GSA Council via an email vote on 30 July 2019. The GSA Board also reviewed the proposal and made their own recommendation to GSA Council on 28 August 2019.

These recommended changes include clarification that the GSA Awards Selection Committee (GSA ASC) (rather than the GSA GC) should approve any recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy for sections related to the GSA Recognition Awards. Currently GSA Bylaw and Policy only indicates that the “GSA ASC will be consulted concerning any proposed changes to the number, selection criteria, names and value of GSA Recognition Awards” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards, GSA Policy: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Awards Selection Committee). Other recommended changes include moving some language related to the GSA Recognition Award adjudication process from GSA Board Policy into GSA Policy, and clarifying current practice in GSA Board Policy that all adjudicator files are confidential and adjudication decisions are final.

Jurisdiction:

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section A: Authority, GSA Bylaw, Authority, Section A.BYL.2.2

“GSA Policy is under the jurisdiction of GSA Council (Section C: GSA Council, GSA Bylaw, GSA Council) and may be amended by a simple majority vote of GSA Council at any meeting of GSA Council.”

Section F: Standing Committees, GSA Policy, Standing Committees, Section F.POL.4.2.a

The GSA GC will “advise GSA Council on matters of GSA Bylaw and Policy not in the purview of any other GSA Standing Committee, or other governance issues, and recommend changes to GSA Council.”

Proposed Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, GSA Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards

| Current Policy (<i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i>) and Proposed Changes (<i>additions underlined</i>) | Rationale/Background |
|--|---|
| Section O: GSA Recognition Awards | <i>No change.</i> |
| Purpose and Scope... | <i>No change.</i> |
| Definitions... | <i>No change.</i> |
| Other Specifically Related Sections of GSA Governance Documents... | <i>No change.</i> |
| GSA Policy: GSA Recognition Awards and Adjudication Criteria... | <i>No change.</i> |
| O.POL.1... | <i>No change.</i> |
| O.POL.1 – O.POL.1.2... | <i>No change.</i> |
| O.POL.1.3 Current Directly-Elected Officers and members of the GSA Awards Selection Committee (GSA ASC) are not eligible to apply <u>be nominated or self-nominated</u> for GSA Recognition Awards. | <i>Editorial.</i> |
| O.POL.1.7 <u>Late and/or incomplete nominations and extraneous documents will not be accepted.</u> | <i>Recommendation to move this language, which is currently in GSA Board Policy, into GSA Policy.</i> |
| O.POL.1.8 <u>All award applications will be adjudicated in accordance with the process set out in GSA Board Policy, Section 2: GSA Recognition Awards: Nomination and Adjudication Processes.</u> | <i>Recommended clarification that awards are adjudicated as per current processes outlined in GSA Board Policy.</i> |
| O.POL.2 – O.POL.2.12... | <i>No change.</i> |
| GSA Policy: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Awards Selection Committee | |
| O.POL.3 – O.POL.5... | <i>No change.</i> |

Proposed Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, GSA Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards

| | |
|--|--|
| O.POL.5.1 The GSA ASC is responsible for selecting the recipients of the GSA Council approved GSA Recognition Awards. Additionally: | <i>Editorial, given the recommended change below.</i> |
| O.POL.5.2 O.POL.5.1.a The GSA ASC will be consulted concerning any proposed changes to the number, selection criteria, names, and value of GSA Recognition Awards. The GSA ASC will review GSA Bylaw and Policy on GSA Recognition Awards annually and make any recommendations to GSA Council. | <i>Recommended parallel to the mandate of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (I.POL.19.4) which indicates that the GSA ERC reviews elections and referenda Bylaw and Policy annually and makes any recommendations to GSA Council. It is recommended that the GSA ASC members should be the content experts for all potential changes that may be recommended to GSA Council for Section O: GSA Recognition Awards.</i> |
| O.POL.5.2 – O.POL.5.4 O.POL.5.3 – O.POL.5.5... | <i>Renumbering.</i> |
| O.POL.6 – O.POL.1.6... | <i>No change.</i> |

Outline of Issue

Ratification of the Graduate Student Representative on the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Dean Selection Committee

Suggested Motion for GSA Council:

That GSA Council **RATIFY** Shannon Pynn (PhD Program, Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation) as the graduate student representative on the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Dean Selection Committee.

Note: GSA Council is being asked, as per the process outlined in University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online (UAPPOL) (which govern the composition of decanal selection committees and the selection of members), to **ratify** the selection of Shannon Pynn by the Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Graduate Student Society (KSRGSS) to serve on the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation Dean Selection Committee.

Background:

The GSA was informed by Susan Buchsdruecker and Andrea Patrick from the Provost's Office that a Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Dean Selection Committee was being established, and that this committee was expected to start meeting in October 2019. In early September, the GSA contacted the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation and the KSRGSS to inform them that a graduate student representative would be needed, as set out in UAPPOL procedures.

On September 12, 2019, the KSRGSS forwarded the name of its selected graduate student representative to GSA Council for ratification. The representative has agreed that their bio and resume be circulated to GSA Council as submitted, and it is attached on the following page.

Jurisdiction:

As set out in UAPPOL:

"The graduate student representative(s) shall be selected by the organized Faculty Graduate Student Association (KSRGSS), by whatever means the organization deems suitable. This name shall be forwarded to the Graduate Students' Association and the representative will be ratified by the Graduate Students' Association Council. If no Faculty Graduate Student Association exists, the Graduate Students' Association shall be responsible for forwarding a name to the Graduate Students' Association Council for ratification."

(<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Procedures/Faculty-Deans-Selection-Procedure-Appendix-A-%20Dean-Selection-Committees-for-Individual-Faculties.pdf>).

Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Dean Selection Committee

Shannon Pynn

Statement of Interest: Briefly explain how your skills and experience would be an asset to your work on the committee.

I have worked hard at building connections with my fellow graduate students by attending events such as our annual student retreat/conference, participating in intramural teams, and volunteering at KSR Graduate Student Orientation. These activities have helped me cultivate relationships with my fellow graduate students to the extent that 1) I can represent them on this selection committee, and 2) they would be comfortable discussing with me their needs and desires in relation to the hiring of the new Dean. Further, I have been a student in the KSR faculty since 2012, and as a result I am fully aware and understand the expectations of our faculty and what qualities to look for in a leader. Lastly, I have a host of non-scholarly work experiences (e.g., managing and owning/operating a business) that will assist me in being a valuable member of the Dean Selection Committee.

Bio: A brief description of yourself and your background.

I was raised in Grande Prairie, Alberta. Sport participation was a big part of my childhood and adolescence. I first moved to Edmonton to complete my BPE (now BKin) here at UAlberta, with goals of one day becoming a mental performance consultant. During my BPE I did a research practicum with Dr. Nick Holt. I went on to complete my Masters degree and start my PhD under Dr. Holt's supervision.

Summary Resume: A brief description of your academic, professional, and volunteer work as it pertains to this position.

I am a third-year PhD student in the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation. I am a student and research assistant in Dr. Nick Holt's Child and Adolescent Sport and Activity lab. My research is focused on the psychosocial aspects of youth sport and physical activity. Specifically, I study parents and how they can be optimally involved in their children's sport. In addition to my research, I am the Mental Performance Consultant for Team Walker Curling and the editor of The Sport Parent magazine. I am fortunate enough to have a flexible schedule and am able to fully commit to sitting on the KSR Dean Selection Committee.

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)
DEPUTY SPEAKER (ONE (1) POSITION): THREE (3) NOMINEES

As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, the GSA NoC will open nominations for Speaker, Deputy Speaker, CRO and DRO “on or about 1 May of every year” and nominations will be submitted in writing to the GSA NoC “by 30 May or the next working day” (Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, Council-Elected Officers, Section D.BYL.3.1.b and Section D.BYL.3.1.c). This position was advertised in the GSA newsletter in advance of the June 2019 and July 2019 meetings of GSA Council, but no nominees were received. It was again advertised in the GSA newsletter of 30 August 2019 with a deadline of 11 September 2019. Three (3) nominations were received.

There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 16 September 2019 GSA Council meeting to elect the Deputy Speaker for 2019-2020.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the 16 September 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 16 September 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.

GSA Deputy Speaker

- 1. Ramin Fathian (Mechanical Engineering)**
- 2. Arshad Khan Khalafzai (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)**
- 3. Devi Priyanka Maripuri (Medical Generics)**

Please note that one nominee has concurrently put their name forward for positions on two GSA Standing Committees and, in the event that they are elected to all positions, they will be asked to choose between the Deputy Speaker position and the GSA Standing Committee position(s), as “the Speaker and Deputy Speaker may not act in any other representative position for the GSA” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officer Portfolios, Section D.POL.12.3.a).

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 E: Nominating, GSA Policy, Nominating, Section E.POL.3.2.a

“The GSA NoC provides GSA Council with the names of nominees for all GSA Council-Elected Officer positions. These positions will be advertised at least twice in advance of the nomination deadline noted in the advertisement.”

The biographies and brief resumes of the nominees are ATTACHED on pages 11.4 - 11.7. The biographies and brief resumes have been attached as received (ie not edited).

Biographies and Resumes of Nominees

DEPUTY SPEAKER

Qualifications as set out in Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officer Portfolios, D.POL.12

D.POL.12.4.a “The Speaker must have a good working knowledge of the GSA, its structure, and its governing documents.”

Duties as set out in Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, D.BYL.3

D.BYL.3.3.c “The Speaker is responsible for presiding over all meetings of GSA Council.”

D.BYL.3.3.d “Duties of the Deputy Speaker and DRO are to assist the Speaker and CRO as needed.”

Duties as set out in Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officer Portfolios, D.POL.12

D.POL.12.1 Duties of the Speaker

D.POL.12.1.a The Speaker is responsible for presiding over all meetings of GSA Council and for acting in a neutral capacity and maintaining order and decorum in GSA Council so that GSA Council can conduct its business in a fully-informed, fair fashion.

D.POL.12.1.b The Speaker is responsible for dealing with any breaches of confidentiality arising in GSA Council.

D.POL.12.1.c The Speaker will see that an agenda package is prepared for all meetings of GSA Council.

D.POL.12.1.d The Speaker is ultimately responsible for review of the Minutes of meetings of GSA Council prior to their being distributed to GSA Council for approval.

D.POL.12.1.e The Speaker is responsible for tracking attendance at meetings of GSA Council.

D.POL.12.1.f The Speaker oversees the archiving of the official copies of the GSA’s governing documents and is responsible for ensuring that up-to-date copies thereof are available to members on the GSA website.

D.POL.12.1.g The position of Speaker totals approximately two (2) hours per week on average, except for weeks where there is a GSA Council meeting, in which case there is an average of approximately five (5) hours.

D.POL.12.2 Duties of the Deputy Speaker

D.POL.12.2.a As per Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, D.BYL.3.3.d, the “duties of the Deputy Speaker [...] are to assist the Speaker [...] as needed.”

D.POL.12.3 Restrictions

D.POL.12.3.a The Speaker and Deputy Speaker may not act in any other representative position for the GSA except as provided for in GSA Bylaw and GSA Policy.

D.POL.12.3.b The Speaker and Deputy Speaker will not campaign for or endorse any candidate or team whatsoever in a GSA General Election or by-election (see Section I: Elections, GSA Bylaw, Elections, Section I.BYL.5.4).”

**Nominations for GSA Deputy Speaker
(1 Vacancy for GSA Members)
Three Nominees**

1. Ramin Fathian

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | FGSR, Councilor at large |
|---|--------------------------|

| |
|--|
| Statement of Interest |
| Experience I gained during the past years while I was serving as a deputy director of Mechanical Engineering Association of Shiraz University, organizer, and advisor can be beneficial to the committee to provide better services and supports to GSA members. |
| Bio |
| I was born in Shiraz, Iran and I lived in Shiraz for 23 years. I can speak Farsi (Persian) and English fluently. I finished my undergraduate study back in Iran in Shiraz University (2017). Currently I am studying mechanical engineering at the University of Alberta. |
| Summary Resume |
| I am now a second-year MSc. Student in the department of mechanical engineering working under supervision of Dr. Rouhani. My research is about biomechanical assessment of vertical jumping. As I mentioned before, I finished my BSc. in 2017 at Shiraz University and my project was "Hybrid Position Control on 4 Wheel Drive Omni Wheel Platform Using Gyro Sensors and Camera Feedback Compensator". During my undergraduate study I served as the Deputy director of the Mechanical Engineering Association of Shiraz University for more than two years while I was responsible for coordinating events, and workshops, negotiating with industry partners for organizing workshops, and fieldtrips, advising students in case of having innovative idea and link them to the innovation centers. In addition, I organized couple of events, workshops, and competitions for university student and highschool students. Here at University of Alberta, I was volunteer for the FEGRS (Faculty of Engineering Graduate Student Symposium), Open house, and FURCA (Festival of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities). It can be mentioned that, I can fit in any group and I enjoy teamwork. |

2. Arshad Khan Khalafzai

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | Not Applicable |
|---|----------------|

Statement of Interest: Briefly explain how your skills and experience would be an asset to your work in this position.

I have diversified work experience spanning over 25 years. My work experience includes project management and project coordination. I have worked both nationally and internationally in a multicultural environment. During my college education in my country of origin, I actively participated in the college union activities including running operational affairs, conducting elections, and chairing meeting, etc. During my studies at York University, Toronto, I not only participated in the CUPE 3903 activities and sat on various committees but also actively contributed to the success of the Union, e.g. 11 weeks long strike during 2008-09. I have chaired meeting both in the academic and professional work environment and have effectively contributed to achieving the organizational goals.

Bio: A brief description of yourself and your background.

I am a 50 years old mature individual, a Ph.D. scholar, a social scientist, and a Pakistani Canadian with dual citizenship status. I believe in family values and respect laws, customs and traditions, and ethical values of all societies and cultures. I strongly believe in equality, and that all cultures, languages, ethnicities, and ways of life are equal, and have the same importance. I also firmly believe that diversity both in the natural environment and human societies is the key to the survival of mankind.

Summary Resume: A brief description of your academic, professional, and volunteer work as it pertains to this position.

I have earned over 25 years of combined work experience including ten years' experience of conducting academic-based internationally published quality research using both qualitative and quantitative research orientations, mixed-methods and multiple participatory techniques in a range of aspects of the development sector. They include socioeconomic development, human development, women and youth empowerment and environmental hazards, climate change vulnerabilities, impacts, and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction and sustainable development while serving the national and international public and not-for-profit and development organizations. They include UN agencies such as UNICEF and UNESCO and INGOs e.g., IRC, Oxfam GB, Plan International and the Canadian Red Cross, academic research institutions of York University, Toronto and the University of Alberta, Edmonton in addition to the Government of Pakistan including National Commission for Human Development (NCHD). I have a noteworthy academic career such as earning a gold medal and securing the first position in the master's degree programs of MS Development Studies and MBA. I also have several research publications and articles in my credit published in the international academic and professional journals and Canadian magazines. My professional contribution is well recognized both nationally and internationally, for example, I won the Canadian award of Larry Pearce Education 2016 Award.

VOLUNTEER WORK AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Sep 2016 – present | CRHNet (Canadian Risk and Hazard Network) and HazNET (the Magazine of the Canadian Risk and Hazard Network). https://www.crhnet.ca/ and http://haznet.ca/ |
| Jan 2014 – Mar 2014 | Deputy Lead Canadian Red Cross , 170 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, ON K2P 2P2. |
| Sep 2013 – Oct. 2013 | Project Report Writing , Flood Emergency Response Project Canadian Red Cross , 170 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, ON K2P 2P2. |
| Aug 2013 – present | Canada's Platform for DRR. |
| Feb 2013 – present | GNDR (Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction) 8 Waldegrave Road, Teddington, London, United Kingdom TW11 8HT |
| Jun 2011 – May 2013 | Pakistan DRR Forum (founding member) Islamabad, Pakistan. |
| Sep 2009 – Aug 2010 | President DEMSA, York University, Toronto , Canada. |
| Oct 2005 – present | PRCS (Pakistan Red Crescent Society) Member and Blood Donor |
| Sep 1986 – Dec 1988 | DIK Donors Society (D.I. Khan Blood Donors Society's Founding Member). |

3. Devi Priyanka Maripuri

| | |
|---|--|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | |
|---|--|

Part Two

| |
|--|
| Statement of Interest |
| <p>I have been an active member of an interdisciplinary group, Initiative for Biological Systems Engineering (IBSE) at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, India for the past two years before joining UofA as a graduate student. At IBSE, I have coordinated several meetings and have been an active member of the initiative's organizing committee. I was responsible for overseeing the Committee's weekly meetings, seminars, colloquiums and the quarterly workshops. Apart from these, as a part of the organizing committee, I have had an opportunity to supervise an International Conference. I was also responsible for maintaining the website and updating the information timely. If given an opportunity, I would like to extend my commitment to UofA.</p> |
| Bio |
| <p>I have completed my Bachelor of Technology Degree in Bioinformatics at Sathyabama University, India in 2017. Later, I have moved to work at Indian Institute of Technology Madras as a Project Associate at a Computational Systems Biology Laboratory. Apart from analyzing cancer genomes at IIT Madras, I have been an active member of the IBSE Initiative. I have also been selected as the Campus Tour guide where I have had an opportunity to develop an interpersonal rapport with other students. Outside this, I also a compassionate volunteer at DESIRE Society, an NGO working for HIV/AIDS Infected Affected Children in Hyderabad, India. I have also organized several fund-raising events for these kids. At UofA, I am pursuing my Masters degree in Medical Genetics under the auspices of the Maternal and Child Health (MatCH) Program where I have been appointed as a Graduate Research Assistant. I am an avid book reader and I can speak Hindi, Telugu and English.</p> |
| Summary Resume |
| <p>I am a first year Masters student at the Department of Medical Sciences-Medical Genetics under the MatCH program. It's a two year thesis based program. My work will be in understanding the enormous complexity in the living systems and in understanding the cause of the underlying disease conditions by analyzing genomic data. My research program facilitates an interdisciplinary collaboration with departments of Medical Genetics, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology. I am interested in this position because I would like to explore and deepen my understanding of the student organizations while simultaneously improving my communication skills. I have always been a detail and task oriented person with an ability to manage several projects at a time. With my past experiences, I strongly believe that my skills will come in handy in assisting the Speaker with their duties. If given an opportunity, I would like to inform you that I will be an ardent team player who will be passionate about the work that has been entrusted in me.</p> |

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)
**GSA BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE (GSA BFC) (ONE (1) POSITION FOR A GSA MEMBER):
 THREE (3) NOMINEES**

Information regarding the one (1) vacancy for a GSA member was advertised to GSA Council on 30 August and 6 September with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. Three (3) nominations were received.

The broad mandate of the GSA BFC is to “advise on the financial affairs of the GSA (including the long-term planning and priorities of the GSA in light of its strategic goals) and on the provision of the long-term financial health of the organization” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section K: Finances, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Budget and Finance Committee, Section K.POL.5.1).

There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 16 September 2019 GSA Council meeting.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the Monday 16 September 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 16 September 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. Maggie Cascadden (Business PhD)**
- 2. Dhruvsh Patel (Agricultural, Food, and Nutritional Science)**
- 3. Vinay Patel (Agricultural, Food, and Nutritional Science)**

Current GSA BFC membership can be found [here](#).

Jurisdiction:

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 names and biographies received for the three (3) nominees are BELOW on pages 11.8 – 11.11. The biographies and resumes are presented as received (ie not edited).

Nominations for GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC)
(1 Vacancy for GSA Members)
Three Nominees

1. Maggie Cascadden

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | Business Doctoral Association |
|---|-------------------------------|

Statement of Interest

I have served as a member of many department level student associations, including being president of my master's program department association. In these positions, I gained an understanding of what is important for student associations and what they need money for. In short, I do not have direct experience in financing and budgeting, but I have worked with degree-level student association budgets and hope this experience will help me contribute to the GSA budget and finance committee.

Bio

I was born in Vancouver and raised in Calgary. I did my undergraduate degree in Montreal, where I studied sustainability at McGill and was member of a number of sustainability focused groups: the Plate Lending And Trash Eradication (PLATE) club, the David Suzuki Foundation @ McGill, AOII fraternity, and the Student Association of SSS (my degree program association). I continued to be part of student councils during my master's program, where I eventually became president of the Resource and Environmental Management Student Union. I am highly interested in anything sustainability, have worked and continue to volunteer in conservation with the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

Summary Resume

I am a PhD student in the school of business studying how organizations change and how very different organizations are able to work together in the context of the Canadian mining industry. Before starting my PhD, I was a master's student in Resource and Environmental Management and Planning in BC. I have also worked in conservation here in Alberta, which is one of my passions. I am currently free at the times that this committee meets.

2. Dhruvesh Patel

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | GSA Awards Adjudication Committee |
|---|-----------------------------------|

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|---|
| Statement of Interest |
| <p>Being a member of finance committee co-chair for two local annually held conferences and chair for Human Nutrition departmental journal club, I have experienced account management from micro to macro levels. Moreover, I have developed communication skills and understanding of bureaucracy organizational structure of University and academic organization that is vital for approaching and efficiently operating within committee.</p> |
| Bio |
| <p>An international student from India turned into a Canadian immigrant, I inspire to contribute and participate in society to make it just and better place to prosper. Living in Canada for more than 7 years, I enjoy volunteering, Tim's coffee and potlucks just as much as Garba and Diwali, in other words, multicultural Canada.</p> |
| Summary Resume |
| <p>University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB (2017 – 2019) Nutrition and Metabolism (PhD student) York University, Toronto, ON (2014 - 2017) Kinesiology and Health Science (Specialized Honors B.Sc.) Humber College, Toronto, ON (2012 - 2013) Fitness and Health Promotion (Advance Diploma) B V B, Gujarat, India (2009 - 2011) Higher Secondary Education</p> <p>Campus Alberta Student Conference on Health, Finance committee (2019) Eureka, Science Undergraduate Research Journal, Peer Reviewer (Jan. 2019 - current) Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, Patient Unit visitor (Oct. 2018 – Mar. 2019) Nutrition Journal Club, Chair (Sept. 2018 – current) Graduate Students' Association, University of Alberta (Sept. 2018 - current) Awards Selection Committee Immunology Network, Research day 2019, Fundraising Committee Alberta Diabetes Institute, Edmonton (Jan. 2018 - current) Trainee Working Group Alberta Academic Review (Oct. 2017 - current) Editor (volunteering)</p> |

3. Vinay Patel

| | |
|---|------|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | none |
|---|------|

Statement of Interest

I studied many finance case studies during my Master of Business Administration (MBA) but never get chance to utilized in the real-time so it would be an interesting to work with real financial situations with the real-time finance & budget.

Secondly, I have created a business plan to establish my own firm after my M.Sc. (2006) but it was not executed due to lack of finance and business operation background and that is one of the main reasons for me to persue MBA. During my MBA studies, I have also involved in a small business operation where I get chance to work with the proforma statements of a real business and many aspects of the business operations.

Bio

I was born in India and got my B.Sc. in Chemistry (2004) and M.Sc. in Oil Technology (2006). Then, I went to the U.S.A. for the MBA (2012).

I have worked in the industry for about five years (in India and USA) prior to starting my P.hD. at University of Alberta.

Summary Resume

I am now in my forth year PhD in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science researching on biobased polymers and biocomposites. Last year, I have participated in a Non-profit board internship program where I worked with a non profit organization name "Food4Good" and learnt many aspects of non-profit sector includes grant writing, finance & budget, and marketing the products to the right the segment/group of people.

Since I am now in the forth year of my PhD program so I would have flexible schedule to attend the committee meetings.

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)
**GSA ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA COMMITTEE (GSA ERC) (ONE (1) POSITION FOR A GSA MEMBER):
 ONE (1) NOMINEE**

Information regarding the one (1) vacancy for a GSA member was advertised to GSA Council on 30 August and 6 September with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. One (1) nomination was received.

The GSA ERC “advise the CRO on all matters pertaining to the GSA General Election, by-elections, and referenda” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section I: Elections, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Elections and Referenda, Section I.POL.19.1).

There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 16 September 2019 GSA Council meeting.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the Monday 16 September 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 16 September 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. Ramin Fathian (Mechanical Engineering)

Please note that the nominee has concurrently put their name forward for the position of GSA Deputy Speaker, along with their nomination to this GSA Standing Committee (and a nomination to the GSA Nominating Committee), and, in the event that they are elected to all positions, they will be asked to choose between the Deputy Speaker position and the GSA Standing Committee position(s), as “the Speaker and Deputy Speaker may not act in any other representative position for the GSA” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officer Portfolios, Section D.POL.12.3.a).

Current GSA ERC membership can be found [here](#).

Jurisdiction:

GSA Bylaw and GSA Policy, Section I: Elections, GSA Policy, Standing Committees, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee, Section I.POL.17.1

“A total of six (6) GSA members including at least one (1) Councillor elected by GSA Council, as 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 page 11.13. The biography and resume is presented as received (ie not edited).

Nominations for GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC)
(1 Vacancy for GSA Members)
One Nominee

1. Ramin Fathian

| | |
|---|--|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | |
|---|--|

Statement of Interest

Experience I gained during the past years while I was serving as a deputy director of Mechanical Engineering Association of Shiraz University, organizer, and advisor can be beneficial to the committee to provide better services and supports to GSA members.

Bio

I was born in Shiraz, Iran and I lived in Shiraz for 23 years. I can speak Farsi (Persian) and English fluently. I finished my undergraduate study back in Iran in Shiraz University (2017). Currently I am studying mechanical engineering at the University of Alberta.

Summary Resume

I am now a second-year MSc. Student in the department of mechanical engineering working under supervision of Dr. Rouhani. My research is about biomechanical assessment of vertical jumping. As I mentioned before, I finished my BSc. in 2017 at Shiraz University and my project was "Hybrid Position Control on 4 Wheel Drive Omni Wheel Platform Using Gyro Sensors and Camera Feedback Compensator". During my undergraduate study I served as the Deputy director of the Mechanical Engineering Association of Shiraz University for more than two years while I was responsible for coordinating events, and workshops, negotiating with industry partners for organizing workshops, and fieldtrips, advising students in case of having innovative idea and link them to the innovation centers. In addition, I organized couple of events, workshops, and competitions for university student and highschool students. Here at University of Alberta, I was volunteer for the FEGRS (Faculty of Engineering Graduate Student Symposium), Open house, and FURCA (Festival of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities). It can be mentioned that, I can fit in any group and I enjoy teamwork.

SPEAKER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
POSITION ON THE GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC) (ONE (1) POSITION FOR A GSA MEMBER):
3 NOMINEES

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletter of 30 August 2019 with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. Three (3) nominations were received.

The GSA NoC is charged with selecting graduate student representatives to serve on councils, committees, and other bodies requiring such representation. The GSA NoC also leads an annual initiative in October known as the “Early Call for Talent and Training”, during which graduate students interested in running for elected office are invited to attend a Get-to-Know Dinner and training sessions (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Nominating Committee, Sections E.POL.8.2 and E.POL.8.7).

There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 16 September 2019 GSA Council meeting.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the 16 September 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 16 September 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. Morteza Davarpanah (Civil and Environmental Engineering)**
- 2. Ramin Fathian (Mechanical Engineering)**
- 3. Wojciech Pietrasik (Biomedical Engineering)**

Please note that one nominee has concurrently put their name forward for the position of GSA Deputy Speaker, along with their nomination to this GSA Standing Committee (and a nomination to the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee), and, in the event that they are elected to all positions, they will be asked to choose between the Deputy Speaker position and the GSA Standing Committee position(s), as “the Speaker and Deputy Speaker may not act in any other representative position for the GSA” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, GSA Officer Portfolios, Section D.POL.12.3.a).

Current GSA NoC membership can be found [here](#).

Jurisdiction:

Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, Nominating, Section E.POL.4.1

“Vacancies on the GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) will be advertised by the Executive Director (ED) (or delegate) and GSA Speaker. The ED (or delegate) and GSA Speaker will provide GSA Council with the names of nominees for the GSA NoC who meet the criteria set out below. These vacancies will be advertised at least twice in advance of the nomination deadline noted in the advertisement.”

Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Nominating Committee, Section E.POL.5.1

“A total of five (5) graduate student members, including at least two (2) voting members of GSA Council (who may be alternates) elected by GSA Council, and three (3) additional graduate student members elected by GSA Council, as voting members.”

The names and biographies received for the three (3) nominees are BELOW on pages 11.15 - 11.19. The biographies and resumes are presented as received (ie not edited).

Nominations for GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC)
(1 Vacancy for GSA Members)
Three Nominees

1. Morteza Davarpanah

| | |
|---|---|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | International Student Advisory Committee with UAI |
|---|---|

Statement of Interest

I have been a member of International Student Advisory Committee (ISAC) since 2018. ISAC is a platform for students to voice their concerns and give feedback on the campus resources, supports and systems. I have also been a senior peer in Peer Program and as part of the program, I mentored 21 new-incoming students in settlement, academic, systematic, and acculturation transitions. I believe my interpersonal and problem-solving skills, as well as my understanding of graduate students' challenges coming from my volunteering experience, along with my passion for making a change at UofA qualify me to succeed in this role.

Bio

I am an international student at UofA studying Air Pollution Control. I did my BSc and MSc degrees at FUM in Iran. During my studies in Iran, I was a member of Badminton varsity team, as well as the Persian Literature Club. In Canada, I have been working with and for International students in the form of Job and volunteer opportunities. I am currently a Graduate Research Assistant at the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department and a Program Assistant at UAI. My hobbies are studying books, playing racket sports and doing other Campus & Community Recreation activities.

Summary Resume

I am a second-year PhD student in Environmental Engineering at Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at UofA. My research focuses on modeling air pollution control systems. I am currently a Program Assistant in International Student Service team at University of Alberta International, arranging programs and events on- and off-campus (e.g. UofA+). I am also a volunteer/member in some programs/events run by UAI (Peer Program, ISAC, ECC). In my BSc and MSc degrees, I was presented with the first place for undergrad and grad researcher awards, and more recently, with the Air Pollution Control and Waste Management Research scholarship. To see the list my publications including 6 ISI paper you can visit my LinkedIn page at: [linkedin.com/in/davarpanahmorteza](https://www.linkedin.com/in/davarpanahmorteza). I am planning to take my candidacy exam in Aug 2019, and I believe I will have a much more flexible schedule after to attend committee

meetings which will start in Sep 2019.

2. Ramin Fathian

| | |
|---|--|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | |
|---|--|

| |
|------------------------------|
| Statement of Interest |
|------------------------------|

Experience I gained during the past years while I was serving as a deputy director of Mechanical Engineering Association of Shiraz University, organizer, and advisor can be beneficial to the committee to provide better services and supports to GSA members.

| |
|------------|
| Bio |
|------------|

I was born in Shiraz, Iran and I lived in Shiraz for 23 years. I can speak Farsi (Persian) and English fluently. I finished my undergraduate study back in Iran in Shiraz University (2017). Currently I am studying mechanical engineering at the University of Alberta.

| |
|-----------------------|
| Summary Resume |
|-----------------------|

I am now a second-year MSc. Student in the department of mechanical engineering working under supervision of Dr. Rouhani. My research is about biomechanical assessment of vertical jumping. As I mentioned before, I finished my BSc. in 2017 at Shiraz University and my project was "Hybrid Position Control on 4 Wheel Drive Omni Wheel Platform Using Gyro Sensors and Camera Feedback Compensator". During my undergraduate study I served as the Deputy director of the Mechanical Engineering Association of Shiraz University for more than two years while I was responsible for coordinating events, and workshops, negotiating with industry partners for organizing workshops, and fieldtrips, advising students in case of having innovative idea and link them to the innovation centers. In addition, I organized couple of events, workshops, and competitions for university student and highschool students. Here at University of Alberta, I was volunteer for the FEGRS (Faculty of Engineering Graduate Student Symposium), Open house, and FURCA (Festival of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities). It can be mentioned that, I can fit in any group and I enjoy teamwork.

3. Wojciech Pietrasik

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta) | GSA Awards Selection Committee |
|---|--------------------------------|

Statement of Interest

I am interested in becoming a member of the GSA Nominating Committee. Since entering my graduate program, I have been involved with the GSA and looking for further opportunities to put my energy and talent to work. I am a suitable applicant as I have experience in selecting students for graduate awards and student group duties, as well as deliberating over strengths of candidates with a group.

I have volunteered for the ISSS Awards Adjudication Committee and since 2018 I have been a member of the GSA Awards Selection Committee; I am therefore familiar with the GSA committee process, assessing and grading student applications, and making final decisions about who receives awards in a crowded field. I am also currently the VP External for the Friends Across Campus student group; as part of my duties I am responsible for several volunteers and must assign them various duties that suit their strengths to aid in our club operations, and coordinate with the other members of my group to ensure everyone has the right people and they are used properly.

In addition, I am in the graduate interdisciplinary program and have a wide range of academic and research experience in various fields. To keep in line with the GSA's goal of having student representatives from diverse backgrounds and departments, I am highly capable of judging various qualities of applicants as they pertain to their academics or activities specific to their research area. Based on the reasons listed I believe I would be an excellent candidate for the GSA Nominating Committee.

Bio

I was born in Poland and schooled entirely in Canada; I am fluent in both English and Polish. I received my BSc Honors in Neuroscience from the UofA in 2017, attaining first class honors. During my undergraduate career I garnered experience from various research labs, either as a volunteer or a summer student. In my final year I took an undergraduate thesis course and received firsthand experience at designing, running, and presenting a research experiment.

After working as a research assistant in a Biomedical Engineering lab for a year, I chose to join the lab as a Master student and have since been involved in active research, publishing first author work, and presenting it at local and national conferences.

Since joining my program, I have been seeking various volunteer opportunities to aid my professional development, I am already a member of the GSA Awards Selection Committee and hope to be further involved with the GSA.

Summary Resume

I am currently in the second year of my Master program in Biomedical Engineering where I study the effects of aging on brain structure using MRI. I work in Dr. Malykhin's lab composed of students from various backgrounds. I am also in the graduate interdisciplinary studies program with Neuroscience as my conjoint department to provide better supervision and context to my research project. I have a diverse range of research experience, I worked in cellular neuroscience labs conducting animal experiments, as well as the MRI research labs which involved handling of patients and their confidential medical data.

This past year I have been involved in submitting first authored work to accredited scientific journals and presenting at various conferences, including a national conference in Toronto. To aid my professional development I have also attended a trainee retreat in Quebec to learn more about aging research.

Apart from academics I try to spend my free time volunteering in various positions across campus, in addition to tutoring, most recently I have been volunteering for the GSA Awards Selection Committee, the University of Alberta Conversation Club, and as VP External for the Friends Across Campus student group. Despite this I am fairly flexible and manage my time well to ensure I fulfill my duties as a member of these groups, and I hope to serve the Nomination Committee with just as much passion.

GSA President
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting

To: GSA Council
From: Fahed Elian
Date: 13 September 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

Let me start my report by respectfully acknowledging that we are on Treaty 6 territory, the traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

Welcome back returning and new graduate students. I hope you all had an amazing summer and time to do the things you love. I am looking forward to meeting you all and working with you this term. Please do not hesitate to say 'hi' and have a chat. I would be more than happy to answer any of your questions, before, during and after GSA Council meetings.

My team and I had the pleasure of meeting new graduate students at the GSA Fall orientation, as well as at departmental orientations, where we were joined by the GSA office team and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) representatives. As we start the fall semester, I would like to share with you a take home message that I shared with new graduate students during orientations:

- Find or maintain a hobby that has nothing to do with your degree;
- Exercise and go outside;
- Get enough sleep, every night;
- Spend time with family and friends;
- Maintain spiritual practices (if this is applicable to you); and
- Grad school is something you do, it's not all that you are.

This last month, my team and I continued implementing the 2019-2020 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) priorities. In the following report, I will share with you highlights of my advocacy work from this last month.

Student-Supervisor Relationships

Following on the points I shared with you in my August report, here are some updates:

- Dylan and I had multiple meetings with Dr. B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of FGSR, where we discussed strategies to make student-supervisor relationship an institutional priority. We discussed having more robust reporting mechanisms for harassment and bullying, identifying stakeholders who are involved or potentially can be involved to address this issue, supervisors' training workshops, and strategies to centralize reporting mechanisms to increase efficiency and transparency. Dr. B Milne will attend the October GSA Council meeting where she will share FGSR strategic priorities for the next few years. I encourage you to share any questions, concerns, ideas, or suggestions that you have.
- After several meetings with stakeholders, it became apparent to me that whenever graduate students are facing issues such as harassment or bullying, and they decide to disclose these issues, they will go to one or more than one of the following offices on campus: the GSA, FGSR, Dean of Students Office, Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights, the Ombuds Office, and/or University of Alberta International. Moving

forward, I will be sharing the number of graduate students, while fully respecting confidentiality, who reach out and have reached out previously to the GSA with issues related to student-supervisor relationships in my monthly report to the Board of Governors. My team and I continue to consult with other stakeholders to gather more data on how many students have brought forward complaints regarding supervisory harassment and bullying.

- The VPs and I met with Dr. D Turpin, the University President, to discuss the SWP for this term. We discussed student-supervisor relationships, the Michener Park closure, and minimum funding packages and tuition fees. Dr. D Turpin shared his thoughts on how to tackle the first priority, where he highlighted that the FGSR would take the lead and noted that the President's Office would provide support when needed and in a timely fashion. For the Michener Park closure and support for residents, Dr. D Turpin encouraged my team and I to reach out to his Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), A Sharman, to address this issue, as he indicated that his team would be on top of this issue to provide support as needed. For minimum funding packages and tuition fees, Dr. D Turpin said his office have very limited options at the moment due to delays in the government's budget announcements.
- I presented the GSA SWP at the GFC Executive Committee meeting, where I highlighted the same three priorities, including student-supervisor relationships.
- In my monthly meeting with Dr. S Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), student-supervisor relationships led our conversation. I was able to share my experience and many graduate students' experiences with supervisory harassment and bullying. We also discussed how the University's decentralized system adds complexity for students navigating it when they have concerns, and how enforcement of current policies needs to be improved. Dr. S Dew agreed that negative student-supervisor relationships are concerning and can have a negative impact on both students and the University. He is meeting with Dr. B Milne in the near future and he will follow up on this issue in order to make student-supervisor relationships an institutional priority. He suggested that the FGSR take the lead on this initiative and, and the Provost's office can provide support to ensure this concern is addressed.

City of Edmonton

- As highlighted in my August council meeting report, I attended the City of Edmonton Executive Committee meeting to speak to the TEC Edmonton annual review. Afterwards, I was approached by Wayne Karpoff, Chair of TEC Edmonton's Board of Directors, who suggested a future meeting to discuss how we can involve graduate students in future planning and consultation related to TEC Edmonton.
- The GSA Fall Social Event is on 4 October 2019 at the University Club (formerly known as the Faculty Club) and I have invited City Councillor, Andrew Knack, to attend part of our event on behalf of the City of Edmonton. Please keep an eye on the weekly GSA newsletter to RSVP for the event. There will be some free food and many graduate students to mingle and connect with!

Michener Park

- In light of the Michener Park residence closure, and as Marc has outlined in detail in his report, he is working to establish and co-chair a Michener Park Advisory Committee to exclusively deal with this closure. Stakeholders will include Ancillary Services, the Dean of Students office, the GSA, the Michener Park Residence Association, and University of Alberta International.

- Based on Dr. D Turpin's recommendation, I met with Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), to discuss the potential for future low-income housing projects for students who are parents. He is currently having discussions with the City of Edmonton to explore the feasibility of developing low-income housing and I emphasized that graduate students are in immense need of low-income housing. Last week, A Sharman met with City Councillor Michael Walters who is a strong advocate for developing low-income housing in Edmonton, to discuss how the U of A can collaborate with the City on these projects, and I look forward to participating in future discussions on this topic.

Board of Governors Retreat

- Marc and I attended the Board of Governors (BoG) retreat. As you are aware, there were some recent changes to BoG membership. Four new public members were appointed by the Minister of Advanced Education, D Nicolaides, and replaced four former public members. Additionally, K Chisholm was appointed as new BoG chair and replaced the former Chair, M Phair. K Chisholm suggested a fiscal responsibility vision for the BoG moving forward and a better consideration of taxpayers when future proposals are discussed.
- The MacKinnon Report significantly influenced discussions at the retreat. This report had several budgetary recommendations for the current government to consider on many sectors, including post-secondary. The report recommended that post-secondary institutions consider revenues sources other than government grants and tuition fees to cover the cost of education while also noting that tuition fees should be a higher source of revenue. This may lead to proposed increases for tuition fees for current international students. Additionally, while domestic students' tuition increases are currently capped by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as legislated in Bill 19, the possibility exists that the government will revisit Bill 19 to amend the tuition fee regulations.
- I shared with BoG members that graduate students contribute significantly to the University of Alberta through teaching, training undergraduate students, writing grant proposals, writing and publishing papers, and obtaining provincial and federal funding in the form of grants and scholarships. I highly encouraged members to consider these contributions whenever tuition fees proposals are discussed in future meetings.

Update on Provincial Scholarship Delays

- As you are aware, there are currently delays with provincial scholarships for graduate students, particularly with the Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship. I asked for more information on these delays the last two times I met with the Minister of Advanced Education, D Nicolaides, and followed up with several emails after our meeting. The Minister's office expressed that the funding will not be frozen or decreased but, rather, that they are working on design and delivery specifications for an amalgamated graduate scholarship program, which would align with the Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship model. It was communicated to me that the Advanced Education Ministry expects to finalize processes and funding agreements with post-secondary institutions by the end of September, after which funding can be made available to recipients. I'll continue to keep an eye on this issue and will also discuss the Minister's response with ab-GPAC and Dr. B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the FGSR. Likewise, as many of you may be aware, FGSR has worked to minimize the impacts of the delay by creating the University of Alberta Graduate Fellowship funding program.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns, ideas, suggestions, or just to grab a coffee and chat.

Warmly,
Fahed

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 19 August 2019 and 16 September 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 19 August | City of Edmonton Executive Committee |
| 20 August | Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Dean |
| 21 August | Meeting with A Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) |
| 22 August | Announcement from Honorable J G Carr, Minister of International Trade Diversification |
| 22 August | Meeting with UAlberta International re GSA Strategic Work Plan (SWP) |
| 26 August | Meeting with D Turpin, President |
| 26 August | Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Governance Committee Meeting |
| 27 August | GSA Fall Orientation |
| 29 August | Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students |
| 29 August | Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC) |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Occupational Therapy |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Biochemistry |
| 30 August | School of Public Health Marketplace |
| 3 September | Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Dean |
| 3 September | Board of Governors Meet and Greet |
| 3 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Native Studies |
| 4 September | Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Board Meeting |
| 4 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Medical Genetics |
| 5 September | Meeting with a Graduate Student |
| 5 September | Meeting with D Stollery, Chancellor |
| 5-6 September | Board of Governors (BoG) Retreat |
| 9 September | GSA Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council Caucus |
| 9 September | General Faculties Council Executive Committee (GFC Exec) |
| 11 September | Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council |
| 11 September | General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC) |
| 12 September | Meeting with S Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) |
| 13 September | Green and Gold Day Parade |
| 16 September | Advisory Search Committee for the President |
| 16 September | Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Dean |

GSA Board
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting

To: GSA Council
 From: Courtney Thomas, Executive Director; Julie Tanguay, Associate Director; and Lisa Hareuther, Assistant Director
 Date: 13 September 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 22 (Executive Director's Report to GSA Council) on pages 22.2 – 22.5.

21 August 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Elections and Referenda; TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Semi-Annual Report for the Period Ending on 30 June 2019; Meeting with D Turpin, University President; Fall Orientation re DEO Advice; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

That the GSA Board **REVIEW, FOR INFORMATION AND PRIOR TO ONWARD TRANSMISSION TO GSA COUNCIL**, recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section I: Elections and Section J: Referenda, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council. FE **MOVED**. SM Seconded. **CARRIED**.

That the GSA Board **REVIEW, FOR INFORMATION AND PRIOR TO ONWARD TRANSMISSION TO GSA COUNCIL**, recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section I: Elections and Section J: Referenda, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council. FE **MOVED**. CL Seconded. **CARRIED**.

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

Members discussed the **Meeting with M P Barry, Board Governance Committee (BGC) and Board Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee (BLRSEC) Vice-Chair**.

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

28 August 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on GSA Recognition Awards; Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund; Attendance at the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) Conference, 5-9 November 2019, in Halifax, NS: Estimated Expense; Green and Gold Parade; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

That the GSA Board **RECOMMEND TO GSA COUNCIL**, having also been unanimously recommended by the GSA Governance Committee, the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council. FE **MOVED**. SM Seconded. **CARRIED**.

That the GSA Board **RECOMMEND TO GSA COUNCIL**, having also been unanimously recommended by the GSA Governance Committee, the recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section M: GSA Health and Dental Plan and GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council. FE **MOVED**. SM Seconded. **CARRIED**.

That the GSA Board **APPROVE** the estimated expense for two (2) representatives of the GSA to attend the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) Conference, 6-9 November 2019 in Halifax, NS as noted below. FE **MOVED**. MW Seconded. **CARRIED**.

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

Members discussed the **Breakfast with H Ring, H Parslow, and L Gombik, Presidential Search Committee Consultants**.

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

4 September 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

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

Members discussed the **Board of Governors Meet and Greet**.

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

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

Members discussed the **General Faculties Council Nominating Committee (GFC NC)**.

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

11 September 2019 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements: None at this time.

**GSA Vice-President Academic
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Dylan Ashley
Date: 13 September 2019

Hi Fellow Grads,

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 to give you a snapshot of what I've been up to:

- Me and the rest of the GSA Directly-Elected Officers (DEOs), as well as the GSA staff, have been hard at work participating in orientation events. I've so far been privileged enough to have given a total of nine departmental orientations. I was also able to help out with the fall GSA Orientation for all incoming graduate students. It was well attended and engaging with the new cohort was fun and rewarding. I wish them the best of luck in their programs!
- I chaired my first GSA Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council Caucus meeting of the new academic year. I want to welcome all our new graduate student representatives on FGSR Council. Their engagement has already led to plenty of interesting discussions in our Caucus meeting! I'd also like to thank our outgoing representatives again. Your contributions have helped make life a little bit better for the almost eight thousand graduate students at the U of A!
- I presented our 2019-2020 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) on behalf of the GSA President at FGSR Council. In the presentation, we highlighted student-supervisor relationships, the Michener Park closure, and minimum funding packages as three key advocacy priorities of the GSA this year. The presentation was well received by the Council, and I believe at least some members of the FGSR Council got the message.
- I attended the FGSR's Policy Review Committee. This fact is especially notable because, at the meeting, it was mentioned that FGSR would be increasing their English language requirements for graduate students. However, this is only to bring them in line with upcoming changes to the English language requirements for undergraduates.
- Along with the President and other Vice-Presidents, I had the privilege of meeting with Dr. Turpin, President of the University. We spent most of the meeting discussing key priorities from our SWP. Overall, it was a productive meeting, and I believe we've made another notable member of the University more aware of the GSA's current advocacy priorities.

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

Sincerely,

Dylan Ashley

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 19 August 2019 and 16 September 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 26 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation |
| 26 August | Meeting with D Turpin, President |
| 26 August | Meeting with J Agarwal, Students' Union (SU) VP Academic |
| 27 August | GSA Fall Orientation |
| 28 August | General Faculties Council Nominating Committee (GFC NC) |
| 29 August | Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC) |
| 29 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Computing Science |
| 29 August | Meeting with B Hogeveen, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Vice-Dean |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Anthropology |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Civil and Environmental Engineering |
| 3 September | Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Dean |
| 3 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Multimedia Program |
| 4 September | GSA Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Policy Review Committee (FGSR PRC) |
| 5 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Physiology |
| 5 September | Residence Students' Associations Sundaes Night |
| 6 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: History and Classics |
| 6 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Philosophy |
| 6 September | Selection Advisory Committee for the Vice-Provost and University Registrar |
| 9 September | GSA Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council Caucus |
| 9 September | General Faculties Council Executive Committee (GFC Exec) |
| 10 September | Meeting with a Graduate Student |
| 11 September | Selection Advisory Committee for the Vice-Provost and University Registrar Town Hall |
| 11 September | Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council |
| 12 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Pharmacology |
| 16 September | Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Dean |
| 16 September | Meeting with a Graduate Student |

**GSA Vice-President External
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Marc Waddingham
Date: 13 September 2019

To my colleagues in Council,

I hope you have all had a smooth transition into the Fall 2019 semester, inarguably the most eventful time of the academic year. As our respective courses and responsibilities begin to build, it is important that we dedicate time to ourselves outside of campus, as well as to the continued project of student advocacy wherever the topic arises. On that topic, the GSA Executive, as reported on by the others, has been taking part in orientation events which served the dual purposes of informing new arrivals of services provided by the GSA and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR and touching-base with graduate students across campus. Many thanks to the graduate student groups and administrators who hosted these events.

As for my ongoing VP External portfolio items, I am glad to report significant headway has been made on the Michener Park closure initiative. Following a meeting with Katherine Husing (Associate Vice-President, Ancillary Services) and members of Ancillary Services, we have agreed that a dedicated committee for consultation and information sharing should be formed to benefit residents affected by the facility's closure. The Michener Park Transition Advisory Committee (MPTAC) membership will ideally include members of the Michener Park Residence Association (MPRA), the Dean of Students Office, on-site Residence Services staff, social workers, and other key stakeholders who may change as the project develops. The purpose of the MPTAC is to assist in coordinating resources between different units on campus, consolidate resources, and most importantly, give Michener Park residents a seat at the table to share their concerns. The representatives from MPRA would be able to relay pertinent updates back to their membership and come back with further insights and suggestions. The committee will be co-chaired by Katie Allan, an administrator from Residence Services, and myself with the inaugural meeting slated for early October.

The Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) has also been subject to new developments. First, we initiated and completed our Executive Director (ED) search, and I would like to acknowledge Konstantin Tebenev's contribution to the ab-GPAC ED Search Committee as the University of Alberta GSA representative. The decision to hire a new ED for the organization came about due to a change of direction from hiring contracted personnel to having a dedicated ab-GPAC staff member; Nicole van Kuppeveld opted to focus her attention on other projects and not apply for the open competition. I want to extend my thanks to Nicole for her success in aiding the establishment of ab-GPAC, and the effort she dedicated to the organization. We will be announcing the incoming ED at a later date.

Further business at ab-GPAC has also included decisions to invest in a Strategic Communications Plan and a Government Relations Training session, both provided by separate consultants. Details on both initiatives will be incoming as we discuss the current needs of ab-GPAC with the aforementioned providers. We are also looking to start up our volunteer policy writing/research initiatives of which some of you have already made inquiries; those of you I have spoken with should have already received a follow-up email from the ab-GPAC ED account, which details next steps. Anyone looking to get involved in the provincial advocacy front is welcome to speak with me at any time.

My last update is regarding the University of Alberta Board of Governors' retreat that took place last week, which I was fortunate to attend as per my involvement on the Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee as the GSA President's delegate. I will leave the full update to Fahed's report but will say the retreat was highly informative and it was a pleasure to meet the new Chair, Kate Chisholm, and the new public members of the Board.

That about sums up my activities of the last few weeks, as always, your input and questions are gladly received.

Kind regards,
Marc Waddingham

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 19 August 2019 and 16 September 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 20 August | Meeting with N van Kuppeveld, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director |
| 22 August | Alumni Council Breakfast with Presidential Search Committee Consultants |
| 22 August | Meeting with N van Kuppeveld, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director |
| 22 August | Free Expression Advisory Group |
| 23 August | GSA Departmental Orientation Training |
| 23 August | Residence Student Leader BBQ |
| 26 August | Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Communication Committee Meeting |
| 26 August | Residence Move-In Day |
| 26 August | Meeting with D Turpin, President |
| 27 August | GSA Fall Orientation |
| 29 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Chemistry |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Studies |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Biological Sciences |
| 3 September | Meeting with N van Kuppeveld, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director |
| 3 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Digital Humanities |
| 4 September | Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Board Meeting |
| 5 September | Meeting with K Huisling, Associate Vice-President Ancillary Services, J Johnson, Assistant Dean of Students Residence, and K Allan, Residence Services re Michener Park Transition Plan |
| 5 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Chemical and Materials Engineering |
| 5 September | Residence Advisory Committee (RAC) |
| 5-6 September | Board of Governors (BoG) Retreat |
| 9 September | Meeting with V Welz, Volunteer Coordinator Office of Advancement |
| 9 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Cell Biology |
| 10 September | Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA) Meeting |
| 11 September | United Way Committee Meeting |
| 12 September | Free Expression Advisory Group Meeting |
| 13 September | Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Strategic Communications Plan Meeting |
| 13 September | Bench to Bedside Students' Association BBQ |
| 13 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Laboratory Medicine and Pathology |

Meetings with Key Stakeholders

July 18, 2019: Meeting with AE Minister

- ab-GPAC outlined top priorities for 2019/2020 including barriers for Indigenous Students to enter graduate studies
- Directors provided high level overview of our 2019-2020 priority areas
 - Scholarships & Funding Packages
 - Permanent Residency Alignment
 - Professional Development (PD) Funding
- Our Post Graduate Employment Policy outlines the importance of supports such as PD, internships and workshops; and ensuring graduate students are seen as key stakeholders with Alberta Innovates (AI) initiatives and Alberta employers
- Minister talked about the: Alberta Advantage Immigration Strategy that looks to increase both international students and foreign entrepreneurs
 - Indicated his support for increases permanent residency applications from graduate level students
- Minister indicated he would follow up on the PD extension to Faculty of Graduate Students at member GSA's
- Minister indicated that changes to the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program (AINP) and criteria would be reviewed to ensure higher number of graduate students are selected

August 15: Meeting with Alberta Innovates CEO

- Laura Kilcrease (CEO), Lori Sheremeta (Funding) and Sarah Lee (Grad student programs/entrepreneurial) meet with ED, Chair and five ab-GPAC directors
- Our primary focus was on our Post Employment Policy

Research and Employment Opportunities

- Laura CEO discussed the future labour market analysis that was conducted by the Minister of Labour that shows low numbers and decreased growth of quality and quantity of suitable hires
- Graduate students are looking to showcase their research and to make industry aware
- Inventure\$ is an annual conference where 30 chosen entrepreneurs get to pitch their businesses, it will be held in Calgary **June 2-5, 2020**. There is a \$99 student rate.

Investment in Students



- AI invests in Mitacs, Scholarships and Research projects/programs and centres; however they get limited feedback as funds go to PSI and are dispersed

AI Research Internships

- Are available each summer as well as 10 week internships during other seasons

External Policy Development Working Group Volunteers

We thank those of you that ran the call for volunteers to participate in our External Policy working groups in your newsletters or on your websites. We are pleased to advise that we have had some responses from interested graduate students. These volunteers will be participating in working groups to develop advocacy policy on (i) Scholarships (ii) Streamlining Immigration & PR (iii) Professional Development and (iv) Indigenous student graduate access.

2019 2020 Advocacy Priorities Postcard

Advocacy Priorities selected by our current Board of Directors for 2019 2020 can be shared in your GSA newsletters, electronic news boards, social media, etc.

Here is an electronic copy of the [2019-08-29 Postcard](#)

ab-GPAC Strategic Plan

ab-GPAC 2019- ab-GPAC Strategic Plan has been developed and approved and is available via your ab-GPAC directors.

ab-GPAC Presentation to GSA Executive and/or General Council

We were invited to join the AU GSA Council on August 13th to provide information on ab-GPAC their provincial advocacy group.

If you wish to have ab-GPAC present to your GSA Executive and/or General Council we would be happy to accommodate your request. Our Chair and/or ED can make themselves available to share information on the focus of our advocacy work and our 2019 2020 Priorities and external policy working groups.

ED Search & Transition

As some of you may know we are moving our ED Services from a contract to a staff position. We have a search for a new ED in progress and look forward to an announcement shortly. We would like to thank Nicole van Kuppeveld our current ED contractor for her support in building this organization over the last three years, for her assistance during the



transition and for agreeing to provide onboarding for the new ED. Having Nicole with us was an essential step to build ab-GPAC's internal governance and external reputation. We wish Nicole all the best in her future endeavours.

ab-GPAC Upcoming Information, Activities and Events

- New ED Announcement
- ab-GPAC Vision Statement
- External Advocacy Policy Development Working Groups
- Stakeholder Survey (Graduate Students), Interviews & Focus Groups
- Government Relations & Advocacy Week
- AGM - February 8th, Venue: Concordia University of Edmonton

If you require any points of clarification or additional information please contact:
Nicole van Kuppeveld ED at ed@abgpac.ca or Marcela Lopes Chair at chair@abgpac.ca

**GSA Vice-President Labour
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Shanawaz Mohammad
Date: 13 September 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope everyone is doing well. I would like to summarize the list of meetings I have attended:

Meeting with Wade King, Director, Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights (OSDHR):

On 30 August, I met with W King to discuss updates on the University's Discrimination, Harassment and Duty to Accommodate policies, and the health and safety issues faced by graduate students. He reported that there has been a rise in disclosures between January 2018 and December 2018, with 52 graduate students disclosing problems such as discrimination, bullying, and sexual harassment. I will be collaborating with the appropriate campus stakeholders and senior University administration to find ways to address these problems. Moreover, I will be working closely with Environment, Health and Safety (EHS), the OSDHR, and the Joint Worksite Health and Safety Committee (JWHSC) on the implementation of the mandatory health and safety training for supervisors, as required under Bill 30.

Joint Worksite Health and Safety Committee:

Members discussed the compliance process with respect to workplace violence and harassment; the University will be dealing with improving existing policies. EHS will be leading the development of an appendix to the Hazard Assessment, Identification and Control Elements, and Human Resources and the Dean of Students Office will be reviewing the existing harassment and discrimination policies to identify gaps if any. The JWSHSC, staff associations, and a variety of other internal stakeholders will be consulted throughout this process. After the current policies and procedures are amended and approved, work will start on the development of training.

GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC):

The GSA LRC has started an initiative to improve education about the Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement (CA). The goal of this initiative is to ensure GSA LRC members have a deep understanding of the CA and involve them in the ongoing project of spreading awareness about the CA. For more details about this meeting, please refer to the GSA LRC report (Item 15a). We've also been working together to develop a more robust communications plan (including regular circulation of union information and important updates, and designing and distributing handbills).

As always, I kindly request that every Councillor ensures that graduate students who are covered by the CA are aware of this agreement, and communicate that I am happy to provide information sessions on the CA to their department. Moreover, if any graduate student comes to you regarding CA issues, harassment, or safety and security issues, please have them email me, and I would be very happy to meet with them.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the regarding the CA, please reach me at gsa.vplabour@ualberta.ca.

Best Regards,
Shanawaz Mohammad, GSA VP Labour

15.1

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 19 August 2019 and 16 September 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 20 August | GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) |
| 20 August | Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Sub-Committee Meeting |
| 20 August | Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Meeting |
| 21 August | Joint Workplace Health and Safety Committee (JWHSC) |
| 22 August | Meeting with a Graduate Student |
| 22 August | Meeting with UAlberta International re GSA Strategic Work Plan (GSA SWP) |
| 26 August | Meeting with D Turpin, President |
| 27 August | GSA Fall Orientation |
| 28 August | Meeting with a Graduate Student |
| 28 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Educational Psychology |
| 29 August | Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students |
| 29 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Business PhD |
| 29 August | Meeting with a Graduate Student |
| 30 August | Meeting with K Belton, Chair of the Joint Workplace Health and Safety Committee (JWHSC) |
| 30 August | Phone Meeting with a Graduate Student |
| 30 August | Meeting W King, Director, Safe Disclosure and Human Rights |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Sociology |
| 3 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Rehabilitation Medicine |
| 3 September | Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Committee Working Group |
| 3 September | Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Committee |
| 3 September | Engage Indian Orientation |
| 6 September | Meeting with a Graduate Student |
| 6 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Electrical and Computer Engineering |
| 6 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Art and Design |
| 11 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Biomedical Engineering |
| 13 September | Green and Gold Day Parade |
| 13 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Mechanical Engineering |
| 16 September | GSA Labour 101 Session for the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation |
| 16 September | Meeting with S van der Klein, former GSA Vice-President Labour |

**GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC)
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Shanawaz Mohammad
Date: 13 September 2019

Dear GSA Council Colleagues,

The GSA LRC met on 20 August 2019. Members discussed the current state of collective bargaining, a CA education initiative, and my participation at the Coalition of Graduate Employee Unions Conference. The GSA LRC will meet again in the fall. 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,

**GSA Vice-President Student Services
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Chantal Labonté
Date: 13 September 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope that you have all had a wonderful start to the fall semester and that you were able to enjoy some rest over the summer months. Myself and my fellow DEOs have had a busy and exciting start to the academic year as we hosted our GSA Orientation and attended many departmental orientations. It has been wonderful meeting and welcoming new members to the GSA family. My work on important service and support related projects has also continued this month. I am pleased to provide you with highlights and updates on some of the areas and initiatives of focus over the past month. Please find a full list of the meetings I have attended attached to this report.

Health and Dental Plan

Our current Health and Dental Plan contract with our current broker and service provider, Studentcare, is expiring at the end of August 2020. To do our due diligence and to ensure that we are providing and negotiating the best services for our members, we have sent out a Request for Proposals to known providers of students' health and dental plans. The deadline for these companies to send us a proposal is the end of October. Afterwards, Fahed, President, and I will conduct interviews with selected companies prior to the GSA Board selecting a broker and service provider. GSA Council will be updated throughout this process. We anticipate selecting the insurance broker by December, after which we will enter into a negotiation phase to agree on the terms of a contract.

Mental Health

Last year, my predecessor, Fahed, worked closely with the Dean of Students, the Indigenous Graduate Students' Association, and the Students' Union to consult and collaborate with the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) to develop a Post-Secondary Standard (PSS). I have continued this collaboration since beginning my term in May. The PSS will serve to provide academic institutions with a guideline to promote and support students' psychological health and wellbeing. While the adoption of the PSS by Universities is voluntary, there is support for their development from the University's Dean of Students, and it can provide a basis for the GSA to advocate for supporting graduate students. The MHCC has just released a draft of the PSS. I strongly encourage you all to read the draft PSS and provide your feedback to the MHCC. You may do this through their [website](#) by following the instructions listed. You may also share your input directly with me, in-person or via email, and I can pass it along to the MHCC. Please note that you will be asked to log in to view the draft PSS.

Suicide Prevention

On 10 September, the GSA observed World Suicide Prevention Day along with the greater University of Alberta community and the City of Edmonton. On Suicide Prevention Day, we are called to create safe and supportive community for a healthy society - a responsibility we all share. As a way to contribute to a safe and health community, I encourage you to consider completing suicide prevention training, [Question, Persuade, Refer \(QPR\)](#), offered through the Dean of Students. For more resources and information on the prevention of suicide, please visit the Days of Action [website](#).

Sexual Violence

As you may recall from my August 2019 report, I have been actively contributing to the Restorative Initiatives for Sexual Violence Working Group. This working group is tasked with proposing how the University might provide restorative practices on campus. The group has met on a regular basis from June to September. We are currently in the final stages of preparing a proposal that will be submitted to the Sexual Violence Response Executive Steering Committee, of which I am a member. I look forward to providing updates as the proposal moves forward through the governance process. Should the response be favourable, I anticipate that the group will engage in a formal consultation process that will include a consultation with GSA Council.

Students who Parent

As you are likely aware, the GSA offers a Child Care Grant (GSA CCG) to help graduate student who are parents and meet the low-income cut-offs to offset the costs of raising children. Graduate students may receive \$1,000 per child per graduate student in each fiscal year (our fiscal year runs from 1 April to 31 March). The funding for the childcare grants is provided through the Graduate Student Support Fund, which is funding given by the University and negotiated by the GSA. A new granting period opens on 1 October 1. As usual, we anticipate that this funding will be allocated quickly. Further information about the GSA CCG, can be found on our [website](#).

Graduate Student Groups

Graduate student groups provide important experience and community for members of the GSA. On 22 August, I hosted a dozen or so engaged student leaders to the first graduate student group workshop. The purpose of our time together was to establish better collaborative relationships, provide support for graduate student groups, and to better understand how the GSA can support the important work of graduate student groups. This work is a part of a larger collaborative outreach plan with Marc, VP External, in an effort to better connect with graduate student groups and GSA Councillors. I look forward to continuing to support graduate student group executives throughout the year. Graduate student group executives can look out for more details coming soon.

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
VP Student Services

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 19 August 2019 and 16 September 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 22 August | Student Groups Outreach Workshop |
| 22 August | Meeting with K Friese, Assistant Dean of Students |
| 22 August | Meeting with UAlberta International re GSA Strategic Work Plan (GSA SWP) |
| 23 August | World Mental Health Day Working Group Meeting |
| 26 August | Meeting with D Turpin, President |
| 26 August | Residence Move-In Day |
| 27 August | E-Scooters on Campus Follow-Up Meeting |
| 27 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Educational Policy Studies |
| 27 August | GSA Fall Orientation |
| 28 August | Days of Action Committee Meeting |
| 28 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Secondary Education |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 29 August | Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students |
| 29 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Music |
| 29 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Modern Languages and Cultural Studies/East Asian Studies |
| 30 August | GSA Departmental Orientation: Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology |
| 30 August | Restorative Initiatives for Sexual Violence (RISV) Next Steps Working Group |
| 3 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Law |
| 5 September | Meeting with K Pratt and S Kuntz, Academic Success Centre |
| 6 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Political Science |
| 6 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Internetworking |
| 6 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Economics |
| 9 September | Meeting with V Welz, Volunteer Coordinator Office of Advancement |
| 9 September | GSA Departmental Orientation: Master of Arts in Community Engagement (Extension) |
| 10 September | Restorative Initiatives for Sexual Violence (RISV) Next Steps Working Group |
| 11 September | Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council |
| 12 September | Alberta Mental Health Policy |
| 12 September | Campus Food Bank (CFB) Board Meeting |
| 13 September | Green and Gold Day Parade |
| 16 September | Students Who Parent Project Team Meeting |
| 16 September | Meeting with a Graduate Student re Post-Secondary Mental Health Standard |

**GSA Nominating Committee
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Radim Barta
Date: 13 September 2019

Dear GSA 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 Council-Elected Officers

1) GSA Deputy Speaker (One (1) GSA Member Position)

As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, the GSA NoC will open nominations for Speaker, Deputy Speaker, CRO and DRO “on or about 1 May of every year” and nominations will be submitted in writing to the GSA NoC “by 30 May or the next working day” (Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, Council-Elected Officers, Section D.BYL.3.1.b and Section D.BYL.3.1.c). This position was advertised in the GSA newsletter in advance of the June 2019 and July 2019 meetings of GSA Council, but no nominees were received. It was again advertised in the GSA newsletter of 30 August 2019 with a deadline of 11 September 2019. Three (3) nominations were received. There will be a paper ballot vote.

GSA Standing Committees

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

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletter of 30 August 2019 with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. Three (3) nominations were received. There will be a paper ballot vote.

2) GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council on 30 August 2019 with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

3) GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC) (Two (2) GSA Councillor Positions)

Information regarding the position for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council on 30 August 2019 with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

4) GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (One (1) GSA Member Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletter of 30 August 2019 with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. One (1) nomination was received. There will be a paper ballot vote.

5) GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council on 30 August 2019 with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

6) GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC) (One (1) GSA Member Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletter of 30 August 2019 with a nomination deadline of 11 September 2019. Three (3) nominations were received. There will be a paper ballot vote.

External Committees**1) Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council (Up to 25 Graduate Student Positions)**

Information regarding twenty (2) Councillor positions and five (5) Alternate positions was first circulated in the GSA newsletter of 26 July 2019 with a deadline of 14 August 2019. **Bishoi Aziz, Hayden Danyluk, Nicole Dittmann, Samira Doostie, Zoë Dworsky-Fried, Jestril Ebagá Ololo, Ramin Fathian, Kim Ho, Jon Lai, Alleson Mason, Ronan Noble, Nazish Pachani, Iswarya Rajes, Fatemeh Razavi, Kevin Solar, Reed Sutton, and Sushmitha Thirumalaivasan** were elected to serve on FGSR Council as Councillors. The remaining three (3) Councillor positions and five (5) Alternate positions were again advertised in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 28 August 2019. **Saleema Allana, Mei Nan, and Peter Jun** were elected to serve on FGSR Council as Councillors. **Diego Bugaiov** was elected to serve on FGSR Council as an Alternate. The remaining four (4) Alternate vacancies will be advertised again.

Current Vacancies**1) Festival of Teaching and Learning Steering Committee (1 Graduate Student Position)**

Information regarding this position was first circulated in the GSA newsletter of 13 September 2019 with a deadline of 23 September 2019.

2) Museum Policy and Planning Committee (1 Graduate Student Position)

Information regarding this position was first circulated in the GSA newsletter of 13 September 2019 with a deadline of 23 September 2019.

3) Standing Committee on Convocation (1 Graduate Student Position)

Information regarding this position was first circulated in the GSA newsletter of 13 September 2019 with a deadline of 23 September 2019.

4) Shell Enhanced Learning Fund (SELF) Selection Committee (1 Graduate Student Position)

Information regarding this position was first circulated in the GSA newsletter of 13 September 2019 with a deadline of 25 September 2019.

5) Student Library Advisory Committee (SLAC) (1 GSA Councillor)

Information regarding this position was first circulated to GSA Councillors via email on 13 September 2019 with a deadline of 25 September 2019.

**GSA Executive Director
Report to GSA Council for the 16 September 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Courtney Thomas
Date: 13 September 2019

Dear GSA Council Members,

Below is a snapshot of the GSA office staff that we regularly share with GSA Council so that members can learn more about our backgrounds, who we are, and what our jobs entail.

GSA Administrative/Professional Staff

Courtney Thomas: Executive Director, BA Honours and MA History (U of A), PhD History and Renaissance Studies (Yale) (FT)

I came to the GSA in 2012 with three years' experience working in U of A governance. After serving at the Director of Services and Governance for several years, I now serve as the Executive Director (ED) and now oversee the GSA staff (we have a dynamic staff team that regularly dissolves into problem-solving teams under my direction), the GSA office, and the GSA's corporate infrastructure. My other direct responsibilities include the administration of governance and fair process protocols, managing the GSA's finances (I head the Financial Team), supporting elections and the nominating process, and overseeing the Early Call and the annual transition of elected officials. I am also the Coordinator of GSA Council and the GSA Board and oversee initiatives related to the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan. As a historian, I have experience teaching at both Yale and MacEwan University and have published work in several scholarly journals, as well as in the form of a monograph (a social history of honour and reputation among the early modern English elite) with the U of T press. When I'm not doing GSA things, I'm chasing my two-year old daughter Eleanor around, listening to podcasts, and watching literally every single show ever aired on Bravo.

Julie Tanguay: Associate Director, BA Psychology (Laval), LLB and JD (Université de Montreal) (FT)

Julie assists with the coordination of the GSA Board and some GSA standing committees, including GSA Budget and Finance Committee and the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee. She also serves as the GSA's privacy officer and the labour professional, assisting the Vice-President Labour with their portfolio and working with graduate students experiencing complex issues and in need of support. Julie is involved with the processing of GSA grants and bursaries and assist with the management of the GSA's corporate documents, contracts, and agreements. She also works on the management of the GSA's website and is the point person for GSA services, such as the Health and Dental Plan and the Graduate Student Assistance Program. In her downtime, Julie likes to go for a run or hitting the climbing gym. Additionally, she is the inspiration for the main character of the J.T. Tonkers mystery series.

Lisa Hareuther: Assistant Director, BA in Anthropology (U of A), MA Anthropology (SFU) (FT)

Lisa previously worked for the GSA for 3.5 years and came back in 2017 after a two-year period of working for ASET. Lisa assists with the coordination of GSA Council, as well as other GSA standing committees. She supports GFC Caucus, FGSR Caucus, and works with Julie on nominating and elections processes. Lisa also supports internal and external advocacy, assists with the development of the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan, represents the GSA on internal and external U-Pass committees along with the GSA Vice-President Student Services, and provides assistance on issues related to GSA services. Lisa works closely with other members of the GSA staff team to provide assistance and research as required for the GSA Directly-Elected Officers. You can normally find her listening to podcasts, thrift shopping, spending time in the river valley, or trying out local restaurants and coffee shops.

Shirley Ball: Accountant, CPA (CA), Bachelor of Business Administration (PT) and Dorte Sheikh: Financial Manager, BA Anthropology (U of A) (PT)

Shirley has extensive experience with not-for-profits and is a key member of the Financial Team. Dorte has 33 years' prior experience in the Registrar's Office. She handles invoicing, payments, and banking and payroll matters. Shirley and Dorte work on the GSA's finances and budgets, financial reporting to GSA Council, and our annual external audit.

GSA Support Staff (represented by NASA with their own Collective Agreement)

Laura Taras: Executive Coordinator and Communications Specialist, BFA (U of A), Bachelor of Applied Communications (MacEwan) (FT)

aura has extensive experience in not-for-profit office administration, design, and marketing. At the GSA, Laura schedules GSA Directly-Elected Officers. In addition, she prepares minutes for the GSA Board; organizes the annual transition of elected officials; handles communications, Facebook and Twitter, and prepares the weekly newsletter. She also deals with Front Desk enquiries. In her spare time, Laura is finishing basement renovations, does yoga, and enjoys spending time with her exotic birds.

Fiona Robertson: Outreach Coordinator, BA Anthropology (U of S), MA Anthropology (U of A) (FT)

Fiona gained administrative experience working in both a tax firm and a law firm before coming to the University of Alberta to begin a Masters degree in Anthropology. After completing her degree, Fiona worked for four years in the Faculty of Extension on a grant-funded community-based research project with Metis settlements. At the GSA, Fiona deals with awards, grants, and bursaries; plans and manage all GSA events; works with departmental GSAs; acts as a GSA Council Secretary; and deals with Front Desk enquiries. Fiona enjoys swimming, baking, spending time with her nieces and nephews, and consuming all forms of the fantasy/sci-fi genre.

Mahsa Toghrari: Nominating and Elections Specialist, BA Psychology (U of A) (FT)

Mahsa worked for the Edmonton Eskimo Football Club before coming to the GSA. Mahsa supports the GSA Nominating Committee, the Early Call for Talent, and the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee. She drafts materials related to elections and nominating processes and manages requests from Administration for graduate representatives on committees, task forces, etc. Mahsa also deals with Front Desk enquiries and the GSA's Instagram profile. Outside of work, Mahsa enjoys jazzercise, writing best-selling novels, and covertly dismantling foreign governments.

As always, the detailed management reports submitted weekly to the GSA Board are attached and we are happy to respond to any questions members may have.

Best,
Courtney Thomas, Executive Director

Management Report to the GSA Board, 21 August 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 7 August 2019:

Strategic

- Moving forward with Habit marketing to create videos (three videos (one on member benefits, one on member engagement, and one on voter engagement) will be produced) to boost GSA member engagement (draft scripts for voice over components have been reviewed and a list of participants is close to being finalized and Habit will be filming at the fall orientation on 27 August).
- Forward thinking about the 2020-2021 GSA operating budget.
- Researching the potential impacts of e-scooters on campus at the request of the University Architect.
- Planning for the first update to GSA Council on progress related to the Board Strategic Work Plan and drafting presentations on the Board Strategic Work Plan for various bodies.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (discussing the process for a ratification vote and associated communications plan), reviewing previous GSA attempts to establish a steward program, and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.
- Providing support for a meeting of the GSA Labour Relations Committee and reviewing the GSA's labour-related communications plan.

Grants and Office Operations

- Planning for GSA Fall Orientation, departmental orientations (43 booked so far, which is down from last year), and the fall social event.
- Preparing for the September meeting of GSA Council.
- Developing an onboarding/welcome package for new GSA Graduate Student Groups.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on FGSR Council and various FGSR Council standing committees, and vacancies on the GSA Governance Committee (1), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (2), GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (3), GSA Budget and Finance Committee (1), and GSA Nominating Committee (2), and vacancy for the GSA Deputy Speaker).
- Facebook = 1,339 likes (up 12 from 7 Aug) and 1,404 followers (up 15 from 7 Aug); Facebook posts reached 1,122 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 170. Twitter = 959 followers (up 2 from 7 Aug); our tweets earned 1,500 "impressions" over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 July; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 July and closed within four and a half hours (51 applications funded and \$101,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 July. New granting periods open 1 October 2019.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 28 August 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 21 August 2019:

Strategic

- Moving forward with Habit marketing to create videos (three videos (one on member benefits, one on member engagement, and one on voter engagement) will be produced) to boost GSA member engagement (draft scripts for voice over components have been reviewed and a list of participants has been finalized and sent to Habit; filming in Triffo Hall between 4 and 6 pm is scheduled for 9-13 September).
- Drafting an RFP in association with the GSA Health and Dental Plan broker.
- Drafting external reports to various governing bodies.
- Discussing recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Officer Portfolios (aligning them with practice over the past few years).
- Discussing funding delays for graduate students associated with the distribution of QEII scholarships.
- Planning for the first update to GSA Council on progress related to the Board Strategic Work Plan and drafting presentations on the Board Strategic Work Plan for GFC and GFC EXEC.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (discussing the process for a ratification vote and associated communications plan), reviewing previous GSA attempts to establish a steward program, and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

Grants and Office Operations

- Planning for GSA Fall Orientation, departmental orientations (43 booked so far, which is down from last year), and the fall social event.
- Preparing for the September meeting of GSA Council.
- Developing an onboarding/welcome package for new GSA Graduate Student Groups and welcome messages for new and returning graduate students.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on FGSR Council and various FGSR Council standing committees, and vacancies on the GSA Governance Committee (2), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (2), GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (3), GSA Budget and Finance Committee (1), and GSA Nominating Committee (2), and a vacancy for the GSA Deputy Speaker).
- Facebook = 1,349 likes (up 10 from 21 August) and 1,414 followers (up 10 from 21 August); Facebook posts reached 1,418 users this week and our “post engagement” count was 262. Twitter = 965 followers (up 6 from 21 August); our tweets earned 2,400 “impressions” over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 July; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 July and closed within four and a half hours (51 applications funded and \$101,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 July. New granting periods open 1 October 2019.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 4 September 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 28 August 2019:

Strategic

- Moving forward with Habit marketing to create videos to boost GSA member engagement (three videos (one on member benefits, one on member engagement, and one on voter engagement); filming in Triffo Hall between 4 and 6 pm is scheduled for 9-13 September.
- Drafting an RFP in association with the GSA Health and Dental Plan broker.
- Early stage discussions of the GSA 2020-2021 operating budget and associated development.
- Drafting external reports to various governing bodies.
- Discussing recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Officer Portfolios (aligning them with practice over the past few years).
- Planning for the first update to GSA Council on progress related to the Board Strategic Work Plan.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (discussing the process for a ratification vote and associated communications plan), reviewing previous GSA attempts to establish a steward program, and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

Grants and Office Operations

- Departmental orientations and early planning for the fall social event.
- Preparing for the first meeting of the new academic year of the GSA FGSR Council Caucus.
- Preparing for the September meeting of GSA Council (first mailing will be circulated on Friday, the agenda for the October meeting is also filling up rapidly).
- Developing an onboarding/welcome package for new GSA Graduate Student Groups.
- Circulating welcome messages for new and returning graduate students.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on FGSR Council and various FGSR Council standing committees, and vacancies on the GSA Governance Committee (2), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (2), GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (3), GSA Budget and Finance Committee (1), and GSA Nominating Committee (2), and a vacancy for the GSA Deputy Speaker).
- Facebook = 1,366 likes (up 17 from 28 August) and 1,436 followers (up 22 from 28 August); Facebook posts reached 365 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 24. Twitter = 966 followers (up 1 from 28 August); our tweets earned 1,300 "impressions" over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 July; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 July and closed within four and a half hours (51 applications funded and \$101,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 July. New granting periods open 1 October 2019.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 11 September 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 4 September 2019:

Strategic

- Moving forward with Habit marketing to create videos to boost GSA member engagement (three videos (one on member benefits, one on member engagement, and one on voter engagement); filming has begun.
- Reviewing an RFP in association with the GSA Health and Dental Plan broker with the President and Vice-President Student Services and then circulating the RFP to four companies that specialize in the provision of student health and dental plans (Studentcare, Gallivan, Campus Trust, and We Speak Student).
- Early stage discussions of the GSA 2020-2021 operating budget and associated development.
- Discussing recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Officer Portfolios (aligning them with practice over the past few years) and the GSA Nominating Committee.
- Drafting the first update to GSA Council on progress related to the Board Strategic Work Plan.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (discussing the process for a ratification vote and associated communications plan), reviewing previous GSA attempts to establish a steward program, and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

Grants and Office Operations

- Planning for the fall social event and a Funding 101 session in advance of the new period for grants opening on 1 October.
- Preparing for the September meeting of GSA Council.
- Developing an onboarding/welcome package for new GSA Graduate Student Groups.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies for alternates on FGSR Council, vacancy for the Deputy Speaker, and vacancies on the GSA Governance Committee (2), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (2), GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (3), GSA Budget and Finance Committee (1), and GSA Nominating Committee (2).
- Facebook = 1,371 likes (up 5 from 4 September) and 1,442 followers (up 6 from 4 September); Facebook posts reached 1,330 users this week and our “post engagement” count was 490. Twitter = 972 followers (up 6 from 4 September); our tweets earned 939 “impressions” over the last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 July; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 July and closed within four and a half hours (51 applications funded and \$101,000 disbursed); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 July. New granting periods open 1 October 2019.