

GSA Council Meeting AGENDA
Monday, 20 June 2022 at 6:00 pm
Held in-person in Council Chamber and electronically via Zoom

The GSA and the University of Alberta reside on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. This territory is a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples including the Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway, Saukteaux, Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. In acknowledging this traditional territory and its significance for the Indigenous peoples who lived and continue to live upon it, we recognize its longer history that reaches beyond colonization and the establishment of European colonies and recognize the GSA's ongoing collective responsibility in working with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) peoples and what that means for the work of the GSA as it aims to practice the principles of being Good Relations with FNMI peoples, Nations, communities, and lands.

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 Lauren Hill in the Chair

OPEN SESSION

**Attached
Numbered Pages**

1. Approval of the 20 June 2022 Agenda (*suggested time: 1 min*)
2. Approval of the Minutes from the 16 May 2022 GSA Council Meeting (*suggested time: 1 min*)
Attachment:
 - i. Minutes from the 16 May 2022 GSA Council Meeting **2.0 - 2.4**
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*)

GSA Council Member Announcements

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

Discussion Items

5. Update on Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Initiatives (*suggested time: 30 min*)
Anas Fassih (President) will present the item and introduce the guests.

Guests: Dr. Brooke Milne (Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research), Dr. Micah True (Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research), and Medha Samarasinghe (Human Resources and Office Coordinator, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research)

Elections

6. GSA Council Elections (*suggested time – to be determined*)
Kenzie Gordon (GSA Nominating Committee Chair) will present the item.

GSA Council-Elected Officer Positions

Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Returning Officer (CRO), Deputy Returning Officer (DRO), and Senator

Attachments:

- i. Nominees for Speaker (1 GSA Member vacancy) **6.0 - 6.1**

Prepared by E Heiberg for GSA Council 20 June 2022

- ii. Nominees for CRO (1 GSA Member vacancy) **6.0 and 6.2**

Reports (suggested time: 15 min)

- 7. President (Anas Fassih, President)**
- i. President's Report **7.0 - 7.1**
 - ii. GSA Board Report **7.2**
 - iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee Report **(no written report at this time)**
 - iv. GSA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report **(no written report at this time)**
 - v. GSA Governance Committee Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 8. Vice-President Academic (Bishoi Aziz, Vice-President Academic)**
- i. Vice-President Academic's Report **8.0 - 8.3**
- 9. Vice-President External (Janmejy Rao, Vice-President External)**
- i. Vice-President External's Report **9.0 - 9.1**
 - ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 10. Vice-President Labour (Hiren Kaklotar, Vice-President Labour)**
- i. Vice-President Labour's Report **10.0 - 10.1**
 - ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 11. Vice-President Student Services (Monisha Vinod, Vice-President Student Services)**
- i. Vice-President Student Services' Report **11.0 - 11.1**
- 12. Senator (Peter Isesele, Senator)**
- i. Senator's Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 13. Speaker (Lauren Hill, Speaker)**
- i. Speaker's Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 14. Chief Returning Officer (Muneeb Mohiuddin, Chief Returning Officer)**
- i. Chief Returning Officer's Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 15. GSA Nominating Committee (Kenzie Gordon, GSA Nominating Committee Chair)**
- i. GSA Nominating Committee Report **15.0 - 15.1**
- 16. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (Jennifer Bertrand, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Chair)**
- i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report **(no written report at this time)**
- 17. GSA Management (Courtney Thomas, Executive Director)**
- i. Executive Director's Report **17.0 - 17.8**

Question Period

- 18. Written Questions (none received)**

- 19. Oral Questions**

CLOSED SESSION

Reports

- 20. GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) Chair's Report
Nicholas Ruel (GSA ACB Chair) will present the item.**

OPEN SESSION

Adjournment

GSA Council Meeting MINUTES
Monday, 16 May 2022 at 6:00 pm
Held online via Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE:

Anas Fassih (President)	Mandeep Rainu (Councillor-at-Large)	Kasjan Koziak (Economics)	Alexia Maheux (Pharmacology)
Bishoi Aziz (VP Academic)	Md Saeed Siddik (Councillor-at-Large)	Yina Liu (Elementary Education)	Fadumo Isse (Pharmacy)
Janmejaya Rao (VP External)	Devyn Caldwell (Anthropology)	Jesse Alook (IGSA)	Brandon Eggleston (Philosophy)
Hiren Kaklotar (VP Labour)	Madeleine Fleming (Biochemistry)	Janet Zhou (Laboratory Medicine & Pathology)	Bryanna Chan (Physical Therapy)
Monisha Vinod (VP Student Services)	Dayani Patuwatha Withanage (Biological Sciences)	Alain Gervais (Mathematical & Statistical Sciences)	Hamid Hassani (Physics)
Lauren Hill (Speaker)	Natasha Pearson (Business MBA)	Michaela Morrow (Media and Technology Studies)	Telisa Courtney (Political Science)
Sana Amjad (Deputy Speaker)	Teddy Carter (Business PhD)	Kara Goodkey (Medical Genetics)	Emilie Desnoyers (Psychiatry)
Sophie Shi (DRO)	Brenna Hourigan (Cell Biology)	Calvin Gordon (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	Angela Ma (Psychology)
Peter Isesele (Senator)	Karen Hoy (Chemistry)	Charbel Baaklini (Neuroscience)	Tamara Samardzic (Public Health)
Eric Beaudry (Councillor-at-Large)	Sana Homsy (Communication Sciences & Disorders)	Farrell Bryenton (Nursing)	Beckett Stark (Renewable Resources)
Md Saiful Hoque (Councillor-at-Large)	Nathalia Fernandes Fagundes (Dentistry)	Alicia Chichak (Occupational Therapy)	Innocent Bahati Katulunga (REES)
Laura Manerus (Councillor-at-Large)	Xavia Publius (Drama)	Benjamin Schultz (Oncology)	Robert Piazza (Secondary Education)
Riya Midha (Councillor-at-Large)	Avni Patel (Earth & Atmospheric Sciences)	Shubham Soni (Paediatrics)	Yan Xue (Sociology)

Speaker Lauren Hill in the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm. Speaker acknowledged the Traditional Territory of Treaty Six and the homeland of the Métis.

Approval of Agenda**1. Approval of the 16 May 2022 Consolidated Agenda**

Members had before them the 16 May 2022 Consolidated Agenda, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. A Gervais **MOVED**; B Aziz **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Approval of Minutes**2. Minutes from the 25 April 2022 GSA Council Meeting**

Members had before them the 25 April 2022 GSA Council meeting minutes, which had been previously distributed on 6 May 2022. A Patel **MOVED**; D Caldwell **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**. 3 Abstentions.

Changes in GSA Council Membership

3. Changes in GSA Council Membership

- i. **Introduction of New GSA Council Members:** B Eggleston (Philosophy); T Carter (Business PhD); M Morrow (Media and Technology Studies); T Samardzic (Public Health); B Stark (Renewable Resources); D P Withanage (Biological Sciences); Y Xue (Sociology).
- ii. **Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members:** J Alook (IGSA); K Hoy (Chemistry); A Maheux (Pharmacology).

GSA Council Member Announcements

4. GSA Council Member Announcements

A Fassih (President) announced that the GSA was looking for a graduate student to fill a director position with the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC). Ab-GPAC was the main lobbying organization for graduate students in Alberta and the GSA's main form of lobbying the provincial government. Interested graduate students could A Fassih directly at gsa.president@ualberta.ca.

Discussion Items

5. GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) Consultation

A Fassih (President) presented the item and explained that the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) was the guiding document for initiatives and priorities for the upcoming year. GSA Council would see the final version over the summer. The GSA circulated a survey to collect thoughts from members on the SWP. The GSA would engage in robust consultations to speak to graduate students about their most pressing issues. This would be members' opportunity to tell the GSA about their experiences and challenges to inform the GSA's priorities for the year. It was noted that nothing in the SWP would be set in stone as new issues might arise and the GSA would need to stay nimble to respond as things come up. The SWP would also be brought back to GSA Council in October, January, and finally April, to provide progress updates to members. Members were encouraged to provide input on behalf of their constituents so the GSA Executive could advocate for them and a link to a survey specific to members of GSA Council was shared.

Reports

6. President

i. President's Report:

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, A Fassih stated that he was away last month and had nothing new to report; he welcomed the new team and noted he was looking forward to getting to work and reporting to GSA Council in future.

ii. GSA Board

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted.

iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee

No written report at this time.

iv. GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

No written report at this time.

v. GSA Governance Committee

No written report at this time.

7. Vice-President Academic

i. Vice-President Academic's Report:

Prepared by M Toghrai and F Robertson for GSA Council 16 May 2022

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, B Aziz highlighted the meetings he had attended so far in his term: General Faculties Council (GFC) Caucus, GFC, subsequent meetings with Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Dean Brooke Milne, and the FGSR Policy Review Committee.

B Aziz outlined the primary focus of GFC Caucus, GFC, and meetings with B Milne, which pertained to proposed changes to University Calendar language around transfer credits, undergraduate courses, and extra-to-degree courses. The proposed changes included stronger language around transfer course credits from Masters to PhD, limiting the number of undergraduate credits a graduate student could take, and limiting the level of undergraduate courses to 300 and 400 only. There was also ongoing early stage consultation on policy on final examinations

GSA Council members expressed a series of concerns about the proposed changes including, but not limited to, if FGSR had the capacity to take on all examination scheduling and determining representatives to act as Chair and if this would affect completion timelines (the responsibility of the Chair was procedural, they would not intervene in questioning; training to ensure procedural knowledge would occur; the new timeline was meant to allow students to prepare and for committees to not be rushed but the GSA would bring this point forward for discussion with FGSR); concern with restrictions on undergraduate credits and how this would affect cross-listed courses (400/500) that were intended to be for both grad and undergrad students (cross-listed courses were not affected, only those listed as solely undergrad courses would be affected); FGSR having control over external examiners and the requirements for those examiners, (this was the current practice already; the changes represent a clarification of language); the prevalence of Masters of Fine Art's (MFAs) who supervised in Fine Arts disciplines without PhDs (clarification was needed and this concern would be brought forward); arms-length exclusion policy for examiners and how this standard, intended to minimize conflicts of interest, seemed difficult for some disciplines (an important concern to bring forward); if there would be consultation opportunities (FGSR Dean B Milne would be invited to GSA Council for this purpose; she had already expressed interest in attending GFC Caucus); how the requirements could negatively affect disciplines where terminal degrees are not PhDs, such as Drama (another important point to bring up with Dean Milne); how the draft policies would impact graduate students with co-supervisors (this concern would be raised); and changing the default standard of examinations from Closed to Public and the problems this would unnecessarily create (B Aziz noted agreement that the default should be Closed with the option of Public if one chooses; we would reiterate this).

8. Vice-President External

i. Vice-President External's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, J Rao highlighted meetings attended including the Residence Advisory Committee (RAC), where they discussed recent changes to Augustana Campus' Ancillary Services and the implementation of the unified Service Desk Model for residences; the Alumni Career Committee; the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Board, where they discussed transition documents; Edmonton Students' Alliance (ESA), where they discussed the U-Pass rebate; and a discussion with the Associate Vice-President Campus Services to discuss advocacy priorities going forward.

ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee

No written report at this time.

iii. Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Update to Member Organizations

No written report at this time.

9. Vice-President Labour

i. Vice-President Labour's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, H Kaklotar highlighted the meetings he attended including U of A Safety and

Security Committee (UASSC), at which an increase in incidents reported being connected to the increase of on-campus activities was discussed, as well as meetings with the previous Vice-President Labour.

T Carter inquired if there was any discussion at UASSC regarding the No Cops on Campus Initiative or the expression made by Indigenous and LGBTQ2S+ groups on campus that they did not want uniformed officers on campus. H Kaklotar stated there was a plan to increase security so he would bring this point forward at the next meeting. A Fassih (President) clarified that the SU had an official stance on this; we have heard from some groups in support of a greater presence while others want less. The GSA would continue discussions and was grateful for groups bringing these concerns forward. T Carter expressed hope that Indigenous and LGBTQ2S+ groups would be consulted and invited to engage in these discussions and all representatives agreed.

A Patel asked if it was possible to put pressure on the City of Edmonton to increase security at the University LRT station. A Fassih (President) stated that the GSA had advocated for this previously; J Rao (Vice-President External) regularly meets with the Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA), a city-wide group where these issues were discussed with the City of Edmonton. We would continue to push for this at that level.

ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted.

10. Vice-President Student Services

i. Vice-President Student Services' Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, M Vinod highlighted meetings attended including the Campus Food Bank; Days of Action Committee; a meeting with the Acting Associate Dean of Students; the Student Mental Health Network, where they reviewed Health Day and Naloxone training; introductory meetings with Studentcare; and the U-Pass Administrative Committee. M Vinod also highlighted the Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights (VLHR) where they voted to invite Cindy Blackstock as the 2022-2023 speaker; next year would be the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the group had reached out to teams for Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai as well.

11. Senator

i. Senator's Report

No written report at this time.

12. Speaker

i. Speaker's Report

Speaker announced that GSA Council will move toward a hybrid format for the June meeting. Members should expect more information in upcoming mailings, including a short instructional document. After this instructional information was circulated, it was noted that those with questions should contact Speaker (gsa.speaker@ualberta.ca) or GSA staff (gsagrant@ualberta.ca).

13. Chief Returning Officer

i. Chief Returning Officer's Report

No written report at this time.

14. GSA Nominating Committee

i. GSA Nominating Committee Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted.

15. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee

ii. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report

Prepared by M Toghrai and F Robertson for GSA Council 16 May 2022

No written report at this time.

16. GSA Management

i. Executive Director's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 May 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, C Thomas explained that long-standing vacancies on GSA standing committees, which have been brought forward to this body numerous times, need to be filled, particularly on GSA Board. If anyone was looking to get more involved, they were encouraged to reach out.

Question Period

17. Written Questions

18. Oral Questions

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)**SPEAKER (ONE (1) POSITION FOR A GSA MEMBER) and CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER (CRO) (ONE (1) POSITION FOR A GSA MEMBER)
TWO (2) NOMINEES FOR SPEAKER AND ONE (1) NOMINEE FOR CRO**

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.BYL.3.1.b and Section D.BYL.3.1.c). These positions were advertised in the GSA newsletters of 6, 13, and 20 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022, with a deadline of 15 June 2022. Two (2) nominations were received for the position of Speaker. One (1) nomination was received for the position of Chief Returning Officer.

There will be an electronic vote held at the 20 June 2022 GSA Council meeting to elect the Speaker and Chief Returning Officer for 2022-2023.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the Monday 20 June 2022 meeting of GSA Council and would like to cast an electronic vote for this position, you must contact the GSA Elections Coordinator (gsanomco@ualberta.ca) BEFORE 3:00 PM on Monday 20 June 2022 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. ‘None of the Candidates’ will also be considered a nominee.

Speaker

1. Saurav Singh Rathore (Mechanical Engineering)
2. Dweej Shah (Mechanical Engineering)

Chief Returning Officer

1. Sophie Shi (Chemical and Materials Engineering)

Jurisdiction:

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section D.BYL.3.1.d

“The Speaker, Deputy Speaker, CRO, and DRO will be elected by a simple majority vote of GSA Council.”

GSA Bylaw and Policy, 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.”

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E.POL.3.2.b

“Prior to forwarding the names of nominees for GSA Council-Elected Officer positions, the GSA NoC will review the resumes and bios received with reference to eligibility criteria as set out in GSA Bylaw and Policy and will forward the names of nominees who meet the eligibility criteria to GSA Council.”

Biographies and brief resumes of the nominees for Speaker and Chief Returning Officer are BELOW on pages 6.1 - 6.2. Biographies and brief resumes are presented as received (ie not edited).

**Nominations for SPEAKER
(ONE (1) VACANCY FOR A GSA MEMBER)
Two (2) Nominees**

1. Saurav Singh Rathore

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	N/A
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Statement of Interest
I would like to volunteer to serve as Speaker for the GSA because I am confident that I'll be able to live up to the requirements of the role as detailed in this nomination form and moreover it's something I'd love to do. In my Undergraduate years, in one of the top Central Institute, I have had enough exposure in administrative roles ranging from Events Management to being the President of Cultural and Technical Festivals in 2018. I'd Love to preside in all GSA council meetings and would be capable to act neutrally and maintain order which is a much needed part of any meeting to have valuable outputs.
Bio
I'm an Indian, currently enrolled in the MSc program in Mechanical Engineering Department. I've more than three years of work experience back in India before I joined MSc in UofA in 2022. In India, I was associated with Larsen and Toubro, a top MNC and have valuable learnings from both college as well from the work experience to contribute to newer roles demanding responsibility. In college, I was the Head Representative of the Mechanical Engineering Society for 2 consecutive years and later served as the President of the Cultural and Technical Festival Committee in 2018 and handled a large team with maximum efficiency. Also, in my work experience, I was majorly involved in Reporting efficiency parameters of the plant to the top stakeholders and hence I could enhance my skills in data organization and reporting to the management every fortnight in the most effective way. I am confident that my experience from college and work experience makes me capable and proves my responsibility attitude I bring in with me for this role of speaker I am applying for in the GSA council. I'm sure I'll hone my skills and perform all the expected duties with sheer dedication and responsibility.

2. Dweej Nimesh Shah

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	N/A
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Statement of Interest
I am nominating myself for the position of the speaker: I am a highly motivated person who would like to be part of student governance committees and work for the welfare of the student community
Bio
I Have worked in GSA as an Award selection committee member as well as contested for the position of Vice President Academic for the year 2022-2023. I have also served as a Chief returning officer for the International student association of the University of Alberta.

**Nomination for CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER
(ONE (1) VACANCY FOR A GSA MEMBER)
One (1) Nominee**

1. Sophie Shi

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	FGSR Council, General Faculties Council
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Statement of Interest
I am passionate about being involved in my community, both on and off campus. I believe it is important to stay up to date with important issues and have a voice on matters that concern me and my peers. Through being involved in several governance committees, I have developed the skills and experience to effectively represent my peers and their interests. As the CRO, I will uphold the GSA bylaws and ensure a fair and equitable process in the GSA elections. Having already served two terms as the DRO, I have an excellent understanding of the election procedures and have dealt with many unique situations that arose. These two terms have also been during the pandemic, requiring the team to adapt to changing circumstances and make decisions about specific guidelines for candidates.
Bio
I attended the U of A for my undergraduate degree (BSc, 2020) and am currently pursuing a PhD in Materials Engineering (2020-Present). I work as the Head Teaching Assistant for chemistry at the Engineering Student Success Centre and as a Research Advisor Graduate Intern at the Undergraduate Research Initiative, helping undergraduate students get involved in research. Throughout my undergraduate degree, I was involved with several student groups as well as volunteering in my community. During my graduate degree, I have continued to be involved on campus through the GSA (DRO, 2020-2022), FGSR Council (2021-Present), and General Faculties Council (2021-Present). I volunteer for WISEST's annual conferences and participate in their mentorship program partnered with WISER. I also volunteer as a mentor with the Canadian Biomaterials Society. In my community, I serve on the board of my condo association.

President
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting

To: GSA Council
From: Anas Fassih
Date: 17 June 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope this report finds you well and you are enjoying the summer. Whether you are staying in the province or travelling elsewhere to visit family, friends or just for vacation, please know that you worked hard the past academic year and you deserve to rest. If you are staying in the province to work on your research, teach or for any academic/professional obligation, please also know that your work is important.

Before I start my report, I would like to re-iterate how stoked I am to continue serving you again for the third year as a Directly Elected Officer and second year as your President. It has been (and continues to be) an honor to represent you and advocate for you with University Administration, provincial government, and City of Edmonton. As most of you know, I have reported on solid advocacy wins the last year and have planted seeds for other important initiatives geared towards the betterment of students' experience in graduate school at the University of Alberta. I look forward to outlining those advocacy priorities and initiatives in our July meeting as part of the presentation of our Strategic Work Plan (SWP) for 2022-2023 to Council.

Graduate students face a myriad of challenges as they start this academic year. These challenges range from funding, housing, inability to pay tuition because of the recent tuition hikes, food insecurity, and safety and security on campus and beyond. I wish to reassure you that I am aware of those concerns and challenges, and I'll ensure that the Executive Team and I marshal efforts to address them this year. I'd also like to apprise Council members of our efforts to curb tuition increases this year and last year. I have been vocal against the 6% international tuition increases in the General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee and subsequently in the Board Finance and Property Committee the last month. Proposals for this 6% increase have unfortunately passed given the imbalance in voting between student voices and other appointed Board members. Nevertheless, We will continue advocating for a measure of sustainability and stability in graduate student funding packages and in the Graduate Student Support Fund to mitigate the impact of those increases on the graduate student community.

Equally important, while still at a rudimentary stage, I have acted on the directives received from some Council members in our March Council meeting with respect to our Health and Dental Plan. We have invited Studentcare to our Board meetings twice to solicit ideas and feedback on how we can engage in robust consultation with students over the summer. Health and Dental coverage is a critical service area in our student services portfolio; we want to ensure that our members are constantly consulted about any changes to the service. Going forward, we have decided to organize a series of townhalls over the summer and invite Studentcare reps to Council in early Fall, in addition to running a pilot Virtual Health Care program in the Fall (at no charge to students for one-year; after which we can explore whether Council sees merit in adding it permanently to the Plan). We hope this will ensure concerns are attended to and expectations are met.

I would also like to accentuate our stance to commit to our continued support and solidarity with disadvantaged groups impacted by hatred, racism, and discrimination. The GSA Executive Team remain committed to advocate for our members disproportionately affected by racism and segregation. In the past year, we have launched a statement condemning Islamophobia on campus, which was well received and circulated on social media and was quoted by various media outlets including the Gateway. In a similar vein, within the next months, the GSA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (GSA EDIC) will reach out to EDI groups on campus to establish connections and partnerships to figure out ways to join forces to address pressing issues facing EDI demographics on campus. These issues came out of a survey that was circulated to our members last year.

Finally, we are engaged in discussions on priorities for our Strategic Work Plan this year and have received viable feedback from our members and Council members through surveys we launched last month. We are still open to feedback before the July Council meeting, and I really encourage you to drop me a line of any advocacy or priority area that you deem necessary for your constituency this year. While most of the priorities are still in force from last year, conspicuous of which is funding, feedback on what new areas the GSA should heed in its advocacy is very welcomed.

7.1

Last, I would like to commend the leadership team this year. I lead an organic and well-trained team of leaders who are all invested in their portfolios and preoccupied with finding resolutions to catapult the academic experience of our members to a higher standard. I anticipate reporting solid wins on behalf of the team this year, and I am thrilled to hit the ground running again.

I welcome any question you may have in the Council meeting or in my email (gsa.president@ualberta.ca).

Respectfully,
Anas Fassih, President 2022-2023

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 17 May to 20 June 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

17 May	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
17 May	GSA External Advocacy 101
18 May	General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
18 May	Meeting with A Tabirca, International Recruitment & Engagement Specialist, Faculty of Arts
20 May	Alberta Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Transition
25 May	Enrollment Growth Steering Committee
25 May	Meeting with A Monteiro, Students' Union (SU) President
26 May	Meeting with H Vallianatos, Acting Dean of Students
26 May	International Tuition Proposal Consultation
26 May	GSA Coffee Break
26 May	Special General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
30 May	Board of Governors
30 May	Board Governance Committee
31 May	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
31 May	Meeting with A Monteiro, Students' Union (SU) President
31 May	Board Finance and Property Committee (BFPC)
3 June	Alumni Council Year End Event
3 June	Meeting with Potential Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Director
3 June	Honorary Degree Recipient Celebration
6 June	GSA Health and Dental Plan Orientation with Studentcare
6 June	Meeting with N Petersen, Faculty Club Secretary
6 June	General Faculties Council (GFC)
7 June	Board Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee (BLRSEC)
7 June	Convocation Platform Party
8 June	Enrollment Growth Steering Committee
8 June	Hors d'Oeuvres Reception for First Week Honorary Degree Recipients
9 June	GSA Governance 101
9 June	Convocation Platform Party
10 June	Virtual Health Pilot Project Discussion
14 June	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
15 June	Meeting with H Vallianatos, Acting Dean of Students
15 June	Hors d'Oeuvres Reception for Second Week Honorary Degree Recipients
16 June	Board of Governors Recognition Dinner
17 June	Board of Governors
20 June	Presentation to Vice-Provosts' Council
20 June	Meeting between the GSA Executives and Students' Union (SU) Executives

**GSA Board
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting**

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 Directly-Elected Officers and the administrative team will be happy to answer any questions or provide more information at the GSA Council meeting. Also see the weekly Management Reports to the GSAB in Item 17 (Executive Director's Report to GSA Council) on pages 17.5-17.8.

18 May 2022 GSA Board Meeting

Main Agenda Items:

Academic Success Centre 2021-2022 Summary Report on Use of the GSA's Subsidy; Career Centre 2021-2022 Summary Report on Use of the GSA's Subsidy; COVID-19 Update; GSA Coffee Breaks; GSA Council Debrief; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

MOTION: That the GSA Board **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the attached summary report, as submitted by the Academic Success Centre. AF **MOVED**. JR Seconded. **CARRIED**.

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

25 May 2022 GSA Board Meeting

Main Agenda Items:

Designation of Executive Vice-President and Line of Succession for Acting President; GSA Annual Report 2021-2022; COVID-19 Update; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

MOTION: That the GSA Board **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the designation of Executive Vice-President and the line of succession for Acting President as follows:

- 1) Vice-Academic, as Executive Vice-President, *and*
- 2) Vice-President External.

HK **MOVED**. JR Seconded. **CARRIED**.

1 June 2022 GSA Board Meeting

Main Agenda Items:

Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

None to report.

15 June 2022 GSA Board Meeting

Main Agenda Items:

TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Annual Participation Report for the Period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021; Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

MOTION: That the GSA Board **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the attached annual participation report, as submitted by TD Meloche Monnex Insurance.

JR **MOVED**. BA Seconded. **CARRIED**.

**Vice-President Academic
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Bishoi Aziz
Date: 17 June 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to get you informed about my advocacy work on behalf of graduate students. Here, I summarize the most important points from my meetings over the past month:

Meeting with Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Dean, B Milne – May 17th

- We primarily discussed various in-development FGSR policy proposals and were able to address the question regarding transfer credits transfer, especially in the case of required courses for both masters and PhD.
- To better address Council's remaining concerns, Anas and I provided to Dean Milne, in writing, the points you all raised. We invited her team to attend this month's Council meeting to address your concerns directly and clarify any confusion.

General Faculties' Council Programs Committee (GFC PC) – May 19th

- Florence Glanfield Vice-Provost (Indigenous Programming and Research) presented the University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Work Plan and a motion passed to endorse it in the next GFC meeting.
- Donald Mason (Director, English Language School, Extension) presented the Bridging Program for international undergraduate students.

GSA FGSR Council Caucus – May 24th

- We discussed the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (FoMD) proposal regarding editing the program calendar for entry of PhD students after an MSc. The caucus expressed their support.

GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) Development Session – May 24th

- GSA staff provided an orientation about the history of the SWP and the coming steps for preparing the new 2022/2023 SWP.

FGSR Council – May 25th

- I presented the monthly GSA report
- Remonia Morrison and Eric Awuha from the Office of the Student Ombuds (OSO) presented their annual report. I noted that international students formed a lower proportion of the total student population but accounted for double the number of visits to this office compared to domestic students. I expressed my concern for those figures.
- Gregory Funk (Associate Dean, FoMD) introduced the FoMD proposal to edit the FoMD calendar to reflect that MSc students coming back for a PhD will be required to have 6 credits compared to 12 credits. This comes as a response to the FGSR proposal regarding credit transfer. I urged other programs to take the same path. The Council approved the proposal.
- The Council approved a proposal from the School of Public Health (SPH) to add a non-credit course about the Indigenous history as an entry requirement, and an explicit referral to the recruitment of Indigenous peoples as an equity-seeking group.
- Gregory Funk expressed the refusal of the current proposal to increase international student tuition, as this will cost students almost half of their stipends.

University Research Policy Committee (URPC) – May 27th

- Laura Beard (Associate Vice President, Research) presented the Indigenous Equity, Diversity and Inclusion working plan. James Muir (Faculty of Law) stated that the Faculty of Law is working to incorporate Indigenous laws in their research.

SWP development session – May 30th

- We discussed the results of the SWP survey sent to graduate students.
- We discussed the highlights of their priorities based on the survey results. It is expected that GSA staff will format those ideas into the 2022/2023 SWP.

Meeting with FGSR Dean, B Milne – May 31st

- In this meeting, the Dean Milne suggested that the GSA co-present with her on the proposed changes to the credit transfer and the cap on extra-to-degree credits graduate students can have. This will need to be carefully considered by the GSA.
- Anas discussed the Provost's proposal to have a 6% increase in tuition for international students.

GSA GFC Caucus – June 2nd

- We discussed the updates to the FGSR proposals from the previous GFC, and Dean Milne's request to co-present.

Meeting with the Graduate Ombudsperson – June 2nd

- Remonia discussed the reasons for increasing cases of academic misconduct and how to approach them. The OSO, as has been done previously, will be invited to have a booth at the GSA's fall orientation/info fair.
- We discussed the OSO's strategic work plan, which focuses on the separation of the OSO from the Dean of Students office. She mentioned that this would empower the OSO and makes their recommendations obligatory rather than for consideration. She asked if the GSA could help pushing this plan. We decided to meet again at the end of the month so we can consult with Council.

FGSR Graduate Program Support Team (FGSR GPST) – June 6th

- The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine proposed to change the PhD requirements to waive the need for students to take the obligatory course REHAB 600 if they completed REHAB 512 during their MSc (the two courses have the same content). I encouraged this proposal and suggested taking the same route of FoMD that lowered the PhD required credits for students who hold an MSc. The presenter stated that the faculty is currently discussing this change.
- The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine plans to change the entry requirement for MScPT and MScOT.
- The Faculty of Engineering proposed a Dual Doctoral degree between University of Alberta and the University of Lorraine.
- Melissa Padfield, Vice-Provost and University Registrar, proposed to adapt the language around the general exam procedures to factor in virtual exams. The current language includes only in-person exams. She also proposed replacing the term 'Aboriginal' with 'Indigenous' in the University Calendar.

GFC – June 6th

- Florence Glanfield presented the University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan and gave insights on decolonization in different fields.
- Jason Acker (FoMD) presented the disbanding of the Facilities Development Committee (GFC FDC) and transfer of its work to the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment and the GFC Academic Planning Committee. The motion was tabled till the fall.
- Deborah Eerkes (Sexual Violence Response Coordinator) presented the Sexual Violence Policy suite and Proposed Student Conduct Policy. She highlighted that the plan is to build the policy to be trauma-oriented rather than being punitive.
- Provost Steve Dew presented the updated budget model to account for the new financial situation of the University given the reduction in government funding and the introduction of performance-based funding. Government cuts has led to inequity between programs. Program funding differs in terms of tuition vs. governmental funding.

Meeting with International Students' Association (ISA) VP Academic – June 9th

- We discussed potential collaboration between the GSA and ISA to hold workshops and social events for graduate students.

Virtual Health Pilot Project – June 10th

- Studentcare representatives made a presentation on a virtual health care platform called Dialogue for students to target the issue of healthcare accessibility. Studentcare is offering a one-year free pilot for all the University of Alberta graduate students.
- I inquired about data sharing with the platform; will Studentcare share the data of all the students with the platform at the beginning of each semester, or will the platform have the students' data from the students themselves as they start using the platform?
- The GSA Board voted in favor of starting the project for one-year with the caveat that any information sharing is appropriate.

Meeting with FGSR Dean, B Milne – June 14th

- We discussed the points Dean Milne will discuss during this month's Council meeting and the possibility of more regular attendance at Council to have discussions with graduate students around new proposals.

Thank you,

Bishoi Aziz, Vice-President Academic 2022-2023

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 17 May and 20 June (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

17 May	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
19 May	General Faculties Council Programs Committee (GFC PC)
24 May	GSA Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council Caucus
24 May	GSA Town Hall on the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan
24 May	GSA Board Strategic Work Plan Development Session 1
25 May	General Faculties Council Nominating Committee (GFC NC)
25 May	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council
27 May	University Research Policy Committee (URPC)
30 May	GSA Strategic Work Plan Development Session 1
30 May	Killam Award for Excellence in Mentoring Adjudication
31 May	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
2 June	Meeting with R Stoddart-Morrison, Graduate Ombudsperson
2 June	GSA General Faculties Council (GFC) Caucus
6 June	GSA Health and Dental Plan Orientation with Studentcare
6 June	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Graduate Program Support Team (FGSR GSPT)
6 June	General Faculties Council (GFC)
7 June	GSA Budget 101
8 June	Meeting with A Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
9 June	Meeting with C Saed, International Students' Association (ISA) Vice-President Academic
9 June	GSA Governance 101
10 June	Virtual Health Pilot Project Discussion
10 June	Meeting with a Graduate Student
14 June	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
20 June	Meeting between the GSA Executives and Students' Union Executives
20 June	Teaching Awards Adjudication

**Vice-President External
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Janmejay Rao
Date: 17 June 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope you are all doing well. It has been an exciting one and a half months serving as the VP External with the GSA. I am trying to settle into my new role and make some positive changes in external advocacy. I have briefly summarized some important meetings that I attended since the last Council meeting.

May 17th – Meeting with the Associate Vice President, Campus Services: Discussed the demand for couples housing and how we can work together to achieve it. Moreover, dedicated parking space for graduate students living in the residence was also discussed.

May 24th – GSA Board Strategic Work Plan Development- Discussed in-depth the issues faced by graduate students and graduate student responses for the strategic work plan development survey. No new issues were raised by graduate students with regard to external advocacy.

June 2nd – Edmonton Student Alliance Annual General Meeting: A new chair was elected to represent students in Edmonton. Met with City Councillor Jennifer Rice and talked about transit safety in Edmonton.

June 6th – Meeting with the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director (ED): I was elected as co-chair of ab-GPAC for 2022-23. Met with the ED to understand the dynamics of the organization and asked him to prepare a list of issues to finalize for the board retreat.

June 6th – Meeting with the Secretary, Faculty Club: Discussed ways graduate students can coordinate with the club.

June 8th – Meeting with the Vice-President (Facilities and Operations): Introductory meeting with A Sharman and his team.

June 8th – Post Secondary Education Task Force: Planning to undertake a project to bring Indigenous colleges/universities in Alberta into partnerships and collaborations.

June 15th – Reception for honorary degree recipients: Attended the event and networked with stakeholders.

These were the main highlights of the few meetings I attended. If you have any further questions, feel free to ask in the GSA Council meeting or reach out to me via gsa.vpexternal@ualberta.ca. I hope to bring positive changes through to external advocacy and look forward to working with you all.

Thank you,
Janmejay Rao, Vice-President External 2022-2023

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 17 May to 20 June 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

17 May	GSA External Advocacy 101
17 May	Meeting with K Huising, Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
24 May	GSA Town Hall on the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan
24 May	GSA Board Strategic Work Plan Development Session 1
1 June	Meeting with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)
1 June	UAlberta Alumni Year End Event
2 June	Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA) Annual General Meeting
3 June	Meeting with Potential Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Director
3 June	Honorary Degree Recipient Celebration

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6 June	GSA Health and Dental Plan orientation with Studentcare
6 June	Meeting with B Simmons, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director
6 June	Meeting with N Petersen, Faculty Clude Secretary
7 June	GSA Budget 101
8 June	Meeting with A Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
8 June	Convocation Platform Party
8 June	Post-Secondary Education Task Force
8 June	Reception for First Week Honorary Degree Recipients
9 June	Convocation Platform Party
9 June	GSA Governance 101
10 June	Virtual Health Pilot Project Discussion
13 June	Meeting with K Huising, Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
15 June	Convocation Platform Party
15 June	Reception for Second Week Honorary Degree Recipients
20 June	Meeting between the GSA Executives and Students' Union (SU) Executives

**Vice-President Labour
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Hiren Kaklotar
Date: 17 June 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying rainy days. Here are the main takeaways from the meetings I attended since last Council meeting.

Collective Bargaining

The GSA Negotiating Team (GSA NT) met with the University of Alberta's Board of Governors on May 24th and 26th for its second bargaining session and first in-person session, having exchanged non-monetary bargaining packages in January. The GSA NT is pleased to report that the meetings were very productive.

Updates are provided to the bargaining unit (all current Academically-Employed Graduate Students (AEGSs)) as bargaining progresses. I would encourage each of you who are an AEGS to follow these updates, and to encourage those in your departments who are academically-employed to engage with them.

Bill 17 Updates

The Government of Alberta has passed Bill 17 in the legislature. Part of this bill indefinitely grants exclusive bargaining rights for AEGSs to the GSA (as well as exclusive rights for faculty associations and post-doc associations to represent their members). This means that AEGSs will not be granted the freedom to choose our representation; a right granted to other bargaining units in Alberta, and other similar academic units across the country.

In 2017, following a Supreme Court decision that granted all workers (including academic workers) the right to be represented by a union of their choosing, the previous government of Alberta established these respective associations as unions under the *Alberta Labour Relations Code* and temporarily granted them exclusive bargaining rights with an end-date of July 1st, 2022. The current government has now removed the end date, maintaining this exclusivity in perpetuity.

In collaboration with graduate student labour unions from the University of Calgary and University of Lethbridge, we have sent letters to the Minister of Labour in opposition to Bill 17, however even with these efforts, the Bill has passed. We as a union now need to find ways to at least show our opposition to these changes and the GSA Labour Relations Committee is engaged in discussions on this front

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or suggestions. I'm here to serve you!

In solidarity,
Hiren Kaklotar, Vice-President Labour 2022-2023

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 17 May and 20 June 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

18 May	Meeting with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC)
16 May	Pre-Negotiation Caucus with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) and the GSA Negotiating Team (GSA NT)
19 May	GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) Development Session 1
20 May	U of A Joint Work Site Health and Safety Committee (JWSHSC)
20 May	Meeting with a Graduate Student
24 May	Pre-Negotiation Caucus with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) and the GSA Negotiating Team (GSA NT)
24 May	Collective Agreement Bargaining

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25 May	Pre-Negotiation Caucus with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) and the GSA Negotiating Team (GSA NT)
26 May	Pre-Negotiation Caucus with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) and the GSA Negotiating Team (GSA NT)
26 May	Collective Agreement Bargaining
30 May	GSA Board Strategic Work Plan Development Session 2
2 June	Post Bill-17 Check-In with the Public Service Alliance of of Canada (PSAC)
3 June	Honorary Degree Recipient Celebration
6 June	GSA Health and Dental Plan Orientation with Studentcare
7 June	GSA Budget 101
8 June	Meeting with A Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
8 June	Hors d'Oeuvres Reception for First Week Honorary Degree Recipients
9 June	Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) Monthly Meeting
9 June	GSA Governance 101
9 June	Meeting with a Graduate Student
10 June	Convocation Platform Party
10 June	Virtual Health Pilot Project Discussion
13 June	University of Alberta Safety and Security Committee (UASSC)
15 June	Convocation Platform Party
15 June	Meeting with H Vallianatos, Acting Dean of Students
15 June	Hors d'Oeuvres Reception for Second Week Honorary Degree Recipients
16 June	Sexual and Gender-Based Advisory (SGBV) Council
20 June	Meeting between the GSA Executives and Students' Union Executives

**Vice-President Student Services
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Monisha Vinod
Date: 17 June 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope all is well with you. It has been an eventful first month of my term as I am learning about the different committees on campus and understanding their strategic initiatives to make student life enriching on campus. I hope you have had a good spring semester and are looking forward to the summer. Below are a few highlights from the meetings I attended since the last Council meeting.

- Working with Joannie, VP Student Life, Students' Union (SU) and Dr. Michael Frishkopf, Professor and Associate Chair (Graduate Studies) in the Department of Music to bring music into student life on campus for both relaxation and focus. We are currently looking for meditative spaces on campus that are comfy and spacious with scope for good speakers playing sounds/music. This initiative promotes mental health as I see it as an opportunity to engage the student community in social connectivity through musical activities in a dedicated space;
- Dr. Frishkopf is also looking to use this initiative to build a tool for wellness through sound using Machine Learning and AI and is looking for a research team that will help identify – (1) What do students listen to? (2) When do they listen? (3) Design & Evaluation criteria;
- The Registrar's Office and Financial Services have completed the Winter term U-Pass refund process and the U-Pass Administrative Committee is gathering the number of incoming undergrads and grad students that have been accepted for the Fall to gauge how many new ARC cards would be needed for distribution in the Fall;
- The Days of Action (DOA) Working Committee sent out a survey to all students and staff asking about what activities they would like to see that would help recognize Mental Health Day on October 10 by adopting the event LightUp Purple to promote it. I co-chair the committee and we are working on appropriate messaging and tone for the day currently;
- Met with the Campus Food Bank (CFB) to discuss opportunities to work together on initiatives like communal cooking/eating meals together, volunteering, fundraising, as well as projects like Snack Stations and building an Outdoor Pantry;
- I, along with the team, am working on our Strategic Work Plan for the coming year and identifying priorities and collaborative initiatives that need solid direction;
- I am also working with all the committees I interact with to discuss promoting their offered student services and how that can be tied into orientation effectively;
- GSA Board agreed to add a pilot project with Studentcare to add Virtual Healthcare to the GSA Health and Dental Plan for one year starting in September and that if the pilot is successful, then it will be brought forward to Council on whether we want to add it permanently to the plan.

I look forward to working with each one of you this 2022-2023 academic year. As always, I am open to feedback and questions and can be reached at gsa.vpstudentservices@ualberta.ca.

Thank You and with Warm Regards,
Monisha Vinod, Vice-President Student Services 2022-2023

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 17 May to 20 June 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

17 May	Music for Mental Health
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17 May	U-Pass Advisory Committee
19 May	U-Pass Administrative Committee
20 May	Days of Action
24 May	GSA Town Hall on the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan
24 May	GSA Board Strategic Work Plan Development Session 1
25 May	GSA Grants 101
26 May	General Faculties Council Student Conduct Policy Committee (GFC SCPC)
27 May	Campus and Community Recreation Meeting
30 May	GSA Board Strategic Work Plan Development Session 2
30 May	Students Who Parent Discussion
30 May	Meeting with K Friese, Assistant Dean, Health and Wellness
2 June	GSA Health and Dental Plan 101
6 June	Meeting with N Petersen, Faculty Club Secretary
7 June	Mental Health Day Working Group
7 June	GSA Budget 101
8 June	Meeting with A Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
8 June	Convocation Platform Party
8 June	Hors d'Oeuvres Reception for First Week Honorary Degree Recipients
9 June	Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights (VLHR) Meeting
9 June	GSA Governance 101
13 June	Convocation Platform Party
15 June	Meeting with E O'Neil, Campus Food Bank Executive Director
15 June	Meeting with H Vallianatos, Acting Dean of Students
15 June	Hors d'Oeuvres Reception for Second Week Honorary Degree Recipients
16 June	U-Pass Administrative Committee
16 June	Convocation Platform Party
20 June	Campus and Community Recreation Meeting
20 June	Meeting between the GSA Executives and Students' Union (SU) Executives

**GSA Nominating Committee
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Kenzie Gordon
Date: 17 June 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

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

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

Sincerely,
Kenzie Gordon, Chair of the GSA NoC

Memorandum to GSA Councillors

As reported previously on multiple occasions, there are a number of vacancies on GSA Standing Committees for GSA Council Members (Departmental Councillors, Alternates, and Councillors-at-Large). These positions play a pivotal role in the GSA's ongoing efforts to keep its processes transparent and itself accountable and long-term vacancies adversely impact these efforts. **GSA Councillors (including Alternates) are strongly encouraged to consider serving on these committees.**

It is important to note that the time commitment for these committees varies greatly. While some meet regularly throughout the year (usually every two (2) to three (3) months) others meet less frequently, and some do almost all of their work over email. Additionally, **there is an appreciation of people's schedules and other commitments and accommodations are routinely made for those who cannot attend all meetings.**

Service on these bodies is an excellent way to make sure your voice is heard and a great opportunity to add to your CV/resume!

On behalf of the GSA NoC, I strongly encourage GSA Councillors (and Alternates) and Councillors-at-Large to consider the next round of vacancies, which will be circulated to GSA Council electronically and which are listed below. Questions can be directed to me at mlgordon@ualberta.ca or GSA Elections Coordinator Monica Brzak at gsanomco@ualberta.ca.

GSA Standing Committees**1) GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) (Two (2) GSA Councillor Positions)**

Information regarding the position for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council 27 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022 with a nomination deadline of 14 June 2022. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

2) 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 27 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022 with a nomination deadline of 15 June 2022. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

3) GSA Board (GSAB) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council GSA 27 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022 with a nomination deadline of 15 June 2022. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

4) GSA Board and GSA Nominating Committee (GSAB/NoC) (Two (2) Joint GSA Councillor Positions)

Information regarding the position for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council GSA 27 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022 with a nomination deadline of 15 June 2022. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

External Committees: Vacancies**1) Green and Gold Grant Adjudication Committee (One (1) GSA member Position)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletters of 6 and 13 May 2022 with a nomination deadline of 18 May 2022. **Two (2) nominations were received; subsequent to the advertisement another vacancy opened and the GSA NoC agreed to move both nominees forward. Nima Shahsavari and Meruja Selvamanikkam were elected.**

GSA Officers**1) GSA Senator (One (1) Position for a GSA Member)**

Information regarding this position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletters of 6, 13, and 20 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022, with a deadline of 15 June 2022. **No nominations were received; this vacancy will be advertised again.**

2) GSA Speaker (One (1) Position for a GSA Member)

Information regarding this position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletters of 6, 13, and 20 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022, with a deadline of 15 June 2022. **Two (2) nominations were received; there will be an electronic vote (see Item 6 – Nominees for Speaker and Chief Returning Officer).**

3) GSA Deputy Speaker (One (1) Position for a GSA Member)

Information regarding this position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletters of 6, 13, and 20 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022, with a deadline of 15 June 2022. **No nominations were received; this vacancy will be advertised again.**

4) GSA Chief Returning Officer (One (1) Position for a GSA Member)

Information regarding this position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletters of 6, 13, and 20 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022, with a deadline of 15 June 2022. **One (1) nomination was received; there will be an electronic vote (see Item 6 – Nominees for Speaker and Chief Returning Officer).**

5) GSA Deputy Returning Officer (One (1) Position for a GSA Member)

Information regarding this position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletters of 6, 13, and 20 May, and 3 and 10 June 2022, with a deadline of 15 June 2022. **No nominations were received; this vacancy will be advertised again.**

**Executive Director
Report to GSA Council for the 20 June 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Courtney Thomas
Date: 17 June 2022

Dear GSA Council Members,

The GSA's fiscal year ended on 31 March 2021 and we are in the process of finalizing our annual audit. The audit, as well the preparation of the first term's budget and expenditure financial report of our new fiscal year, will be completed this month or early in July, in advance of a meeting of the GSA Budget and Finance Committee to review and discuss these items before they come forward to GSA Council over the summer/early fall. The GSA's audited financial statements will then proceed onward to the University Board of Governors, as per the requirements of the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*.

An important element of the GSA's annual audit is a review of our various corporate documents. As a separate corporation from the University, we are the signatories to multiple contracts, agreements, memorandums of understanding, etc. In advance of the audit coming forward to GSA Council next month, I have included the below list of all of the documents that define us as a corporate entity and which are constantly monitored by the staff team.

Aside from focusing on the preparation of these various financial pieces, the GSA staff team has been engaged over the past month with forward planning for fall orientation and departmental orientations, developing the 2022-2023 GSA planner, supporting the work of the Directly-Elected Officers (particularly as they develop the 2022-2023 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan), and sorting out the logistics of a hybrid Council meeting. We are also working, along with the Speaker and President, with representatives from the various departments within the Faculty of Education (which is set to become non-departmentalized on 1 July) on a resolution to bring forward to GSA Council to preserve the existing departmental seats from that faculty on GSA Council, as we wait to see what the long-term impact of this non-departmentalization might be and if more faculties will move in this direction, and whether a more in-depth analysis of GSA Council composition will be warranted.

My weekly reports to the GSA Board are attached (pages 17.5-17.8) and, as always, I am happy to answer any questions.

Best,
Courtney Thomas, Executive Director

Documents that Define the GSA as a Corporate Entity

<i>Agreements with Expiry Dates</i>		
NAME	SUMMARY	STATUS
Campus Food Bank	Regulates GSA involvement with Food Bank.	GSA gives \$25,000/annum to Campus Food Bank (increased in 2018-2019 budget, 2019-2020 budget, 2020-2021 budget, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 budget). Original MoU expired 30 April 2015. Subsidy is set out annually in letters to the Campus Food Bank.
Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement	Sets out terms and conditions for graduate students serving as GTAs, GRAs, and GRAFs.	Current agreement with the Board of Governors expired 31 August 2018, a new agreement with a term ending 31 August 2020 was ratified by both parties in December 2019.

NAME	SUMMARY	STATUS
Agreement re GSSF	MoU that provides for funding allocations to the GSA for the GSSF.	Support from the University confirmed annually in advance of 31 March for the upcoming fiscal year.
Collective Agreement with NASA covering office staff	Sets out terms of employment for GSA staff.	Renegotiated in April 2012, 2015, and 2020. Current agreement expires in 2025.
Graduate Student Assistance Program (GSAP)	Provides for a wide range of personal counselling.	Referenda held in 2009 and 2021; originally signed 31 December 2010 for a 2-year period with the possibility of four 2-year extensions; reviewed and re-signed in August 2013. Dependents added in December 2013. Current agreement expired 31 December 2014 but is described by Administration as a rolling plan. Reviewed annually. Support from the University confirmed at \$84,000 for 2022-2025 (thereafter confirmed annually in advance of 31 March for the upcoming fiscal year) with the remainder paid by graduate students pursuant to a referendum vote.
Health and Dental Agreement with Studentcare	Provides for Health and Dental Plan.	Provider changed in 2012. Re-signed in 2014 and 2020. Current agreement expires 31 August 2025. Service levels, claims, etc are reviewed annually.
Liability Insurance	General Liability insurance and Directors and Officers insurance (covers elected officials and administrative/professional staff). The GSA is not covered for alcohol use.	Doubled our liability insurance in 2012 and our Directors and Officers insurance in 2013. Switched brokers in 2016. Current Directors and Officers insurance expires 28 January 2023. Current General Liability insurance expires 17 May 2023.
North Power Plant and Dewey's	<p>2009 Memorandum of Agreement with the Students' Union regarding the operation of Dewey's.</p> <p>2010 Memorandum of Understanding with the U of A for use of North Power Plant Space for the Tory Building decant.</p> <p>1997 Memorandum of Agreement with the U of A guaranteeing graduate social space in North Power Plant or at another location; 2004 Letter of Confirmation on this MoU from the Dean of Students. The space includes the current sustainability offices.</p>	<p>Expired August 2012 - conversations about use of space are ongoing.</p> <p>No Expiration - conversation regarding Dewey's/NPP ongoing as part of this MoU.</p> <p>No Expiration - conversation regarding Dewey's/NPP ongoing as part of this MoA.</p>

NAME	SUMMARY	STATUS
TDIMM	Provides for group auto and home insurance as well as some funding for GSA events and the TD Student Service Award (given out at GSA Awards Night).	Renewed in 2016 and 2021 for a period of 5 years. Current agreement expires 31 August 2026.
Triffo Hall Lease	Detailed lease covering Triffo Hall office space.	First-ever lease was signed in June 2011; 5-year term, four renewals (three now remaining). Re-signed in 2016 and 2021 and current agreement expires 31 June 2026 (notification of desire to renew must be given 6-12 months before expiry).
U of A Financial Services	Stipulates when GSA receives membership fees collected by the U of A on our behalf.	Re-negotiated and signed in April 2012. Re-negotiated again in 2013, 2016, 2019, and 2022. Current agreement expires 30 April 2025.
U-PASS	Governs U-PASS.	Referenda held in March 2013, February 2017, and February 2021. New agreement signed in 2021. Current agreement expires in 2025.
Kids and Company	Cost-sharing arrangement with the Students' Union to provide access to child care facilities around the city for graduate students (guaranteed access to full or flexible part-time child care spaces at a Kids and Company centre within 6 months of registration, discounted access to back up day child care passes, other limited services).	Signed in March 2021 for a one-year. Agreement renews annually.
GSA Indigenous Graduate Student Award	Governs an annual award of \$750 for an Indigenous graduate student, as adjudicated by First Peoples' House.	Renewed every six years (next renewal will be in 2027).
Agreements with No Expiry Dates (Ongoing)		
Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council	Society under the <i>Societies Act</i> .	Registered in March 2015 along with U of C, U of L and AU GSAs. U of L withdrew in 2017/2018. Annual Societies Act filing required. (The former Alberta Graduate Council disbanded in 2013).
ATB Financial Banking	Operating account.	Switched from BMO to ATB in May 2016 (as they also manage the GSA's investments). Signing authorities reviewed/updated annually.

NAME	SUMMARY	STATUS
ATB Financial Investments	GICs, investments.	Agreement was signed on 11 April 2016 and reviewed and updated on 14 March 2022. Reviewed annually with a next in-depth review scheduled for 2024.
Career Centre and Academic Success Centre Agreements	Provides for subsidy of certain Career Centre and Academic Success Centre courses for grad students.	Annual subsidy of \$12,000 (increased in 2017-2018 budget, 2019-2020 budget, and 2020-2021 budget). Reviewed annually.
Ceridian (Payroll)	GSA staff and elected officials are paid by direct deposit.	Outsourcing is cheaper/more efficient than in-house production of cheques. Agreement signed 30 May 2011.
Info Sharing with Studentcare and University	Allows Studentcare access to specified graduate student personal information for strictly defined purposes regarding the GSA's Health and Dental Plan.	Reviewed with the U of A Privacy Officer and Studentcare in 2012 and new agreement signed on 3 May 2013. GSA to give notice of 6 months if wanting to terminate.
PAW Centre	Sets out terms of operation of PAW. SU also a signatory to the Agreement.	Referendum held, agreement signed in April 2012.
PAW Centre Leased Space	Sets out terms of rights and obligations of SU and GSA with respect to the leased space in PAW.	Negotiated business terms with SU concerning the food vendor space (currently occupied by Chopped Leaf until September 2024, following the negotiation of their lease in 2019) – agreement concerning the leased space signed in April 2017. Reviewed annually.
Personal Information Sharing Agreement with the U of A	Provides specified graduate student personal information for strictly defined purposes, e.g. emailing the newsletter, elections.	Signed in May 2013.
Student Connect (Office of the Registrar)	Administers the GSA's Emergency Bursary program. GSA distributes funds.	2006 AEGS Memorandum of Settlement between GSA/BoG provides for establishment of emergency bursary program with terms of reference developed by GSA and "distributed through the University Bursary Program."
Student Group Services	Outlines the responsibilities of the GSA and Student Group Services with respect to the registration and oversight of graduate student groups.	Developed in 2011 and redrafted in 2018. Reviewed annually.
U of A Human Resources Direct Deposit	Provides for direct deposit through Bear Tracks of GSSF allocations to graduate students and T4A production by U of A.	Agreement negotiated in 2012. Major infrastructure change from cheque processing by GSA.

NAME	SUMMARY	STATUS
U of A IST	Provides service, support, and regular review of the GSA's IT infrastructure.	Signed in June 2017. Reviewed annually.
Western Archives	Provides secure shredding of GSA material once every two months.	Signed in July 2018 for a term of two years with automatic renewals annually after that. Reviewed annually.
Xerox	Covers the leasing of two photocopiers.	Original agreement expired 31 March 2018. Thereafter the agreement renews automatically on a yearly basis. Reviewed annually.

Other Corporate Documents		
Audit (based on GSA Council-approved budget)	As a separate corporation from the University, we hire our own auditor. Requirement of the <i>Post-Secondary Learning Act</i> to provide audited financial statements to the Board of Governors annually.	Audit occurs annually in May/June. Audit field workers are typically on-site in late May/early June.
GSA Bylaw and Policy	Approved by GSA Council as enabled by the <i>Post-Secondary Learning Act</i> . Sections pertaining to collective bargaining approved by the GSA Labour Relations Committee as per the <i>Labour Relations Code</i> .	Reviewed regularly.
Contract with ED/Letters of Appointment	Sets out terms of employment for administrative/professional staff.	The ED's contract and other standard appointment letters for administrative/professional staff have been reviewed by our lawyers. Regular performance reviews conducted.
Referenda Master File	All referenda questions that actively impact graduate students (eg U-PASS, PAW Centre, GSAP, GSA Health and Dental Plan, etc).	Compiled and filed. Ongoing as referenda arise.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 18 May 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 11 May 2022:

Strategic

- Continued discussion about the logistics of hybrid meetings of GSA Council with the Speaker – we accessed Council Chamber again to test things and will have one more test run in early June.
- Collating feedback from GSA Council for the development of next year's GSA Board Strategic Work Plan, as well as feedback received thus far via the survey circulated in the GSA newsletter.
- Finalizing the 2021-2022 annual report (will be shared with the GSA Board on 25 May).
- Continuing to coordinate 101 training session scheduling by portfolio.
- Starting to prepare briefing notes for review by the President and GSA Board concerning a potential restructuring of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President.
- Engaging with the GSA Labour Relations Committee and the Public Service Alliance of Canada about Bill 17 and its impact on the GSA's potential future relationships with external unions. GSA Labour Relations Committee members have shared their concerns with government.
- Working on a third draft of minor proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda. We hope to send these forward to the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee over the summer.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team (bargaining will be advancing shortly), the GSA Labour Relations Committee, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network and hosting training sessions).

Operations

- Planning associated with hosting in-person GSA coffee breaks in the Triffo Hall lounge space later in May and starting to plan to solicit advertisers for the GSA handbook.
- Transitioning from a shared Google Drive to a team Google Drive (Erika will be coming in over the office closure to move all electronic files over and then take a day in lieu of).
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), GSA Governance Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board/GSA Nominating Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the Green and Gold Grant Adjudication Committee (advertised via the GSA newsletter), and General Faculties Council (advertised via the GSA newsletter). Also assisting with elections for the Agricultural, Life, and Environmental Sciences Graduate Students' Association (advertised directly to graduate students in the department), Pharmacy Graduate Students' Association (advertised directly to graduate students in the department) and soliciting nominations for the positions of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer, and Senator (advertised via the GSA newsletter).
- Facebook = 1,752 likes (up 0 from 11 May); Facebook posts reached 608 users since 11 May. Twitter = 1,294 followers (up 2 from 11 May); our tweets earned 547 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 811 followers (up 0 from 11 May); Instagram posts reached 174 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April and there is an upswing in application numbers; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April. We are seeing an increase in applications as pandemic prevention measures ease and all funding continues to be closely monitored so we can direct it to where the most need is and funds not projected to be spent are being transferred to the University to dispense in the form of COVID-related supplementary bursaries for graduate students.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 25 May 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 18 May 2022:

Strategic

- Preparing for a test run of a hybrid meeting in Council Chamber (scheduled for 3 June).
- Collating feedback from GSA Council and from the town hall for the development of next year's GSA Board Strategic Work Plan, as well as feedback received thus far via the survey circulated in the GSA newsletter and circulating a reminder about the survey.
- Continuing to coordinate 101 training session scheduling by portfolio.
- Finalizing the renewal of the GSA's fee disbursement agreement with the University.
- Preparing for the annual audit.
- Working on a briefing note for review by the President and GSA Board concerning a potential restructuring of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President.
- Working on a third draft of minor proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda. We hope to send these proposed changes forward to the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee over the summer.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team (bargaining has resumed), the GSA Labour Relations Committee, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network.

Operations

- Preparing to host a GSA Coffee Break (purchasing supplies, etc).
- Beginning to solicit advertisers for the GSA handbook.
- Transitioning from a shared Google Drive to a team Google Drive (this will be an ongoing process over the coming months, now that Erika has completed the initial, core transfer of materials).
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), GSA Governance Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), and the GSA Board/GSA Nominating Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council). Also soliciting nominations for the positions of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer, and Senator (advertised via the GSA newsletter).
- Facebook = 1,752 likes (up 0 from 18 May); Facebook posts reached 281 users since 18 May. Twitter = 1,296 followers (up 2 from 17 May); our tweets earned 547 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 811 followers (up 0 from 18 May); Instagram posts reached 368 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April and there is an upswing in application numbers; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April. We are seeing an increase in applications as pandemic prevention measures ease and all funding continues to be closely monitored so we can direct it to where the most need is and funds not projected to be spent are being transferred to the University to dispense in the form of COVID-related supplementary bursaries for graduate students.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 1 June 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 25 May 2022:

Strategic

- Preparing for a test run of a hybrid meeting in Council Chamber (scheduled for 3 June) and developing a one-pager on what to expect in a hybrid meeting for circulation to GSA Council.
- Ongoing work on the development of the 2022-2023 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.
- Preparing for the annual audit.
- Cleaning out various files in association with the GSA's Document Retention and Destruction Schedule.
- Working on a briefing note for review by the President and GSA Board concerning a potential restructuring of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President (oping to have this completed in the next week).
- Working on a third draft of minor proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda. We hope to send these proposed changes forward to the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee over the summer.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team (bargaining has resumed), the GSA Labour Relations Committee, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network.

Operations

- Hosting a GSA Coffee Break (attendance numbers exceeded expectations, which is wonderful!).
- Beginning to solicit advertisers for the GSA handbook and generate printing cost estimates.
- Forward planning for fall orientation and departmental orientations.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), GSA Governance Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), and the GSA Board/GSA Nominating Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council). Also soliciting nominations for the positions of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer, and Senator (advertised via the GSA newsletter).
- Facebook = 1,750 likes (down 2 from 25 May); Facebook posts reached 210 users since 25 May. Twitter = 1,297 followers (up 1 from 25 May); our tweets earned 547 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 815 followers (up 4 from 25 May); Instagram posts reached 397 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April and there is an upswing in application numbers; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April. We are seeing an increase in applications as pandemic prevention measures ease and all funding continues to be closely monitored so we can direct it to where the most need is and funds not projected to be spent are being transferred to the University to dispense in the form of COVID-related supplementary bursaries for graduate students.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 15 June 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 1 June 2022:

Strategic

- Developing and circulating a one-pager on what to expect in a hybrid meeting for circulation to GSA Council and finalizing a mechanism to facilitate voting in a hybrid environment (we'll be utilizing a platform called vevox).
- Ongoing work on the development of the 2022-2023 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.
- Circulating the first mailing of GSA Council meeting materials and preparing for the second mailing on Friday.
- Planning the governance cycle for the GSA's audit (progresses to the GSA Budget and Finance Committee, then the GSA Board, then GSA Council).
- Working on a briefing note for review by the President and GSA Board concerning a potential restructuring of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President (currently with the President for review).
- Audit (one of our auditors is in the GSA office this week).
- Signing the U-Pass agreement amendment that secures the partial refund for the Winter term U-Pass.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team (bargaining has resumed), the GSA Labour Relations Committee, circulating updates to members of the bargaining unit, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network).

Operations

- Beginning to solicit advertisers for the GSA handbook, generating printing cost estimates, and beginning the design process.
- Planning for in-person fall orientation (Lister has been booked) and departmental orientations.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), GSA Governance Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), and the GSA Board/GSA Nominating Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council). Also soliciting nominations for the positions of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer, and Senator (advertised via the GSA newsletter).
- Facebook = 1,749 likes (down 1 from 8 June); Facebook posts reached 0 users since 8 June. Twitter = 1,297 followers (up 0 from 8 June); our tweets earned 366 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 811 followers (down 2 from 1 June); Instagram posts reached 6 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April and there is an upswing in application numbers; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April. We are seeing an increase in applications as pandemic prevention measures ease and all funding continues to be closely monitored so we can direct it to where the most need is and funds not projected to be spent are being transferred to the University to dispense in the form of COVID-related supplementary bursaries for graduate students.