

## GSA Council Meeting CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

Monday, 28 October 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 28 October 2019 Agenda (*suggested time: 1 min*)
2. Approval of the Minutes from the 16 September 2019 GSA Council Meeting (*suggested time: 1 min*)  
*Attachment:*
  - i. Minutes from the 16 September 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. University of Alberta United Way Campaign (*suggested time: 5 mins*)  
**Marc Waddingham (Vice-President External) will present the item and introduce the guest.**  
**Guest:** Dr. Lesley Cormack, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and former U of A United Way Committee Co-Chair
6. Proposed Changes to Code of Student Behaviour (*suggested time: 20 mins*)  
**Fahed Elian (President) will present the item and introduce the guests.**  
**Guests:** Marcel Roth (Director, University of Alberta Protective Services) and Trudy Triplett (Investigator, Risk Management Services – University of Alberta Protective Services)
7. Introduction to Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Dean and Strategic Priorities (*suggested time: 30 mins*)  
**Fahed Elian (President) will present the item and introduce the guest.**  
**Guest:** Dr. Brooke Milne, Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

### Action Items

Prepared by C Thomas, L Hareuther and J Tanguay for GSA Council 28 October 2019

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8. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Elections and Referenda (*suggested time: 15 mins*)  
**Jennifer Bertrand, Vice-Chair of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) will present the item.**

**GSA ERC Members Invited to GSA Council as Guests:** Brent Constantin, Hayden Danyluk, and Rehan Pradhan

*Attachments:*

- |      |   |                   |
|------|---|-------------------|
| i.   | Cover Letter from the Chair of the GSA ERC  | <b>8.0 - 8.1</b>  |
| ii.  | Outline of Issue  | <b>8.2</b>        |
| iii. | Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Elections and Referenda: Double Column | <b>8.3 - 8.21</b> |

**For Discussion**

9. GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP): Update to GSA Council (*suggested time: 30 mins*)  
**Fahed Elian (President) will present the item.**

*Attachments:*

- |     |   |                  |
|-----|---|------------------|
| i.  | Overview of Current SWP Achievements    | <b>9.0 - 9.2</b> |
| ii. | GSA Board 2019-2020 Strategic Work Plan | <b>9.3 - 9.9</b> |

**Elections**

10. GSA Council Elections (*suggested time – to be determined*)  
**Damandeep Singh (GSA Nominating Committee Member) will present the item.**

GSA Standing Committees

a. GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) (1 vacancy)

*Attachment:*

- |    |                                      |                    |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| i. | Nominees for the GSA ACB (1 vacancy) | <b>10.0 - 10.5</b> |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------------------|

b. GSA Awards Selection Committee (GSA ASC) (2 vacancies)

*Attachment:*

- |    |  |                    |
|----|--|--------------------|
| i. | Nominees for the GSA ASC (2 vacancies) | <b>10.6 - 10.8</b> |
|----|--|--------------------|

c. GSA Board (GSAB) (1 vacancy)

*Attachment:*

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|----|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| i. | Nominees for the GSAB (1 vacancy) | <b>10.9 - 10.11</b> |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------------|

**Reports** (*suggested time: 15 mins*)

11. President (**Fahed Elian, President**)

- |      |   |                    |
|------|---|--------------------|
| i.   | President's Report                      | <b>11.0 - 11.4</b> |
| ii.  | GSA Board Report                        | <b>11.5</b>        |
| iii. | GSA Budget and Finance Committee Report | <b>11.6</b>        |
| iv.  | GSA Governance Committee Report         | <b>11.7</b>        |

12. Vice-President Academic (**Dylan Ashley, Vice-President Academic**)

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|----|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| i. | Vice-President Academic's Report | <b>12.0 - 12.1</b> |
|----|----------------------------------|--------------------|

13. Vice-President External (**Marc Waddingham, Vice-President External**)

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|-----|---|--------------------|
| i.  | Vice-President External's Report  | <b>13.0 - 13.1</b> |
| ii. | GSA Awards Selection Committee Report ( <b>no written report at this time</b> ) |                    |

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| <p><b>14. Vice-President Labour (Shanawaz Mohammad, Vice-President Labour)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Vice-President Labour's Report</li> <li>ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee Report <b>(no written report at this time)</b></li> </ul>       | <p><b>14.0 - 14.1</b></p> |
| <p><b>15. Vice-President Student Services (Chantal Labonté, Vice-President Student Services)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Vice-President Student Services' Report</li> </ul>   | <p><b>15.0 - 15.2</b></p> |
| <p><b>16. Senator (Alesha Reed, Senator)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Senator's Report <b>(no written report at this time)</b></li> </ul>  |                           |
| <p><b>17. Speaker (Pranidhi Baddam, Speaker)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Speaker's Report <b>(no written report at this time)</b></li> </ul>  |                           |
| <p><b>18. Chief Returning Officer (Amritha Prasad, Chief Returning Officer)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Chief Returning Officer's Report <b>(no written report at this time)</b></li> </ul>   |                           |
| <p><b>19. GSA Nominating Committee (Damandeep Singh, GSA Nominating Committee Member)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. GSA Nominating Committee Report</li> </ul>  | <p><b>19.0 - 19.1</b></p> |
| <p><b>20. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (Jennifer Bertrand, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Vice-Chair)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report <b>(no written report at this time)</b></li> </ul> |                           |
| <p><b>21. GSA Management (Courtney Thomas, Executive Director)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Executive Director's Report</li> </ul>   | <p><b>21.0 - 21.9</b></p> |

**Question Period**

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

**Adjournment**

**GSA Council Meeting MINUTES**  
Monday, 16 September 2019 at 6:00 pm  
2-100 University Hall, Van Vliet Complex

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Fahed Elian (President)	Allan Yarahmady (Biochemistry)	Jonathan Lai (Human Ecology)	Shubham Soni; Khushmol Dhaliwal (Paediatrics)
Dylan Ashley (VP Academic)	Jessica Grenke (Biological Science)	Deanna Starr (Indigenous Graduate Students' Association)	Filip Reformat (Pharmacology)
Marc Waddingham (VP External)	Ashmita De (Biomedical Engineering)	Islam Abdelsalam; Saurabh Jingade (Internetworking)	Hamdah Al Nebaihi (Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences)
Shanawaz Mohammad (VP Labour)	Damandeep Singh (Business MBA)	Abbie Schenk; Elaine Yip (Kinesiology, Sport, & Recreation)	Julian Chow (Philosophy)
Chantal Labonté (VP Student Services)	Ke Feng (Business PhD)	Julia Guy (Library & Information Studies)	Kimberly Dice (Physical Therapy)
Pranidhi Baddam (Speaker)	Calvin Chow (Cell Biology)	Alexander Rice; Lex Giesbrecht (Linguistics)	David Purschke (Physics)
Amritha Prasad (Chief Returning Officer)	Omnath Ekambaram (Chemical & Materials Engineering)	Nishant Agrawal (Mathematical & Statistical Sciences)	Robert Reklow (Physiology)
Reza Azadi (Deputy Returning Officer)	Alvaro Omaña (Chemistry)	Wasel-Ur Rahman (Mechanical Engineering)	Precious Amusan (Psychiatry)
Harleen Kaur Dhaliwal (Councillor-at-Large)	Lindsay Moore (Communication Sciences & Disorders)	Nicole Noel (Medical Genetics)	Lane Liddle; Connor Lambert (Psychology)
Braulio Marfil Garza (Councillor-at-Large)	Kalvin Eng (Computing Science)	Cole Delyea (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	Misha Miazga-Rodriguez (Public Health)
Claudia Holody (Councillor-at-Large)	Julie Piche (Dentistry)	Marcus Jackson (Medicine)	Noor Al-Zanoon (Rehabilitation Science)
Osama Mohsen (Councillor-at-Large)	Colette Slevinsky (Drama)	Amber Peters (Modern Languages & Cultural Studies)	Jared Fath (Renewable Resources)
Ronan Noble (Councillor-at-Large)	Alex Sheen (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)	Subash Giri (Music)	Yunxuan Chen (Resources Economics & Environmental Sociology)
Kanishk Patel (Councillor-at-Large)	Alexandra San Diego (East Asian Studies)	Brittany Fedor; Charbel Baaklini (Neuroscience)	Robert Piazza (Secondary Education)
Konstantin Tebenev (Councillor-at-Large)	Areej Alshammiry (Ed Policy Studies)	Jennifer Stevenson (Nursing)	Lauren Menzie (Sociology)
Sasha van der Klein (Councillor-at-Large)	Jingyang Gao (Educational Psychology)	Valene Cheah (Occupational Therapy)	
Hongbing Fan (Ag, Food & Nutritional Science)	Jayne Wong (English & Film Studies)	Braden Chow; Joanne Smith (Oncology)	
Kyla Cangiano (Anthropology)	Jane Allred (History & Classics)	Matthew Benson (Ophthalmology)	

Guests: Wendy Rodgers (Deputy Provost), Tyree McCrackin (Career Centre Career Advisor), Andrea Spevak (Graduate Student Internship Advisor), Shweta Sridharan (Internetworking), Kristoffer Angelo Soliven (Internetworking), Priyanka Maripuri (Medical Genetics), Arshad Khan Khalafzai (Earth and Atmospheric Science), Leigh Spanner (Political Science)

Speaker Pranidhi Baddam in the Chair.

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

Prepared by C Thomas, L Hareuther and M Toghrai for GSA Council 16 September 2019

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**Approval of Agenda****1. Approval of the 16 September 2019 Consolidated Agenda**

Members had before them the 16 September 2019 Consolidated Agenda, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. F Elian **MOVED**; D Singh **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes****2. Minutes from the 15 July 2019 GSA Council meeting**

Members had before them the 15 July 2019 GSA Council Minutes, which had been previously distributed on 6 July 2019. J Lai **MOVED**; L Liddle **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

**Changes in GSA Council Membership****3. Changes in GSA Council Membership****i. Introduction of New GSA Council Members**

New GSA Council members introduced themselves: C Lambert (Psychology), J Allred (History & Classics), J Chow (Philosophy), I Abdelsalam (Internetworking), C Delyea (Medical Microbiology & Immunology), S Soni (Pediatrics), A Schenk (Kinesiology, Sport, & Recreation), M Jackson (Medicine), C Slevinsky (Drama), P Amusan (Psychiatry), O Ekambaram (Chemical & Materials Engineering), V Cheah (Occupational Therapy), S Jingade (Internetworking), and E Yip (Kinesiology, Sport, & Recreation).

**ii. Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members**

This was the last meeting for J Lai (Human Ecology), J Stevenson (Nursing), K Soliven (Internetworking), K Dhaliwal (Pediatrics), A Sheen (Earth & Atmospheric Sciences), W Rahman (Mechanical Engineering).

**GSA Council Member Announcements****4. GSA Council Member Announcements**

J Lai, Human Ecology Councillor, noted that the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) had developed a new Standard on Psychological Health and Safety for Post-Secondary Students (PSS Standard) and a draft was available to review and provide feedback on until 6 November 2019. You can see the instructions to review the draft [here](#).

F Elian, President, invited graduate students to the GSA Fall Social Event on 4 October 2019 from 4 PM to 6 PM in the Winspear Room at the University Club (previously known as the Faculty Club), noting there would be games, icebreakers, prizes, and refreshments.

A Omaña, Chemistry Councillor, noted that the Science Graduate Student Association Council was holding an event on 4 October at 7 PM at The Pint.

L Moore, Communication Science and Disorder Councillor, noted that the Organization of Alberta Students in Speech was hosting a conference titled "Communication Access: Building Bridges to Participation" on 28 September. More information can be found [here](#).

**Presentations****5. Free Expression Consultation**

Marc Waddingham (Vice-President External) presented the item and introduced the guest, Wendy Rodgers (Deputy Provost). W Rodgers encouraged members to submit comments to her, to M Waddingham, or via [free.expression@ualberta.ca](mailto:free.expression@ualberta.ca). She noted that the committee was starting consultation and was under a tight timeline imposed by the government. She added that the committee was operating under a set of principles that were listed on their [website](#). She highlighted the difference between Canadian and American legislation on free speech; in the United States, she noted it was a paramount freedom while in Canadian legislation there was a more balanced approach with relation to other rights protected by the Charter. She added that freedom of speech could not conflict with the right to human dignity, nor with the University's discrimination and harassment policy and safe working and learning environment policy.

GSA Council members posed a series of questions and comments including, but not limited to, how the University intended to support and protect marginalized communities (it was noted that these were particularly important communities to protect and the Advisory Group would strive to navigate the language of the policy in ways that reflect this importance, balancing the freedom of speech with the necessity of having a safe learning environment, and respect and dignity); what would happen if there was a group that could be labeled a hate group who wanted to organize an event on campus (W Rogers noted that the University also had a Space Management Policy which would be applicable in this situation and emphasized that, in Canada, freedom of expression was limited by a prohibition against hate speech); if there had been any incident where freedom of expression was previously obstructed on campus (she noted that there was, to her knowledge, only one incident where it was disputed whether freedom of speech had been obstructed by the University); how the University intended to reconcile the

Prepared by C Thomas, L Hareuther and M Toghrai for GSA Council 16 September 2019

language used by Alberta Advanced Education Minister Demetrios Nicolaides in his letter to Board of Governors Chair Michael Phair, stating that “debate or deliberation may not be suppressed because the ideas put forwards are thought by some, or even most, to be offensive, unwise, immoral, or wrong-headed” with University policies against discrimination (she noted that this was a point that had come up before and was part of why the University was not simply adopting the Chicago Principles on Free Speech: activities cannot interfere with the normal functioning of the University); how freedom of expression policies were an improvement on existing frameworks (it was noted that the University did not currently have an explicit policy on freedom of expression, but rather an assumption that it was an inherent element of how the University operated); how the policy would ensure that marginalized groups and individuals, including trans identities, were protected against discrimination (it was noted that it would be a balancing act but that the University also had a policy against harassment and discrimination and that this policy would still apply); whether this policy would allow certain groups to create unsafe spaces (groups would be asked to adhere to Space Management Policy); *and* whether the University would take an approach similar to that of the University of Calgary wherein, in instances where graphic images were shown as part of an event, groups were obliged to display a sign warning of graphic images (W Rodgers responded that the University of Calgary had taken a very specific approach and the University was not contemplating going that route and would be relying on its Space Management Policy).

GSA Council members also shared a series of comments, including that the University needed productive and civil discourse, that the primary concern with the display of graphic images was not that they are offensive, but that they created unsafe spaces for individuals who had suffered traumas, and that the University needed to create a framework that did not disadvantage individuals with limited social capital to stand against harassment, for example.

In closing, W Rodgers noted that there would be a number of townhalls in mid-October, in addition to the previously-mentioned methods of consultation.

#### 6. Career Centre Presentation

Chantal Labonté (Vice-President Student Services) presented the item and introduced the guests, Tyree McCrackin (Career Centre Career Advisor) and Andrea Spevak (Graduate Student Internship Advisor), noting that they had been invited to attend GSA Council to discuss career services for graduate students, and the Graduate Student Internship Program (GSIP).

T McCrackin thanked the GSA for its continued financial support of the Career Centre, and reported that a very large percentage of users were graduate students. He provided some statistics, including that they had two full-time staff members who were graduate students, they had seen a combined attendance of over 600 people at their events in the past year, and that the awareness of the Career Centre’s resources on campus was growing. He further reported that in January 2019, the Career Centre had launched the Accessibility Work Experience Program, which was funded by the Government of Canada’s Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities, that they were hosting a Career Days breakfast on 25 September for graduate students and postdocs, and that through the GSIP program, over 550 graduate students had received internships.

A Spevak provided more information about the GSIP, outlining that in 2015, the FGSR received a three-year grant from the provincial government to strengthen professional development opportunities for graduate students to develop transferrable skills to complement their academic experiences. She mentioned that employers found value in the GSIP through getting a connection to graduate students, and receiving administrative support. She noted that GSIP launched in 2016 with a goal of having 450 internships over the three-year funding period, and, following approval to use an additional year for the funding, they had over 550 U of A graduate students participate in GSIP within the four years of the program. She also noted that one quarter of participants were PhD students, and about half were international students, and that they had over 200 employers from over 170 distinct organizations. She emphasized that the funding for the program was ending March 2020, and that they were looking for ways to keep the program sustainable. It was noted that through the provincial government’s funding, the program currently provided wage subsidies for employers to hire graduate student interns, and that they were currently applying to different agencies for other sources of funding. She noted that there were employers participating in the program that didn’t rely on the wage subsidy, whereas other employers couldn’t even afford the wages at the subsidized rates, so they were looking at how to best serve these two types of employers. She reported that their aim was to continue posting flexible part-time and full-time internships as regular jobs, as well as increasing support for graduate students through one-on-one meetings, workshops, and resources for drafting cover letters and improving interview skills. A Spevak reported that they were currently collecting letters of support for the program from students, employers, or any other group that had benefitted from the GSIP, and requested that any statements of support could be sent to [gsip@ualberta.ca](mailto:gsip@ualberta.ca).

GSA Council members posed a series of questions and comments including, but not limited to, whether the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) had conversations with the government about having more funding for professional development opportunities, or if there were any plans in-house to continue the initiative (in response, A Spevak indicated that there had been several conversations about the funding for this program); whether there had been any discussion with the government about the potential impact that GSIP ending would have on the province, or the Albertan economy (in response, A Spevak encouraged

graduate students to have these conversations, given that their annual report expressed how successful the program had been for both employers and students); whether there were any sub-quotas for providing internship positions for each department (in response, A Spevak indicated that they worked to make sure there were a good variety of opportunities, and that the opportunities available in each department roughly matched the distribution of the actual population); given that the funding ended in March 2020, whether it would be a gradual process of letting graduate students go from their internship positions, or whether the opportunities would just end at this deadline (in response, A Spevak indicated they were slowing down on the number of internships they approved, in advance of March 2020, and if any internships were awarded in January, they would communicate with the graduate students hired for internships about the upcoming end to the funding); whether the FGSR had looked into being sponsored by alumni or other big companies to continue the GSIP (in response, A Spevak indicated FGSR had been working on this extensively); *and* where graduate students could access the annual reports on the GSIP (in response, A Spevak noted that the reports were located on the FGSR website, but if those interested could not find the reports, it was best to email [gsip@ualberta.ca](mailto:gsip@ualberta.ca) to request a copy).

#### **Action Items:**

##### **7. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Elections and Referenda**

Leigh Spanner (Chair, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee) presented the item.

**MOTION BEFORE 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.

L Spanner noted that it was standard practice for the GSA ERC to update GSA Bylaw and Policy following the GSA General Election; this year, these changes reflected changes in campaigning methods in the face of evolving technology. There were no questions.

**MOTION:** 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. S Mohammad **MOVED**; L Moore **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**. F Elian, D Ashley, M Waddingham, S Mohammad, and O Mohsen abstained.

##### **8. Changes to GSA Health and Dental Plan Coverage: Repatriation of Bodies**

F Elian (President) presented the item.

**MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL:** 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.

F Elian indicated that the proposed addition for coverage arose from an incident last spring which prompted a desire to provide additional support to the family's of graduate students who, unfortunately, passed away while at the U of A. He noted that, following a request from the GSA, Studentcare indicated this coverage could be added to the GSA Health and Dental Plan without any increase to the Plan fee. There were no questions.

**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. F Elian **MOVED**; D Ashley **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

##### **9. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on the GSA Health and Dental Plan**

F (President) presented the item.

**MOTION BEFORE 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.

F Elian outlined that the recommended changes were to add wording to GSA Bylaw and Policy to reflect current practice, given that GSA Council approved the GSA Health and Dental Plan fee and any modifications to coverage, and that the role of the GSA Board was to provide recommendations to GSA Council on the Plan. There were no questions.

**MOTION:** 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. F Elian **MOVED**; D Singh **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

#### 10. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on GSA Recognition Awards

F (President) presented the item.

**MOTION BEFORE 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.

F Elian outlined that, similar to the previous motion, the recommended changes were to place current practice into GSA Policy, such as the fact that adjudicator files were to remain confidential and that adjudication decisions were final. There were no questions.

**MOTION:** 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. M Waddingham **MOVED**; R Piazza **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

### Elections

#### 11. GSA Council Elections

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

Shannon Pyn (KSR)

Damandeep Singh (GSA Nominating Committee Member) presented the item.

**MOTION BEFORE 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.

D Singh noted that the GSA was informed by the Office of the Provost that a Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation Dean Selection Committee had been struck and that this committee was expected to begin its work in early October 2019. In accordance with University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online, or UAPPOL, the GSA contacted the Faculty and the KSR GSS to inform them that a graduate student representative would be needed. On September 12, 2019, the KSR GSS forwarded the name of its selected graduate student representative to GSA Council for ratification. He added that the representative, Shannon Pynn, had agreed that their bio and resume be circulated to GSA Council as submitted, and it could be found on page 11.1 of the meeting materials tonight.

**MOTION:** 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. J Lai **MOVED**; D Singh **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Nominees for GSA Deputy Speaker (1 vacancy):

Arshan Khan Khalafzai (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)

Devi Priyanka Maripuri (Medical Genetics)

D Singh presented the item and introduced the nominees. He reminded GSA Council members that the nominees would each 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. D Singh introduced the first nominee, who was given the opportunity to address GSA Council and answer questions from GSA Council members. D Singh then introduced the second nominee, who was given the opportunity to address GSA Council and answer questions from GSA Council members.

#### Standing Committees

- a. Nominees for GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC) (1 vacancy):  
Maggie Cascadden (Business PhD)  
Dhruvesh Patel (Agricultural, Food, and Nutritional Science)  
Vinay Patel (Agricultural, Food, and Nutritional Science)

Damandeep Singh (GSA Nominating Committee Member) presented the item. Not all nominees were present and, as such, none were invited to address GSA Council.

- b. Nominees for GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (2 vacancies):  
Ramin Fathian (Mechanical Engineering)

Damandeep Singh (GSA Nominating Committee Member) presented the item and asked the nominee to tell GSA Council why he would like to serve on GSA ERC.

- c. Nominees for GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) (2 vacancies):  
Wojciech Pietrasik (Biomedical Engineering)

Pranidhi Baddam (GSA Speaker) presented the item. The nominee was not present and, as such, did not address GSA Council.

#### Reports

##### **12. President**

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

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition F Elian highlighted that he had continued focusing on student supervisory relationships, which had been a priority for the GSA for the last decade and which had been raised at the July GSA Council meeting as a common problem for graduate students across departments. He noted that student-supervisory relationships would be a standing item on the agenda of a Board of Governors (BoG) standing committee. Additionally, he noted that he and D Ashley had met with the Dean of the FGSR to raise these concerns, had included student-supervisory relationships as one of the GSA's top priorities during a recent meeting with the University President (in addition to discussing the upcoming Michener Park closure, and minimum funding packages and stipend/tuition fees), and had also discussed this issue at-length during a recent meeting with the Provost to share graduate students' experiences. He further noted that the FGSR was in the process of developing their new strategic work plan, and that the new Dean of the FGSR would be invited to attend the October 2019 meeting of GSA Council, and he encouraged members to raise any concerns or questions.

F Elian reported that he had attended the recent City of Edmonton Executive Committee meeting to speak to the TEC Edmonton report, and would be meeting with the Chair of TEC Edmonton's Board of Directors to discuss how to involve graduate students in future discussions about TEC Edmonton. He also reported that to address the upcoming Michener Park closure in August 2020, the GSA would be working to strike a Michener Park Transition Advisory Committee to bring stakeholders (Michener Park Residence Association, the FGSR, Ancillary Services, University International, and the GSA) together to discuss and plan for the upcoming closure. He noted that he had also met with A Sharman, U of A Vice-President (Facilities & Operations) to discuss the potential for future projects for low income housing, and current conversations with the City about such projects.

F Elian reported that as of early August, there were four new public members on the BoG who had replaced two of the BoG members who had attended the July meeting of GSA Council. He also noted that he and M Waddingham attended the BoG retreat, where the MacKinnon Report was discussed in detail. Finally, he indicated that, in response to a question from a GSA Councillor, he had followed up with the Minister of Advanced Education on the current status of the provincial funding for the Queen Elizabeth II scholarships and the future of these scholarships, and it was confirmed that they had not been reduced or frozen, and that more information would be provided to post-secondary institutions by the end of September.

GSA Council members posed a number of questions, including but not limited to: the fact that F Elian had mentioned that he had discussed the importance of robust reporting and centralized reporting systems to address student-supervisory issues, that there was an interest in hearing more details about these conversations, and whether there was a specific committee or group of

individuals addressing this issue within the GSA (F Elian responded that oversight of student-supervisor relationships was currently under the Provost's Office, but that the GSA, the FGSR, the Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights (OSDHR), and the Dean of Students office also heard some of these issues and he added that the GSA was reaching out to these stakeholders to find out their statistics for the number of student-supervisory issues reported to them. He reported that each DEO was working to address this issue within their own portfolio, with C Labonté tackling it as an issue related to mental health and wellness, D Ashley dealing with it as the VP Academic, S Mohammad dealing with it from a safety perspective, and M Waddingham lobbying externally with government to have more clarification as to how bullying and harassment were defined in legislation); given the importance of the topic of student-supervisory relationships, whether the GSA could share the ideas that they were bringing forward to senior University administration and the BoG, and whether a committee could be established (F Elian responded that these problems were systemic and required a shift in culture at the University, and as a result it would take a long time to see change, and that he would continue to update GSA Council about conversations and progress related to this topic and he encouraged anyone with recommendations, suggestions, or awareness of effective policies and practices at other post-secondary institutions to share them with him); whether there was a cap on international tuition and whether there were any updates on proposed increases to tuition (F Elian responded that there was currently, legislatively, only a cap on domestic tuition and that the GSA would keep advocating against any potential increases to international tuition, and continue advocating that the University explore other sources of revenue, as it was anticipated that the government would decrease their funding to universities); whether F Elian could share in future any data related to student-supervisory complaints that were brought forward to the GSA (F Elian responded that he would take this into consideration); asked about the other recommendations in the MacKinnon report, such as inefficiency in spending, which would require a long-term University budget review (F Elian responded that he would be requesting that the University make their budget more transparent in meetings with the U of A Vice-President (Finance & Administration)); *and* whether the new BoG Chair had been invited to also attend GSA Council to answer questions, as the previous Chair had done in July (F Elian responded that the new BoG Chair had just started their term and was settling into the position, and was also dealing with acting as the Chair of the Presidential Selection Committee, and that they might be invited to attend a future meeting following the release of the provincial budget in October).

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

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted.

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

No written report at this time.

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

No written report at this time.

### **13. Vice-President Academic**

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

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition D Ashley expressed his thanks to the graduate student representatives on FGSR Council for their key role in the GSA's advocacy.

### **14. Vice-President External**

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

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition M Waddingham highlighted that the Michener Park Transition Advisory Committee was consolidating resources to benefit impacted residents and that the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) were onboarding their new Executive Director.

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

No written report at this time.

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

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted.

### **15. Vice-President Labour**

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

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition S Mohammad noted that he was continuing to work closely with the Joint Workplace Health and Safety Committee (JWHSC), and that the GSA would be hosting a number two townhalls for Academically-Employed Graduate Students in advance of a ratification vote for the proposed Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement.

**ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted.

**16. Vice-President Student Services**

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

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition C Labonté highlighted a current collaboration with M Waddingham to strengthen communications with departmental group executives, and noted that the current Studentcare agreement would expire in August 2020 and in response, the GSA had put out a request for proposals to student health insurance providers.

**17. Senator**

**i. Senator's Report**

No written report at this time.

**18. Speaker**

**i. Speaker's Report**

No written report at this time.

**19. Chief Returning Officer**

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

No written report at this time.

**20. GSA Nominating Committee**

**i. GSA Nominating Committee Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition D Singh emphasized that there were a number of vacancies for GSA Councillors on the GSA NoC, GSA GC, and GSA ERC, and encouraged GSA Councillors to consider submitting nominations.

**21. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee**

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

No written report at this time.

**22. GSA Management**

**i. Executive Director's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 13 September 2019. The report stood as submitted. In addition C Thomas reminded GSA Council members that the GSA was professionally managed and staffed and that a brief snapshot of the GSA staff could be found in her report.

**Question Period**

**23. Written Questions**

None.

**24. Oral Questions**

None.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 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 second reading of proposed changes to GSA Bylaw and first and only reading of proposed changes to GSA Policy. The first reading of proposed changes to GSA Bylaw was approved 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**

<b>Current Policy</b> ( <i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i> ) and <b>Proposed Changes</b> ( <i>additions underlined</i> )	<b>Rationale/Background</b>
<b>Section I: Elections</b>	<i>No change.</i>
<b>Purpose and Scope</b>	<i>No change.</i>
<b>Definitions</b>	<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 <del>an individual</del>; 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 <u>email</u> list where the membership is compiled by a third-party and/or communications are sent to <u>email list</u> 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>
<b>Other Specifically Related Sections of GSA Governing Documents</b>	<i>No change.</i>
<b>GSA Bylaw: Elections</b>	<i>No change.</i>
I.BYL.1-I.BYL.3.2 ...	<i>No change.</i>
<del>I.BYL.3.2.a Each position will be elected on a per ballot basis.</del>	<i>Moved to new Section I.BYL.4.2, below.</i>

<b>Current Policy</b> ( <i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i> ) and <b>Proposed Changes</b> ( <i>additions underlined</i> )	<b>Rationale/Background</b>
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>
<b>GSA Policy: Elections</b>	<i>No change.</i>
I.POL.7 I.POL.11.3 <u>I.POL.6</u> -I.POL.7.1 ...	<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> <del>before the close of nominations</del> . 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 <del>misinformation</del> , slander, <del>inappropriate</del> , 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 ( <del>deletions noted by a strikethrough</del> ) 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>
<del>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).</del>	<i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i>
<del>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.</del>	<i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i>
<del>I.POL.11.5.b The turnaround for approving campaign materials will be approximately one (1) working day.</del>	<i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i>
<del>I.POL.11.6 Candidates will only distribute campaign materials through email to their personal contacts. Candidates will not utilize moderated mailing lists.</del>	<i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i>
<del>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.</del>	<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 Candidates will not use the University or GSA logos on any physical or electronic campaign materials.	<i>See above rationale.</i>
I.POL.10.10.d.ii The CRO is not responsible for reviewing the editorial content of campaign materials (eg, grammar, punctuation).	<i>See above rationale.</i>
I.POL.10.10.d.iii 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>
I.POL.10.10.e The turnaround for approving campaign materials will be approximately one (1) working day.	<i>See above rationale.</i>
<del>I.POL.11.8</del> <u>I.POL.11.11</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.11.9</del> Candidates will only use SUBprint to print campaign materials.	<i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, above.</i>
<del>I.POL.11.10</del> 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>
<del>I.POL.11.11</del> <u>I.POL.11.12</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.11.12</del> 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>
<del>I.POL.11.13</del> <del>I.POL.11.13.b</del> <u>I.POL.10.13-I.POL.10.13.b</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>

Current Policy ( <i>deletions noted by a strikethrough</i> ) and Proposed Changes ( <i>additions underlined</i> )	Rationale/Background
<del>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.</del>	<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>
<del>I.POL.11.13.d</del> <u>I.POL.10.13.c</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.10.11.14</del> <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 <del>GSA Bylaw or Policy on elections</del> to the CRO, in accordance with the procedure outlined below.	<i>Editorial, to parallel other sections.</i>
<del>I.POL.12</del> <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>
<del>I.POL.12.1</del> <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 <u>informal resolution</u> . 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>
<del>I.POL.12.2</del> <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.	
<del>I.POL.12.3</del> <del>I.POL.12.3.a</del> <u>I.POL.11.2</u> - <del>I.POL.11.2</del> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.3.a</del> <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>
<del>I.POL.12.3.b</del> <u>I.POL.11.2.b</u> To be considered by the CRO, <del>in consultation with the GSA ERC,</del> a complaint must include the following:	<i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended I.POL.11.7.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.3.b.i</del> <del>I.POL.12.3.c</del> <u>I.POL.11.2.b.i</u> - <del>I.POL.11.2.c</del> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.3.d</del> <u>I.POL.11.2.d</u> The CRO, <del>in consultation with the GSA ERC,</del> can dismiss a complaint if it is unfounded, frivolous, or vexatious.	<i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended I.POL.11.7.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.3.e</del> <del>I.POL.12.5.d.i</del> <u>I.POL.11.2.e</u> - <del>I.POL.11.4.a</del> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.5.b</del> <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> <del>consult with the GSA ERC</del> regarding extensions.	<i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended I.POL.11.7.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.5.c</del> <del>I.POL.12.5.d.i</del> <u>I.POL.11.4.c</u> - <del>I.POL.11.4.d.i</del> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.5.d.ii</del> <u>I.POL.11.4.d.ii</u> A list of parties to the complaint (unless anonymity was granted, see Section <del>I.POL.12.3.e</del> <u>I.POL.11.2.e</u> , above),	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.12.5.d.iii</del> <del>I.POL.12.7.a</del> <u>I.POL.11.4.d.iii</u> - <del>I.POL.11.6.a</del> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>

Current Policy ( <del>deletions noted by a strikethrough</del> ) and Proposed Changes ( <i>additions underlined</i> )	Rationale/Background
<del>I.POL.12.8</del> <u>I.POL.11.7</u> Throughout this process, the CRO will consult, <del>where reasonable,</del> with the DRO, available member(s) of the GSA ERC, and the <u>ED Executive Director</u> (or delegate), <del>concerning deadlines and other related matters.</del>	<i>Renumbering and editorial.</i>
<del>I.POL.13</del> <del>I.POL.14</del> <u>I.POL.12-I.POL.13</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.14.1</del> <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>
<del>I.POL.14</del> <del>I.POL.16.2</del> <u>I.POL.13.2-I.POL.15.2</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.16.3</del> <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, <del>prior to 1 December (or the next working day)</del> 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>
<del>I.POL.17</del> <del>I.POL.19.1.d</del> <u>I.POL.16-I.POL.17</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>I.POL.18.1</del> <u>I.POL.17.1</u> Notwithstanding, Section <del>I.POL.17.1</del> <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 <del>Volunteer</del> 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
<p>referendum, or they have run in the <u>most recent</u> <del>previous</del> GSA General Election and/or by-election or served as a Campaign Representative <del>or volunteer</del> in the <u>last most recent</u> referendum. <del>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.</del> 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><del>I.POL.18.2</del> <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> <del>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</del> they will resign from the GSA ERC.</p>	<p><i>Renumbering and editorial to parallel recommended changes above.</i></p>
<p><del>I.POL.19</del> <del>I.POL.19.1.d</del> <del>I.POL.18</del> <del>I.POL.18.1.d</del> ...</p>	<p><i>Renumbering.</i></p>
<p><del>I.POL.19.1.e</del> <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> <del>I.POL.12</del> <u>I.POL.11</u> and Section J: Referenda, GSA Bylaw, Referenda, Section <del>J.POL.13</del> <u>J.POL.12</u>.</p>	<p><i>Renumbering and editorial to parallel recommended changes above.</i></p>
<p><del>I.POL.19.2</del> <del>I.POL.19.6</del> <u>I.POL.18.2</u> <del>I.POL.18.6</del> ...</p>	<p><i>Renumbering.</i></p>
<p><del>I.POL.19.7</del> <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, <del>to ensure an Acting or Interim CRO and/or DRO is appointed</del>" (Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Nominating Committee, Section <del>E.POL.7.5</del> <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
<b>Section J: Referenda</b>	<i>No change.</i>
<b>Purpose and Scope</b>	<i>No change.</i>
<b>Definitions</b>	<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
"Working Day" ...	<i>No change.</i>
<b>Other Specifically Related Sections of GSA Governing Documents</b>	<i>No change.</i>
<b>GSA Bylaw: Referenda</b>	<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 <del>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.</del>	<i>Moved to Section J.POL.11 on campaigning, below.</i>
<b>GSA Policy: Referenda</b>	<i>No change.</i>
J.POL.7 <del>J.POL.12.1</del> <u>J.POL.6-J.POL.11.1</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
J.POL.12.2 <del>J.POL.11.2</del> <u>No form of campaigning (verbal, electronic, and visual) will contain <del>misinformation, slander, inappropriate, discriminatory content, or ad hominem</del> attacks of individuals</u>	<i>Renumbering and recommended removal as unenforceable.</i>
J.POL.12.3 <del>J.POL.11.3</del> ...	<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
<p><del>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).</del></p>	<p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p>
<p><del>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.</del></p>	<p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p>
<p><del>J.POL.12.4.b The turnaround for approving campaign materials will be approximately one (1) working day.</del></p>	<p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p>
<p><del>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.</del></p>	<p><i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i></p>
<p><del>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.</del></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
<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.11.5a.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
<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>
<del>J.POL.12.7</del> <u>J.POL.11.6</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.12.8</del> Campaign Representatives will only use SUBprint to print campaign materials.	<i>Moved to new section on dissemination and approval of campaign materials, below.</i>
<del>J.POL.12.9</del> 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>
<del>J.POL.12.10</del> <del>J.POL.12.12.b</del> <u>J.POL.11.7</u> - <u>J.POL.11.8.b</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.12.12.c</del> 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
	<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>
<del>J.POL.12.12.d</del> <u>11.13.c</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.12.13</del> <del>J.POL.11.14</del> Campaign Representatives are encouraged to ask the CRO before acting if they have any questions about <del>particular</del> <u>GSA Bylaw or Policy on referenda</u> (including questions related to the development of campaign materials and the planning of campaign events), <u>of interpretations issued by the CRO, or other applicable policies or laws</u> , and to report any <u>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>
<del>J.POL.13</del> <del>J.POL.12</del> <u>Chief Returning Officer's Decision on Penalties, Remedial Action, and Referrals Alleged Breaches and Complaints</u>	<i>Editorial and to parallel recommended changes to section on elections.</i>
<u>J.POL.12.1 Alleged Breaches</u>	<i>Editorial, introduction of headers to break up the section.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.1</del> <del>J.POL.12.1.a</del> 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>J.POL.12.1.b</u> When the CRO believes they have discerned a breach of <u>GSA Bylaw and Policy on referenda</u> , of an interpretation issued by the CRO, or of other <u>applicable policies or laws</u> , they will work to resolve the alleged breach through <u>informal resolution</u> . If the CRO is unable to resolve the alleged breach through <u>informal resolution</u> , or deems <u>informal resolution to be inappropriate</u> , then they will follow the process outlined in <u>Section J.POL.12.4 to Section 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>
<del>J.POL.13.2</del> <del>J.POL.12.1.c</del> 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 ( <del>deletions noted by a strikethrough</del> ) and Proposed Changes ( <i>additions underlined</i> )	Rationale/Background
reported to the CRO as soon as possible by filing a complaint.	
<del>J.POL.13.3</del> <u>J.POL.12.2</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.3.a</del> <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>
<del>J.POL.13.3.b</del> <u>J.POL.12.2.b</u> To be considered by the CRO, <del>in consultation with the GSA ERC,</del> a complaint must include the following:	<i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended J.POL.12.7.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.3.b.i</del> <del>J.POL.13.3.d</del> <u>J.POL.12.2.b.i</u> - <u>J.POL.12.2.d</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.12.3.3</del> <u>J.POL.12.2.e</u> The CRO, <del>in consultation with the GSA ERC,</del> can dismiss a complaint if it is unfounded, frivolous, or vexatious.	<i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended J.POL.12.7.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.3.e</del> <del>J.POL.13.5.a</del> <u>J.POL.12.2.f</u> - <u>J.POL.12.4.a</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.5.b</del> <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> <del>consult with the GSA ERC</del> regarding extensions.	<i>Renumbering and editorial, covered below in recommended J.POL.12.7.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.5.c</del> <del>J.POL.13.5.d.i</del> <u>J.POL.12.4.c</u> - <u>J.POL.12.4.d.i</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.5.d.ii</del> <u>J.POL.12.4.d.ii</u> A list of parties to the complaint (unless anonymity was granted, see Section <del>I.POL.12.3.e</del> <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
<del>J.POL.13.5.d.iii</del> <del>J.POL.13.7.a</del> <u>J.POL.12.4.d.iii</u> - <u>J.POL.12.6.a</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.13.8</del> <u>J.POL.12.7</u> Throughout this process, the CRO will consult, <del>where reasonable,</del> with the DRO, available member(s) of the GSA ERC, and the <del>ED Executive Director (or delegate),</del> <u>concerning deadlines and other related matters.</u>	<i>Renumbering and editorial.</i>
<del>J.POL.14</del> <del>J.POL.15</del> <u>J.POL.13</u> - <u>J.POL.14</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<del>J.POL.15.1</del> <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>
<del>J.POL.15.2</del> <del>J.POL.16.1</del> <u>J.POL.14.2</u> - <u>J.POL.15.1</u> ...	<i>Renumbering.</i>
<b><u>GSA Policy: GSA Officer Portfolios</u></b>	
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 <del>complaints regarding</del> <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: <del>I.POL.12</del> <u>I.POL.11</u> and Section J: Referenda, GSA Bylaw, Referenda, Section <del>J.POL.13</del> <u>J.POL.12.</u></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 <del>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</del> 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
<p><del>endorse</del> any candidate whatsoever” in an election (Section I: Elections, GSA <del>Bylaw</del> Policy, Elections, Section I.<del>BYL.5.4</del> <u>I.POL.10.9</u>) and “not campaign for <del>or endorse</del> any ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ campaign whatsoever” in a referendum (Section J: Referenda, GSA <del>Bylaw</del> Policy, Referenda, Section J.<del>BYL.6.1</del> <u>J.POL.11.2</u>).</p>	
<p><u>D.POL.10.3.c</u> 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.</p>	<p><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></p>
<p><del>D.POL.10.3.c</del> <u>D.POL.10.3.d</u>-D.POL.12.3.a ...</p>	<p><i>Renumbering.</i></p>
<p>D.POL.12.3.b The Speaker and Deputy Speaker will <u>remain neutral and</u> not campaign for <del>or endorse</del> any candidate <del>or team</del> whatsoever in a GSA General Election or by-election (see Section I: Elections, GSA <del>Bylaw</del> Policy, Elections, Section I.<del>BYL.5.4</del> <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).</p>	<p><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></p>
<p><b>CHANGES TO OTHER SECTIONS OF GSA BYLAW AND POLICY TO ALIGN WITH THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES ABOVE</b></p>	
<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>	



The 2019-2020 team of GSA Directly-Elected Officers (DEOs) developed their Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) from May – June 2019 and presented the finalized Plan to GSA Council in July 2019. The complete SWP is available on the [GSA website](#).

Below is the first update concerning the DEOs' progress in pursuing the goals outlined in the 2019-2020 SWP. Updates will also be provided to GSA Council in January and April. Key projects are as follows:

### Improving Student-Supervisor Relationships

- President, Fahed Elian, invited members of the Board of Governors (BoG) to attend the July 2019 meeting of GSA Council and the need to improve student-supervisor relationships was a consistent theme during the conversation;
- Following this, F Elian has continued meeting with members of the BoG to further discuss this matter. As a result, student-supervisory relationships will be a standing item on the agenda for the Board Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee (BLRSEC), and the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) will be attending the upcoming BLRSEC meeting in November to further discuss this issue;
- The GSA's current statistics for concerns brought forward by graduate students related to student-supervisor issues (five brought forward since June 2019) were reported to the BoG during their October 2019 meeting and the GSA will run a survey to collect additional anecdotal information directly from graduate students;
- Continued conversations with the University President, Provost, and FGSR Dean about concrete ways to improve these relationships are also underway. Specific points that have been raised include: the fact that there is currently a lack of training for professors related to their supervisory roles, there is a reputational risk for the University related to the persistence of poor supervisory relationships, and that, while the GSA has consistently brought forward these issues to the University and senior administration has commissioned extensive reports on the subject, there has been little done to-date to address the recommendations put forward in these reports;
- The GSA's current key recommendations include that the supervisors should complete mandatory training before gaining the privilege of supervising, and that the University should create a mechanism by which this privilege can be suspended or revoked if there are issues with supervision;
- Given that there is a new Chair and several new members on the Board of Governors, F Elian will continue to build relationships with new members and make sure this issue stays at the forefront during this transition; *and*
- D Ashley developed a presentation on the topic of improving the quality of graduate student supervision, which will be presented at the November Canadian Association for Graduate Studies Conference.

### Michener Park Closure

- F Elian and the Vice-President External, Marc Waddingham, have been working with members of the Michener Park Residence Association to learn about the supports that would benefit residents during the process of moving out of Michener Park;
- They have worked to establish a working/advisory group to bring together key stakeholders to continue conversations and establish partnerships to best support residents during the Michener Park closure next summer; *and*
- They started advocacy conversations with the City of Edmonton and Edmonton Student Alliance on the topic of low-income housing options for students. F Elian will also be meeting with Edmonton City Councillor Michael Walters and the U of A Vice-President (Facilities & Operations) to further explore low-income housing options for graduate students.

### Tuition and Funding

- Building on efforts in 2017 and 2018 to advocate for the establishment of minimum funding packages, F Elian is continuing conversations with the new Dean of FGSR about the PhD minimum funding package proposal that the FGSR developed last year, and which was discussed in various University committees in 2018-2019, to determine next steps;



- F Elian worked to find out, from the Minister of Advanced Education D Nicolaides, about the previous delays with provincial scholarships for graduate students, specifically the Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) Scholarship. The Minister confirmed that the funding would not be frozen or decreased, and the FGSR has now received this promised graduate scholarship funding. The GSA thanks the FGSR for its work to minimize the impacts of the delay by creating the University of Alberta Graduate Fellowship funding program to mitigate the delays in provincial funding.
- In May, as a result of Bill 19, the University of Alberta developed a new tuition model for incoming international students to make tuition costs more stable and predictable and, through F Elian and GSA Vice-President Dylan Ashley's advocacy work, the University extended the tuition guarantee for new PhD students starting their programs in fall 2020 to a six-year guarantee, and a four-year guarantee for new thesis-based Masters students starting their programs in fall 2020; *and*
- The University is still waiting for budget announcements from the provincial government, and once this information is known, the GSA will actively participate in conversations about tuition rates for current graduate students for fall 2020, and will continue to update its members on these conversations. Likewise, the GSA will closely monitor any potential issues related to the disbursement of provincial scholarship funding (such as that associated with the QEII's) and liaise with the government as necessary.

### Labour and Collective Agreement

- Vice-President Labour Shanawaz Mohammad sent out two updates over the summer and several updates in the fall to those who held an academic employment under the Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement during the Spring/Summer and Fall terms (respectively), met with the GSA Labour Relations Committee in August, provided Labour 101 sessions in two departments upon request, and hosted two labour town halls meetings at the end of September to discuss the current collective bargaining process;
- He continued advocating for individual graduate students regarding interpretation of and compliance with the Collective Agreement. In addition to responding to approximately 10 email conversations with graduate students per week, since the beginning of his term he has met with approximately 7-8 graduate students per month to assist with more complex issues; *and*
- He attended the Coalition of Graduate Employee Unions (CGEU) Summit in August to learn more about work done by other unions representing graduate students.

### Other Key Projects Since July

- F Elian has been working to develop relationships with City of Edmonton officials to discuss topics such as TEC Edmonton, eligibility for low-income housing for graduate students, mental health supports, and the development of Smart Fare for the Edmonton Transit System. In addition to planning to meet with Edmonton City Councillor Michael Walters, he has continued to meet with S Robertson, Senior External Relations Advisor with the City of Edmonton, and recently met with the Chair of the TEC Edmonton Board of Directors.
- M Waddingham and F Elian have had several meetings over the summer with the Minister of Advanced Education to discuss improving provincial express entry for international graduate students, professional development funding, the importance of QEII scholarships, mental health funding for institutions, and the creation of a Student Advisory Council.
- D Ashley has continued conversations about whether there are any mechanisms the University could implement to allow international students to participate in full-time off-campus internships, and about creating better predictability in course workloads.
- Vice-President Student Services Chantal Labonté developed an engagement strategy for graduate student groups and hosted a successful workshop in August to understand the needs and goals of graduate student groups,



brainstorm solutions to ongoing challenges, and strengthen relationships.

- M Waddingham has started work on an engagement plan to connect individually with GSA Councillors with the aim of improving communications and connections between GSA Council, GSA Councillors, and their constituents.
- The GSA sponsored and attended a new U of A Senate event, "Show and Tell: A Student Research Celebration," which provided networking opportunities and gave graduate students experience in the public dissemination of research.
- C Labonté continues to participate in conversations related to supporting students who parent on campus, and the Office of the Dean of Students will be working on creating a policy over the next year to clarify supports for students who parent.
- As the contract with the GSA's current Health and Dental Plan is expiring at the end of August 2020, C Labonté and F Elian have sent out a Request for Proposals to known providers of students' health and dental plans, with a submission deadline set for the end of October. Once proposals are received, they will interview selected companies prior to the GSA Board selecting a broker and service provider, and GSA Council will be updated throughout the process.
- At the September meeting of GSA Council, addition of coverage for the repatriation of bodies under the GSA Health and Dental Plan was approved. This new coverage will be in effect retroactively as of 1 September 2019, without any increases to the Plan fee for graduate students for 2019-2020.
- F Elian met with the new Vice-Provost (Indigenous Programming and Research), Dr Glanfield, to discuss previous conversations with the Indigenous Graduate Students' Association (IGSA) regarding the implementation of a SAGE (Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement) pod at the U of A. He will also continue conversations with the incoming President of the IGSA, who was elected in September 2019, about topics such as a previous request to advocate for the provision of space on campus for the IGSA.
- F Elian has been working alongside the GSA office team to develop a series of marketing videos to help graduate students learn about the services and benefits the GSA provides to its members.
- In the past few months, D Ashley has met with a number of graduate students encountering difficulties related to academic structures/processes.
- Though the compositions of the Board of Governors standing committees were modified prior to the start of the 2019-2020 term to no longer allow delegates, F Elian advocated that the Vice-President External be allowed to remain as the President's delegate on the Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee until the end of the current DEOs' terms (30 April 2019).
- F Elian, along with the GSA office team, developed evaluations for the President and Vice-Presidents to help ensure accountability and transparency. These evaluations were circulated to all graduate student members of the GSA Board to complete in late October.



# The Graduate Students' Association Board Strategic Work Plan 2019-2020

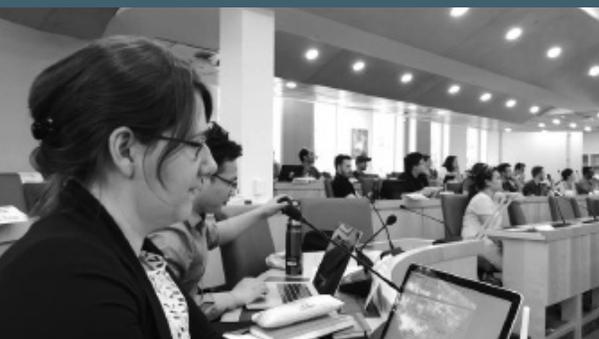
# Connect Support Advocate



## Our Vision and Mission

To advocate for all graduate students to the University of Alberta and the Alberta Government in pursuit of a safe, supportive, respectful, accessible, and inclusive community that fosters the multi-faceted roles played by graduate students.

*The GSA respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.*



### What is a Graduate Student?

A graduate student is a junior colleague who contributes to their field of study in pursuit of an advanced degree through collaborative work with the professoriate in research, teaching, and the development of University learning environments. These contributions may be accomplished through: extensive coursework and the development of capstone projects, theses, or dissertations (in pursuit of which graduate students are charged tuition and fees); academic employment (for which graduate students are paid); the co-creation and writing of scholarly work; contributing to the securing of academic funding; and participation in the community via presentations, conferences, and community engagement. This multi-faceted role takes place in an environment of mutual respect and fairness aimed at developing skills and knowledge for future careers, and is one that merits appropriate remuneration for labour in service of the enhancement of the institution.

### What is the GSA Board's Strategic Work Plan?

The GSA Board's Strategic Work Plan is the document that steers and prioritizes the work and initiatives of the GSA. The GSA sees this as a living document, shifting directions as needed as the provincial, federal, and University landscapes change. It is developed annually with reference to the Strategic Work Plans of previous GSA Boards, and provides a planning document for this and future years.



Graduate students elect GSA leaders each February. Here are the 2019-2020 GSA Directly-Elected Officers (from left to right): Vice-President Academic, Dylan Ashley; Vice-President Student Services, Chantal Labonté; President, Fahed Elian; Vice-President External, Marc Waddingham; and Vice-President Labour, Shanawaz Mohammad.

## The Graduate Students' Association

The GSA, as established by the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, represents graduate students at the University of Alberta, and provides a wealth of services to its members that enrich the graduate student experience. As a separate corporation, it is both *a part* of the University of Alberta and *apart* from the institution. The GSA Board believes that a healthy organization is nurtured through effective relationships with all stakeholders. To sustain the organization's long-term health and excellent reputation, the GSA fosters a culture of respect and professionalism among staff and graduate student leaders, engages in regular review of governance processes, is committed to transparency and accountability, and ensures an annual transition process that facilitates the on-going education of elected graduate student leaders.



# Connect

*The GSA provides a wealth of benefits and services to its members that both enrich the graduate student experience and forge connections between graduate students.*

The GSA will:

- Continue to foster a culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion among its members
- Provide guidance to graduate students and aid them in navigating University processes and structures, while advocating for greater transparency around expectations and outcomes for graduate students
- Maintain engagement in discussions about space on campus

The GSA will create opportunities for graduate student awareness of and engagement with the GSA by:

- Ensuring the GSA remains responsive, effective, and efficient by regularly reviewing services and seeking feedback from members
- Evaluating communication methods to broaden engagement with our members
- Offering orientation and information sessions on key issues
- Offering engagement and recognition events
- Connecting with and supporting departmental graduate student groups and networks

## Did you know?

The GSA has:

- graduate student lounges at Triffo Hall
- rooms available for booking
- several fun events per year
- two large orientations specific to graduate students (we also participate in 45-50 departmental orientations annually)
- a weekly newsletter, website, and social media profiles that highlight events and ways to get involved

The GSA will develop collaborative and positive relationships with:

- The Government of Alberta, including the Minister of Advanced Education, and the City of Edmonton
- Members of senior University administration (such as the President, the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), the Dean of Students, the Chair of the Board of Governors, and the Chancellor)
- Other campus stakeholder associations (such as the Students' Union, the Association of Academic Staff: University of Alberta, the Postdoctoral Fellows' Association, and the Non-Academic Staff Association)



# Support

*All graduate students are entitled to a safe and respectful study and work environment characterized by positive supervisory relationships and free from harassment, discrimination, and bullying.*

*In its role as a union, the GSA champions, advances, and protects the rights of its members as workers.*

The GSA will:

- ◆ Work collaboratively with senior University administration and the Government of Alberta on the implementation of Bill 19 and a predictable tuition model tied to the Alberta Consumer Price Index (CPI), as well as a consultative model concerning fee increases
- ◆ Actively review and participate in campus wide health and wellness (including mental wellness) initiatives
- ◆ Work to optimize the experience of its members during any academic employment appointment and to ensure the rights of graduate student workers are protected
- ◆ Continue work to ensure campus-wide compliance with the provisions of the Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement and also advocate more broadly for campus-wide supportive learning and work environments based on respectful and professional relationships
- ◆ Continue to provide financial supports to graduate students through the Graduate Student Support Fund
- ◆ Continue to support workshops and services that assist graduate students with their academic progress

## Did you know?

The GSA offers:

- ◆ GSA Emergency Bursaries
- ◆ GSA Child Care Grants
- ◆ GSA Academic Travel Grants
- ◆ GSA Graduate Student Group Grants
- ◆ GSA Recognition Awards
- ◆ GSA Health and Dental Plan
- ◆ Graduate Student Assistance Program
- ◆ Collective Agreement Advice

The GSA will:

- ◆ Support and collaborate with partners and stakeholders with respect to the establishment of a variety of high-quality professional development and internship opportunities in recognition of the diverse future career paths ahead of graduate students
- ◆ Support the services offered by the Campus Food Bank
- ◆ Push for the ongoing review and improvement of safety and security on campus
- ◆ Support initiatives and programs aimed at environmental stewardship and sustainability



# Advocate

*A lack of stable funding and unpredictable increases in educational and other costs can cause significant strain on graduate students' health and wellness and can inhibit academic progress.*

*The GSA believes that graduate students should be provided with professional development opportunities that are essential for future career success.*

The GSA will:

- ◆ Work with campus partners to advocate for, develop, and implement a Charter of Student Rights
- ◆ Collaborate with and advocate to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and senior University administrators to make quality graduate student supervision an institutional priority (including creating appropriate supervisory training opportunities, an accountability structure for supervisory evaluation, and establishing a means of safe disclosure and reporting of concerning supervisory behaviour)
- ◆ Continue its advocacy work with the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Office of the Provost on the implementation of guaranteed minimum funding packages for PhD students
- ◆ Advocate for increased financial supports for all graduate students, including merit based and non-merit based financial support (as well as greater accessibility to these supports) and the Graduate Student Support Fund
- ◆ Campaign for new initiatives and programs (and support existing ones) that specifically support Indigenous graduate students

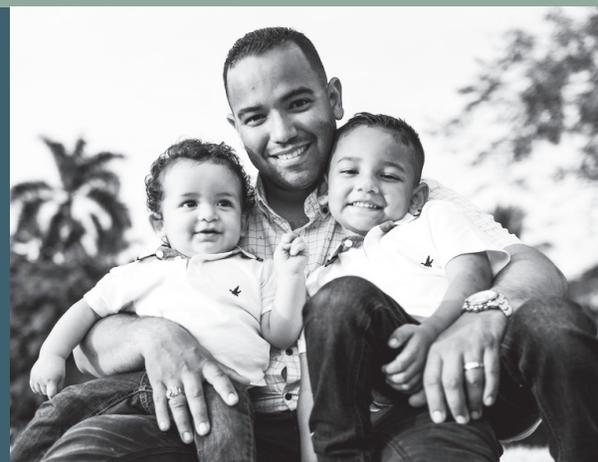
## Did you know?

The GSA:

- ◆ meets regularly with the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Dean of Students
- ◆ is a member of the provincial advocacy group the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council
- ◆ has seats on the Board of Governors, the General Faculties Council, and their sub-committees
- ◆ works individually with students to help them

The GSA will:

- ◆ Advocate for sustainable, cost-effective, and well-maintained housing for graduate students, and support and assist graduate students living in residences
- ◆ Campaign for enhanced supports and community building opportunities for graduate students who parent, and their families
- ◆ Advocate for new initiatives and programs (and support existing ones) that specifically support international graduate students.
- ◆ Encourage the development and implementation of initiatives to prevent homelessness
- ◆ Advocate for high-quality graduate-level programs and courses and opportunities to provide graduate students with international research and study opportunities



# Events:

GSA Fall Orientation_____	Late August
GSA Fall Event_____	Early October
GSA Winter Orientation_____	Early January
GSA Winter Event_____	Mid February
GSA General Election_____	Late February
GSA Volunteer Appreciation_____	Early March
GSA Awards Night_____	Late March
GSA Coffee Breaks_____	One Friday Monthly



Come visit us at  
 The Graduate Students' Association  
 1-49 Triffo Hall  
 University of Alberta  
 T6G 2E1



780-492-2175  
 gsa.frontdesk@ualberta.ca  
 www.ualberta.ca/graduate-students-association

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)  
**GSA APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS BOARD (GSA ACB) (ONE (1) POSITION FOR A GSA MEMBER):  
 THREE (3) NOMINEES**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA member was circulated on two (2) instances through the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 22 October 2019. Three (3) nominations were received. One nominee was then interviewed by GSA NoC Chair Radim Barta and GSA NoC member Wojciech Pietrasik and the other nominees were interviewed by R Barta, all whom have been trained in procedural fairness by the GSA and have a record of demonstrating impartiality through their work on the GSA NoC. GSA Executive Director Courtney Thomas, Assistant Director Lisa Hareuther, or Associate Director Julie Tanguay were also present for the interviews. During the interviews, the nominees were asked a series of questions aimed at assessing their awareness of the basic tenets of procedural fairness and their ability to adjudicate potential cases in accord with those tenets (note as well that all individuals elected to the GSA ACB receive training in procedural fairness).

**There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 28 October 2019 GSA Council meeting.**

*If you and your alternate are unable to attend the 28 October 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](mailto:gsa.nomcomm@ualberta.ca)) BEFORE 3:00 PM on Monday 28 October 2019 in order to cast your vote in advance of the GSA Council meeting.*

**GSA ACB Election by GSA Council: GSA Nominating Committee Procedures**

**Nominees for this position are listed in alphabetical order by last name and will be presented in reverse alphabetical order on the ballot.**

- 1. Atm Abir (Civil and Environmental Engineering)**
- 2. Arshad K. Khalafzai (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)**
- 3. Alexandra Ouellette Zuk (Neuroscience)**

**The Ballot**

- There will be one ballot with candidates listed in reverse alphabetical order.
- For each candidate, there will be a “yes” box and a “no” box.

**Voting**

- The voter ticks one box per candidate, or abstains by not voting for a particular candidate (both boxes are left empty).

**Counting**

- If a candidate has more “no” votes than “yes” votes, the candidate is eliminated.
- If after the elimination round, there are **fewer candidate(s) or an equal number of candidates as there are positions**, the candidate(s) with at least one “yes” vote is/are successful.
- If after the elimination round, there are **more candidates than positions**, the candidates with the highest number of “yes” votes, equivalent to the number of positions, are the successful candidates.
- If, after the elimination round, there is a **tie for last place** in the number of “yes” votes, the candidate with the fewest number of “no” votes is successful. If the tied vote has the same number of both “yes” and “no” votes, the Speaker will draw one (1) name from a hat.

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

**Jurisdiction:**

Section H: Performance, Conduct, Responsibilities, and Attendance, and the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, Section H.POL.7.1.a and H.POL.7.1.b

*“Eight (8) GSA members elected by GSA Council as voting members [and] four (4) Departmental Councillors (including the Indigenous Graduate Students’ Association (IGSA) Councillor), alternates, or recent former Departmental Councillors, elected by GSA Council as voting members.”*

Section H: Performance, Conduct, Responsibilities, and Attendance, and the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Appeals and Complaints Board, Section H.POL.9.4

*“The GSA NoC will interview all nominees to the GSA ACB and forward selected nominees to GSA Council.”*

**The names and biographies received for the three (3) nominees are BELOW on pages 10.1 - 11.5. The biographies and brief resumes are presented as received (ie not edited).**

**Nominations for GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB)**  
**(1 Vacancy for GSA Members)**  
**Three Nominees**

**1. Atm Abir**

<b>Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)</b>	ITEUA
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**Statement of Interest**

I was part of the disciplinary student committee of my previous institution therefore i have experience working in such working environment.I was always honest and unbiased to all decisions no matter i am related to the person who is found guilty.

**Bio**

I am from Bangladesh and moved to Edmonton for my higher studies.i have completed my Bachelors of Civil and Environmental engineering and now pursuing my masters here at the University of Alberta.I worked previously in the student disciplinary committee of my previous institution .I am the member of ITEUA student chapter of University of Alebrta and also working part time as a student assistant in the university of Alberta Libararies

**Summary Resume**

I am currently doing masters of Transportation Engineering in the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at University of Alberta.I was part of the ethichs club in my bachelors institute.I also worked as executive member in the club. My moral and ethics will help me to work in this position with full honesty and conviction

## 2. Arshad K. Khalafzai

<b>Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)</b>	None
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### Statement of Interest

During my college education, 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.

I have served several committess including Extended Health Benefit Committee, Professional Development Fund Committee, Resarch Gramts Fund Committee, Hardship Fund Committee, Appeal and Review Committee, etc.

### Bio

I am a 50 years old mature, well-experienced individual in the fields of socioeconomic development, human development, climate change and disaster risk reduction, sustainable development. I am a Ph.D. scholar, a social scientist, and believe in family values and respect laws, customs and traditions, and ethical values of all societies and cultures. I strongly believe in equality, multiculturalism, 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

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:

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. Alexandra Ouellette Zuk

<b>Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)</b>	None
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#### Statement of Interest

I believe the experiences I have amassed by working and volunteering with people from such diverse backgrounds, cultures and walks of life will allow me to be a valuable contributor to the GSA Complaints and Appeals Board. I think a large strength of mine is my ability to listen without imparting judgement and making people feel comfortable having conversations about sensitive topics with me, and I believe becoming a member of this committee will give me the best opportunity to utilize those skills. As the committee does not currently have representation from the Neuroscience and Mental Health Institute, I would also be able to further the current diversity of the Board. Overall, I think participating in this committee will allow me to contribute positively to my academic community, something that is very important to me.

#### Bio

With my mother being a professor of Social Work at the University of Calgary, and both parents having volunteered for Victim's Services throughout my life, I grew up in a family where social justice and ethics were common topics of conversation at the dinner table. This not only led me to pursue an education in neuroscience, which I believed would allow me the greatest opportunity to aid disadvantaged populations in the future, but also led me to spend a summer working as a front-line worker at Rotary House, an emergency shelter in Grande Prairie. The pursuit of understanding in these topics also led me to volunteer as a mental health aid in Sri Lanka and, more recently, as a tutor for children with disabilities in Vietnam. It is important to me that I continue to be involved in conversations surrounding social justice, ethics, and, more broadly, simple care for our fellow community members, local or otherwise.

#### Summary Resume

Having completed a BSc. in Neuroscience here at the University of Alberta, I am now beginning my first year as a Master's student in the same program. Working in Dr. Chapman's lab (ACELabs), my current project involves the development of an app-based objective assessor of subjective preference (using rapid reach movements) for a company based out of the UK. I also previously worked in Dr. Chapman's lab as both a research assistant (summer of 2018 and 2019) and as an undergraduate honours thesis student (2017/2018). Summer positions held between school years also included work as Front Line Worker at Rotary House in Grande Prairie (2017) and multiple waitressing positions (Moxie's, 2016; Brown's Socialhouse, 2018/2019). I am currently a mentor

with Fit4You here at the UofA, and have volunteered previously as a Literacy Tutor with PALS Edmonton, as a Volunteer Activities Coordinator at Rotary House, as a Mental Health Aid with PMGY Sri Lanka, and a Childcare Aid with PMGY Vietnam. I have also held a position as a Health and Safety Committee member for Brown's Socialhouse Tamarack. My schedule, however, is currently very flexible, allowing me to commit fully to a role as a committee member.

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)  
**GSA AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE (GSA ASC) (TWO (2) POSITIONS FOR GSA MEMBERS):  
 ONE (1) NOMINEE**

Information regarding the two (2) vacancies for GSA members was advertised in the GSA newsletter of 10 October and 18 October with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. One (1) nomination was received.

The GSA ASC is “responsible for selecting the recipients of the GSA Council approved GSA Recognition Awards” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Awards Selection Committee, Section O.POL.5.1).

**There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 28 October 2019 GSA Council meeting.**

*If you and your alternate are unable to attend the Monday 28 October 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](mailto:gsa.nomcomm@ualberta.ca)) BEFORE 3:00 PM on Monday 28 October 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. Arshad K. Khalafzai (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)**

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

**Jurisdiction:**

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section O: GSA Recognition Awards, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Awards Selection Committee, Section O.POL.3.3

*“A minimum of eight (8) and up to twelve (12) GSA members elected by GSA Council as voting members. The GSA ASC Chair, in consultation with the GSA ASC Vice-Chair and the Chair of the GSA Nominating Committee, can decide to increase the number of GSA members on the GSA ASC.”*

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

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

**The name and biography received for the one (1) nominee is BELOW on pages 11.7 – 11.8. The biography and resume is presented as received (ie not edited).**

**Nominations for GSA Awards Selection Committee (GSA ASC)**  
**(2 Vacancies for GSA Members)**  
**One Nominee**

**1. Arshad K. Khalafzai**

<b>Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)</b>	None
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**Statement of Interest**

During my college education, 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.

I have served several committess including Extended Health Benefit Committee, Professional Development Fund Committee, Resarch Gramts Fund Committee, Hardship Fund Committee, Appeal and Review Committee, etc.

**Bio**

I am a 50 years old mature, well-experienced individual in the fields of socioeconomic development, human development, climate change and disaster risk reduction, sustainable development. I am a Ph.D. scholar, a social scientist, and believe in family values and respect laws, customs and traditions, and ethical values of all societies and cultures. I strongly believe in equality, multiculturalism, 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**

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:**

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).

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE (GSA NoC)  
**GSA BOARD (GSAB) (ONE (1) POSITION FOR A GSA COUNCILLOR):**  
**ONE (1) NOMINEE**

Information regarding the one (1) vacancy for a GSA Councillor was advertised to GSA Council on 10 October and 18 October with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. One (1) nomination was received.

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

**There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 28 October 2019 GSA Council meeting.**

*If you and your alternate are unable to attend the Monday 28 October 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](mailto:gsa.nomcomm@ualberta.ca)) BEFORE 3:00 PM on Monday 28 October 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. Shahed Taghian Dehaghani (Mechanical Engineering)**

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

**Jurisdiction:**

Section F: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Board, Section F.POL.3.1.e  
*“Three (3) Councillors elected by GSA Council as non-voting members.”*

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, Nominating, Section E.POL.3.1.a  
*“The GSA NoC provides GSA Council with the names of nominees to fill vacancies on GSA Standing Committees, ad hoc committees, and subcommittees, unless otherwise noted. All vacancies will be advertised at least twice in advance of the nomination deadline noted in the advertisement.”*

**The name and biography received for the one (1) nominee is BELOW on page 10.10 - 10.11. The biography and resume is presented as received (ie not edited).**

**Nominations for GSA Board (GSAB)**  
**(1 Vacancy for GSA Councillors)**  
**One Nominee**

**1. Shahed Taghian Dehaghani**

<b>Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)</b>	GFC, GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee
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**Statement of Interest**

Serving on the General Faculties Council and one of its standing committees was a truly valuable experience for me. Through this experience, I was acquainted with the structure of the university governance and gained precious insight about leadership and effective communication. Moreover, I have been recently elected to serve as VP External for the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Students' Association (MEGSA), which makes me a GSA Councillor eligible to serve on the GSA Board. Owing to the industrial nature of my MSc thesis, I have gained valuable experience in collaborating with partners and sponsors from industry. During my first year as a PhD student at the University of Alberta, I have been able to guide and help other students in our research group in research-related areas. Collaborating with professors and students from the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Concordia University has helped me create synergistic integration through teamwork.

**Bio**

I was born in Isfahan, Iran in 1988. After finishing high school, I decided to pursue my education in Mechanical Engineering. After getting my BSc degree from Isfahan University of Technology in 2011, I participated in Nationwide University Entrance Exam for Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering and was admitted to the University of Isfahan. In 2017, I was admitted to the PhD program in mechanical engineering here at the University of Alberta. Persian is my native language. I am fluent in English and have a fair knowledge of Arabic. Aside from my academic background, I have good acquaintance with Persian classic literature.

**Summary Resume**

I am a first-year PhD student at the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Alberta. I work under the supervision of Prof. Andre McDonald from University of Alberta and Prof. Ali Dolatabadi from Concordia University. My area of research mainly involves development and improvement of functional resistive heating coatings to serve as de-icing elements for wind turbine blades and aircraft wings. One of the most important achievements that I have gained by working in our laboratory is learning how to be really punctual, vigilant, and responsible. Besides, I have gained a

number of quite valuable technical skills and hands-on experiences. With regards to volunteer work, I recently participated in the Open House event and presented our laboratory to a number of young enthusiastic individuals.

**GSA President  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Fahed Elian  
Date: 25 October 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.

My team and I continued implementing the 2019-2020 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP) priorities. Please note that updates concerning the DEOs' progress in pursuing the goals outlined in the 2019-2020 SWP are also attached in the meeting materials. Updates will also be provided to GSA Council in January and April.

In the following report, I will share with you highlights of my advocacy work from this past month.

**Student-Supervisor Relationships**

- Working alongside the GSA office, we developed a student-supervisor relationship survey that can be found [here](#). Please take some time to fill it out and please encourage your graduate student colleagues to fill it out too. Please note that your personal information will stay confidential.
- I had a meeting with Dr. Brooke Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) and we continued the discussion on student-supervisor relationships. In particular, we discussed a supervisor-student guidelines form for thesis-based programs and progress report form that FGSR is developing. These forms are still in their early stages and they will be thoroughly discussed with stakeholders. Additionally, Dr. Milne is attending 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.
- I presented the GSA Board SWP at the Board Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee (BLRSEC). At this meeting, we also discussed student-supervisor relationships, the Michener Park closure, minimum funding packages, and tuition fees. At the next BLRSEC meeting on 28 November 2019, student-supervisor relationships will be a main discussion item. Dr. Milne, and Dr. Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) will also attend this meeting and to participate in the discussion. I will also present the GSA student-supervisor relationship survey data at this meeting.
- Dylan and I met with Dr. Victoria Ruetalo, FGSR Associate Dean and discussed how to ensure a more rewarding student-supervisor experience at the University of Alberta.
- Finally, I met with Dr. Kevin Kane, president of the Association of Academic Staff of University of Alberta (AASUA). Dr. Kane shared few strategies that could be implemented to promote excellent graduate student supervision. We also discussed a new training on student-supervisor relationship for Department Chairs and Deans through [Gold College](#). This latter suggestion will further be discussed with Dr. Dew.
- As Dylan mentioned in his report, we will be attending the upcoming Canadian Association for Graduate Studies Conference in November, with the support of the FGSR. We will also be delivering a presentation on the topic of student-supervisor relationships.

**City of Edmonton**

- I met with Wayne Karpoff, TEC Edmonton's Board of Directors Chair and Bobbi Elliott, Chief Operating Officer TEC Edmonton, to discuss how we can involve graduate students in future planning and consultation related to TEC Edmonton. We concluded that graduate students could contribute to TEC Edmonton's consultation, marketing, opportunities, and entrepreneurial efforts.

- TEC Edmonton is partially funded by the University of Alberta and falls under the portfolio of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation). Therefore I met with Dr. Mattias Ruth, Vice-President (Research and Innovation), to discuss next steps on this initiative. Moving forward, I will be attending meetings with B Elliott and Dr. Deborah James, Associate Vice-President (Research and Innovation) who leads TEC Edmonton's initiatives on campus.
- I had my second meeting this last month with Sandra Robertson, City of Edmonton Senior External Relations Advisor. We continued the conversation on low-income housing, as well as municipal mental health resources for graduate students some of which can be found [here](#).
- I am looking forward for my meeting next week with Andrew Knack, Edmonton City Councillor, where we will discuss further how to involve the GSA in municipal projects, proposals, and improvements.

#### **Michener Park**

- As Marc mentioned in his report, the Michener Park Advisory Committee was struck, and he will be providing updates on Michener Park residents' transition at every council meeting.
- Marc and I met with Chancellor Stollery to explore how could non-profit organizations in Edmonton support Michener Park residents prior, during, and after Michener Park closure.

#### **Update on Provincial Scholarship**

- As you are aware, there were delays with provincial scholarships for graduate students, particularly with the Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship. It was communicated to me that the Ministry of Advanced Education expects to finalize processes and funding agreements with post-secondary institutions by the end of September. Indeed, FGSR has received the funding letter from to government at the end of September and funding is now available for graduate students. FGSR is in the process of updating the system to match the new mandate of these scholarships and more details are to follow in the next couple months.

#### **Indigenous Graduate Students**

- I met with the new Vice-Provost Indigenous Programming and Research, Dr. Florence Glanfield, to discuss previous conversations with the Indigenous Graduate Students' Association (IGSA) regarding the implementation of a Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE) pod at the U of A.
- I discussed with Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), the importance of providing IGSA a space on campus to support their advocacy work. A Sharman promised to explore options on campus then meet with the IGSA President and I to discuss this further.
- I also met with members of the IGSA Executive team, including IGSA President Teddy Carter, to discuss previous request to advocate for a space on campus and the SAGE program implementation.

#### **Provincial Budget Update**

- On 24 October 2019, the provincial government budget was announced. Following this announcement, U of A President Dr. David Turpin wrote a letter in [The Quad](#) noting: "the following preliminary details regarding the university's budget: There will be a \$44M (6.9%) cut to the U of A's Campus Alberta grant in this 2019-20 fiscal year. Our Infrastructure Maintenance Program (IMP) funding, which was \$35M last year, has been reduced to zero on a one-time basis this year."
- I participated in a conference call with the Minister of Advanced Education, Demetrios Nicolaides following the provincial budget announcement in which he indicated that the cap on tuition fees for domestic students was increased from the Consumer Price Index to 7% for the next three years. Moreover, student loans will increase by 1% plus prime. He also noted that mental health funding was continued and that scholarship funding was not significantly impacted.

#### **University of Alberta International**

- I met with Nora Lambrecht, International Student Specialist, to explore how can University of Alberta International (UAI) be strengthened. We also discussed how to strengthen the GSA's relationship with UAI

and how to increase communication between the two organizations. We identified services that benefit international graduate students, such as UAI Emergency Bursary and Work/Study Permits Advisory workshops. I communicated that the GSA could support students who came to UAI for student-supervisor relationships and/or collective agreement related concerns or questions. International students are more likely to reach out to UAI regarding any concerns they might have. To ensure that graduate students receive help on these issues from the GSA in a timely fashion, I gave N Lambrecht some of Shanawaz's business cards. I also gave her some of Chantal's business cards if international graduate students have any questions about the services the GSA provides them. Finally, I asked N Lambrecht to encourage international graduate students to reach out to the GSA with any concerns they might have; the GSA wants to help and is here to support our members.

#### **Research Transition Facility Break-Ins**

- In the last few months, the Research Transition Facility (RTF) building had a number of break-ins and belongings were stolen. Graduate students who work in that building have communicated several concerns regarding the lack of security and safety in that building to the GSA. The President of the Biomedical Engineering Graduate Students' Association and I worked closely to address these concerns. We attended a meeting with James Allan, Associate Vice-President Operations, and Finances and Philip Stack, Associate Vice-President Risk Management Services, and demanded immediate actions to address these concerns. The RTF building will go through key lock replacement for all access doors, and portable cameras will be installed to assess the safety of the building.
- I also brought up this issue during my meetings with A Sharman. I also attended a meeting with University of Alberta Protective Services to discuss this issue further.

#### **Show and Tell: A Celebration of Student Research**

- The GSA Board approved financial support for a new Senate event: "Show and Tell: A Student Research Celebration," which took place on 18 September. This event, which focused on both undergraduate and graduate students' research, encouraged discussion across disciplines, provided networking opportunities, and gave participants experience in communicating their research to the public.

#### **Social Events**

- I had the pleasure to represent the GSA at several social events such as the Alumni Awards, the Alumni Weekend Cap 'n' Gown Ceremony, the Celebrate: Teaching, Learning, and Research event, and the Killam Luncheon. I had so much pride seeing our members getting recognized for their amazing research and leadership work at these events. For all graduate student awardees, congratulations and keep up the great work.
- Alongside the Vice-Presidents, I was also pleased to attend the GSA Fall Social Event and GSA Coffee Break. We had the chance to meet and mingle graduate students from different departments, faculties, and background.
- On that note, I would like to thank Kate Chisholm, Chair of Board of Governors, Doug Weir, Executive Director, University of Alberta International Student Programs Services, and FGSR Associate Deans Dr. Janice Causgrove Dunn and Dr. Tracy Raivio.

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 16 September 2019 and 28 October 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

17 September	Advisory Search Committee for the President
18 September	GSA Departmental Orientation: Earth and Atmospheric Science
18 September	Show and Tell: A Celebration of Student Research
19 September	Meeting with a Graduate Student
19 September	Alumni Awards
20 September	GSA Departmental Orientation: Oncology
20 September	Alumni Weekend Cap 'n' Gown Ceremony
20 September	Meeting with F Glanfield, Vice-Provost (Indigenous Programming and Research)
20 September	Community Engagement Consultation
23 September	General Faculties Council (GFC) New Members Orientation
23 September	General Faculties Council (GFC)
23 September	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Governance Committee
24 September	Board Finance and Property Committee (BFPC)
25 September	Board Governance Committee (BGC)
25 September	General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
25 September	Dinner with D Stollery, U of A Chancellor
26 September	Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students
27 September	Meeting with W Patterson, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Human Resources)
27 September	Board Learning, Research and Student Experience Committee (BLRSEC)
30 September	Advisory Search Committee for the President
30 September	Meeting with D Stollery, Chancellor
30 September	Meeting with S Robertson, City of Edmonton Senior External Relations Advisor
1 October	Advisory Search Committee for the President
1 October	Meeting with K Kane, Association of Academic Staff of University of Alberta (AASUA) President, R Martignago Mariath, Post Doctoral Fellows Association (PDFA) President, and E Johannson, Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA) President
2 October	Meeting with Studentcare
2 October	Meeting with A Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
3 October	Meeting with International Student Services (ISS)
3 October	Celebrate: Teaching, Learning, Research
4 October	GSA Fall Social Event
7 October	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
7 October	GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC)
7 October	Meeting with International Student Services (ISS)
7 October	PAW Strategic Operating Committee (PAWSOC) Meeting
8 October	Meeting with G Kulczycki, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
8 October	Governors Emeritus Members Luncheon
8 October	Meeting re TEC Edmonton
9 October	Finance and Administration Portfolio Retreat
16 October	Killam Luncheon
16 October	Meeting re Research Transition Facility Building Security
17 October	Presidential Search Committee Conflict of Interest Workshop
17 October	Board of Governors (BoG) Dinner

18 October	Board of Governors (BoG)
18 October	Board of Governors (BoG) Luncheon with the Students' Union (SU) and GSA
18 October	Meeting with K Chisholm, Board of Governors (BoG) Chair
18 October	Meeting with Indigenous Graduate Students' Association (IGSA)
22 October	Meeting with V Ruetalo, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Associate Dean
23 October	Joint Student/University Oversight Committee on Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIFs)
23 October	Meeting with K Kane, Association of Academic Staff of University of Alberta (AASUA)
23 October	General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
23 October	GSA Early Call for Talent and Training Dinner
24 October	Alberta Government Budget Conference Call
25 October	GSA Coffee Break
28 October	Meeting with D Turpin, President
28 October	Meeting with A Knack, Edmonton City Councillor

**GSA Board  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Courtney Thomas, Executive Director; and Julie Tanguay, Associate Director  
Date: 25 October 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 21 (Executive Director's Report to GSA Council) on pages 21.5 – 21.9.

**18 September 2019 GSA Board Meeting:**

Main Agenda Items:

Chancellor's Search Committee Consultation; Actual Expenses for Attendance at the Coalition of Graduate Employee Unions, 15-18 August 2019, in Toronto, ON; Business Travel Expenses; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

**MOTION:** The GSA Board is asked to **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the attached summary of actual expenses incurred through attendance at the Coalition of Graduate Employee Unions, 15-18 August 2019, in Toronto, ON. FE **MOVED**. MW Seconded. **CARRIED**.

**25 September 2019 GSA Board Meeting:**

Main Agenda Items:

Recommended Changes to GSA Board Policy on GSA Recognition Awards; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

That the GSA Board **APPROVE** the recommended changes to GSA Board Policy, Section 2: Nomination and Adjudication Processes as noted in the attached "track changes" document, effective immediately. CL **MOVED**. MW Seconded. **CARRIED**.

**2 October 2019 GSA Board Meeting: Cancelled**

**9 October 2019 GSA Board Meeting:**

Main Agenda Items:

Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Strategic Priorities; GSA Board Strategic Work Plan: Update to GSA Council; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements: None at this time.

**16 October 2019 GSA Board Meeting:**

Main Agenda Items:

Board of Governor's Luncheon, and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

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

Members discussed the **Meeting with S Dew**.

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

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

Members discussed the **Alberta Post Secondary Education Meeting**.

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

**23 October 2019 GSA Board Meeting:**

Main Agenda Items:

Recommended Changes to GSA Policy, Section K: Budget Principles and Procedures, and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

**MOTION:** That the GSA Board **RECOMMEND TO GSA COUNCIL**, having also been unanimously recommended by the GSA Budget and Finance Committee, the recommended changes to GSA Policy, Section K: Budget Principles and Procedures, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council. FE **MOVED**. MW Seconded. **CARRIED**.

**GSA Budget and Finance Committee  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Fahed Elian  
Date: 25 October 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

On 7 October, the GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC) met to review the GSA's most recent quarterly investment statement, and members of our ATB investment management team were on hand to answer questions; our investments are performing well.

The next GSA BFC meeting will be held on 30 October to review the draft Fall Term Budget and Expenditure Report, which will then be presented to GSA Council at its November meeting.

I am happy to answer any questions.

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

**GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC)  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Fahed Elian  
Date: 25 October 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

The GSA GC reviewed and approved a recommended editorial change to GSA Bylaw and Policy, via email, on 26 September 2019. As per the GSA GC's terms of reference, the GSA GC can "make any editorial changes (such as factual inaccuracies and other editorial issues) to the GSA governing documents as deemed necessary by the GSA GC" (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section F: GSA Standing Committees, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, Section F.POL.4.2.b).

This editorial change was made to Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Nominating Committee, Section E.POL.5.1. The committee membership was previously outlined as a total of five (5) members, including at least two (2) voting members of GSA Council, and three (3) additional members. The section was changed to reflect that in situations where there are more than two (2) voting members of GSA Council, the composition allows for "up to three" additional GSA members, to accurately reflect the flexibility of this committee's composition.

Sincerely,

Fahed Elian, President and Chair of the GSA GC

**GSA Vice-President Academic  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Dylan Ashley  
Date: 25 October 2019

Hi Fellow Grad Students,

A lot has happened in the past month while 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:

- I attended the State of the University Address. The University's messaging is that they are heading towards tough financial times and one way they plan to mitigate this is by increasing the student to faculty ratio. I also asked what kind of growth rate in student population we could expect, and their response was that it was a hard to predict as the faster they wanted to grow their student population, the less cuts they could make now. They added that the fewer the cuts they make now, the more they would need to increase tuition to cover budget shortfalls.
- I spoke to International Student Services (ISS) to better understand study permit regulations. I would highly advise any international graduate students planning on doing an internship or taking a break to meet with an advisor from ISS to ensure that they understand the regulations around their student permit well as there is incorrect information circulating on campus.
- I have met with several graduate students having academic issues and I've been working with them to bring their concerns to the relevant parties. The specific details of those should remain confidential but I'd encourage anyone with any academic issues to reach out to me directly.
- I have worked to prepare a presentation for the upcoming Canadian Association of Graduate Studies conference on the effects of student-supervisor relationships on mental health. I am excited to be attending that conference as your advocate in early November.
- At the request of the GSA President, I've been serving on the Selection Advisory Committee for the Vice-Provost and University Registrar. While the details of those meetings are confidential, the work of that committee is progressing smoothly.
- Finally, I was able to participate and make a lot of noise in the Green and Gold Parade. I highly recommend anyone with free time when next September rolls around to take part in this parade. It's an engaging experience.

As always if you have any questions or concerns feel free to email me at [gsa.vpacademic@ualberta.ca](mailto:gsa.vpacademic@ualberta.ca).

Sincerely,  
Dylan Ashley, GSA VP Academic

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 16 September 2019 and 28 October 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

17 September	Meeting with J Agarwal, Students' Union (SU) VP Academic
17 September	Public Speaking Session with W Doughty
18 September	East Asian Studies Consultation Session
18 September	Show and Tell: A Celebration of Student Research
19 September	GSA General Faculties Council (GFC) Caucus
20 September	Community Engagement Consultation
23 September	General Faculties Council (GFC) New Members Orientation
23 September	General Faculties Council (GFC)
24 September	Meeting with T Raivio, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Associate Dean
25 September	Dinner with D Stollery, U of A Chancellor
26 September	GSA Departmental Orientation: Medicine
26 September	Council on Student Affairs (COSA)
27 September	University Research Policy Committee (URPC)
27 September	GSA Coffee Break
1 October	State of the University Address
2 October	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Policy Review Committee (FGSR PRC)
3 October	Meeting with R Barta, Graduate Student Delegate
4 October	Selection Advisory Committee for the Vice-Provost and University Registrar
4 October	GSA Fall Social Event
7 October	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
7 October	General Faculties Council Executive Committee (GFC EXEC)
7 October	Meeting with International Student Services (ISS)
16 October	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council
17 October	Phone Meeting in Preparation for Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) Conference
17 October	GSA General Faculties Council (GFC) Caucus
18 October	Board of Governors (BoG) Luncheon with the Students' Union (SU) and GSA
21 October	General Faculties Council (GFC)
22 October	Provost's Digital Learning Committee (PDLC)
22 October	Meeting with V Ruetalo, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Associate Dean
23 October	Joint Student/University Oversight Committee on Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIFs)
23 October	General Faculties Council Nominating Committee (GFC NC)
23 October	GSA Early Call for Talent and Training Dinner
24 October	General Faculties Council Student Conduct Policy Committee (GFC SCPS)
24 October	Signature Areas Development Panel
25 October	Meeting with K Peters, Portfolio Initiatives Manager Provost and Vice President (Academic) Office
25 October	University Research Policy Committee (URPC)
25 October	GSA Coffee Break
28 October	Selection Advisory Committee for the Vice-Provost and University Registrar Interviews

**GSA Vice-President External  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Marc Waddingham  
Date: 25 October 2019

Greetings to my fellow GSA Council members,

Let's jump right into the updates, beginning with my opportunity to attend the Alberta Advantage Immigration Strategy Engagement Session on behalf of ab-GPAC earlier this month. The Ministry of Labour and Immigration, headed by Minister Jason Copping, is hosting consultations across the province as they begin work to update the Alberta Immigration Nomination Program (AINP). The AINP includes the provincial nomination streams that international students may apply for on their path to permanent residency (PR), including specific programs for those on Post-Graduate Work Permits (PGWPs). The most relevant proposal for current students offered at the consultation was the "International Student Entrepreneur Program," whereby international graduates who are looking to start a business in Alberta can apply for points towards their federal PR application. We had discussion regarding the feasibility of this initiative, comparable programs in other jurisdictions, and the educational initiative required to empower students to begin taking first steps towards launching a start-up company. I stressed to the staffers, and later the Minister himself, that, while this program may serve to incentivize some entrepreneurial activity in the province, it is not likely to retain a significant proportion of those valuable persons educated in Albertan institutions. Instead, I suggested that some regulations around the current AINP be loosened, and that Alberta look to adopt programs dedicated to international students who earn graduate degrees in Canada. We are planning to follow-up with the Ministry of Labour and Immigration as the process develops and work continues on the subject.

In related news, I am finishing up a short proposal for an immigration nomination program in Alberta, mainly focusing on the dedicated versions of such programs for graduate students, examples of which are in practice in other Canadian provinces including Ontario and British Columbia. The onus for this work initially came from the Minister of Advanced Education, who expressed interest in a new "internationalization initiative" for the post-secondary education sector of this province. This is serendipitous given aforementioned affairs in other Ministries, and we hope we can have a voice in the development of these projects. As I know many of you are international students yourselves and have colleagues from abroad, I would appreciate any input you have on the Canadian immigration process and how it might be made more streamlined for the highly qualified personnel who graduate from our universities.

As announced last meeting, the Michener Park Transition Advisory Committee has had its inaugural meeting scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup>, whereby the mandate and terms of reference will be established and other introductory procedures completed. I am very exciting to be co-chairing this initiative with Katie Allen from Residence Services, and will keep you updated as the work continues.

My last update is from the Free Expression Advisory Group, which concluded its public consultation phase with an open workshop and scenario exercise. We are now moving into the official writing and approval stage of the new Freedom of Expression document, which will take into consideration the tremendous amount of thoughtful feedback provided throughout the semester, and will be submitted to the Ministry of Advanced Education next month following approval via governance process. I am still keen on any further insights that may have arisen since Deputy Provost Wendy Rodgers joined us in council to receive your feedback, so keep me posted.

Cheers,  
Marc Waddingham, GSA VP External

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 16 September 2019 and 28 October 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

17 September	Student Homelessness Support Working Group
17 September	Meeting with N van Kuppeveld, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director
18 September	Meeting with a Graduate Student
18 September	Free Expression Advisory Group
18 September	Show and Tell: A Celebration of Student Research
19 September	Institutional Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Scoping Group
19 September	Alumni Awards
20 September	Meeting with N van Kuppeveld, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Director
23 September	Freedom of Expression Workshop Planning
23 September	Brand Platform Advisory Committee
24 September	Meeting re Michener Park Transition Advisory Committee (MPTAC)
25 September	Meeting re Michener Park Transition
25 September	Dinner with D Stollery, U of A Chancellor
26 September	Alumni Council Professional Development Grant Applications Review
26 September	Meeting with K Huising, Associate Vice-President, Ancillary Services
26 September	Residence Advisory Committee (RAC)
26 September	Careers Committee Meeting
27 September	Alberta Post-Secondary Education Associations
27 September	GSA Coffee Break
30 September	Meeting with D Stollery, U of A Chancellor
2 October	United Way Committee Meeting
2 October	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Board Meeting
4 October	GSA Fall Social Event
7 October	Alberta Advantage Immigration Strategy Engagement Session
8 October	Freedom of Expression Workshop
8 October	Joint Residence Oversight Committee (JROC)
16 October	Meeting re Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Communication Agenda
17 October	Alberta Post-Secondary Education Associations
17 October	Residence Advisory Committee (RAC)
18 October	Board of Governors (BoG) Luncheon with the Students' Union (SU) and GSA
18 October	Meeting with K Chisholm, Board of Governors (BoG) Chair
21 October	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Public Relations Working Group
21 October	Public Interest Alberta (PIA) Post-Secondary Education Task Force
23 October	GSA Early Call for Talent and Training Dinner
24 October	Community Engagement Advisory Committee
25 October	Free Expression Policy Advisory Committee

**GSA Vice-President Labour  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Shanawaz Mohammad  
Date: 25 October 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope everyone is doing well. I would like to summarize what I have been up to in the last month:

**Collective Agreement and Future Negotiations:**

I would like to thank all the academically-employed graduate students who voted in the Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement (CA) ratification vote. As noted during the town halls, we will be planning further Labour 101 sessions following the ratification of the proposed CA by the University Board of Governors. Additionally, in advance of starting collective bargaining for the CA taking effect in September 2020, we will host town halls to hear from academically-employed graduate students on their priorities.

**Harassment and Duty to Accommodate Policy Side-by-Side Review**

I attended a meeting with the Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights and the Dean of Students to ensure University's compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act by reviewing University's policies and procedures on harassment and duty to accommodate.

**Meeting with A Leitch, Environmental Resource Management Programs Director**

I have met with A Leitch, Environmental Resource Management Programs Director to discuss the communication strategies on safety and security for the graduate students and also discuss new strategies to assist graduate students who are working late at night.

As always, I kindly request that all GSA Councillors ensure 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](mailto:gsa.vplabour@ualberta.ca).

Best Regards,  
Shanawaz Mohammad, GSA VP Labour

## 14.1

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 16 September 2019 and 28 October 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.*

17 September	Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Communications Committee
17 September	Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Committee
18 September	Meeting with a Graduate Student
18 September	Show and Tell: A Celebration of Student Research
23 September	GSA Labour Town Hall
23 September	Meeting with a Graduate Student
23 September	Harassment and Duty to Accommodate Policy Side-by-Side Review
24 September	Meeting with L Rosinski, Association of Academic Staff of University of Alberta (AASUA) Labour Relations Director
24 September	GSA Labour Town Hall
25 September	Dinner with D Stollery, U of A Chancellor
26 September	Meeting with A Costopoulos, Dean of Students
27 September	GSA Coffee Break
30 September	Meeting with a Graduate Student
1 October	GSA Labour 101 for Renewable Resources
1 October	Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS)
2 October	Roundtable Luncheon with Indian High Commissioner to Canada
3 October	Meeting with a Graduate Student
4 October	Meeting with a Graduate Student
4 October	Meeting with a Graduate Student
4 October	GSA Fall Social Event
7 October	GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC)
18 October	Board of Governors (BoG) Luncheon with the Students' Union (SU) and GSA
22 October	Meeting with A Leitch, Environmental Resource Management Programs Director
23 October	GSA Early Call for Talent and Training Dinner
25 October	GSA Coffee Break

**GSA Vice-President Student Services  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Chantal Labonté  
Date: 25 October 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

Now that we are well into the fall semester, the work on projects lead by the Dean of Students office has resumed. I have been able to be involved with both the Suicide Prevention Steering Committee and various working groups associated with it, as well as the Students Who Parent project and its associated working groups. The Dean of Students put out a call for student involvement earlier this month and I am pleased to see several graduate students stepping forward to participate in this important work. If you are interested in contributing to the working groups for these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out to me and I will direct you to the proper contact. I am pleased to provide you with highlight 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.

**GSA Health and Dental Plan**

Fahed and I, along with the GSA office staff, met with Studentcare in order to be introduced to their new Edmonton-based staff member, Robyn Paches, and to discuss opportunities to reach out to graduate students and inform members of their plans and benefits. Robyn is eager to provide outreach to departmental graduate student groups. If your department or graduate student groups would like to host an event where the presence of a Studentcare representative may be valuable, please do not hesitate to reach out to me and I can connect you with Robyn. Additionally and as I reported last month, the GSA has circulated a Request for Proposal process for the administrator of the GSA Health and Dental Plan, as our contract with Studentcare is expiring at the end of August 2020. The deadline to receive proposal was today. Next, we will move to reviewing these proposals and interviewing the selected companies. The GSA Board will then select the administrator of the GSA Health and Dental Plan by December. Further information on how the selection process went will be outlined in my December report to GSA Council.

**Mental Health**

As I shared during last month's report, the Mental Health Commission of Canada has developed Post-Secondary Standards (PSS) on Mental Health. The PSS serves to provide academic institutions with guidelines to promote and support students' psychological health and wellbeing. The Mental Health Commission of Canada has just released a draft of the PSS. I would like to encourage you all once again to read the draft PSS and provide your feedback. You may do this through their [website](#) by following the instructions listed. I will also be hosting a town hall on Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM to gather greater insight and feedback to convey to the Mental Health Commission of Canada. I invite you to attend and to encourage your peers and colleagues to participate. You may also share your input directly with me, in person or via email, and I can pass it along to the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

**Suicide Prevention**

I had the pleasure of attending the Canadian Association on Suicide Prevention Conference held in Edmonton alongside associate deans and social workers from the Dean of Students Office. The theme of the conference was Reconciliation, and, although not focused only on suicide prevention within a post-secondary context, I am confident that the resulting learning and conversations will inform the GSA's advocacy and work alongside the Dean of Students Office in implementing the University of Alberta's suicide prevention framework.

**Students who Parent**

The Dean of Students has identified three areas of priorities for their work on the Students who Parent project for the upcoming year. These areas of priority are reviewing and developing student who parent policies, developing online resources for students who parent, and assessing the accessibility of parent friendly spaces on campus (i.e., chest-feeding spaces, change tables on campus). I am looking forward to contributing to this work, along with

graduate students who have step forward to contribute to the work. As part of this work, I attended a networking event on the topic, which provided many insights into how the University can do better to support our students who parent.

### **e-Scooters on Campus**

Following the City of Edmonton's licensing of two e-scooter companies over the summer months, the University of Alberta formed a working group to discuss the use of e-scooters by the University community on campus. The University is planning to engage in a formal consultation on the matter within the coming months. In the meantime, if you have any comments or concerns regarding the use of e-scooters on campus, please do not hesitate to share them with me.

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, GSA VP Student Services

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 16 September 2019 and 28 October 2019. The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.*

17 September	Meeting with K Friese, Associate Dean of Students
17 September	E-Scooters on Campus Meeting
17 September	Meeting with K Friese, Associate Dean of Students, and J Causgrove Dunn, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Associate Dean
18 September	Dean of Students Networking Event for Students Who Parent
18 September	Show and Tell: A Celebration of Student Research
19 September	Meeting with B Louie, University Architect
20 September	Community Engagement Consultation
23 September	Suicide Prevention Steering Committee
23 September	World Mental Health Day Committee
23 September	GSA Departmental Orientation: Elementary Education
24 September	Sexual Violence Response Executive Committee
24 September	Welcoming Campus Community Working Group
24 September	Meeting with J Larsen, Students' Union (SU) VP Student Life
25 September	Days of Action Committee Meeting
25 September	Dinner with D Stollery, U of A Chancellor
2 October	Graduate Student Accessibility Resources
2 October	Meeting with K Foster, Studentcare Director of Partnerships and Development, and R Paches, Studentcare Business Analyst
3 October	Leadership Network
4 October	GSA Fall Social Event
7 October	PAW Strategic Operating Committee (PAWSOC) Meeting
8 October	Hello Day Meeting
8 October	Meeting with G Kulczycki, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
9 October	Finance and Administration Portfolio Retreat
10 October	World Mental Health Day Gallery Opening
10 October	Campus Food Bank Board
15 October	U-Pass Advisory Committee
16-18 October	Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention Conference
21 October	Meeting with N Lambrecht, International Student Advisor

21 October	Campus Food Bank Fundraiser Planning
21 October	Suicide Prevention Framework Working Group
22 October	Students Who Parent Policy
22 October	Meeting with J Larsen, Students' Union (SU) VP Student Life
22 October	E-Scooters on Campus
22 October	Welcoming Campus Community Working Group
23 October	Joint Student/University Oversight Committee on Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIFs)
23 October	Days of Action Committee
23 October	GSA Early Call for Talent and Training Dinner
25 October	GSA Coffee Break
25 October	Meeting with K Friese, Associate Dean of Students

**GSA Nominating Committee  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Radim Barta  
Date: 25 October 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 Standing Committees**

**1) GSA Awards Selection Committee (GSA ASC) (Two (2) GSA Member Positions)**

Information regarding the position for two (2) GSA members was circulated via the GSA newsletter of 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. One (1) nomination was received. There will be a paper ballot vote. **See Item 10b – Nominee for GSA ASC.**

**2) 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 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. No nominations were received

**3) 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 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

**4) 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 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

**5) 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 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

**6) 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 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

**7) GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council on 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. No nominations were received.

**8) GSA Board (GSAB) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council on 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. One (1) nomination was received. There will be a paper ballot vote. **See Item 10c – Nominee for GSA Board.**

**9) GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) (Two (2) GSA Councillor Positions)**

Information regarding the positions for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council on 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 23 October 2019. No nominations were received. This position will be advertised again.

**10) GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) (One (1) GSA Member Position)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA member was circulated via the GSA newsletter of 10 October and 18 October 2019 with a nomination deadline of 22 October 2019. Three (3) nominations were received. The nominees were then interviewed by members of GSA NoC: GSA NoC Chair Radim Barta conducted one (1) interview in conjunction with GSA NoC member Wojciech Pietrasik, and two (2) interviews independently. Radim Barta has been trained in procedural fairness by the GSA and has a record of demonstrating impartiality through his work on the GSA NoC. A member of GSA management was also present for each interview. During each of the interviews, the nominees were asked a series of questions aimed at assessing their awareness of the basic tenets of procedural fairness and their ability to adjudicate potential cases in accord with those tenets (note as well that all individuals elected to the GSA ACB receive training in procedural fairness). There will be a paper ballot vote. **See Item 10a – Nominees for GSA Appeals and Complaints Board.**

**External Committees**

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

Information regarding four (4) Alternate positions was circulated in the GSA newsletter of 27 September 2019 with a deadline of 8 October 2019. **Adekunle Mofolasayo, Nayiar Shahid, and Nanxi Yan** were elected to serve on FGSR Council as Alternates. The remaining one (1) Alternate vacancy will be advertised again.

**Current Vacancies**

None to report at this time.

**GSA Executive Director  
Report to GSA Council for the 28 October 2019 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Courtney Thomas  
Date: 25 October 2019

Dear GSA Council Members,

Several times throughout the year my report consists of the listing of all the various agreements (many with monetary implications) to which the GSA is a signatory. As the GSA's highest governing body, it is important for GSA Council to be aware of the GSA's corporate infrastructure and how it affects our budget and operations, especially when the most recent term financial report comes before you next month. The listing of these agreements, along with the weekly reports offered to the GSA Board, is attached.

Additionally, I'm pleased to report that the GSA Fall Event on 4 October was very successful – thank you to those of you who were able to attend. We are now preparing to host the 31 October Halloween event for graduate student parents and kids – this is a family friendly event with games and prizes for children but is open to all, so please join us in costume between 1 and 3 PM to celebrate Halloween. Additionally, the office team recently worked to support the GSA Nominating Committee in its hosting of the 23 October Early Call dinner. Following the dinner, we'll be hosting an array of information sessions to help prepare people interested in running for Directly-Elected Officer positions. If you were unable to make the dinner or the sessions as scheduled, but are thinking of running or even just wanting to familiarize yourself more with the GSA, please contact the office as we're happy to arrange for additional sessions.

As always, I am happy to answer questions.

Courtney Thomas, GSA Executive Director

## 21.1

NAME	SUMMARY	STATUS
<b>Agreements with Expiry Dates</b>		
Campus Food Bank	Regulates GSA involvement with Food Bank.	GSA gives \$15,000/annum to Campus Food Bank (increased from \$9,000 to \$12,000 in 2018-2019 budget and increased again to \$15,000 in 2019-2020 budget). Original MoU expired 30 April 2015. <b>New agreement is set out annually in letters to the Campus Food Bank.</b>
Graduate Student Assistantship Collective Agreement	Sets out terms and conditions for graduate students serving as GTAs, GRAs, and GRAFs.	<b>Current agreement with the Board of Governors expired 31 August 2018, a new agreement with a term ending 31 August 2020 was ratified by members of the GSA's bargaining in October and is pending ratification from the Board of Governors.</b>
Agreement re GSSF	MoU that provides for funding allocations to the GSA for the GSSF.	<b>Negotiated concurrently but separately with collective agreement negotiations.</b>
Collective Agreement with NASA covering office staff	Sets out terms of employment for GSA staff.	Renegotiated in April 2012 and 2015. <b>Current agreement expires in 2020.</b>
Graduate Student Assistance Program (GSAP)	Provides for a wide range of personal counselling.	Referendum held; 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 <b>described by Administration as a rolling plan. Reviewed annually.</b>
Health and Dental Agreement with Studentcare	Provides for Health and Dental Plan.	Provider changed in 2012. Re-signed in 2014. <b>Current agreement expires 31 August 2020</b> (renegotiated agreement was signed in October 2014). <b>Service levels, claims, etc are reviewed annually.</b>
Liability Insurance	General Liability insurance and Directors and Officers insurance.	Doubled our liability insurance in 2012. The GSA is not covered for alcohol use. Discussions in 2013-2014 and 2016-2017 with Administration and insurance experts surrounding the creation of an alcohol liability waiver for graduate student groups. <b>Current General Liability insurance expires 17 May 2020.</b>
North Power Plant and Dewey's	<b>2009 Memorandum of Agreement</b> with the Students' Union regarding the operation of Dewey's.  <b>2010 Memorandum of Understanding</b> with the U of A for use of North Power	<b>Expired August 2012</b> - conversations about use of space are ongoing.  <b>No Expiration</b> - conversation regarding Dewey's/NPP ongoing as part of this MoU.

## 21.2

	Plant Space for the Tory Building decant.  <b>1997 Memorandum of Agreement</b> 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.	<b>No Expiration</b> - conversation regarding Dewey's/NPP ongoing as part of this MoA.
Officers/Directors' Insurance	Covers elected officials and administrative/professional staff.	Doubled coverage in 2013; switched brokers in 2016 and signed a new agreement. <b>Current agreement expires 28 January 2020.</b>
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 for a period of 5 years and with an increase in the sponsorship funds provided by TD. <b>Current agreement expires 16 September 2021.</b>
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). <b>Re-signed in 2016 and current agreement expires 30 May 2021 (notification of desire to renew must be given 6-12 months before expiry).</b>
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, and 2019. <b>Current agreement expires 30 April 2022.</b>
U-PASS Transit Agreement with U of A	Governs U-PASS.	Referendum held in March 2013. New agreement signed in September 2013. Referendum for a new four-year agreement passed in March 2017. The current agreement was signed in April 2018 and will expire when the U of A agreement with the municipalities expires.
U-PASS Agreement with Transit Providers	Governs U-PASS.	The University signs this agreement with the municipalities and the U of A and the GSA and SU then each sign a separate agreement. <b>Current agreement expires in 2021.</b>
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>STATUS</b>

<b><i>Agreements with No Expiry Dates (Ongoing)</i></b>		
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. <b>Annual Societies Act filing required.</b> (The former Alberta Graduate Council disbanded in 2013).
ATB Financial Banking	Operating account.	Reviewed with BMO in April 2012.

## 21.3

		Switched to ATB in May 2016 (as they also manage the GSA's investments). <b>Signing authorities reviewed/updated annually.</b>
ATB Financial Investments	GICs, investments.	Agreement was signed on 11 April 2016. <b>Reviewed regularly.</b>
Career Centre and Student Success Centre Agreements	Provides for subsidy of certain Career Centre and Student Success Centre courses for grad students.	Annual subsidy of \$9,500 (increased from \$5,500 to \$9,000 in 2017-2018 budget and increased again in 2019-2020 budget). <b>Reviewed annually.</b>
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. <b>GSA to give notice of 6 months if wanting to terminate.</b>
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) – agreement signed in April 2017. <b>Reviewed annually.</b>
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. <b>Reviewed annually.</b>
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.
U of A IST	Provides service, support, and regular review of the GSA's IT infrastructure.	Signed in June 2017. <b>Reviewed annually.</b>

## 21.4

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. <b>Review annually.</b>
Xerox	Covers the leasing of two photocopiers.	Original agreement expired 31 March 2018. Thereafter the agreement renews automatically on a yearly basis. <b>Reviewed annually.</b>
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>STATUS</b>

<b>Other Corporate Documents</b>		
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.	<b>Audit occurs annually in May/June.</b> Audit field workers are typically on-site in late May/early June.
GSA Council Bylaw and Policy	Enabled by the <i>Post-Secondary Learning Act</i> . Sections pertaining to collective bargaining approved by the GSA Labour Relations Board as per the <i>Labour Relations Code</i> .	<b>Reviewed regularly.</b>
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. <b>Regular performance reviews conducted.</b>
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. <b>Ongoing as referenda arise.</b>

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 18 September 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 11 September 2019:

#### Strategic

- Filming on the three GSA engagement videos has concluded and we await the edited content for review.
- 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) – we have had some follow up questions and are working to get information circulated back in response.
- Early stage discussions of the GSA 2020-2021 operating budget and associated development.
- Discussing/planning initiatives relating to GSA Graduate Student Groups.
- Action arising from Monday's GSA Council meeting.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (developing a communications plan for the upcoming ratification vote) 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, preparing to host a Funding 101 session in advance of the new period for grants opening on 1 October, and preparing for the 2019 Early Call process.
- Meeting with Preston Amundson, Account Executive, Group Sales, Oilers Entertainment Group to discuss group ticket opportunities and pricing (tickets would start at a lower cost than we were expecting and they offer "Group Experiences" (if a certain number of seats are sold at a particular game, groups can have different fan experiences (eg picture on the bench after the game) and these are actually quite obtainable (75 tickets in the Upper Bowl gets everyone a shot on goal after the game and Tier One games start at \$49 for Upper Bowl)). We talked about advertising a promo code in the newsletter for the first couple of Tier One games (27 October and 4 November), to see what kind of uptake we get. **Members are asked to indicate if they are in favour of this content being included in the GSA newsletter, given that GSA Board Policy on newsletter content notes that it will not include "will not include solicitations for merchandise or services."**
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on the Shell Enhanced Learning Fund Selection Committee (1 graduate student), Standing Committee on Convocation (1 graduate student), Festival of Teaching and Learning Steering Committee (1 graduate student), Museum Policy and Planning Committee (1 graduate student), and Student Library Advisory Committee (1 GSA Councillor); for October Council, we'll be filling vacancies on the GSA Nominating Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Governance Committee (2 GSA Councillors), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (1 GSA Councillor), and GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (2 GSA Councillors)).
- Facebook = 1,377 likes (up 6 from 11 September) and 1,449 followers (up 7 from 11 September); Facebook posts reached 1,157 users this week and our "post engagement" count was 366. Twitter = 974 followers (up 2 from 11 September); our tweets earned 2,500 "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, 25 September 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 18 September 2019:

#### Strategic

- Filming on the three GSA engagement videos has concluded and we await the edited content for review – will reach out shortly to Habit for a timeline.
- No updates concerning the RFP process in association with the GSA Health and Dental Plan broker – awaiting potential submission with a deadline of 25 October provided.
- Early stage discussions of the GSA 2020-2021 operating budget and associated development.
- Preparing a vote for the GSA Governance Committee concerning editorial changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on Nominating.
- Discussing/planning initiatives relating to GSA Graduate Student Groups.
- Reviewing material for various University governing bodies and drafting GSA reports to said bodies.
- Drafting an update to GSA Council on initiatives related to the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (developing a communications plan for the upcoming ratification vote and support for labour town halls), assessing the benefits of utilizing a professional negotiator for upcoming collective bargaining processes, 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, preparing to host a Funding 101 session in advance of the new period for grants opening on 1 October, and preparing for the 2019 Early Call process.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on the Shell Enhanced Learning Fund Selection Committee (1 graduate student), Standing Committee on Convocation (1 graduate student), Festival of Teaching and Learning Steering Committee (1 graduate student), Museum Policy and Planning Committee (1 graduate student), and Student Library Advisory Committee (1 GSA Councillor); for October Council, we'll be filling vacancies on the GSA Nominating Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Governance Committee (2 GSA Councillors), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (1 GSA Councillor), and GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (2 GSA Councillors)).
- Facebook = 1,382 likes (up 5 from 18 September) and 1,455 followers (up 6 from 18 September); Facebook posts reached 643 users this week and our “post engagement” count was 70. Twitter = 983 followers (up 9 from 18 September); our tweets earned 1,200 “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, 9 October 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 25 September 2019:

#### Strategic

- Filming on the three GSA engagement videos has concluded and we await the edited content for review – Habit will attend the October GSA Coffee Break to get some additional footage so we should have the videos for review shortly thereafter.
- No updates concerning the RFP process in association with the GSA Health and Dental Plan broker – awaiting potential submissions with a deadline of 25 October provided.
- Early stage discussions of the GSA 2020-2021 operating budget and associated development.
- Human resources discussions and planning in light of a staff resignation.
- Generating profiles on attendees at the upcoming CAGS conference.
- Drafting an update to GSA Council on initiatives related to the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (opening of the ratification vote), assessing the benefits of utilizing a professional negotiator for upcoming collective bargaining processes, and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

#### Grants and Office Operations

- Support for the fall social event, hosting a Funding 101 session in advance of the new period for grants opening on 1 October, and preparing for the 2019 Early Call process.
- Providing support for a meeting of the GSA Budget and Finance Committee to review the GSA's investments.
- Preparing for the first mailing of GSA Council material.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on the Student Library Advisory Committee (1 GSA Councillor); for October Council, we'll be filling vacancies on the GSA Board (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Nominating Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Governance Committee (2 GSA Councillors), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (2 GSA Councillors), and GSA Awards Selection Committee (2 GSA Councillors)).
- Facebook = 1,392 likes (up 10 from 25 September) and 1,468 followers (up 13 from 25 September); Facebook posts reached 925 users in this two weeks and our "post engagement" count was 215. Twitter = 982 followers (down 1 from 25 September); our tweets earned 3,100 "impressions" over the past two weeks.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 October; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 October; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 October. New granting periods open 1 January 2020.

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 16 October 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 9 October 2019:

#### Strategic

- Filming on the three GSA engagement videos has concluded and we await the edited content for review – Habit will attend the October GSA Coffee Break to get some additional footage so we should have the videos for review shortly thereafter.
- Drafting reports to external bodies and reviewing meeting materials from external bodies.
- No updates concerning the RFP process in association with the GSA Health and Dental Plan broker – awaiting potential submissions with a deadline of 25 October provided (two companies have expressed interest thus far).
- Early stage development of the GSA 2020-2021 operating budget in advance of consultations with the President and the GSA Budget and Finance Committee.
- Human resources discussions and planning in light of a staff resignation.
- Preparing for the 2019 Early Call program (updating training materials, preparing for the GSA Nominating Committee to host the Get-To-Know dinner, etc).
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (verification of the ratification vote and associated release of results, discussion of next steps, etc), assessing the benefits of utilizing a professional negotiator for upcoming collective bargaining processes, and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

#### Grants and Office Operations

- Preparing materials for the first mailing of GSA Council on Friday.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on the Student Library Advisory Committee (1 GSA Councillor); for October Council, we'll be filling vacancies on the GSA Board (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Nominating Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Governance Committee (2 GSA Councillors), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (2 GSA Councillors), and GSA Awards Selection Committee (2 GSA Councillors)).
- Facebook = 1,395 likes (up 3 from 9 October) and 1,472 followers (up 4 from 9 October); Facebook posts reached 1189 users in this two weeks and our "post engagement" count was 353. Twitter = 983 followers (up 1 from 9 October); our tweets earned 1,900 "impressions" over the past week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 October; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 October; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 October. New granting periods open 1 January 2020.

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 23 October 2019

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 16 October 2019:

#### Strategic

- Filming on the three GSA engagement videos has concluded and we await the edited content for review – Habit will attend the October GSA Coffee Break to get some additional footage so we should have the videos for review shortly thereafter.
- Early stage discussions of strategies to increase voter engagement in the next GSA General Election.
- No updates concerning the RFP process in association with the GSA Health and Dental Plan broker – awaiting potential submissions with a deadline of 25 October provided (two companies have expressed interest thus far).
- Early stage development of the GSA 2020-2021 operating budget in advance of consultations with the President and the GSA Budget and Finance Committee.
- Reviewing the most recent term financial report in advance of a meeting of the GSA Budget and Finance Committee
- Preparing for the 2019 Early Call program (updating training materials, preparing for the GSA Nominating Committee to host the Get-To-Know dinner on 23 October, etc).
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement, including supporting negotiations processes (discussion of next steps concerning the next round of collective bargaining following the recent ratification vote, etc), assessing the benefits of utilizing a professional negotiator for upcoming collective bargaining processes, and contacting a consultant concerning best practices with respect to strike fund establishment, maintenance, growth, and utilization.

#### Grants and Office Operations

- Initial planning for winter orientation.
- Preparing materials for the second mailing of GSA Council on Friday.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee (vacancies on the Student Library Advisory Committee (1 GSA Councillor); for October Council, we'll be filling vacancies on the GSA Board (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Nominating Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Governance Committee (2 GSA Councillors), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (1 GSA Councillor), GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (2 GSA Councillors), and GSA Awards Selection Committee (2 GSA Councillors)).
- Facebook = 1,399 likes (up 4 from 16 October) and 1,478 followers (up 6 from 16 October); Facebook posts reached 480 users last week and our “post engagement” count was 87. Twitter = 985 followers (up 2 from 16 October); our tweets earned 1,900 “impressions” over the past week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 October; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 October; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 October. New granting periods open 1 January 2020.