



Notice of Meeting
Tuesday, 1 August, 2017: 11:30 – 1:30 PM
GSA Commons

(Light lunch provided)

Agenda

		Pages	Action
	OPEN SESSION		
11:30	1. Call to Order 2. Remarks from the Chair 3. Approval of the Agenda	Oral	Information Decision
	<u>Consent Agenda</u>		
11:35	Motion: To approve and/or receive for information by consent items 4 – 9 below.		
	4. Minutes from the 21 March and 25 April Council Meetings	3 – 5	Decision
	5. Minutes from the 24 – 28 May, 2017 Electronic Resolution	6 – 7	
	6. Minutes from the 28 June, 2017 Council Meeting	8 – 10	Decision
	7. Reports from the Executive	11 – 17	Information
	8. Reports from the Executive Committee; Executive Retreat	(link)	Information
	9. Ratification of Social Club: AAPS (June Council Agenda, pp34-35)	(link)	Decision
	10. <i>See reports from the 28 June, 2017 Council Agenda Package</i>	(link)	Information
	<u>Regular Agenda</u>		
11:40	11. Business Arising from the Minutes		
11:45	12. Report of the President a) President's Update b) Q & A Period with the Executive	Oral Oral	Information Discussion
12:15	13. Reports from Committees a) Elections	18	Information
12:20	14. Other Business / Announcements		
	CONFIDENTIAL SESSION		
	IN CAMERA SESSION		
13:30	15. Adjournment		Decision

Note: All meetings are open to the general membership, except for confidential sessions and those *in camera*, where only councillors, directors, senior staff, or individuals invited by the chair may attend. Agendas and minutes from “open” sessions will be made available electronically to the general membership. It is understood that content and discussions from confidential or *in camera* sessions may not be distributed to or discussed with anyone but current councillors, directors and/or the office manager. No record will be kept of discussions *in camera*.

To allow Council to complete a number of matters quickly and to devote more of its attention to major items of business, the agenda has been divided between items that are to be approved and/or received for information by consent and those that are to be presented individually for discussion and decision and/or information. A consent agenda does not aim to prevent discussion of any matter, but is intended for items that are likely uncontroversial, or relatively minor in nature, and will not be discussed at the meeting unless a member so requests. Members are supplied with the appropriate documentation for each item and all items will be approved by means of one omnibus motion. Council will then move immediately to consideration of the items on the regular agenda.

21 June, 2017

Robert D. E. Henderson, Chair

Please convey regrets in advance to: gsa.chair@usask.ca

**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association**

COUNCIL

Minutes from the Mar. 21, 2017 Meeting

Organization of Meeting: Robert Henderson, Chair of Council, took the chair, and Mylyne Tham, acted as secretary. The Chair advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order @ 4:30pm
2. Remarks from the Chair
 - a. Elections
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Motion – Ziad
 - b. Seconded by Vita
 - c. Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: To approve and/or receive for information by consent items 4 and 5 below

4. Minutes from the 28 February, 2017 Council Meeting
5. Reports from the Executive, *ad hoc* Sustainability, and Executive Committee
 - a. Seconded by Iloradanon
 - b. Comments: Vita was not present at meeting, but it was noted that she was
 - i. Iloradanon was noted as absent, but she was present
 - c. Carried

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Presentation on University Planning: Provost's Advisory Committee on Integrated Planning
 - a. Want to hear what goals the GSA has for the committee
 - b. Seeking feedback from various groups and planning to start a survey
 - c. Theme descriptions – handout provided
 - d. What goals do you think will drive us to achieve our Mission and Vision?
 - e. Where/what/who does the U of S want to be in the next decade in our main areas of activity – T&L, R&D, O&E, and Operational Excellence?
 - i. U of S's position on re-investing responsibly – not investing in fossil fuel industries
 - ii. U of S's strategy for Indigenizing ties into Sustainability
 - iii. More research funding, more support for faculty to get research funding
 - iv. More support and funding for international students who come with family

- v. Increase TA pay rates as a tangible goal
 - vi. Internationalization – McGill doesn't have fees for international students
 - vii. Media Recognition – better promotion of our successes and achievements
 - viii. Encouraging collaboration, interdisciplinarity, connectivity.
 - ix. Reach out to the global and local community – outreach and engagement
 - f. The Committee agreed to send Council a semi-final draft of the plan
 - g. Contact: Konrad.andre@usask.ca
7. Report of the President
- a. President's Update
 - i. Student-supervisor agreement
 - 1. Had great feedback
 - 2. In 2 weeks, a final guideline will be submitted to CGPS
 - ii. Summer UPASS
 - 1. Asked for a meeting with Transit, request has not been answered yet
 - iii. Events
 - 1. 3-minute thesis next week, 60 participants! Mar. 29th at 10am is opening
 - 2. Apr. 1st GSA Gala
 - iv. ThinkGrad GSA Summit – Apr. 18th
 - b. U of S Response to Council's Letter on Athletic Fees
 - i. Why are there so many faculty members on this committee discussing student fees?
 - 1. One undergrad student was taken off the committee to accommodate a grad student
 - c. Q & A Period with the Executive
 - i. Isaac Pratt – the GSA is hosting the ThinkGrad conference – is the GSA going to be spending money on the conference?
 - ii. GSA is not spending any money, funding will be coming from registration fees and sponsorship
8. Reports from the Committees
- a. Elections
 - i. Motion – to approve the terms of reference as distributed
 - 1. Seconder – Aurora
 - 2. Carried
 - b. Question from Beeta: why are GSA elections overlap with USSU elections? These overlaps make it difficult to campaign.
9. Other Business / Announcements
- a. Seth Sazant from PSAC gave update on Bargaining
 - i. Last offer: 4-year deal with 0% increase in first year, 0% increase in second year, 2% in third year, 1% in fourth year.
 - ii. No clarity or negotiating on appointments process – University is saying that what we have now is good enough
 - iii. Collective action might be needed to show support to the Bargaining team.
 - b. Alumni seats on Board

**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association**

COUNCIL

Minutes from 25 April, 2017 Special Meeting

GSA Commons

Regrets: Ifeoma Adaji, Sylvana Tu, Banjo Olaleye, Naheda Sahtout

Organization of Meeting: Robert Henderson, Chair of Council, took the chair, and Mylyne Tham, acted as secretary. The Chair advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

1. Call to Order
2. Remarks from the Chair
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Motion: Carolyn Gaspar
 - b. Seconded: Katherine (from Tox)
 - c. Carried

Regular Agenda

4. Report of the Chief Electoral Officer: Election Results
 - a. No questions
5. Report of the VP Finance: Preliminary 2017-18 Budget
 - a. To approve the presented budget as the preliminary budget for 2017 - 2018 – Carolyn Gaspar
 - b. Seconded by Brenda
 - i. 3-MT ran a deficit, ~ 1500-1800 over, will confirm
 - ii. GSA Gala ran a deficit, \$1300 right now, after another department pitches in, will be down to \$300 deficit
 - c. Absentions – 3
 - d. Carried
6. Other Business / Announcements
7. Adjournment
 - a. 4:27pm

**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association**

COUNCIL

Minutes from the 24 – 28 May, 2017 Electronic Resolution

Timestamp	Motion: that former VP External Carolyn Gaspar be appointed as Interm VP External until a by-election is complete.	Please enter your name and affiliation on Council (department/College rep, Board member, executive, etc.)
5/24/2017 20:32:02	In favour	ARCHAIA
5/24/2017 20:32:37	In favour	Naheda Sahtout, Department of Chemistry Council Representative
5/24/2017 20:35:44	In favour	Jaylene Murray, Board member and college rep
5/24/2017 20:36:22	In favour	Isaac Pratt - College of Medicine Graduate Student Society
5/24/2017 20:37:46	In favour	Western college of veterinary medicine - council member
5/24/2017 20:45:08	In favour	Ziad Ghaith, GSA President
5/24/2017 20:53:03	In favour	Banjo Olaleye; English Course Council (ECC) rep
5/24/2017 21:46:05	In favour	Logan Pizzey, Board member
5/24/2017 21:57:17	In favour	School of Public Health Student Association
5/24/2017 22:27:23	In favour	Dimitry Zakharov (History)
5/24/2017 23:08:41	In favour	Colin McLaren, councillor from Kinesiology
5/25/2017 1:21:05	In favour	Emiliana Bomfim College of Medicine
5/25/2017 4:45:44	In favour	Ifeoma Adaji, Computer science depth.
5/25/2017 11:32:00	In favour	Anoosha Attaran (Academic representative for BGSA)/ Biology department/ Art and science/
5/25/2017 12:08:10	In favour	Luc Chabanole; Geological Sciences Representative
5/25/2017 12:55:30	In favour	Wanda Seidlikoski Yurach Board member
5/26/2017 10:47:10	In favour	Haley Scott, WCVM
5/26/2017 11:03:57	In favour	Board Member
5/26/2017 15:32:14	In favour	Evan Poncelet - representative for the Psychology Graduate Students' Association

5/27/2017 9:04:21	In favour	Chris Maierhoffer
5/27/2017 9:54:12	In favour	Josh cronmiller geography rep
5/27/2017 10:10:01	In favour	EGCC
5/27/2017 10:13:09	In favour	Brenda Byers
5/27/2017 11:09:50	In favour	Exec
5/27/2017 11:46:58	In favour	Indigenous Graduate Students' Council
5/27/2017 15:14:02	In favour	Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
5/27/2017 17:46:40	In favour	Jason Ho, Physics Rep.
5/27/2017 19:46:47	In favour	Mila Markevych, EGSA
5/28/2017 12:59:12	Abstain	Chemical and biological engineering representative
5/28/2017 15:22:16	In favour	Ifeoma Adaji, Computer Science department
5/28/2017 15:58:45	In favour	Katherine Raes, TGSA

**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association**

COUNCIL

Minutes from Tuesday, June 28th, 2017 meeting

Present: Refer to sign in sheet.

Regrets: Anoosha, Jaylene Murray, Brenda Byers, Levi, Aurora Bowery, Logan, Wanda Seidlikoski Yurach.

Absent: Refer to sign in sheet.

Organization of Meeting: Robert Henderson, chair of Council, took the chair, and Iloradanon Efimoff, acted as minute-taker. Robert Henderson advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, **quorum was not present**, and the meeting was properly constituted.

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order
 - Session called to order at 11:40am by the chair
2. Remarks from the Chair
 - Report provided with Board and Chair activities
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - Agenda accepted for discussion

Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve and/or receive for information by consent items 4 – 8 below.

4. Minutes from the 21 March and 25 April, 2017 Council Meetings
5. Minutes from the 24 – 28 May, 2017 Electronic Resolution
6. Reports from the Chair and the Executive
7. Report of the GSA delegate to the CFS SAGM
8. Report from the Executive Committee; Executive Retreat (link)
 - No questions from council on these items

Regular Agenda

9. Business Arising from the Minutes
10. Presentation: Student Health Services [Peter Hedley]
 - Peter Hedley and other members of Student Health Services presented on a new model and new services, and answered council questions
 - Presentation was confidential and can be provided to council members upon request.
11. Ratification of Social Club: American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS), U of S Chapter
 - Presentation by incoming and outgoing chair of U of S AAPS
 - Focus is on graduate students, but anyone is able to join

- Organized 11 events last year, showcased on AAPS main site for efforts
- Mostly focus on professional development opportunities
- Events are already being planned for the coming year
- Funding for group is obtained through AAPS
- Executive committee comments that AAPS meets all requirements to be ratified

12. Report of the President

a) President's Update

- Bonkowski gave presentation on Health and Dental plan
- Provincial tax of 6% was added to the health care premium
- Health and Dental committee communicated with PCIP and fee review committee, and were able to increase health and dental plan cost for students by 6% - an increase from ~\$420/yr to \$459/yr
- Benefits are all the same
- GSA communicated with provincial gov't to see if the tax can be lifted for just this year, so the GSA has time to plan
- Ghaith organized a moment of silence for the recent passing of Mathew Vincent, a graduate student from the department of Biology. Ghaith has sent a letter to the parents on behalf of the GSA
- Will be formal presentation on yearly plan of each executive in September
- GSA has raised \$60,000 so far this year in fundraising efforts for GSA commons improvement, GSA conference/3-minute thesis competition, hiring coordinators, and bursaries
- Student supervisor agreement received approval from faculty council – hope is it will go through University Council to be a campus-wide mandatory document.
- Still communicating with Transit Saskatoon re Summer UPass

b) Q & A Period with the Executive

- No questions

13. Reports from Committees

a) Elections

- Only one nominations package has been received
- July 5 for all candidates forum
- New VP External to start August 1st

b) Health and Dental

- 12a.

14. Other Business / Announcements

a) Presentation from Student Care

- New mental health service – “Empower Me”
- Would add to current services, not replace them
- Goal is to address barriers to student access of services by offering care options via telephone, email, video chat, online services
- It offers psychological counseling and academic-life services on topics including relationships, family care, pressure & stress, depression & anxiety, financial, educational conflict, nutrition, and addictions; and wellness topic such as financial consultations, life coaching, and nutritional counselling
- Cost is \$4.20/year – flat fee (no increase in cost with increase in use)
 - Different options to roll out the service
 - Part of Health and Dental Plan or optional stand-alone mandatory fee or cost share with U of S or lobby U of S to cover costs
- Counselors are trained at a minimum of a Social Work or Psychology Master's Degree

Council then convened in confidential session.

Council then convened *in camera* at 1:20 pm.

Adjournment 1:38 pm.

University of Saskatchewan - Graduate Students' Association
GSA President report (GSA August Council Meeting)

Dear GSA Council:

On behalf of the GSA executives and staff, I would like to thank the council members for serving on the GSA council over the past year. It has been my great pleasure to work with the council during this academic year. It was a remarkable year, council offered wonderful input and their engagement helped in making significant and important decisions. A special thanks to all the council members who served on the GSA standing committees, and volunteered their valuable time to serve their organizations. I would like also to take this opportunity to thank the GSA Council Chair for his outstanding work with the GSA, his remarkable efforts and commitment were key components of the successes we achieved. A special thanks as well to our outgoing interim VP External Carolyn Gaspar who committed to step in to assist the GSA executive team during the transition to fill the vacant position.

In this report, I will highlight briefly the major activities/progress since the last Council meeting in June.

- **Fundraising**

Further to the successful fund raising in June, I have sent another proposal to some local organizations and some of the GSA stakeholders, to assist our upcoming events including the orientation and other workshops. Updates to follow in September.

- **Student Supervisor Agreement**

Our new Student Supervisor Agreement is now available on the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies website. We have received positive feedback from our members and some faculty members with regards to this new agreement. This is a big step forward for the graduate student experience at the U of S. As of now, this newer agreement is what will be used, and we encourage the graduate students to encourage their departments, colleagues, and supervisors to

adopt and put into use as well as providing the GSA with any feedback. We will continue our efforts in advocating the agreement as a mandatory tool in the U of S.

- **GSA/Union relation**

The GSA has been working on drafting a Memorandum of Agreement with the Graduate student union to ensure a positive and growing relationship. The MoA has already been drafted and we are hoping to have it for final approval this summer.

- **Recreation and Athletic Advisory Council**

We have finished our discussion with the University regarding Recreation and Athletic fees. For the first time the graduate students will be on the Recreation and Athletic Advisory Council, where we will have the opportunity to be a part of the recreation and athletic fees recommendation. The GSA will sign a Memorandum of Agreement upon the the council/board approval

- **Tuition policy at the University**

I have been working with IPA to update the University tuition policy. The updates aim at developing a meaningful consultation with the graduate students regarding the triton. A written document of the plan will be provided to the Council upon the progress.

Ziad Ghaith

President, Graduate Students' Association



Iloradanon Efimoff
Monthly Report
July 23rd, 2017

To whom it may concern:

The following is a list of the meetings I have attended since June 14th 2017.

Date	Meeting
June 23 rd	Aboriginal Student Centre Partner Retreat
June 27 th	GSA Executive Meeting
June 28 th	GSA Council Meeting
June 28 th	Meeting with Graeme Joseph to discuss potential SAGE program (support for Indigenous Graduate Students)
June 29 th	Meet and greet with University Secretary, Beth Bilson
June 29 th	Museum of Natural Sciences consultation meeting
July 7 th	Annual meeting with USSU President
July 7 th	Meeting with ISSAC – graduate student involvement in study abroad programs
July 10 th	Met with Indigenous Student Council president to plan mutual activities for the year
July 12 th	Aboriginal Student Leaders Meeting
July 18 th	GSA Executive Meeting
July 20 th	Meeting with IPA to discuss successful graduate student tuition consultations
July 22 nd	Meeting with GSA president to draft graduate student tuition consultation document

In the last month I attended several meetings focused on my main priority – continuing Indigenization efforts on campus. In these meetings I represent both Indigenous graduate students and graduate students in general. Many of these meetings resulted in partnerships being reaffirmed (such as those with the Aboriginal Student Centre and the Indigenous Student Council).

I also met with other partners to discuss this academic year: namely, the University Secretary and the President of the USSU. All parties are interested in working together for mutual benefit.

This last month I have also been working on student consultations regarding tuition decisions. This involved a meeting with the IPA, in which student concerns regarding tuition and tuition consultations were discussed, and a drafting of a document for IPA use regarding successful consultations with graduate students.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Háw'aa,

(Thank you)

Iloradanon Efimoff

VP External Council Report

As the interim external I have worked on:

Meetings/Representation attended:

- Attended the executive meetings dated May 29th, June 27th, and July 20th, 2017
- Meet with Peter Hedley on the Wellness Strategy
- Attended June Council
- Attended Student Care Stakeholder Meeting in Montreal (June 13th to 15th)
- Represented the GSA at convocation on June 5th & 6th
- Met to transition Naheda, and prepare her for the ThinkGRAD meeting in August.
- Attended Sexual Assault Awareness Planning Meetings to finalize the Consent Awareness Dance in September.
- Met with the Health Promotion Manager (Rita Hanoski) on the sustainability of the Health Chats with Naheda and Viktoria.

Activities Completed:

- I worked on The GSA Academic Planner and fundraised \$900.
- I worked with the Health and Dental committee on the PST increase on the Health and Dental plan.
- Worked on drafting a letter to the provincial government requesting a grace period, before we must pay the 6% PST on health and dental insurance plans.
- Over the past year, I have worked with CFS to hire a Brand Ambassador. I have been able to secure a position. The application went live June 12th and the last day to apply is June 30th for more information look on our social media. The Brand Ambassador is to work with the VP External to solicit student discounts for the ISIC card and for students in general.
 - The Brand Ambassador was hired and will begin work August 1st, 2017.
- Organized and met with GSA from UofManitoba & UdeMontreal on the White Paper.
- Planted the GSA Garden



Graduate Students' Association
Ali Kiani
VP Student Affairs Report
July 23rd, 2017

Orientation and Hiring Coordinator

I am pleased to report that so far, majority of items required for Orientation have been ordered. I started to the recruitment process for a coordinator to assist in different events at the GSA. Fundraising is still ongoing (ISAC and PAC). Collaboration with USSU and University Orientation ongoing.

Workshops

I had a plan to have a workshop about mastermind group study at the GSA in July and I have postponed this workshop to fall semester. I will work on this workshop with USSU. It will be for five weeks that starting September 20th at 6 PM and each week, we will have one session for one and half hour. There is no cost for the GSA, except prints and binder for students.

I am working closely with ISAC about having panel discussion for the graduate student about immigration and health on fall and winter. We have a plan to have 2 panel discussions in Fall and 2 in Winter.

I am working with Study Abroad to have a panel discussion at the GSA about "Study Abroad Graduate students. Envision the experience". This panel discussion will place on Tuesday November 21st.

Academic Advocacy

I have advocated for one of grad students. I am dealing with different active cases, involving academic and non-academic issues.

Regular Committee Meetings

I have been participating in different meetings with the following committees:

- GSA exec meeting
- Attended U of S Wellness Initiative Focus Group
- Meeting with different students about their issues

- Hearing board and appeal
- Study Abroad meeting at the GSA
- Student advocating
- Meeting with ISAC and Orientation fundraising
- Orientation Campus Expo meeting



GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

VP Finance & Operations



Monthly Council Report

July 23, 2017

Important Dates

- **June 28** – Spring Council meeting, Bursary Selection Committee meeting
- **July 4** – Bursary Selection Committee meeting
- **July 5** – Special Executive meeting
- **July 6** – Summer bursary recipients notified via email
- **July 11** – Monthly Board of Directors meeting
- **July 18** – Monthly Executive meeting
- **July 20** – Call for Event / Commons Coordinator made
- **July 27** – Commons A/V consultation

State of Initiatives

This month the Bursary Selection Committee chose 10 recipients of the GSA's needs-based bursary. There were 77 applications in total. Fall bursaries will be awarded by mid-October.

The GSA has created job postings for a Commons Coordinator and an Event Coordinator via CareerLink. Calls have also been posted via PAWS Announcements and Bulletins, Facebook, and a CGPS email. Applications will be collected by the GSA Office Manager via email until 11:59 pm on Friday, August 4. Only successful applicants will be contacted for interviews.

I have reach out to a local A/V company for a consult regarding the Commons space and an upgrade to our present technical equipment. The GSA has allocated \$5,000 to upgrade the present system. The consult will take place on Thursday, July 27 and is free of charge. It will involve measurements and a recommendation for the unique space.

I will continue to work closely with the GSA bookkeeper and auditor in the coming months to reconcile the Association's financial records.

**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association**

COUNCIL AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Report of the Chief Electoral Officer

FOR INFORMATION

The Elections Committee is pleased to announce the results of the recent by-election to fill a vacant seat on the executive (VP External). We had 351 voters cast a ballot out of 4098 eligible graduate students, and therefore quorum was achieved with a turnout of 8.6% (>8% required). Only one candidate was nominated for the position. As such, there was no campaigning (campaigning only takes place for contested executive seats).

I would like to thank all the candidates for putting their names forward, and thank members of the Elections Committee (Olufemi Ajiboye, Joshua Cronmiller, Jaylene Murray, Bethany Penn, and Achint Rastogi).

Special thanks are also due to Carolyn Gaspar, Interim VP External, for taking on the role during the election period.

Please join me in welcoming the incoming GSA VP External, who shall take office on 1 August, 2017:

VP External – Naheda Sahtout (PhD candidate, Chemistry)

Information on the By-election:

Key Dates:

- Nomination period: 9 – 27 June
- An all-candidates' forum was held on 5 July.
- Voting took place from 7 – 14 July.

Voting:

- Total voters = 351 (/4098 eligible) = 8.6% (quorum achieved, >8%)
- Notices to vote went out by e-mail, through PAWS as a pinned post to all graduate students, and through the GSA's Facebook Page (with sponsored advertising targeted to graduate students at the U of S).

Results (#yes - no - abstain):

VP External

Naheda Sahtout (243 - 50 - 58) - acclaimed

Robert Henderson
GSA Chair and Chief Electoral Officer
On behalf of the Elections Committee

25 July, 2017