

Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting Agenda



**University of Saskatchewan
Tuesday, November 25th, 2014
5:00 P.M - 7:00 P.M
GSA Commons**

Present: President, VP Operations & Communications
Absent: VP Academic, VP Student Affairs, Aboriginal Liaison
Regrets: VP External

1.0 Call to Order: 5:16PM

- 1.1 The GSA governing documents do not define quorum for executive meetings. However, Policy 5.2.1.1 requires that executive meetings occur twice a month through September to April. Furthermore, no requests to cancel the meeting were made.
- 1.2 Given that there are time sensitive issues to be discussed on the Agenda, the attending executives unanimously agreed that quorum is present and proceeded with the meeting.
- 1.3 VP Operation will send a note to the Executive asking that regrets be sent to her no later than 24h prior to a regularly scheduled Executive Meeting.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

- 2.1 The agenda was adopted with the addition of an item to discuss organizing a 3 minute thesis competition.

3.0 Winter Orientation

- 3.1 Devin Clemens from ISSAC visited the GSA and had a conversation with the President regarding the Winter Orientation. A session for new graduate students is planned to take place on January 3rd. It is to be jointly organized with CGSR. The President mentioned to Mr. Clemens that the duty of organizing the Winter Orientation had been delegated to the VP Student Affairs. Mr. Clemens informed

the President that the VP Student Affairs had contacted him via Facebook earlier that day and that no arrangements have been made to date.

Given the GSA's commitment to a Winter Orientation, a decision was made that the VP Student Affairs and VP Academic should both attend the orientation session to present the academic and non-academic services of the GSA.

4.0 Conference

4.1 This item has been tabled due to the absence of the VP Academic.

5.0 Gala

5.1 This item has been tabled due to the absence of the VP External.

6.0 VP Finance

6.1 The attending executives reported that no graduate students have been identified to date to replace the VP Finance. The President intended to invite the Vice Presidents to identify a potential VP Finance. It would be strongly encouraged to propose a replacement at the next Council Meeting on December 11th.

7.0 Tuition Fee Campaign

7.1 On November 24th, Adam Baxter-Jones, Dean of CGSR attended a town hall meeting at the GSA upon the invitation of the President. The meeting was attended by roughly 40 students. The discussion was very valuable, and the Dean sent his notes to the Provost.

7.2 No additional information has been received by the attending executives on the tuition fee campaign delegated to the VP External.

7.3 This item will be added on the agenda at the next Executive Meeting.

8.0 Christmas Social

8.1 The VP Operations brought forward a proposal to have the staff organize a Christmas Party on Dec 10th. An invitation for the social is to be sent to all graduate students. It is to feature piano music. The plan is to sell alcohol at cost and provide complementary food.

8.2 The President appreciates and welcomes the initiative.

8.3 \$500 were approved to support the event.

9.0 The 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition

- 9.1** The president was contacted by CGSR to invite the GSA to co-organize a 3MT competition. The idea for such an event came as a result of the CAGS conference where the 3MT competitions received high praises.
- 9.2** Given the national time frames, it would be ideal to have the competition as part of the GSA week. Namely, we would first have the 3MT competition, then the conference and close the week with the Gala.
- 9.3** To ensure the success of this event CGSR is willing to provide the necessary funding, including funds for a graduate student to help organize the event.
- 9.4** Keeping in mind the time sensitivity, it was decided to move forward with hiring a 3MT coordinator. The VP Operations & Communications will advertise the position as soon as possible.
- 9.5** Updates on the 3MT competition will be provided at the next executive meeting.

10.0 Adjournment: 6:24