

Executive Reports and Meeting Agenda

Special General Meeting

Thursday, March 10th, 2011



University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association

Special General Meeting

March 10th, 2011, 5:00- 7:00 pm in GSA Commons

Agenda

1.0 Call to Order

2.0 Approval of Agenda

3.0 Approval of Minutes

4.0 Guest Speakers:

4.1 Kristin Foster and Helen Surgenor, StudentCare Health & Dental Reps. for GSA.

4.2 Colin Tennent and Bryan Bilokreli- Discussion of capital projects.

5.0 Motions:

5.1 Motion to increase membership fees, Moved by Eamon McDermott:

WHEREAS the GSA Executives have presented their 2015 growth plan, outlining future areas for growth of GSA services,

BIRT the GSA full-time membership fee for the 2011-2012 academic year be increased to \$60 per term.

5.2 Motion on the 2011-2012 Health and Dental Plan fees, Moved by Jania Chilima:

WHEREAS the plan as it stands is reasonably positioned and there has not been any requests from course council or general public for any changes,

BIRT the 2011-2012 Health and Dental Plan fees remain as is with any savings to proceed into our reserve funds contribution.

- 5.3 Motions on the recent changes to the GSA Constitution, Moved by Christopher Brooks and Seconded by Craig Thompson (Motions were received in a letter to the GSA President dated February 25th, 2011- see appendix 1):

BIRT section 11.1.1 of the Constitution be reworded to read:

11.1.1 Unless otherwise stated in this Constitution, any part, section, subsection or paragraph of this Constitution may only be amended at an Annual General Meeting, a Special General Meeting, or by a referendum of the student body as outlined in section 13 of this Constitution.

BIRT section 8.1.7 of the Constitution be reworded to read:

8.1.7 GSA members are allowed to vote by proxy at Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings.

BIRT section 4.3.2 and section 4.3.3 of the constitution be reworded to read:

4.3.2 At a course council meeting in February Course Council shall approve the GSA fee for the next fiscal year. The fee will be proposed by the GSA Executive and must pass a two (2/3) vote of Course Council pursuant to section 4.3.3 of this Constitution.

4.3.3 The GSA fee may be increased no more than 5% without a referendum of the student body as outlined in section 13 of this Constitution.

6.0 President's Report

7.0 VP External Report

8.0 VP Academic Report

9.0 VP Aboriginal Report

10.0 VP Student Affairs Report

11.0 VP Finance

12.0 VP Operations and Administration Report

13.0 Next meeting (AGM and CC): Thursday, April 7th, 2011- 5:00-7:00 pm

14.0 Adjournment

**Graduate Students' Association
Course Council Meeting Minutes**



University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association
Thursday February 3rd, 2010, 5:00 P.M - 7:00 P.M
GSA Commons

Present: Amy Noakes, Bonnie Cherewyk, Chad Hammond, Edgar David, Emma Turner, Ian Larsen, Jennifer Campeau, Jimbo Steve, Joannes Manzel, Julie Anderson, Justin Botterill, Loni Williams, Matthew Munson, Nathan Reis, Paula Tribulo, Rita Orji, Sara McPhee-Knowles, Shannon Dyck, Sohail Mall, Spike Posnikoff, T. Nicolas Fraser, Tanya Andrusieczko, Tina Leckie, Travis Lingenfelter, Wendie Marks, Mike Secora, Stephanie Thompson, Terri Thunder.

1.0 Call to Order: 5:05 pm

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Moved by Allison Ward, Seconded by Emma and Eamon

3.0 Approval of Minutes

Moved by Jania, seconded by Matt

4.0 Guest Speakers:

4.1 Kristin Foster and Helen Surgenor, Student Care Health & Dental Reps. for GSA.

Both presented on the U of S GSA Health and Dental Plan, covering the annual overview and updates. Advised council for the March 10th Special General Meeting; it will need to pass a motion on Plan Fees for the 2011-2012 Policy Year.

4.2 Colin Tennent and Bryan Bilokreli- Discussion of capital projects.

Sent his regrets. Presentation tabled until next meeting.

5.0 Ratifications

- Lim Huang- Bio Resources and Policy Program
- Jennifer Campeau- Native Studies

6.0 President's Report

6.1 Presentation on GSA VISION 2015. More info on <http://gsa.usask.ca/main/wp-content/uploads/1.pdf>

7.0 Motions:

7.1 Motion to increase membership fees, Moved by Eamon McDermott:

WHEREAS the GSA Executive have presented their 2015 growth plan, outlining future areas for growth of GSA services,

BIRT the GSA full-time membership fee for the 2011-2012 academic year be increased to \$60 per term.

Discussion:

Shannon: Requested we have an Online Forum where students can add comments on the Vision 2015 and then follow up with a town hall.

Matthew's comment: What amount of fees can be increased without a referendum?

Eamon answered: Based on the constitution, we can collect any amount as long as 2/3 of course council agrees and vote for the amount.

Emma's comment: An increase of \$ 30/term might be a big jump; we need to speak to the graduate students about this.

Nick: Table the motion to March 10th and allow for basic information to get to general members and publicize the fee increase notice of intent.

7.2 Motion from the floor:

BIRT the Motion 6.1 be tabled to the Special General Meeting so as to publicize the fees increase notice of intent to the broader graduate student community.

- Moved- Nick, Seconded- Eamon
- Motion carries

7.3 Motion to the next course council meeting/SGM to Thursday March 10th, 5:00-7:00 p.m Moved by Jania:

WHEREAS the delay of the actual claim data of our Health and Dental Plan required for Course Council to set plan fees for 2011-12 Policy year requires us to wait.

BIRT next course council meeting/SGM to Thursday March 10th, 5:00-7:00 p.m

- Motion carries unanimously

8.0 VP Academic Report

Presented on her plan to have academic affiliated events. Asked course councilors to pick a choice of the program out of the given selection.

9.0 VP Aboriginal Report
Presented the attached report

8.0 VP External Report

Emphasized on the need for the Vision 2015 - this is what the GSA could look like. He advised of the importance of leadership in the areas mentioned in the newly minted mission statements mention and how the fee increase will meet the services graduate students have been requesting.

Discussion:

Nick: He requested the GSA executives to review the older mission statements versus the newly minted ones and said there was need for specificity.

Eamon: Advised such aspects are attained through the implementation. Broader put focused mission statements that are not very narrow are ideal for an organization such as GSA whose mandate is diverse unlike environmental or business organizations.

10.0 VP Student Affairs Report

Presented his reported and added would like to see more recruitment efforts directed toward African Continent.

11.0 VP Finance

Presented his reported

12.0 VP Operations Report

Presented her reported. She circulated a missing appendix 2 of her report and added an announcement of the upcoming 2011 STLHE Conference. More info at: <http://www.usask.ca/stlhe2011/>

13.0 Next CC meeting: This will also be a Special General Meeting-Thursdays, March 10th, 2011- 5:00-7:00 pm

14.0 Other Business

Matt presented on behalf of the Biology student a statement requesting GSA to sponsor the Prairie University Biology Symposium 2011.

Motion: BIRT \$ 1000 donated to the Biology course council to cover portion of the running the Prairie University Biology Symposium 2011.

- Motion carries unanimously

15.0 Adjournment: 7:02 pm.

President's Report

Dear Course Councillors:

In addition to the below updates, several other things that have kept me busy in February include:

- responses to questions regarding Vision 2015 -in person and via e-mail, SHEAF interview
- Student Advocacy on an Individual basis (2 Cases)
- Student Advocacy on an Course Council level (1 case)
- assist in Aboriginal and Indigenous Graduate Student Council fundraising for Elijah Harper event, also on March 10, 2011
- review of Office Manager with VP Operations
- Follow up with Student Conduct Hearing for an undergraduate
- Valentine's Day Citizenship Party - celebration for Sarah Masood and Sunisha Neupane
- See Governor General column for follow up on feminism on campus/ in the city
- Attended All-Day Planning workshop for University units
- met with Candace Wasacase-Lafferty on Aboriginal coordination across Campus
- followed up with Angela Ward regarding Aboriginal coordination across Campus
- worked with Catholic School Board and three students on highschool engagement opportunities

Meeting/Issue	Other Attendees	Outcomes	Follow Up required
September 2010			
Advanced Education, Immigration and Employment	VP External Eamon McDermott/ Heather George/Immigration Office (Kirk Westguard, Russell Parr et al)	Working on retention of Grad. Students in the province VP External's report on improving SK Nomination program for Graduate Students	
Institutional Planning and Priorities Committee			

Meeting/Issue	Other Attendees	Outcomes	Follow Up required
University Council		<p>In early November expressed concern that Graduate students have a role in hiring student-oriented positions (ie) AVP Student Enrollment and Services</p> <p>In January congratulated PCIP on Aboriginal education opportunities for staff and faculty</p>	Jim Greer, Gwenna Moss Centre would like GSA and AIGSC to remain involved
College Quarter Graduate Student Residence Project			
USSU		<p>GSA join USSU on Saskatchewan Students' Coalition</p> <p>Work together for increased Childcare</p>	Did GSA make it onto SK Govt's International Students' Council?
Ombudsoffice (September-December)		<p>Continue to work with SESD and Undergraduate Forum on needs of Student Ombuds support</p> <p>Meeting scheduled for February to discuss further with CGSR</p> <p>Another follow up meeting will happen with CGSR in March</p> <p>Have recieved excellent in-person feedback that ombudservice is a great idea and will begin to put us in line for student services/justice with other Canadian universities</p> <p>Identified amount of funding GSA would like to provide yearly to Ombudservice (\$10,000)</p>	
Credit Card Fees	Marion Von Impe		Continue to press to make the Graduate Installment Plan easier to access
GSA Conference 2010 (Sept-November)	Change in Personnel- VP Academic, Conference Committee/ Conference Coordinator Jason Sampara Met with several Graduate Chairs across Campus, Sept, Oct	Successful presentations, okay attendance, Nov 18-19	Continue to search for better ways to garner student invovlement

Meeting/Issue	Other Attendees	Outcomes	Follow Up required
Native Studies Department		Welcome to new Native Studies Graduate Students - helped to get more involvement/awareness of GSA	
International Student Differentials	VP External, VP Academic	Several meetings with different stakeholders throughout Sept-Nov making our position clear, most recently College agreed to “9Masters's students who began a graduate program on or before September 1, 2010 and are within the first two years of their program will receive an international differential credit for the year beginning September 1, 2011. PhD students who began a graduate program on or before September 1, 2010 and are within the first three years of their program will receive an international differential credit for two years beginning September 1, 2011”	February 2011 This continues to be an issue, follow up with Dean Martz, Associate Dean Crowe and VP Student Affairs required
U-PASS	VP Eamon McDermott, USSU	Eamon working with USSU, Nich Fraser on Transportation Committee, Course Council agreed to an opt-in/opt-out option	VP External
President’s Executive Breakfast Meeting	University Administration, USSU, GSA	Continued discussion on ombudsperson for students January - discussed broader political discussion on role of Saskatchewan public in the University February - continued to ask for integrated cooperation on Aboriginal initiatives on campus	
Student Hearing: Academic Appeal		another in February 2011	
AVP Research Search Committee		Completed in November	
AVP Student Enrollment and Services Review		Started in February, goes until May	
Lunch and Learns			

Meeting/Issue	Other Attendees	Outcomes	Follow Up required
Governor Generals' Conference on Women's Security	Pamela Jordan, Beth Bilson	Presentation at Convocation Hall for Governor General, Attendance at Conference, Report to Public Library on outcomes	<p>Would like to continue to organize for women's issues in Saskatoon and on Campus - not necessarily a GSA issue but could be</p> <p>Attended Saskatoon Women's Movement meeting, will convene meeting for interested parties on Campus in February</p> <p>International Women's Day in March to have an aspect of Feminism History and sharing of intergenerational discussion</p> <p>Two events in addition to International Women's Day on March 5th at SESD, Convene Women's Discussion group at 4pm GSA Commons and April 7th, 6-10 pm "The F Word: What Women need to Know Now" - must line up presenters and meet with USSU women's centre</p>
Signage for the Commons	Mary Coutts	Sarah Masood, Office Manager sent request to University Signage Committee for new GSA Signage - this is a long waiting list - University funds signage decisions but they potentially years	
Student Housing Committee	Student Residence Representatives, USSU	This Committee helps direct policy to provide an excellent experience for student residence users	
CABIS (Senior Advisory Committee on Informations Communications and Technology)		Discovering what technology students want and need to keep UofS ahead of the University technology uptake curve	
October 2010			

Meeting/Issue	Other Attendees	Outcomes	Follow Up required
Safety Phones on Campus	USSU, Course Council	Course Council agreed to ask University Administration to replace/expand Safety Phone program	Letter drafted, must be sent January Course Council added desire to see money directed to best use
Womens' and Gender Studies Conference		Attendee/Facilitator	
Art in the Commons	Crystal Nataraj	Nov. 29th 5-7pm Event, Continue to work with University Advancement to see if we can invite donors (Nov. 22)	Several graduate students identified to do a grad student show, hope to have a new show by May
International Day of the Child	Bonnie Cherewyk and Gayathri Monaharan, USSU and Aboriginal Student Centre	Held event on Nov. 20, Report by Bonnie and Gayathri - Advertisement was not excellent as we were putting together event as we went along however even so three families showed up	
College of Graduate Studies and Research Coffee Meeting	CGSR, other Exec	VP Operations interested in Student Career counselling support, Grad Preview Week (Nov 16, 17) discussed to share advertising and workshops for Conference	GSA will continue to work with AIGSC and CGSR on Aboriginal recruitment/retention strategies International Student Differentials continue to be an issue, seem to have CGSR support on GSA bursary program
School of Architecture Academic Program Subcommittee		focused on what requirement for entrance were appropriate	
University Senate	Saskatchewan Community	Graduate student issues are on the Saskatchewan community agenda! Reported on our activities, invites to Conference, International Student Differentials and Aboriginal Student Issues	Sent a follow up invite to Conference Asked for ideas/support/meetings on how to better integrate Graduate students and their work in broader Saskatchewan community Met with Senators in a community meeting

Meeting/Issue	Other Attendees	Outcomes	Follow Up required
Safety in the Commons	Commons Staff, Campus Safety	Campus Safety will drop in intermittently in evenings, they will also see what they can do to provide radio access, dropped off stickers for Campus Safety Emergency number for phones, also sending someone to do an environmental assessment of safety concerns	Please fill out survey online https://survey.usask.ca/survey.php?sid=22143 Commons' Safety Report attached (from January report)
College of Graduate Studies and Research Executive Meeting		Overview of proposed Graduate programs/changes in credits required etc. January - facilitating of international exchanges	
Childcare Working Group	James Peplar, USSU, SESD, Daycare reps and on-campus parents	Continue to find solutions/best pathway to increased childcare on/near campus January GSA Executive identified value would contribute to future childcare space reservation on campus - \$20,000/yr	
Integrated Planning	Various Meetings	One meeting with Ginger Appel and Dean Lawrence Martz was in regards in particular to projected tuition increases	Tuition continues to rise, the GSA will have to make strong cases and very vocal ones to combat this trend VP External will provide a report on a "tuition free" university next term Working to point out errors in their assessment points - who do they base accessibility on - and why do they use comparative prices to suggest raising our rates when the University should be leading in decreasing rates

Meeting/Issue	Other Attendees	Outcomes	Follow Up required
Community Engagement	Sally Meadows, others Let's Talk Science Catholic School Board History and Native Studies Teachers	Working to find ways that Graduate students and their work can continue to be integrated into the community Hosted Let's Talk Science recruitment meeting in January, GSA provides in-kind support to Let's Talk Science fundraising efforts Preliminary meeting for pilot project on graduate student teaching in high school classes to happen on Feb. 7th	
Arts and Science Graduate Expo	Vice Dean Humanities and Fine Arts David Parkinson	This Graduate expo in March will likely feature Graduate student posters/potentially presenters have not heard from David Parkinson since	
International Students and Study Abroad Centre	VP Student Affairs, Derek Tannis, USSU	Meeting with Derek Tannis to work toward an accommodation of Ethnic based Course councils/ also to better integrate events of international students with rest of graduate student body January - VP Student Affairs attended meeting	

VP External Report

CFS developments:

- I represented the GSA at the CFS National Graduate Caucus AGM on Feb 18th - 19th, 2011. This meeting was overwhelmingly dominated by student union representatives from Ontario (only three schools outside Ontario were represented), and the agenda essentially became a continuation of a previous Ontario Graduate Caucus meeting, placing those members not from Ontario at a significant disadvantage in some discussions. Major topics of discussion included:
 - Protection for graduate student whistle-blowers on university campuses, including a review of recently adopted policy at Queen's university,
 - An emerging campaign to promote the health and safety of graduate students in their labs/research environments, including discussion of graduate students' questionable ability to access Worker's Compensation under existing labour laws / questionable employment status of graduate students,
 - A discussion of the teaching assistant unionization drive at University of Windsor, along with potential strategies that could be applied at U of S,
 - Extensive conversation regarding the ongoing situation of copyright reform, including an update on the Access Copyright tariff issue from notable commentator Howard Knopf (<http://excesscopyright.blogspot.com/>),

- A proposed campaign to promote “Social Innovation” (as a counterpoint to technological innovation) as a response to funding being diverted away from arts and humanities research across the country,

The AGM also included the election of next year’s Graduate Caucus executive, in which the incumbent chair was re-elected. Additionally, a budget update was provided which led to a prolonged discussion about the budgeting practices of the Graduate Caucus, which significantly underspent its budget in 2009-2010 and may do so again this year depending on whether a federal election is called.

- There will be a CFS Saskatchewan meeting March 4th or 5th involving members of the CFS National Executive. The meeting is expected to focus on structural reform of CFS Saskatchewan after several years of questionable business practices and a lack of connection with the national body. There will also be training of StudentSaver discount solicitors with one applicant coming from U of S.

Other updates:

- There will be a meeting of the GSA Constitutional Review Committee on March 22nd starting at 4:30pm. The committee will meet once or twice propose house-keeping amendments to the GSA constitution before the April AGM. If you or someone you know is interested in being involved in this review process, please
- contact gsa.external@usask.ca
- I am in the initial phases of negotiation with city Transit regarding a GSA UPass referendum. However, due to the timing it may not be possible for any potential referendum run this academic year to come into affect for September 2011. Since GSA members to date seem more interested in an opt-in bus pass discount it may be more fruitful to hold a referendum in conjunction with the upcoming executive elections rather than try to rush a round of negotiation in order to have a referendum with low turnout.

VP Academic Report

I have been working to arrange an Academic workshop for graduate students. Voting was done during the last course council meeting to hear the voice of students on what kind of workshop they wanted. Resume and cover letter building workshop was the most favored one. After trying different options, I have been able to locate an expert from Student Employment and Career Services for the Resume building workshop on March 4th 3 pm. During the Graduate Council and Faculty meeting a great point came up which I would like to share-possibility of a crash course for International students regarding academic writing and academic honesty two weeks prior to the

formally starting of school. I am going to follow up on this because I think it is a great idea to bring all students enrolled in the university in same page.

Other two-committee meetings that I attend were cancelled for the month of February and are rescheduled for first week of March.

I was working on two separate student issues during the month of February.

2011 February	GSA	Hours
01-Feb	Graduate Council and Graduate Faculty meetings	3
02-Feb	Committee member: Hearing for Accusation of Academic Misconduct	4
03-Feb	Course Council meeting	3
On going -Feb	Emails/ advocating student issue (2)	4
11,12,14 Feb	Preparation for Academic workshop	3
17-Feb	Breakfast with the President Mackinnon	2
19-25 Feb	Study break	
28-Feb	Executive meeting	1
	Total	20

VP Aboriginal Report

January 8, 2011 (1.5 hours)

Caught up on email – course council email, Teri and Nkasi

Preparations for coming week

January 9, 2011 (1.5 hours)

Prepared agenda items for course council

Follow up work and emails

January 12, 2011 – Course Council (1.75 hours)

January 13, 2011 – Breakfast meeting with President – MISSED: ILLNESS

AIGSC meeting 12-1:30 (1.5 hours)

January 17, 2011 – GSA exec meeting – MISSED: ILLNESS

Communicated via email wishes for meeting

January 18, 2011 – email (2 hours)

Worked on email catch up, forwarded information about lectures and jobs, and communicated for fund raising announcements.

Updated documents and progress reports.

Worked on Aboriginal Hire committee business, and AIGSC back in business plan.

January 19, 2011 – USSU lunch (1.5 hours)

January 20, 2011 – Aboriginal Awareness Week group meeting (1.5 hours)

Information session and organization session to get prepared for upcoming event in March. Was joined by Wendie Marks.

January 23, 2011 – GSA Retreat – MISSED: ILLNESS

Forwarded agenda items of concern to Omeasoo via text

January 24, 2011 – (.5 hour)

Prepared documents to update and get action items organized.

Emailed fundraising poster

January 25, 2011 – (2 hours)

- Sent reminder email to Amanda Hunter about aboriginal recruitment
- Sent reminder email about new hire position
- Pass on event emails

January 26, 2011 – (1 hour)

Follow up emails

- Received word from CGSR recruitment, reports will be forwarded to me and a meeting will be held once I receive the documents.

January 31, 2011 – (1.25 hour)

- Finished up follow up emails
- Sorted materials and prepared month-end for up-coming Course Council meeting

February 1, 2011 – (2.5 hours)

College of Graduate Studies and Research Council Meeting

February 2, 2011 – (1.5 hours)

Emailing concerning Aboriginal Achievement week, GSA matters, Candace – about aboriginal achievement, and the One Arrow career fair – getting coordination for both events.

February 3, 2011 – (2 hours)

Attended and participated in course council meeting.

February 7, 2011 – (2.5 hours)

GSA bi-monthly meeting

February 8, 2011 – (MISSED: ILLNESS)

CGSR Coffee

February 10, 2011 – (1 hour)

AIGSC Meeting – new tasks assigned for follow-up (fundraising)

February 12, 2011 – (2.5 hours)

Caught up on emails and responded to outstanding emails.

February 17, 2011 – (3 hours)

Updating data and reporting, responded and sorted emails. Called for fundraising opportunities (pub crawls and steak nights – and created spread sheet)

CGSR breakfast – MISSED: Illness

February 28, 2011 – (TBA)

Emailed (.5 hour)

GSA meeting

Returned phone calls for fundraising (1 hour)

VP Student Affairs Report

GSA Bursary

Every semester the GSA disburses \$3000 to 5 needy students. The amount of money available for disbursement limits the amount of individuals who can be allocated money. We therefore decided to run a valentine raffle fundraiser to raise money to improve the GSA bursary kitty. We successfully organized the GSA valentine Bursary fundraiser on Valentine's Day. We managed to raise 213 dollars excluding the expenses. This will go a long way in addressing graduate students financial problems albeit in a small way.

International Students Tuition Increase and Differential

There was an email that seems to suggest that the international students fees were going to increase by 1.5 times come, May 2011. We are currently in the process of sorting out this issue with the college of graduate students and have organized a meeting for 2nd March at 2.30pm at CGSR. More information on what transpires will be relayed during the GSM.

Course Councils

We are in the process of recruiting more departmental course councils. We encourage students from different departments to form groups and choose one representative to be sent to the course council meetings to represent them.

VP Finance Report

- 1) The budget so far has a deficit of \$4,819.39. The university administration hasn't issued our cheque for current term hence the deficit.
- 2) The final phase of bursary was completed hence the complete use of the budget. An attempt by the VP Student Affairs to raise more bursary funds yielded \$168. This amount will be forwarded to the next year's budget as the last round for this year's bursary application is over.
- 3) In the last course council meetings, a donation of \$1,000 was approved for funding Prairie University Biology Symposium which took place last week. The donation was taken from the miscellaneous budget.
- 4) Compared to previous years, the course council funds indicate there is less participation of the course councillors in the GSA council meetings.

University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association

Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year 2010-2011

Revenues

	Proposed 2010		Current	
GSA Fees	\$	120,400.00	\$	66,306.35
CFS Fees	\$	20,000.00	\$	11,850.75
GSA Commons Booking	\$	1000.00	\$	640.00
Health and Dental Fees	\$	480,000.00	\$	511,697.20
GSA Orientation	\$	4,250.00	\$	1,150.00
CFS Handbook	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,132.50
Total Revenue	\$	<u>627,650.00</u>		<u>592,776.80</u>

Expenses

Audit	\$	500.00	\$	-
Bursary	\$	9,000.00	\$	9,000.00
Conferences	\$	4,500.00	\$	4,091.40
CFS Handbook	\$	2,000.00	\$	-
CFS Fees	\$	20,000.00	\$	11,850.75
Charitable Donations	\$	1,000.00	\$	-
Course Council Funding	\$	5,000.00	\$	1,330.93
Entertainment	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,212.10
GSA Orientation	\$	4,250.00	\$	2,048.71
Health and Dental Plan Premiums	\$	480,000.00	\$	511,071.28
Honoraria	\$	27,500.00	\$	21,370.11
Insurance	\$	3,500.00	\$	5,520.00
Miscellaneous	\$	3,500.00	\$	2,568.04
Office	\$	6,000.00	\$	2,904.92
President/Student Fund	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00
Bank Charges	\$	200.00	\$	56.50
Wages - Office Administrator	\$	45,000.00	\$	18,571.45
Operating cost – W/Internet System	\$	1,000.00	\$	-
Operating cost – Media equipment	\$	700.00	\$	-
Equipment renewal	\$	6,000.00	\$	-
Computer renewal	\$	500.00	\$	-
Total Expenses	\$	<u>627,650.00</u>	\$	<u>597,596.19</u>

Excess

(4,819.39)

NB:

Numbers that are not in bold in the proposed column 2010 should add up to \$121,400

VP Operations and Administration Report

Governance

1. Please see the attached calendar of my events attended and managed.
2. In the February 2nd, 2010 meeting with our Health and Dental Brokers and Administrators, we discussed the Continuum option for recent graduates. This information was a bit obscured on the website. Now, upon logging to our portal, http://ihaveaplan.ca/rte/en/UniversityofSaskatchewangraduatestudentsGSA_Home. There is a newly added tab, which prompts to you the continuum website for GSA alumni: <http://www.continuumplan.com/>. Further information can also be sought at the Student Care office at Lower Sask Hall.

Also Post-Docs and their families can enroll. Currently there are about 100 or so PD and this has not changed our premiums.

3. The Winter Bursary was adjudicated on February 17th, 2010. I would like to thank the volunteers who took their time to go through this round of the bursary and select the recipients. These volunteers were: Sara McPhee-Knowles, Amy Noakes, Robert Morley and Andre Deucette. The 5 recipients were awarded the following amount:

1st place recipient: \$ 732.56

2nd place recipient: \$ 620.93

3rd place recipient: \$ 613.95

4th place recipient: \$ 558.14

5th place recipient: \$ 474.42

Administration

1. Had our staff monthly meeting on February 7th from 3-4pm. Planning was done to spread Sarah's work to both Commons' Staff and executives for the period that Sarah will be on vacation March 10-14th, as well as went through the staff assignments for SGM /Vision 2015 promotion.
2. Had a meeting with Sarah for her job evaluation and sorting out her sick days eligibility as per university regulations.

Time budget for GSA Activities-February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Email: 9:00-11 am Graduate Council Meeting 1:00-3:30 p.m. Meeting with Omeasoo: Planning Sarah's Job Evaluation	2 Email: 8:30 a.m-10:00 Email: 7:00-9:30pm. Meeting with Kristine Foster and Helen Stegnor-Health and Dental: 4-5:45 p.m	3 Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting: 2:30pm-3:30p.m Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Presentation by their president (all TLCC members to attend): 3:30 pm-5:00pm Course Council meeting: 5:00-7pm	4 Emails: 11:00-1:00 pm	5
6	7 Sarah's evaluation: 2-3pm Staff Monthly Meeting: 3-5:pm Executive Meeting: 5:30- 7:47pm	8 Emails: 10:00-11:00 a.m, 2:30pm-4:00 pm	9 Office duties and handed conflicts: 10:30 a.m- 1:00p.m Meeting with Bassey and Sarah: 3:00pm-4:15 pm	10 Emails: 6:30pm-8:00pm	11 Meeting with Physics student: Sarah Purdy and Eamon in regards to Course Council formation: 11:40-12:30pm	12
13	14	15	16 Emails: 8:00-10:0am 4:30pm-5:45pm	17 Winter Bursary Selection Meeting: 11:30 a.m-1:3p.m Emails: 1:30pm-4:00pm Meeting with Isha, Omeasoo and Sarah: 4:00-4:30pm	18 Meeting with Ehimai to discuss the Vision 2015: 11:50-1:30pm Emails: 4:00pm-5:00pm	19

20	21	22 Emails: 7:00pm-7.45pm Emails: 10.00pm-12:midnight	23 Emails: 5:00-8:00pm	24 Emails: 2:00pm-3:00pm	25 Worked on Teaching and Learning Position Statement: 9:40 a.m-11:00am Worked on typing executive meeting minutes: 11:00-12:00 Emails: 12:00-1:30pm	26 Worked on GSA documents and meeting minutes and emails: 9:30 am-4:30 p.m
27	28					

Appendix 1

Letter from Christopher Brooks to the GSA President

Christopher Brooks
Department of Computer Science
110 Science Pl., Saskatoon, SK
S7N 5C9

February 25th, 2011

Omeasoo Butt, President
Graduate Students Association
Room 65, Place Riel
1 Campus Drive Saskatoon, SK
S7N 5A3

RE: Motions for Match 10th Special General Meeting

Dear Omeasoo Butt,

As mentioned in our previous correspondence, I am disappointed by the recent changes to the GSA constitution. These changes have reduced the transparency of fiscal and governance decisions, and have minimized the role of GSA members in having a say in how the organization is run. As required by the constitution section 8.1.11 and 11.1.1, I would like to inform you of the following motions to be added to the March 10th Special General Meeting agenda:

Be it resolved that section 11.1.1 of the constitution be reworded to read:

11.1.1 Unless otherwise stated in this Constitution, any part, section, subsection or paragraph of this Constitution may only be amended at an Annual General Meeting, a Special General Meeting, or by a referendum of the student body as outlined in section 13 of this Constitution.

Be it resolved that section 8.1.7 of the constitution be reworded to read:

8.1.7 GSA members are entitled to vote by proxy at Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings.

Be it resolved that section 4.3.2 and sections 4.3.3 of the Constitution be reworded to read:

4.3.2 At a course council meeting in February Course Council shall approve the GSA fee for the next fiscal year. The fee will be proposed by the GSA Executive and must pass a two (2/3) vote of Course Council pursuant to section 4.3.3 of this constitution.

4.3.3 The GSA fee may be increased no more than 5% without a referendum of the student body as outlined in section 13 of this Constitution.

The mover and seconder for each of these motions will be Christopher Brooks and Craig Thompson respectively. I look forward to speaking to these motions at the March 10th meeting and to help further shape the policies of the GSA.

Best Regards,

Christopher Brooks