



Graduate Students' Association

We acknowledge that we live and work on Treaty 6 Territory and the homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

GSA Executives Meeting on November 22, 2024

Time: 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Attendance: David Ohene-Amoako, Lindsay Carlson, Nickson Joseph, Jennifer Amarualik-Yaremko, Reza Golpayegani.

Regret: None

Guest: None

All executives approved all of these actions.

President:

1. Informed GSA Executives board that Dr. Debby Burshtyn will be coming to the next GSA council meeting on December 18th.
2. Discussed Black History Month.
3. Proposed that the executives collaborate to develop a strategic plan for the next five years. This plan will serve as a roadmap to guide the GSA in achieving its goals and ensuring it moves in the right direction.
4. Discussed the Elevator Pitch and Graduate students' career fair.
5. Announced that From Monday, November 25th, a warm clothing and toy drive will be hosted in GSA commons to support students in need.
6. Enquired the executives to prepare a report by the 15th of every month for the university council meeting.

VP Finance:

1. Moved to approve first event funding reimbursement up to a maximum of \$500 for Engineering Graduate Council and Toxicology GSA. **(Approved)**
2. Updated executives about meetings with the University's Human Resources Department. They are unable to provide support but recommended an HR Contractor that could assist. Executives approved the hiring of an HR contractor. The budget for this could come from the "legal assistance" budget line, as well as partially from the office staff budget line. VP Finance will coordinate with this individual to set up an initial meeting with Executives.
3. Due to the lack of availability of the Bursary Selection Committee to meet, the deadline for the Fall Need-Based Bursary was extended to December 8.
4. The VP Finance and President met with Marc Usunier from CGPS to discuss the potential implications of the federally-mandated "Provincial Attestation Letter" on incoming graduate students, as well as the rationale for CGPS to implement a \$1000 deposit to receive it, which will be applied to tuition when the student enrolls and refunded under extenuating circumstances if the student can no longer attend.

VP Academic:

1. Proposed updating policies and bylaws regarding Academic councils.
2. Discussed Winter Orientation 2025: **(Approved)**
 - a. 100 Medium and Small size GSA T-shirts were ordered.
 - b. Date: January 17, 2025
 - c. Venue: GSA Commons
3. Proposed to have a meeting with the current office manager and all coordinators on Friday, December 6th, 12:45 PM at GSA Commons or Philosophy in College Drive. Nickson will arrange food for this meeting.

VP Indigenous:

1. HR Contractor recommended legal counsel for legal advice for staffing transitions. Jen sought approval from GSA executives to seek legal representation on the matter of office manager contract renewal. (approved) The budget for this could come from the "legal assistance" budget line.

VP External:

1. Enquired to have access to the GSA website so executives can update the website directly.
2. GALA Awards Proposal: **(Approved)**
 - a. Proposed date: April 12, 2025
 - b. Venue: Marquis Hall (Max capacity: 180 guests)
 - c. Informed the executives' board that a list of councilors who are going to be invited to GALA 2025 will be shown on the screen on December 18th, 2024 to ensure that no one from the GSA council is missing from the guest list.
 - d. Sponsorship for GALA 2025 will be discussed in an executive meeting on January 3, 2025.