



**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association
Executive Committee Minutes
Friday, April 21, 2017 - GSA Commons**

Present: Z. Ghaith (President), N. Absher (VP Operations), S. Sapal (VP Student Affairs) & K. Sharma (VP Finance)

Regrets: A. Kiani (VP Academic) & I. Efimoff

1. Call to Order at 5:21 PM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Sapal added an agenda item (End of Term Social).

Ghaith moved a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Absher. All in favor.

Carried.

3. Chair's Remarks

4. Sociology GSA President to present [5:15 pm]

Sociology academic council is planning to host a yearend BBQ at the GSA Commons and they will be needing sponsorship to purchase food. In total, they are asking for \$303 in sponsorship. They're expecting 20 students to attend. The event is family friendly and non-alcoholic. They were previously sponsored for \$130. Shailza will notify them.

Gaspar moved a motion to fund Sociology GSA's yearend BBQ with \$300. Seconded by Sharma. All in favor.

Carried.

5. Approval of the Minutes of GSA Executive Meetings:

5.1. Minutes of GSA Executive Meetings on April 7th, 2017

6. Reports

1. VP Finance

- Meeting with auditor and office manager to sort the UPASS fees
- Working on her transition report and will be meeting with the incoming VP Operations & Finance

2. VP Academics [sent regrets]

3. VP Students Affairs

- Working on her transition report
- Planned a volunteer appreciation/end of year social

- Attended committee meetings

4. VP External

- Planned ThinkGRAD Conference, and it was successful, received positive feedback from participants. U of S GSA will be responsible for the first white paper, however, unfortunately, the incoming VP External barely attended the conference.
 - i. Thank Naheda for her hard work.

5. VP Operations & Communications

- Organized a Mindfulness mediation session
- Currently conducting a staff evaluation
- Helped plan and host the ThinkGRAD Conference 2017
- Writing a transition report to the incoming VP Operations and will be meeting her

6. VP Aboriginal Liaison [sent regrets]

7. President

- Attended 18 meetings and TG Conference.
- Participated in ThinkGRAD Conference 2017
 - i. Appreciated Naheda, VP External and VP Operations' hard work.
- VPTL Review Committee and worked on the review report
- Sat on two search committees for associate VP Research
- Sat on VP Dean search for CGPS interviews
- Prepared GSA Annual report
- Prepared an annual report to the U of S Council & Senate
- Planning of the next Executive's retreat
- Thanked the executive for their hard work this past year and wished them the best

7. Items for Actions/Information

7.1. AGM

[Z. Ghaith]

The Executive Committee decided to have a 20 minute presentation of the 2016/2017 term by the GSA President at the AGM.

7.2. GSA Executive travel budget

[Z. Ghaith]

Sharma explained that there was an expense which happened in July that although filed, it was missed from the budget. Ghaith asked why it was late, and Sharma explained that it was filed but due to her laptop crashing, it was not captured in the budget. Ghaith stated that this means there is not enough funds for the Aboriginal Liaison to register to the CFS Conference despite its approval at the last executive meeting. Absher stated that although there's no budget, we should seek funding from other avenues to ensure the U of S GSA is represented at this meeting. Based on the budget and the providing of wrong figures, the registration of the Aboriginal Liaison to this conference will be canceled, however VP External and VP Finance will be looking for other sources of funding.

7.3. Transition Reports

[Z. Ghaith]

Ghaith stated that every Executive should provide a transition report, and one meeting to the incoming Executive. According to the policy 1.6.

7.4. 3MT & Gala Updates

[Z. Ghaith]

Ghaith explained that 3MT and Gala had a shortage in their budget. The VP External and VP Academic will be continuing their fundraising efforts. If not enough money is fundraised until April 25th, they will go to council and seek funds from the GSA budget.

7.5. End of Term Social

[S. Sapal]

Sapal notified the Executive Committee that the end of term social will be on April 25th at 7:30 PM in the GSA Commons. She invited the Executive to attend. She will be using her discretionary fund the event.

8. Adjournment at 7:51 PM.