



## University of Saskatchewan - Graduate Students' Association

### Executive Meeting Agenda

September 27, 2018, 5PM – 7PM

**Present:** Naheda Sahtout (President), Jesus Corona Gomez (VP Finance and Operations), Edgar Martinez-Soberanes (VP Student Affairs), Marie-Eve Presber (Indigenous Liaison), Somtochukwu Ufondu (VP External).

**Regrets:** n/a

#### 1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks

The President called the meeting to order at 4:57 pm.

The President congratulates the Executives for the job well done in the first Council meeting of the 2018-2019 academic years, emphasizing that it was great to see the level of engagement and participation from graduate students across campus.

The President congratulated the VP External on the Health Chat held today, where more than 40 participants attended the session entitled, 'Tips on being an exceptional graduate student'.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

The President asked if there were any additions or amendments to the agenda as circulated.

The Indigenous Liaison added an item for discussion 5.1. IGSC Liaison report. The VP Student Affairs added an item for discussion 5.2. New social club ratification.

*Motion to approve the agenda as amended moved by Indigenous Liaison and seconded by VP External.*

*Motion carried*

#### 3. Approval of the September 13, 2018 Executive Meeting Minutes

The President asked whether there were any further amendments to the September 13, 2018 Executive Meeting Minutes.

*Motion to approve the September 13, 2018 Executive Meeting Minutes moved by Indigenous Liaison and seconded by VP Student Affairs.*

*Motion carried  
1 abstention (President)*

#### 4. Items for Action

##### 4.1 Approval of an Executive to attend the 2018 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students

The President mentioned that usually the VP External is the one to attend the Annual General Meeting of CFS. The Executives agreed and supported the VP External to attend this meeting.

*Motion to approve Somtochukwu Ufondu to attend the 2018 Annual General Meeting of CFS moved by VP Student Affairs and seconded by Indigenous Liaison.*

***Motion carried  
1 abstention (VP External)***

#### **4.2 Cheque remittance**

Whereas GSA bylaws 5.4.3 restricts expenditure amounts above \$500, of any budget line, with the exception of salaries and Executive honorariums, without a majority vote of the Executive.

BIRT that the following expenditures be authorized:

- Payment to Wholesale Club in the sum of \$1,606.74 issued on September 3rd, 2018 for the purchase of GSA Orientation BBQ items.
- Payment to Steve Kushman Prod. in the sum of \$525.00 issued on September 4th, 2018 for D.J. services for GSA Orientation.
- Payment to University of Saskatchewan Crisis Aid Program in the Sum of \$7,000.00 issued on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for Crisis Aid support service to graduate students.

*Motion to approve the above expenditures moved by VP Finance and Operations and seconded by President.*

***Motion carried***

#### **4.3 TLARC Working Group Appointments**

The Indigenous Liaison indicated that in her last meeting of TLARC, she was notified that the GSA executive was allowed and encouraged to appoint interested graduate students to sit on the different working groups of TLARC.

*Motion to approve Somtochukwu Ufondu as the graduate student representative elected to sit on the Student Evaluation of Education Quality Questionnaire (SEEQ) Working Group of TLARC. Moved by VP Student Affairs and seconded by Indigenous Liaison.*

***Motion carried  
1 abstention (VP External)***

The Indigenous Liaison indicated that Indiana Best, other co-chair of the IGSC, who is currently pursuing her Master's in Public Health, has expressed interest in being involved and engaged within the Wellness Strategy Working Group of TLARC.

*Motion to approve Indiana Best to be the graduate student representative elected to sit on the Wellness Strategy Working Group of TLARC. Moved by the Indigenous Liaison and seconded by the VP Student Affairs.*

***Motion carried***

The President mentioned that Reggie Nyamekye expressed interest in being involved and engaged with the GSA. Ms. Nyamekye has extensive experience in student leadership and

volunteerism and her personal experience as an International student is an asset for discussions involving internationalization.

*Motion to approve Reggie Nyamekye to be the graduate student representative elected to sit on the Internationalization of the Curricula working group of TLARC. Moved by VP Student Affairs and seconded by VP External.*

***Motion carried***

*Motion to approve Marie-Eve Presber to be the graduate student representative elected to sit on the Faculty Development working group of TLARC. Moved by the Indigenous Liaison and seconded by the VP External.*

***Motion carried***

***1 abstention (Indigenous Liaison)***

## **5. Items for Information / Discussion**

### **5.1 IGSC Liaison Report**

The Indigenous Liaison wanted to relay the outcomes of the IGSC elections held on Tuesday, September 18th, 2018, at their AGM. She is honoured to continue in the position of IGSC co-chair/GSA Indigenous Liaison, and to continue collaborating with the GSA on key issues Indigenous graduate students face on campus.

- IGSC Co-Chair/GSA Indigenous Liaison: Marie-Eve Presber
- IGSC Co-Chair: Indiana Best
- IGSC Core-Council Representative (GSA Councillor): Tara Million
- IGSC Core-Council Representative (GSA Councillor): Adam McInnes

### **5.2 New social club ratification**

The VP Student Affairs mentioned that apart from the groups ratified in the last council meeting, there was a new group who is requesting ratification to the GSA. This new group is mainly focused on religious activities according to the constitution that was submitted for ratification. The main concern was whether the scope of this new group would make all GSA members welcome to participate into a specific religious activity and how this will be perceived by our members, in particular, those who practice other religions. The President mentioned that there are other spaces on campus more appropriate for religious activities. The Indigenous Liaison mentioned she would bring this concern back to the IGSC to ascertain the Indigenous perspective on this issue. In the meantime, the Indigenous Liaison proposed a motion to vote for the Executives recommendation to council regarding the ratification of Believers' Loveworld Campus Ministry.

*Motion to recommend the ratification of the new social group Believers' Loveworld Campus Ministry.*

***3 against and***

***2 abstention (1 due to conflict of interest)***

## **6. Other Business**

The Indigenous Liaison sits on the History Graduate Student Committee and she was requested to ask the Executives if there was a possibility to store the 20 – 30 boxes of books for them in the

GSA Commons. The President indicated that based on the limited space available in the GSA Commons, it is not possible to store books or any other items that require a large space.

**7. Confidential Session**

**8. In Camera Session**

**9. Adjournment of Meeting**

Seeing as there were no other items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.