



University of Saskatchewan - Graduate Students' Association
Executive Meeting Agenda
March 25, 2021 – WebEx

The GSA operates on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis Nation. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of our gathering place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

Present: Humaira Inam (President), Mery Mendoza (VP Finance and Operations), Carmen Marquez (VP Academic and Student Affairs), Qasim Gill (VP External Affairs), and Tina Alexis (VP Indigenous Engagement)

Regrets/Absent: None

Guest: None

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

The President call the meeting to order at 5:32PM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

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

The President added the following items for action/information:

1. ThinkGrad membership
2. College of Arts and Science: Search of Associate Deans' students

Motion: To approve the agenda as amended.

Moved: VP Academic and Student Affairs

Seconded: VP External Affairs.

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.

3. Approval of the March 11, 2021 Executive Meeting Minutes

The President asked whether there were any further amendments to the March 11, 2021 Executive Meeting Minutes.

Motion: To approve the March 11, 2021 Executive Meeting Minutes.

Moved: VP Academic and Student Affairs.

Seconded: VP External Affairs.

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.

4. Items for Action

4.1 Cheque Remittance

Whereas GSA bylaws 5.4.4 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:

1. *Payment in the amount of \$ 1609.50 for BB for the preparation of 2020 T1044 non-profit organization information return and 2020 T2 Corporate Income Tax Return.*

Motion: to approve the expenditures outlined in this section above

Moved: VP Indigenous Engagement.

Seconded: VP External Affairs.

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.

4.2 New and Distinguished Researcher Award Committee

A graduate student has to be appointed to serve on this committee.

Motion to approve Reggie Nyamekye to serve on the New and Distinguished Researcher Award Committee as the graduate student representative.

Moved: VP Academic and Student Affairs.

Seconded: VP External Affairs.

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.

4.3 Publicly Engaged Scholarship Team Award Committee

A graduate student has to be appointed to serve on this committee.

Motion to approve Humaira Inam to serve on the Publicly Engaged Scholarship Team Award Committee as the graduate student representative.

Moved: VP Indigenous Engagement.

Seconded: VP External Affairs.

GSA president (1, abstained), (4) in Favour,

Motion carried.

4.4 ThinkGrad Membership

The GSA Executive has decided to recommend the resignation from ThinkGrad membership. Although there has been a positive impact of ThinkGrad on the GSA –USask in the past, the current situation demonstrates a lack of internal organization with few activities and meetings. Consensus has not been reached on the fee continuation and the Board of Directors recommended the removal of the fee for the next upcoming year. A statement will be written indicating the main reasons why this recommendation was put

forward and will be provided to the incoming GSA Executives. Unless the fee is removed, GSA-USask should resign of ThinkGrad.

Motion: to recommend and approve resignation from ThinkGrad membership – unless the fee is removed – which will take place following the criteria of the Bylaws stated by the ThinkGrad organization.

Moved: VP Academic and Student Affairs.

Seconded: VP Indigenous Engagement.

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.

4.5 College of Arts and Science: Search of Associate Deans' students

A graduate student has to be appointed to serve on this committee.

Motion to approve the student Iyanu Kumayon for the College of Arts and Science for the Search of Associate Deans' students.

Moved: VP Academic and Student Affairs.

Seconded: VP External Affairs.

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.

4.6 Hearing Board –student representative

A graduate student has to be appointed on the Hearing Board into an allegation of inappropriate authorship/inadequate acknowledgement under the USask Responsible Conduct of Research Policy.

Motion to assign Darcia Roache as the graduate student representative on this hearing board.

Moved: VP External Affairs.

Seconded: VP Indigenous Engagement.

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.

5. Items for Information / Discussion

5.1 Reports for AGM

The President reminded the GSA Executive that they have to submit their report for the GSA- AGM on April 1, 2021. If, for unforeseen circumstances, any Executive will miss the deadline, please communicate this to the Chair.

5.2 3MT 2021 Event

The VP Academic and Students Affairs informed the Executive team that the 3MT Competition will be held on Friday, March 26, 2021 from 9am to 4:30pm and will be facilitated and moderated by the President and VP Finance. There are 28 participants this year and the program has already been shared with the judges and participants.

5.3 Co-Curricular Record (CCR)

The President reminded the Executive team that Chairs from their respective standing committees must provide the names and NSID of students who actively participated in the GSA committees so that they can be provided with CCR by the end of April 2021.

5.4 Awards Gala

The VP External Affairs informed the Executive team of the information that was received for the GSA Annual Awards nominations. We have received 23 applications. The VP

External affairs will soon be calling the members of the GSA Awards Selection Committee for a meeting to follow the selection process and pick the winners of the awards. The President asked the VP External to organize the meeting for the awards committee in the next few days as the awards need to be ordered and delivered after selection as well.

5.5 Package for the Board of Governors – Statements Against Tuition Hike

The President informed the Executive team that a confirmation of the receipt of the tuition package addressed to the Board of Governors was received. A written response from the Provost was also received and forwarded to the Executives, however it does not address any of the concerns provided to the members of the Board of Governors, sent on March 18, 2021. The President stated that we are currently waiting on the decision from the Board of Governors and once that is received, she will communicate this with the Executives.

5.6 GSA Budget 2021-2022

The VP Finance and Operations stated that the Budget and Finance Committee has developed the Budget for the 2021-2022 Fiscal year and the GSA Board of Directors will soon receive this document for approval.

6. Other Business

The President asked if there was any other business arising, there was none.

7. Confidential Session

8. In-Camera Session

9. Adjournment of Meeting

The President asked for the adjournment of the meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 PM.

Moved: VP Academic and Student Affairs

Seconded: VP External Affairs

Vote: All in Favour,

Motion carried.