



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

## GSA Meeting September 7, 2023

**Time: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

**Attendance:** Mostofa Kamal, Abbas Fazel Anvari-Yazdi, Ramin Mohammadi, Kayla Benoit, Sristy Sumana Nath

**Regret:** none

**Guest:** none

**Land Acknowledgment:**

GSA President Mostofa Kamal

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:19 PM by GSA President Kamal.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

President Kamal asked whether there were any amendments to the plan as circulated. There was no amendment.

*Motion: To approve the current agenda*

*Moved: VP-External (Abbas Fazel)*

*Seconded: (VP-Finance-Ramin Mohammadi)*

**Vote: All in Favour,**

**Motion Carried.**

**Agenda Items: (Discussion and Decision)**

**President:**

**1. Approval of executive meeting minutes (August 23, 2023)**

Move: VP-External (Abbas Fazel)

2<sup>nd</sup>: Ramin

**2. Meeting with USASK president Peter Stoicheff, Vice-Provost of Teaching and Learning, and Vice-President University Relation:**

President Mostofa Kamal proposed to meet all the University VPs to meet and discuss about the GSA concerns and our needs. Due to time shortage on every PEC meeting, the GSA needs to talk with university leaders to share the GSA updates.

VP-Teaching has priority to meet to discuss about the wellness doctors and maternity leave for graduate students. GSA also share and will talk about the completion date faster to help with university ranking. For an example, the graduated students who already graduated from Canadian universities, they have to pass several courses as the Ph.D. degree requirement. Removing the duplicate courses completion will reduce the graduate studies completion years.

**3. Meeting with the Postdoctoral Society (PDS):**

Postdoctoral society has more than 150 members at USASK, and they are following the same directions to achieve the PDS rights including the childcare. The CGPS dean suggested to invite PDS president to start the initiatives based on GSA and PDS priorities for childcare center for graduate students and Postdoctoral fellows. GSA/PDS unitedly will support each other and lobbying for childcare when they mutually meet the USASK president. This motion will be aligned with the GSA visions.

**Move: VP-Finance (Ramin Mohammadi)**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: VP-External (Abbas Fazel)**

***Vote: All in Favour,***

***Motion Carried.***

**4. Elevated Speech Competition:**

This event rescheduled to October 17 from 15-17 p.m.

**5. GSA manager hiring:**

The GSA office manager hiring committee ended up to rank two best candidates (Fatemeh Sedighipour and Paul Trujillo). The hiring committee decided to schedule second round of interview with these two candidates.

**Motion: Having another hiring meeting for both candidates:**

**Move: VP-Finance (Ramin Mohammadi)**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: VP-Academic (Sristy Suman)**

***Vote: All in Favour,***

***Motion Carried.***

6. **GSA representative to Vice-Provost Indigenous and engagement hiring committee:**  
Kayla Benoit VP-Indigenous will be the GSA representative for Vice-Provost Indigenous and engagement hiring committee.

**VP-Finance:**

1. **Confirm the research conference date and time:**

The research conference schedule will be November 9, 2023, at 10-17

2. Three cheques for getting approval, two of them for student care (330,304.95 CAD and 150,000.00 CAD) and other ones for orientation T-shirts (6,355.32 CAD):

Move: VP-Indigenous (Kayla Benoit)

2<sup>nd</sup>: President (Mostofa Kamal)

**Vote: All in Favour,  
Motion Carried.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 18:26**

- a. Move: VP-Finance (Ramin Mohammadi)