



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 May 9, 2023

Time: 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm

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

Regret: none

Guest: none

The meeting started at 5:20 pm

Mostafa Kamal: As we are together here today, I acknowledge, we are on today's territory and the homeland of the Metis! We pay our respect to the First nation and message ancestors of this day, and we affirm our relationship with one another.

Items for discussion:

1. Thesis award committee attendance:

Vice President of External Affairs Abbas Fazel Anvari-Yazdi will attend this meeting as a GSA representative on Monday, May 15, 2023.

2. VIDO evaluation committee representative:

Vice President of Financial and Operations Ramin Mohammadi will be the GSA representative, and the GSA president will introduce him to the evaluation committee.

3. GIFS evaluation committee representative:

For this committee, GSA president Mostafa Kamal will send the details to VP-External to find a graduate student for the food security evaluation committee as a GSA representative.

4. Meeting with the University Library (Rachel Serjeant-Jenkins):

All executive members approved to meet the University Library (Rachel Serjeant-Jenkin). For this meeting, GSA president Mostafa Kamal will respond to the email to schedule a meeting.

5. GSA manager Hiring:

All the GSA executives will interview the candidates for transparency in the hiring process. The hiring must be finalized by this summer (2023). The salary for the office manager will be annually and estimated to be 40K CAD. The contract will be renewed every year.

6. Executives meeting schedules for 2023-2024:

The GSA executive meetings will be held every 3rd week of the month on Wednesday from 5-7 p.m. (Until August 2023).

For Fall and Winter semesters, the 1st and 3rd week of every month of Wednesday at 5-7 p.m. (Until April 2024).

7. GSA Council meeting schedules for 2023-2024:

The council meetings will be held **bimonthly** in the Spring and Summer semesters on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 5-6 p.m.

For Fall and Winter semesters, the council meetings will be held **monthly** on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 5-6 p.m.

8. Promoting palette program to graduate students:

VP-Finance Ramin Mohammadi will send the details to the GSA President Mostafa Kamal, and he will announce the Agriculture Palette program via the GSA newsletter.

9. Summer UPass for graduate students:

The GSA will circulate a poll to all graduate students through the GSA newsletter or individually to estimate the UPass needs for Spring and Summer semesters. If the poll result for the option “Yes, I need UPass for summer” was more than 30%, the GSA will start the negotiation with the City of Saskatoon.

10. GSA common cooling system:

The VP-Finance and operation talked to the USask FMD department to equip the GSA common cooling system. The budget for the cooling system was approved in the AGM meeting (20K CAD).

11. GSA bursary (Spring/Summer):

VP-Finance Ramin Mohammadi will prepare the bursary SurveyMonkey application platform for Spring/Summer bursary by May 22, 2023, and will be announced through the GSA newsletter. The applications will be open by June 9, 2023 (extension depends on the number of applicants), and the evaluation time is only two weeks.

Items for decision:

1. Summer UPass survey:

The poll will be conducted through the SurveyMonkey platform to estimate the number of Spring and Summer UPass requests.

Mover: VP-Academic and Students, Sristy Sumana Nath

Second: VP-Indigenous, Kayla Benoit

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Mover: President, Mostafa Kamal