



University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 10, 2020. WebEx Meeting*

As Council gathers, we acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of our gathering place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

Attendance: See appendix A

**WebEx Meeting: The November 10th, 2020 Council Meeting took place via WebEx due to the global health pandemic of COVID-19, where the Government of Saskatchewan made directives to practice social distancing in order to curb the spread of the virus.*

1. Call to Order

All Council Members were emailed the Agenda package, as well as the WebEx meeting link with the meeting number and password to participate online. The Student Forum terms of reference were also attached to the same email. The Chair of Council officially welcomed the 2020/2021 Members of Councilors to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM after the quorum for the meeting had been met. Ms. Asiyah Suchak, the Secretary of Council compiled the meeting minutes.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda as circulated. No amendments were put forward.

Motion to approve the agenda. (Ramin/Gill)

Carried

3. Guest from CFS – Wesam AbdElhamid Mohamed

The Guest from CFS, Wesam Mohamed gave a PowerPoint which has been circulated via email to all members.

Councillor: Does it come with funds to help promote the program and does it offer workshops?

Wesam Mohamed: It does not come with funds, but we are happy to help with steps needed to promote such as presenting and providing graphics and workshops.

Councilor: I have a question regarding conflict with another program.

Wesam Mohamed: I don't see it as a conflict rather as a toolkit for helping graduate students, and the problems we had 3 years ago when we did the research still applies.

There were no more questions after this, and the floor was given back to the Chair.

4. Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2020

The Chair asked if there were any suggested changes before the minutes were approved. President Inam suggested some amendments. The Chair stated that these are soft amendments and will be made.

Motion to approve the October 20, 2020 minutes. (Inam/Kumayon)

Carried

5. Approval of minutes from November 2, 2020 from the Elections and Referenda Committee

Motion to approve the November 2, 2020 minutes of the Elections and Referenda Committee. (Sajid/Lopez)

Carried

6. Information to be received

- a. Executive meeting minutes from October 8, 2020
- b. Executive meeting minutes from October 22, 2020

Motion to receive agenda item 6a and b. (Kroeker/Gill)

Carried

7. Appointment of two representatives to the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) Student Forum

President Inam called for two academic councilors to put themselves forward to join the Student forum. Their role would be to provide input for graduate students. President Inam mentioned that further information is provided in the terms of reference and if more information was needed, they can email her. The Chair asked for members who will be interested in the Student Forum. Chloe Smith-Lopez nominated herself and Brady Kroeker also put his name forward.

Motion to approve the two representatives for the U of S Student Forum. (Gill/Ramin)

Carried

8. Re-allocation of budget line 53309

The Chair called on an Executive member to explain this. President Inam spoke on behalf of the Executives. She explained that the Budget is on the GSA website in case anyone wanted to take a look at it. President Inam then explained that the GSA Executives are requesting for the approval

of the reallocation of the line 53309, initially intended for the Conflict Resolution Workshop, to support the “Holiday Hangout” event this year. The Conflict Resolution workshop is not being offered this academic year due to COVID-19, and the in-person “Holiday Hangout” event cannot take place due to COVID-19 restrictions on campus. The GSA Executives are proposing to hold an alternative “Holiday Hangout” where meals will be delivered to students in Saskatoon during the December break. Students will be able to register for meals in advance. She explained that the Executives believed that this would be nice for students that cannot go home for the holidays and would make them feel like they are a part of something.

Councillor: Are there any other avenues where this budget might have been reallocated instead?

President Inam: The Executives decided that this would be the best way to reallocate the money as there isn’t enough in the budget for this event without re-allocating the funds; as they only have \$500 and some of that has been used for the Halloween event as well as the winter events.

Councillor: Do you think the budget can cater for all students, if almost all the graduate students indicate interest?

President Inam: No this would not cater to all 4000 graduate students. It would only be for students that are in Saskatoon over the holidays as the food would be ordered and delivered in Saskatoon from a Saskatoon restaurant. The \$1,000.00 CAD would not be enough to send meals to all 4000 students but it is aimed at supporting those graduate students that are in Saskatoon over the holidays and cannot go home to their families.

President Inam, VP Gill, and VP Ramin abstained due to a conflict of interest. Ajay Shrinivas Muthukumar and Azadeh Nazeran also abstained.

Motion to approve the re-allocation of budget line 53309. (Glencia/Kumayon)

Carried

9. GSA Executives Report

a. President’s Report

The President presented her report to Council. There were no questions for President Inam.

b. Vice President Finance and Operations Report

The Vice President Finance and Operations presented his report to Council. There were no questions for VP Ramin.

c. Vice President Academic and Student Affairs Report

The Vice President Academic and Student Affairs was not available, so the Chair recognized the

President to present her report to Council. The president encouraged members to send any questions to the VP Academic and Student Affairs via email if at gsa.sa@usask.ca

d. Vice President External Affairs Report

The Vice President External Affairs presented his report to Council. There were no questions for VP Gill.

10. Other Business/Announcement

There was no additional business or announcements.

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 5:59 pm. (Sajid/Gill)

Carried

Appendix A

Academic Council	Name of Councillors and (alternates)	Sep.22 2020	Oct.10 2019	Nov.10 2020	Dec.8 2020	Jan.26 2021	Feb.23 2021	Mar.16 2021	Apr.6 2021	Jun. 2021	Aug. 2021
Agricultural and Resources Economics (ARE) Graduate Student Association	Darnell Holt (Chloe Smith Lopez)	N/A	N/A	P							
Biology Graduate Student Association	Mercy Harris (Dylan Baloun) (Joseph Abrams)	P	P	P							
Chemistry Course Council	Iyanu Kumayon Doug Fansher	N/A	P	P							
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Anatomy, Physiology & Pharmacology	Kayla J. Cropper (Kushagra Parolia)	N/A	P	P							
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology	Gabrielle Mercier (Ashley Sutherland)	N/A	P	P							
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Community Health & Epidemiology	Amanda Gannon (Azadeh Nazeran)	N/A	P	P							
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Health Sciences	Elyse Proulx-Cullen (Una Goncin)	N/A	P	P							
Computer Science Graduate Council (CSGC)	Fidelia Orji Saikat Mondal (Sristy Sumana Nath)	A	P	P							

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Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Biological	Ninu Kallingal Mohandas (Tahereh Najib)	N/A	P	P							
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Biomedical	Arman Haghanifar (Alizadeh Sardroud)	N/A	P	P							
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Chemical	Fahimeh Esmi (Khaled, Zoroufchi Benis)	N/A	P	P							
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Civil, Geological & Environmental	Ajay Shrinivas Muthukumar (Hamed Beiranvand Mohammad)	N/A	P	P							
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Electrical & Computer	Karim Shahbazi (Mahdiyar Molahasani)	N/A	P	P							
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Mechanical	Tonye Jack (Alireza Razmavar)	N/A	P	P							
English Course Council	Tricia Monsour (Darius Simonot) (Amanda Burrows)	N/A	P	R							
Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy Students' Association	Brady Kroeker (Ahmed Abunada)	N/A	A	P							
Kinesiology Graduate Student Council	Natalie Houser (KC Hall)	P	P	P							

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Pharmacy & Nutrition Graduate Students' Council	Sukanya Pati (Ayat Zagzoog)	N/A	N/A	P							
Physical Therapy Student Society (PTSS)	Matthew Reichert Cherise Schlekewy	N/A	N/A	P							
SENSA	Mostofa Kamal Mariana Campos (Jaclyn Porter) (Rory Wheat)	N/A	P	A							
SPHSA	Aisha Sajid Maha Khan (Maggie Coupland) (Daniel Medina)	N/A	P	P							
Sociology GSA	Connor Morrison Maria Cruz (Alana Demkiw)	P	P	A							
Soil Science Graduate Student Association	Amy Jimmo (Aimée Schryer)	N/A	P	A							
Toxicology Graduate Students' Association	Alana Weber (Jensen Cherewyk)	A	R	P							
Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVI) GSA	Miranda Zwiefelhofer Michelle Tucker Jennifer Abi Younes	P	P	A							

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Exec. President	Humaira Inam	P	P	P							
Exec. VP Finance and Operations	Hadi Ramin	P	P	P							
Exec. VP Academic and Student Affairs	Carmen Marquez Mellidez	R	P	R							
Exec. VP External Affairs	Qasim Shahzad Gill	P	P	P							