



**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 14, 2021. Zoom 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

Dr. Burshtyn presentation Appendix B

**Zoom Meeting: The December 14, 2021 Council Meeting took place via Zoom due to the global health pandemic of COVID-19, where the Government of Saskatchewan along with University Administration has put social guidelines in to curb the spread of the virus.*

Chair: Hema Sandeep Navara
Recording Secretary: Nicole Pasloski

The Chair indicated his acknowledgement of his place zooming in from Treaty 4 land, home of the Cree, Saulteaux bands of the Ojibwa peoples and the Assiniboine, as he is situated/zooming in from Regina.

Attendee Dias shared via chat: "In the spirit of reconciliation, I am grateful to be living and working on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Lekwungen peoples, today the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, and the Metis Chartered Community of Victoria."

1. Call to Order/Opening remarks

The agenda package was emailed with the Zoom meeting link for online participation. The Chair welcomed members of council and called the meeting to order at 1705 CST. Ms. Nicole Pasloski, the Recording Secretary of Council compiled the meeting minutes.

Approval of the Agenda

The Chair asked about any amendments to the agenda as circulated via email.

- The President of GSA noted a minor friendly amendment to remove the word "Verbal" from Item# 5.

- The VP Academic and Student Affairs noted two minor friendly amendment of wording within his report within Lines 16 and 18. The Chair noted the changes as below.
 - Line 16: Please replace Graduate Program Committee with Academic Program Committee
 - Line 18: Please replace Graduate student admission discussion and approval of the degree-level certificate with Residence service issues including RCC balance, rent payment notification

Motion to approve the amendment. (Zahan/Proulx-Cullen)

Carried

Motion to approve the amended agenda. (Zahan/Proulx-Cullen)

Carried

2. Guest from CGPS: Dean, Dr. Debby Burshtyn

Dr. Burshtyn thanked the council for having her at the meeting and spoke at length about changes that are planned mainly around funding for graduate students. She spoke about funding incentives for attracting students to the U of S, as well as changes to guaranteed funding over a set amount of student study time. Dr. Burshtyn's report was presented to council members and is included as Appendix B.

Question: What does "embedding tuition in scholarships mean?"

Debby: This will mostly affect Dean's Scholarships and basically just makes managing the scholarship funds easier from an administrative point of view.

Follow-up: will be revisiting part-time PhD availability after the 4th year of a PhD?

Debby: the idea is for full time students to have these guaranteed funding and not part-time PhDs so CGPS doesn't have that modeled yet. There could be professional exceptions, but she doesn't know yet.

Dr. Burshtyn thanked the council for their time and indicated anyone is welcome to come speak with her at any time if they wish.

3. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes – November 23, 2021

The Chair asked if there were any suggested changes before the minutes were called for approval.

Motion to approve the November 23, 2021, meeting minutes. (Zahan/Suchak)

Abstain – Simi Keykhosravi

Carried

4. Approval of the following budget codes for Holiday Hangout and Winter Orientation Expenses

The Chair handed the floor to the President who spoke, with detail, to each of the asks for budget approval from the council (codes indicated).

- 52920 (Executive Travel: \$2000),
- 52903 (Academic Council Foods and Beverage: \$3000),
- 52904 (GSA Committees Food and Beverage: \$1000), and
- 52321 (Coffee/Tea Bar Supplies and Expenses: \$1500)

The Chair made a motion for budget approval for the aforementioned amounts. (Dubé/Carruthers)

Carried

5. Information to be Received

Executive Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2021

The President asked that the description of the item be changed to remove the word verbal.

Motion to approve the November 19, 2021, Executive Meeting Minutes. (Zahan/Gannon)

Carried

6. Update: By-Election VP Indigenous Engagement

The Chair shared that no nominations have been received and so the Executives will meet with Elections and Referenda committee in January.

7. Executive Reports

A. President's Report:

The report was presented to council members and was available in the agenda package. There were no questions for the President.

B. Vice President Finance & Operations Report:

The report was presented to council members and was available in the agenda package. There were no questions for VP Finance & Operations.

- C. Vice President Academic & Students Affairs Report:
The report was presented to council members and was available in the agenda package. There were no questions for VP Academic & Student Affairs.
- D. Vice President External Affairs Report:
The VP External Affairs sent his regrets. His report is included in the package, and any questions can be directed to him via his email, also included in the package.

8. Other Business/Announcements

Counsellor Gladman from the English Course Council had questions about COVID safety in the Winter term and enforcing safety protocols.

The President responded that we don't have any more information on their questions but information can be found on the University's COVID website, as well there are individuals to contact on there if need be.

9. 9. Adjournment

The Chair moved to adjourn at 1811 CST. *(Suchak/Dube)*.

Next Meeting: January 18, 2022.

Appendix A

Academic Council	Name of Councillors and (alternates)	Sep. 21, 2021	Oct. 26, 2021	Nov. 23, 2021	Dec. 14, 20 21	Jan. 18, 2022	Feb. 15, 2022	Mar. 15, 2022	Apr. 13, 2022 (AGM)	Jun. 2022	Aug. 2022
Agricultural and Resources Economics (ARE) Graduate Student Association	Amy Carruthers – Councillor Michelle Ross-Alternate	N/A	P	P	P						
Animal and Poultry Science	Rachel Carey – Councillor Megan Wasden - Alternate			P	P						
ARCHAIA	Angela Burant - Councillor Bailey Pelletier - Alternate	N/A		P	P						
Biology Graduate Student Association	Jory Litt-Jukes – Councillor Mercy Harris – Alternate		P	P	P						
Chemistry Course Council	Iyanu Kumayon - Councillor Srikant Singh - Alternate	N/A	P		P						
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Anatomy, Physiology & Pharmacology	Kundanika Mukherjee – Councillor Arshdeep Jagait – Alternate	N/A		P	A						
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology	Maddie Stewart – Councillor Rachel Harris- Alternate	N/A	P	P	A						
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Community Health & Epidemiology	Amanda Gannon – Councillor Emilia Gillies - Alternate	N/A	P	P	P						
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Health Sciences	Elyse Proulx-Cullen – Councillor Fabrice N. Njotu – Alternate	N/A	P	P	P						
Computer Science Graduate Council (CSGC)	Fidelia Orji – Councillor Naz Zarreen Oishie – Councillor Keyhan Najafian – Alternate		P	P	P						
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Biological	Ninu Kallingal Mohandas – Councillor	N/A	P		P						
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Biomedical	Abbas Fazel - Councillor Tochukwu Ezechukwu - Alternate	N/A	P		A						

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Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Chemical	Shahab Minaei – Councillor Khaled Zoroufchi Benis - Alternate	N/A	P	P	A						
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Civil, Geological & Environmental	Fatima Abed Al Sater – Councillor Behdad Saed - Alternate	N/A			A						
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Electrical & Computer	Simin Keykhosravi – Councillor Sandhya Chandran - Alternate	N/A			P						
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Mechanical	Justin Tricsli – Councillor Tonye Jack – Alternate	N/A		P	P						
English Course Council	Dara Gerbrandt –Councillor Challen Gladman - Councillor Amanda Burrows - Alternate	N/A	P	P	P						
Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy Students' Association	Fati Zahra Mubarak – Councillor Shehreen Fatima - Alternate	N/A	P		A						
Kinesiology Graduate Student Council	Natasha Boyes Mostat – Councillor Kelly Corrine Hall – Alternate	P	P	P	P						
Physical and Engineering Physics -PEGASUS	Kimberlee Dube – Councillor Nicholas Simonson - Alternate	N/A	P	P	P						
Pharmacy & Nutrition Graduate Students' Council	Jennifer Chami - Councillor Asiyah Suchak - Alternate	N/A			P						
Plant Science	Sandesh Neupane – Councillor Adam Carter - Alternate	N/A		P	P						
Physical Therapy Student Society (PTSS)	Michael Tweten - Councillor Devin Wittow – Alternate	N/A	P		P						
SENSA	Tatiana Corello - Councillor Jaclyn Porter - Councillor Rory Wheat - Alternate	N/A	P		A						
SPHSA	Samin Shirzadi – Councillor Richa Tikoo – Councillor Barsa Saha – Alternate Jasmin Ogren – Alternate	N/A			P						

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Sociology GSA	Kayla Arisman – Councillor Ayla Zehtab-Jadid – Councillor Shayla Batty – Councillor Iyesogie Iyiewuare – Alternate Grace Rath – Alternate Kamal Abu-Hena – Alternate	N/A	P	P	A						
Soil Science Graduate Student Association	Amy Jimmo - Councillor Eric Neil – Alternate	N/A	P		P						
Toxicology Graduate Students' Association	Jensen Cherewyk – Councillor Hannah Mahoney - Alternate	N/A	P	P	P						
Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) GSA	Jennifer Abi Younes - Councillor Jade Sands – Alternate Christopher Zinck - Alternate	N/A			P						

GSA Executives	Name of GSA Executives	Sep. 21, 2021	Oct. 26, 2021	Nov. 23, 2021	Dec. 14, 20 21	Jan. 18, 2022	Feb. 15, 2022	Mar. 15, 2022	Apr. 13, 2022 (AGM)	Jun. 2022	Aug. 2022
Exec. President	Rifat Zahan	P	P	P	P						
Exec. VP Finance and Operations	Ehsan Moradi	P	P	P	P						
Exec. VP Academic and Student Affairs	Mostafa Kamal	N/A	P	P	P						
Exec. VP External Affairs	Devin Cherneski	N/A	P	P	A						
Exec. VP Indigenous Engagement	Vacant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A						

Appendix B

University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association 2021-22 Standing Committees Update - November 2021

Dear Members of Council,

The below is the list of ratified members of the 2021-22 Standing Committees.

2021-22 Budget and Finance Committee

Members include:

- **VP Finance and Operations as Chair - Ehsan Moradi**
- President - Rifat Zahan
- Council Member - Zahra Mubarak
- Regular/general Member – Soheila Ahmadi
- Regular/general Member - Sristy Sumana Nath
- Regular/general Member - Ozra Mohammadi
- Regular/general Member- Sourabh Kumar

2021-22 Bursary Committee

Members include:

- **VP Finance and Operations as Chair - Ehsan Moradi**
- VP Academic and Student Affairs - Mostofa Kamal
- Council Member - Iyanu Kumayon
- Council Member - Shahab Minaei
- Council Member - Khaled B Zoroufchi
- Regular/general Member - Cody Malone
- Regular/general Member - Melissa Onwuliri
- Regular/general Member - Ozra Mohammadi
- Regular/general Member - Joshua Shitta

2021-22 Election & Referenda Committee

Members include:

- **Council Chair and Chief Electoral Officer – Hema Sandeep Narava (Elected during Council Meeting of November 23, 2021)**
- Council Member - Naz Zareen Oishie
- Regular/general Member - Shamse Tasnim Cynthia
- Regular/general Member - John Malyk
- Regular/general Member - Rosemary Martinez
- Regular/general Member - Daniel Nyarko-Afriyie
- Regular/general Member- Nabeela Kanwal

2021-22 Governance Committee

Members include:

- President - Rifat Zahan
- VP Academic and Student Affairs - Mostofa Kamal
- Council Chair and Chief Electoral Officer (Ex-Officio) – Hema Sandeep Narava
- Council Member - Elyse Proulx-Cullen
- Regular/general Member - William Davis
- Regular/general Member - Eronmwon Joyce Iroque

- Regular/general Member - Nabeela Kanwal
- Regular/general Member - Ankita Srivastava

2021-22 Code of Ethics and Discipline Committee

Members include:

- Council Chair and Chief Electoral Officer – Hema Sandeep Narava
- Council Member - Naz Zareen Oishie
- Regular/general Member - Shamse Tasnim Cynthia
- Regular/general Member - Gurinder Dhanju
- Regular/general Member - Sourabh Kumar
- Regular/general Member - Nabeela Kanwal
- Regular/general Member - Sristy Sumana Nath

2021-22 Awards Selection Committee

Members include:

- **VP External Affairs as Chair – Devin Cherneski**
- President - Rifat Zahan
- Council member – Shahab Minaei
- Regular/general Member – Sourabh Kumar
- Regular/general Member - Pezhman Zolfaghari Didani
- Regular/general Member - Sristy Sumana Nath
- Regular/general Member - Leonie Bettin
- Regular/general Member - Ozra Mohammadi
- Regular/general Member - Arash Mollahosseini

2021-22 Sustainability Committee

Members include:

- VP External Affairs - Devin Cherneski
- VP Indigenous Engagement - vacant
- Council Member - Shahab Minaei
- Council Member - Khaled B Zoroufchi
- Regular/general Member - Xingyu Zhou
- Regular/general Member - Ahmad Reza Salehi
- Regular/general Member - Sukhwinder Singh
- Regular/general Member – Anel Dannhauser
- Regular/general Member – Anupriya Senthilkumaran

2021-22 Diversity Committee

Members include:

- VP External Affairs - Devin Cherneski
- VP Indigenous Engagement - vacant
- Council Member – Naz Zareen Oishie
- Council Member - Elyse Proulx-Cullen
- Regular/general Member - Zhang Yongsheng
- Regular/general Member - Rita Idowu
- Regular/general Member - Martyne Farris
- Regular/general Member - Anupriya Senthilkumaran
- Regular/general Member – Josie Conacher