



University of Saskatchewan- Graduate Students' Association

Council Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 15th, 2022; 17:00-19:00

Meeting Location: GSA Commons

AGENDA

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

Item	Page	Action
1. Call to Order		
2. Approval of Agenda	1	<i>Decision</i>
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes		
3.1 Approval of the GSA Council Meeting Minutes August 11, 2022	2-8	<i>Decision</i>
4. GSA Executives Reports		
4.1 President's Report	9-11	<i>Information</i>
4.2 Vice President Finance & Operations Report (Verbal)		<i>Information</i>
4.3 Vice President Academic and Student Affairs Report	12	<i>Information</i>
4.4 Vice President External Affairs Report	13-14	<i>Information</i>
4.5 Questions & Answers		
5. Election of GSA Council Chair		<i>Decision</i>
6. Election of GSA Council Vice-Chair		<i>Decision</i>
7. Election of GSA Council Secretary		<i>Decision</i>
8. Ratification of Student Groups and Clubs		<i>Decision</i>
9. Other Business		<i>Information</i>
10. Adjournment		<i>Decision</i>



**University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association
Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday August 11, 2022. 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

**Zoom Meeting: The Thursday August 11, 2022, 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 place to curb the spread of the virus.*

Chair: Sadia Afrin Lema

Recording Secretary: Nicole Pasloski

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 1713 CST. Ms. Nicole Pasloski, the Recording Secretary of Council compiled the meeting minutes.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair asked about any amendments to the agenda as circulated via email. There were none.

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

Carried

3. Approval of the Decision Items from the July 14, 2022 Council Meeting

3.1 GSA Annual General Meeting Minutes 2022 – April 19th, 2022

3.2 GSA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2022

3.3 GSA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - June 2, 2022

Motion to approve items 3.1-3.3. (Gannon/Le)

Carried

3.4 Election of GSA Council Vice-Chair

There was one candidate who put their name forward for the position of GSA Council Vice-Chair: Tasbeen Sheeka. The candidate spoke briefly on their motivations for wanting to occupy the position, and experience. The Chair followed this up with instructions for each present Council member to send their vote privately to them over the chat function. The votes were as follows: Yes-13, No-0; Abstain-0. Congratulations were offered to Tasbeen.

3.5 Election of GSA Code of Ethics and Discipline Committee Member

In need of one general member since we lost a member to a different position and they must leave this position due to a conflict of interest. The Chair asked for one general member to put their name forward. No names were put forward at this time.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Chair asked if there were any amendments or questions before the minutes were called for approval.

4.1 Approval of the GSA Council Executive Meeting Minutes July 14, 2022

Motion to approve the July 14, 2022 meeting minutes. (Gannon/Carey)

Carried

4.2 Approval of the GSA Council Executive Meeting Minutes July 7, 2022

Motion to approve the July 7, 2022 meeting minutes. (Carey/Simonson)

Carried

5. Executive Reports

5.1 President's Report:

The President's report was presented to council members and was available in the agenda package. There were no questions for the President at this time. Any questions may be directed to the President's email address at any time at gsa.pres@usask.ca

5.2 Vice President Finance & Operations Report:

The report was presented to council members and was available in the agenda package. There were no questions for the VP at this time. Any questions for the VP may be directed to their email address any time at gsa.fin@usask.ca

5.3 Vice President Academic and Student Affairs Report:

The report was presented to council members and was available in the agenda package. There were no questions for the VP at this time. Any questions for the VP may be directed to their email address any time at gsa.sa@usask.ca

5.4 Vice President External Affairs Report:

The report was presented to council members and was available in the agenda package. There were no questions for the VP at this time. Any questions for the VP may be directed to their email address any time at gsa.external@usask.ca

5.5 Additional Q&A

There were no additional questions at this time.

6. Other Business Information

At this time, the Chair opened the floor for any new business to be brought forward for discussion. There were no concerns at this time.

7. Adjournment

The Chair moved to adjourn at 1741 CST. *(Carey/Simonson)*

Carried

Next Meeting: September 8, 2022.

Academic Council	Name of Councillors and (alternates)	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	Jun 2023
Exec. President	Mostafa Kamal	P									
Exec. VP Finance and Operations	Ehsan Moradi	P									
Exec. VP Academic and Student Affairs	Sristy Sumana Nath	P									
Exec. VP External Affairs	Ozra Mohammadi	P									
Exec. VP Indigenous Engagement	Vacant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A	N/A	N/A	N/A	P



Monthly Activity Report of GSA President, September 2022

Dear Council Members,

Please find the President's monthly activity summary from August 8, 2022, to September 08, 2022, as listed below.

1. JumpStart GSA Session, August 19, 2022

The GSA president attended the JumpStart GSA Session, where the GSA VP of Academic and Student Affairs presented the activities of the GSA.

2. Canadian Federation of Student National Graduate Caucus Meeting 2022

The GSA president and VP of External Affairs attended the CFS NGC to discuss the 2022-2023 fiscal year priorities and advocacy works.

3. CGPS Executive & Coordinating Committee Meet & Greet, August 25, 2022

The GSA president attended the introductory CGPS Executive & Coordinating Committee Meeting.

4. VPTLSE Search - EDI Training, August 25, 2022

The GSA president attended the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion training as part of the dean of the College of Arts and Science Search Committee before interviewing the VPTLS candidates to minimize unconscious bias in the hiring process.

5. Mistatimōk Committee Meeting, August 30, 2022

The GSA president attended the Mistatimōk Committee Meeting, where the incoming events were discussed.

6. BRT Branding session, August 30, 2022

The GSA president attended a consultation meeting with Saskatoon Transit about selecting a name for the City of Saskatoon's proposed Bus Rapid Transit.

7. Consultation meeting with the dean of CGPS, August 31, 2022

The GSA president met the dean of CGPS and discussed the following items:

- i. The graduate evaluation committee report
- ii. 3MT event 2023
- iii. A potential research communication workshop led by the GSA
- iv. Increased funding from the CGPS for GSA need-based bursary
- v. CGPS funding for future GSA events

8. GSA Executive Monthly Meeting, September 1, 2022

The GSA executives met for the monthly meeting on September 1, 2022. The GSA president updates the GSA executives about his meeting with the dean of CGPS.

9. Representing GSA at the dean of the College of Arts and Science Search Committee, September 1, 2022

The GSA president attended the search committee meeting for the dean of the College of Arts and Science of the University of Saskatchewan.

10. GSA Coordinator recruitment, September 7, 2022

During a normal time, the GSA commons is now open from 9 am to 7:30 pm. The GSA manager works only for regular business hours. Thus, the GSA decided to recruit graduate students to work as GSA office coordinators who can oversee the GSA office from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The GSA coordinators will support the GSA manager. The GSA president, along with the VP of Finance and Operations, completed the GSA coordinator hiring process.

11. GSA Fall orientation, September 8, 2022

The GSA organized its in-person fall 2022 orientation on September 8, 2022. A detailed report about the orientation event is submitted by the VP of Academic and Student affairs. It is to be noted that in-person orientation took place after two years.

Regards,

Mostofa Kamal

President

University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, SK, CANADA

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Facebook: [UsaskGSA](#) | Twitter: [GSA_USask](#) | Instagram: [GSA_Usask](#)

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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.



Monthly Activity Report from VP Academic and Student Affairs

Dear Council Members,

Please find the VP Academic and Student Affairs monthly activity summary from August 04, 2022, to September 08, 2022, as listed below:

1. Advocacy to one student to improve communication with supervisor: August 3, 2022

I discussed with the student regarding communication issues with the supervisor.

2. GSA Executive Committee Meeting: August 4, 2022

Please see executive meeting minutes for details.

3. Attending MPT orientation day: August 24, 2022

I attended the orientation of the MPT department on behalf of GSA and presented slides.

4. Presenting for Jumpstart: August 19, 2022

I hosted a 'Meet your GSA' session on behalf of GSA in JumpStart event on August 19, 2022. This will be one-hour online session to meet new grad students.

5. GSA Fall'22 Orientation: September 8, 2022

We hosted an in-person orientation program and arranged 400 swag bags for new grads. I presented a presentation briefly about GSA, GSA events & benefits and some other important academic and non-academic matters. We have four guest speakers in our orientation program. Professor Ryan Walker, Associate Dean of CGPS, also attended GSA orientation. We organized Pizza and drinks for lunch and arranged some snacks for volunteers in breakfast time.

6. Attended regular meetings of my portfolio:

- a. Graduate Programs Committee: September 6, 2022

Regards,

Sristy Sumana Nath

VP Academic and Student Affairs

Graduate Student's Association, University of Saskatchewan



August 2022

RE: VP External's Report to Council

Dear Council Members,

Please find below my report to the Council for Aug 2022:

1) Mental Health First Aid

I have completed the MHFA course, which is useful to workplace and grad students. The training was on July 26th and 27th in the Administration building from 9 am to 4 pm each day. To learn more and to register for an MHFA instructor course, visit www.mhfa.ca.

2) 2022-23 Student Handbook

The 2022-23 Student Handbook for GSA orientation is totally prepared and delivered to GSA common. we received \$1,435.00 as the total sponsorships for advertisement in the handbook.

3) Recording meetings

I have prepared meeting minutes for the or of the GSA executive by-weekly meetings of Aug 4, 2022.

4) Meetings/Events

The following is a list of meetings I have attended in Aug 2022:

Date	Meetings/Events
Aug 4, 2022	GSA executives' by-weekly meeting
Aug 11, 2022	GSA council meeting
Aug 24, 2022	National Graduate Caucus meeting-CFS

Regards,

Ozra Mohammadi.

Vice-President External Affairs

Graduate Students' Association (GSA)

University of Saskatchewan

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