



Graduate Students' Association

December Council Meeting Minutes

University of Saskatchewan-Graduate Students' Association (GSA)

Wednesday, December 17th, 2025; 17:00-19:00

Meeting Location: Online (Zoom)

"As Council gathers, we acknowledge that we are on Treaty C 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

Council Chair: Clement Abdallah

Recording Secretary: Aiminayanate Pepple

a. Call to Order

- Clement Abdallah welcomed every council member. The meeting was called to order at 5:18 PM.
- A land acknowledgment was observed, recognizing Treaty 6 territory and the Métis homeland.

b. Rules and Regulation

Clement Abdallah briefed council members of the:

- Use of Robert's Rules of Order.
- Requirement of mover and seconder for motions.
- Voting procedures (chat or a raise of hands).
- Time allocations: 3 minutes per speaker, with reminders.
- Emphasis on professionalism and respect.

c. Approval of Agenda

The chair asked for the approval of the meeting agenda.

Mover: Palash Roy

Seconded by: Luke Dojack

Yes: 17

No: 0

Abstention: 0

Motion carried.

d. Motion 1: Approval of GSA Council Meeting Minutes

✓ **November 26, 2025, Council Meeting**

Mover: Shreya Tiwary

Seconded by: Mary-fidelma Ndupu

Yes: 17

No: 0

Abstention: 0

Motion carried.

e. Resignation of the Vice-President External

- The president Palash Roy informed the council about the resignation of the VP External, Biraj Saha after 7 months of service with immediate effect on December 1st, 2025.
- Resignation was based on conflicting schedules.
- Suny Bui was recommended by the executives to be appointed as the new VP External due to time constraint and the inability to conduct a By-election.

f. Motion 2: To Appoint SUNNY BUI as Vice-President External Affairs

- Sunny Bui won the election with 14 votes as the new GSA Vice-President External Affairs.

g. GSA Executives Reports

➤ President – Palash Roy

- The USSU has agreed to manage the spring-summer transit pass for graduate students on behalf of the GSA with provided option to opt-out.
 - ❖ In view of this, the GSA hopes to communicate to graduate students in due time about the cost and duration of the transit pass.
- The president recognized the effort of Lindsay, the VP Finance for the successful annual audit of the current fiscal year and the proper maintenance of records through her years of service in the GSA.
 - ❖ The GSA, through its banking partner, RBC, is seeking to engage in short-term and low-risk investment options with proposed start date in January 2026.
- The GSA in discussion with the President's Executive Committee aims to organize EDI toolkits for the campus community.
- The GSA, in collaboration with Student Health and Wellbeing, the Sustainability Committee, the International Students and Study Abroad Centre, and the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union, will host the annual Holiday Hangout for students.

➤ Vice-President Finance and Operations – Lindsay Carlson

- The GSA annual audit has been completed for the year 2025.
 - ❖ Details of the financial report will be posted on the GSA website.
 - ❖ Continuation of audit service with Buckberger Baerg & Partners LLP.
- The GSA's organized low-cost professional portrait was successful with 67 students in attendance.
- VP Finance voted on the following issues:
 - ❖ Against the proposed increase of fees regarding late registration, late payment of tuition, and rescheduling of final examinations in the fee review committee.
 - ❖ Balance of international and domestic students to the national NSERC competition within the scholarship and awards committee.

➤ **Vice-President Student and Academic Affairs - Mandela Alema**

- The annual Holiday Hangout will be organized for students by the GSA in collaboration with the USSU, ISSAC, Office of Sustainability and Student Wellness Centre from the 29th - 30th of December 2025.
- The GSA is set to launch an intramural sports team in the Winter 2026 with the aim to encourage students' well-being and social involvement.
 - ❖ The sport activity will begin with basketball, volleyball, and futsal (indoor soccer).
 - ❖ Graduate students are encouraged to apply using this link
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=0GyrJH5Ilkebw9qcQjJ3bB-uNyrS0KFBns1IDZV3O2BUNIQ0STRKREpRRzZXMDBBRjJGNEZTV1VPMi4u&route=shorturl>

➤ **Vice-President Indigenous - Laila Valila**

- The VP indigenous attended the CFS Conference and the following motions were voted on:
 - ❖ Removal of the English language exam for international students following graduation.
 - ❖ National strike against graduate pay-rates.
 - ❖ Changes in CFS core services.
- GSA aims to increase communication and advertisements of CFS services.
- The VP acknowledges involvement in the USSU/GSA Anti-Racism Symposium held on the 19th of November 2025.
- Invitation has been extended to campus Indigenous and non-Indigenous groups regarding the upcoming Indigenous Career Fair and Intercultural Exchange.
- The VP in discussion with the CGPS Faculty advocated for more funding for course-based programs.

h. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm by Clement Abdallah.

Appendix A

	Academic Council	Councillor	December 2025
1	Agricultural and Resource Economics Graduate Students' Society	Councilor – Aminata Ba Alternate – Cornelius Mensah	P
2	Animal and Poultry Science Graduate Students' Association	Councilor - Megan Dubois Alternate - Beatriz Montenegro	P
3	Biology Graduate Students' Association	Councilor - Portia Mohrbutter Alternate - Laura Dyson	P
4	Chemistry Course Council	Councilor - Shreya Tiwary Alternate - Segun Liyansan	P
5	College of Medicine Graduate Student Society (CMGSS)	Councilor 1 - Griffin Lehnert Alternate 1 - Christopher Chivers	A
		Councilor 2 - Amber Jurke Alternate 2 - Hetvi Darji	A
6	College of Kinesiology Graduate Society	Councilor - Sunny Bui Alternate - Karissa Johnson	P
7	Computer Science Graduate Council (CSGC)	Councilor - Md Shamimur Rahman Alternate - Mary-fidelma Chioma Ndupu	P
8	Education Graduate Students Association (EGSA)	Councilor - Kiegan Lloyd Alternate – Rumpa Banik	A
9	Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC)	Councilor 1 - Farzana Haque Reeti Alternate 1 - Binod Sapkota	A
		Councilor 2 - Adit Raj Chalise Alternate 1 - Corwyn Shomachuk	P
10	English Graduate Students' Association	Councilor - Hamid Yari Alternate - Jasmine Redford	A
11	Geography and Planning Graduate Student Council (GEPL)	Councilor - Emily Ireland Alternate - Prakash Sapkota	P
12	History Graduate Student Association	Councilor - Jessy Lee Saas Alternate - Julia-Rose Miller	P
13	Nursing Graduate Students Association	Councilor - Kirsten Witter Councilor - Aja Tost	A
14	Physics and Engineering Physics Graduate Association of Students at University of Saskatchewan (PEGASUS)	Councilor - Jeisson Vanegas Alternate - Mona Zolghadrshojaee	A
15	Plant Science Graduate Students' Association (PSGSA)	Councilor 1 - Luke Dojack Alternate 1 - Makenna Mitchell	P

		Councilor 2 - Giri Raj Paudel Alternate 2 - Sachintha Attanayake	P
16	School of environment and Sustainability Student Association	Councilor 1 - Nelly Ataawomba Afuubi Alternate 1 - Jethro Opara	A
		Councilor 2 - Jabed Chowdhury Alternate 2 - Anas Ansari	A
17	Sociology Graduate Students Association	Councilor – Meaghan Boily Alternate - Leah Houseman	P
18	Soil Science Graduate Students Association	Councilor - Nemat Dindarloo Alternate - Levi Lundell	P
19	The School of Public Health Students' Association (SPHSA)	Councilor 1 - Motajo Modupeoluwa Olakunle	A
		Councilor 2 - Angelica Caresse Uy Alternate - Sun Thai	A
20	Toxicology Graduate Student Association	Councilor - Chantel De Lange Alternate - Catherine Roberts	A

Executive member	Name	December 2025
Executive President	Palash Roy	P
Exec. VP Finance and Operations	Lindsay Carlson	P
Exec. VP Academic and Student Affairs	Mandela Alema	P
Exec. VP External Affairs	Sunny Bui	P
Exec. VP Indigenous Engagement	Laila Valila	P

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