

## University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association GSA Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 2020. Email 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

\*Email Meeting: The April 7<sup>th</sup> 2020 Council meeting took place over email 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

The Chair of Council emailed all Councilors a link to the Agenda, as well as a link for voting on agenda items in order to participate over email. Councilors had 24 hours to participate and the call to order commenced as soon as Councilors received the link. Quorum for the meeting was reached. As the meeting was over email, there was no recording secretary for the meeting and the Chair noted all questions, comments and concerns.

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair, prior to the meeting, sent Councilors a request for any amendments to the agenda as circulated and provided a deadline to respond with any amendments. There were two amendments submitted:

Addition to agenda item 5 of the budget line 52320 to CAD 500, with this change, the revenue and expenses should match for 2020-20201. (Mendoza/Alam)

Addition of discussion item 8: Proposal for the University to waive the 2020 Spring/Summer Tuition fees for Graduate Students. (*Parolia/Zahan*)

Motion to approve the agenda as amended. (Zahan/Mellidez)

Carried

## 3. Approval of the minutes from March 17th, 2020

Motion to approve the March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes. (Zahan/Mellidez)

## Carried

#### 4. Information to be received

- A. November 4, 2019, Diversity Committee minutes
- B. November 8, 2019, Awards Selection Committee minutes
- C. November 8, 2019, Health and Dental Committee minutes
- D. December 10, 2019, Sustainability Committee minutes
- E. January 28, 2020, Sustainability Committee minutes
- F. January 30, 2020, Budget and Finance Committee minutes
- G. February 18, 2020, Executive Meeting minutes
- H. February 25, 2020, Diversity Committee minutes
- I. March 3, 2020, Sustainability Committee minutes
- J. March 5, 2020, Bursary Selection Committee minutes
- K. March 7 & 8, 2020 Awards Selection Committee minutes
- L. March 9, 2020, Elections and Referenda Committee minutes
- M. March 12, 2020, Governance Committee minutes
- N. March 25, 2020, Budget and Finance Committee minutes

Motion to receive agenda items 4A-N. (Zahan/Mellidez)

<u>Carried</u>

## 5. Motion: Operational Budget 2020-2021

Motion to approve the GSA 2020-2021 fiscal year budget and Operation budget notes. (Zahan/Mendoza)

Carried

## 6. Ratification of Iranian Students Council as a Social Club

Motion to ratify Iranian Students Council. (Fonseca/Zahan)

Carried

## 7. Executive reports

Report of the President

There were no questions for President Rengifo.

Report of the VP External

There were no questions for VP Ezekwesili.

Report of the VP Finance and Operations

There were no questions for VP Alam.

• Report of the VP Student Affairs

There were no questions for VP Fonseca.

# 8. Discussion: Proposal for the University to waive the 2020 Spring/Summer Tuition fees for Graduate Students

Councilors were in support of this initiative/proposal, and comments made reflected the following;

- Such a proposal should be sent to university administration, as tuition reductions will help graduate students;
- Consideration should be made regarding courses, particularly for course-based graduate programs, especially if practicum requirements will be postponed;
- Should tuition fees be waived / reduced, consideration should be made to refunding those who have already paid in full;
- Parallel should be drawn to other universities, such as those in Quebec, who have lower tuition fees per year for post-graduate studies.

## 9. Other Business/Announcements

A Councilor suggested that if possible, the GSA should try to reach out to students in every way possible, from a virtual coffee break or other online events.

## 10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. (Zahan/Mellidez)

Carried

Appendix A

Academic Council	Name of Councillors and	Sep.24	Oct.15	Nov.5	Dec.3	Jan.28	Feb.25	Mar.17	Apr.7	Jun.	Aug.
	(alternates)	2019	2019	2019	2019	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Agricultural and Resources Economics (ARE) Graduate Student Association	Ran San (Valentina Ofori)	N/A	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Animal & Poultry Science Grad Students' Assoc.	Muhammad Imran (Kiana Rieger)	Р	А	Р	А	А	А	А	Р		
ARCHAIA	Adrienne Ratushniak (Michelle Gowan)	Р	Р	А	А	Р	А	Р	А		
Biology Graduate Student Association	Rebecca Smith (Ruth Greuel) (Carmen Marquez) (Andrea Wishart)	N/A	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Chemistry Course Council	Naheda Sahtout (Doug Fansher)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Anatomy, Physiology & Pharmacology	Kushagra Parolia (Andrew Roebuc)	N/A	N/A	N/A	А	A	R	Р	Р		
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology	Sampurna Ghosh (Megha Rohamar)	N/A	N/A	N/A	А	А	А	А	А		
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Community Health & Epidemiology	Harini Aiyer (N/A)	N/A	N/A	N/A	А	Р	А	Р	А		
College of Medicine Graduate Students Society – Health Sciences	Michael Zaki (N/A)	N/A	N/A	N/A	А	А	А	А	А		
Computer Science Graduate Council (CSGC)	Rifat Zahan Muhammad Aminul Islam (Md. Nadim)	N/A	р	р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		

Academic Council	Name of Councillors and	Sep.24	Oct.15	Nov.5	Dec.3	Jan.28	Feb.25	Mar.17	Apr.7	Jun.	Aug.
Engineering Graduate Community	(alternates) Tumpa Sarker	2019 N/A	2019 N/A	2019 N/A	2019 A	2020 A	2020 A	2020 P	2020 P	2020	2020
Council (EGCC) – Biological	(Peyman Alizadeh)	19/7	11/ 🗥	IN/A				'	'		
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Biomedical	Subashree Srinivasan (N/A)	N/A	N/A	N/A	А	А	А	А	А		
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Chemical	Shahab Minaei (Khaled, Zoroufchi Benis)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Р	Р	А	Р	А		
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Civil, Geological & Environmental	Ajay Shrinivas Muthukumar (Mohanad Zaghloul)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Р	А	А	Р	Р		
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) — Electrical & Computer	Karim Shahbazi (Jose Alvim Berkenbrock)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Р	Р	А	Р	Р		
Engineering Graduate Community Council (EGCC) – Mechanical	Alireza Razmavar (Hadi Ramin)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Р	Р	Р	А	Р		
English Course Council	Lindsay Church (Michelle Kent)	Р	Р	Р	R	R	А	Р	Р		
Geography & Planning Grad Council	Selena Schut (Renata Leonhardt)	Р	А	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Graduate Geological Society (GGS)	James Schulte (Brayden McDonald)	Р	Р	Р	R	Р	А	А	А		
Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy Students' Association	Manreet Kaur Nehal (Syed Adnand Khalid)	N/A	N/A	Р	R	Р	R	Р	Р		
Kinesiology Graduate Student Council	Natasha Boyes (Natalie Houser)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		

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MBARC	Alexander Mueller (Megan MacDonald)	N/A	N/A	P	P	A	A	P	P	2020	2020
PEGASUS	Kimberlee Dube (Ethan Runge)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Pharmacy & Nutrition Graduate Students' Council	Janine Rover (Mujtaba Badr)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Physical Therapy Student Society (PTSS)	Julia Koop (Brandey Blahut)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Plant Sciences GSA	Asanka Godakanda (Berenice Romero)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Psychology Graduate Students' Association	Farron Wielinga (Josh Katz) (Brandon Sparks)	Р	Р	R	Р	А	А	А	А		
SENSA	Mostofa Kamal Purbasha Mistry (Layane Moura) (Anita Bhatt)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
SPHSA	Aisha Sajid Humaira Inam (Janessa Tom) (Chunbei Liu)	N/A	N/A	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Sociology GSA	Connor Morrison (Cerah Dube) (Alana Demkiw)	N/A	Р	Р	А	Р	А	А	А		
Soil Science Graduate Student Association	Rachel Brockamp (Aimee Schryer)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	А		

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Toxicology Graduate Students' Association	Mikayla Oldach (Alana Weber)	Р	Р	R	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) GSA	Breanne Murray Zeyad El Karsh)	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Exec. President	Mery Mendoza Rengifo/ Humaira Inam	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Exec. VP Finance and Operations	Mohammad Wajih Alam/Hadi Ramin	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	R	Р	Р		
Exec. VP Student Affairs	Alejandra Fonseca/ Carmen Marquez-Mellidez	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Exec. VP External	Chiamaka Ezekwesili/ Qasim Gill	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		