



**GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Council and Board of Directors**



**Notice of Meeting**  
**Tuesday, 28 February, 2017: 6:00 – 7:30 PM**  
**GSA Commons**

**Agenda**

		<b>Pages</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<b>OPEN SESSION</b>		
6:00	1. Call to Order 2. Remarks from the Chair 3. Approval of the Agenda		
6:05	<b><u>Consent Agenda</u></b> <b>Motion:</b> To approve and/or receive for information by consent items 4-6 below. 4. Minutes from the 31 January, 2017 Council Meeting 5. Reports from the Executive and Executive Committee ( <a href="#">link</a> )	2 – 4 5 - 10	Decision Information
	<b><u>Regular Agenda</u></b>		
6:10	6. Report of the President a) President's Update b) Q & A Period with the Executive c) Discussion on Summer UPASS	Oral Oral Oral	Information Information Input
6:30	7. Reports from Committees a) Governance Committee	Oral	Information
6:40	8. Other Business / Announcements Next Meeting: Tuesday, 21 March, 2017		
	<b>CONFIDENTIAL SESSION</b>		
6:45	9. Minutes from the 31 January, 2017 Council Meeting	Oral	Decision
6:50	10. Report from the Governance Committee	Oral	Information
7:00	11. Other Business		
	<b>IN CAMERA SESSION</b>		
7:05	12. Minutes from the 31 January, 2017 Council Meeting	Oral	Decision
7:10	13. Report of the President	Oral	Information
7:25	14. Other Business		
7:30	15. Adjournment		Decision

**Note:** All meetings are open to the general membership, except for confidential sessions and those *in camera*, where only councillors, directors, senior staff, or individuals invited by the chair may attend. Agendas and minutes from "open" sessions will be made available electronically to the general membership. It is understood that content and discussions from confidential or *in camera* sessions may not be distributed to or discussed with anyone but current councillors, directors and/or the office manager. No record will be kept of discussions *in camera*.

To allow Council to complete a number of matters quickly and to devote more of its attention to major items of business, the agenda has been divided between items that are to be approved and/or received for information by consent and those that are to be presented individually for discussion and decision and/or information. A consent agenda does not aim to prevent discussion of any matter, but is intended for items that are likely uncontroversial, or relatively minor in nature, and will not be discussed at the meeting unless a member so requests. Members are supplied with the appropriate documentation for each item and all items will be approved by means of one omnibus motion. Council will then move immediately to consideration of the items on the regular agenda.

18 February, 2017

Robert D. E. Henderson, Chair

**Please convey regrets in advance to: [gsa.chair@usask.ca](mailto:gsa.chair@usask.ca)**

**University of Saskatchewan  
Graduate Students' Association**

**COUNCIL AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Minutes from Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 meeting**

**Present:** Ziad Ghaith (President), Arinjay Banerjee (WCVN), Aurora Bowery (ARCHAIA), Banjo Olaleye (ECC), Brenda Byers (IGSC(MBA)), Colin McLaren (Kinesiology), Daniel Karran (Geography and Planning), Davis Rogers (History), Dimitry Zakharov (History), Evan Poncelet (Psychology), Haley Scott (WCVN), Isaac Pratt (Medicine), Jaylene Murray (SENS), Kanssa Patton (History), Lindsay Goodwin (Physics and Engineering Physics), Logan Pizzy (ARE Graduate Council), Luc Chabauole(Geology), Mila Markevych (EGSA), Morgan Kirzinger (Computer Science), Naheda Sahtout (Chemistry), Prajjwal Gautam (EGCC), Stephanie Streich (Geography and Planning), Steve Fraser (IGA), Sylvana Tu (School of Public Health Association), Viktoria Hinz (SENS), Vita Andersone (Sociology), Katherine Raes (Toxicology GSA), Kendall Krepps (Soil Science), Tolulope Emiola-Sadiq (EGCC), Raed Marabeh (Math), Anoosha Attaran (BGSA)

**Regrets:** None received.

**Absent:** Afolabi Ayeni (EGCC), Breanna Anderson (Animal Science), Chanda Hetzel (Sociology), Chris Maierhoffer (MBA), David Hilger (Soil Science GSA), Derek Green (Toxicology GSA), Devin Louson (Archaeology and Anthropology), Emiliana Bomfim (Medicine), Ifeoma Adaji (Computer Science), Iloradanon Efimoff (IGSC), John Bird (History), Josh Cronmiller (Geography and Planning), Kanssa Patton (History), Katherine Raes (Toxicology), Oluwasegun Oyafajo (EGCC), Rahat Yasir (Computer Science), Roland Macana (Biological Engineering), Seth Dueck (Physics), Tonny Kar (Computer Science), Vidit Patel (EGCC),

**Guests:** Stephanie Teptuch (WUSC)

**Resource Persons:** Mylyne Tham (Secretary)

**Organization of Meeting:** Robert Henderson, chair of Council, took the chair, and Mylyne Tham, acted as secretary. The Chair advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

**OPEN SESSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER at 5:03 PM.**

- 2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR:** The chair described the rationale and differences among the open, confidential and *in camera* sessions of Council.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Council heard a motion to approve the agenda as distributed. Carried.

**Consent Agenda**

Council heard a motion to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda.

**4. MINUTES FROM DEC. 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

Council approved the minutes as distributed.

## **5. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

Council received these reports for information.

## **6. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND *AD HOC* SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

Council received these reports for information.

**Carried.**

## **Regular Agenda**

## **7. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

- a) Motion: to approve the social club World University Service of Canada (WUSC), grad chapter

**Carried.**

- b) President's Update
- c) GSA Position Statement on Athletic Fees
  - i. Fees going to support the Huskies teams only
  - ii. Motion: to approve the GSA Position Statement as distributed

**Carried.**

- d) Q&A with the Executive
  - a) Our GSA is hosting a conference for all GSAs across the nation – Apr. 18-21 in Saskatoon, only open to GSA student leaders
  - b) GSA has not determined how much they will be contributing, but CGPS will be sponsoring the conference

## **8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

- a) Health and Dental committee
    - i. Motion: to approve a 5% increase in the health and dental plan fee for the 2017-2018 school year
- Carried.**
- ii. Governance Committee
    - Presentation by Isaac Pratt, co-chair of Governance Committee
      - a. Concerns raised about criteria behind hiring of the office coordinator and staff
      - b. Governance structure is proposed to be more efficient
      - c. There will be another town hall coming up for further discussion.

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

- b) Tax filing available in GSA during tax season, announcement coming
- c) University has changed grad student residence move-out date to Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, instead of Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>

- d) University President's Office has asked grad students what changes they want to see the President's office implement across campus regarding sustainability.

Open session ended at 6:08pm.

14. Adjournment: at 6:47pm



**University of Saskatchewan - Graduate Students' Association**  
**GSA President Ziad Ghaith report (February 2017 GSA Council Meeting)**

Dear GSA Council members:

Below is my report on the important updates and initiatives that GSA has been undertaking over January.

**- Student Supervisor Memorandum of Understanding**

The GSA agreed with the University Vice Provost and the Associate Dean of the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies to organize a student forum on March 15<sup>th</sup> where different University Chairs, the GSA Student Supervisor Agreement Committee, and the GSA Council can meet to discuss the principle and importance of having this tool in our University. All the Council members are invited for this discussion; the details will be forwarded to the Council members in March.

We have also open the discussion on our proposed Student Supervisor Agreement with the Graduate Council (CGPS Council) (all graduate chairs). The GSA had a good discussion and feed back which will be taken in consideration in updating the current draft.

**- GSA position statement regarding Athletic Fees**

Further to the GSA Council recommendations on January 31<sup>st</sup>, the GSA has sent a position statement on the Athletic Fees to the University Administration (President, and Provost) and the Chair of the Board of Governors stating the GSA position regarding the annual increase of the Athletic Fees. We have not received any formal reply yet, the Council will be informed with any updates.

**- Travel ban into the United States**

Further to our position statement and concern regarding the recent travel ban into the United States we have informed the CGPS and the University Councils that the GSA members are concerned about these recent changes and we are looking for effective action plan to minimize any potential consequences on our members. We would like to share with our council that our university has set an email address to collect information from students, postdocs, and faculty members on the potential consequences of this ban on them. Any information can be sent to [usaban@usask.ca](mailto:usaban@usask.ca)

**- Upcoming events**

The GSA executives has been working on organizing the upcoming events including: Local 3MT (March 29-31), Regional 3MT (April 28<sup>th</sup>), and GU15 Conference. We would like to invite and encourage our members to participate in these event and to be in touch with the GSA executives for details.

GSA meetings from January 18 to February 16, 2017:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting details</b>
<b>January 18, 2017</b>	Meeting with the CGPS Dean
<b>January 24, 2017</b>	Meeting with USFA
<b>January 27, 2017</b>	Executive committee meeting
<b>January 31, 2017</b>	GSA Council meeting
<b>February 2, 2017</b>	Gordon MOU
<b>February 6, 2017</b>	Meeting with one of BOG members
<b>February 6, 2017</b>	Meeting with the Dean of CGPS
<b>February 7, 2017</b>	Graduate Council
<b>February 8, 2017</b>	Student Forum Executive meeting
<b>February 10, 2017</b>	GSA Executive committee meeting
<b>February 13, 2017</b>	GSA Finance and Audit Committee
<b>February 14, 2017</b>	Meeting with President Executive committee
<b>February 14, 2017</b>	Meeting with CGPS Dean
<b>February 15, 2017</b>	PPC committee meeting
<b>February 15, 2017</b>	Student Forum

Ziad Ghaith

President, Graduate Students' Association

- Facilitated the attendance of Indigenous Graduate Students to the signing of a memorandum between the University of Saskatchewan and Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN)
- Connected interested Indigenous graduate student to the Aboriginal Advisors Circle (upon request)
- Shared opportunities as they arose with Graduate students (word of mouth and Facebook)
- Continued with helping to organize Aboriginal Achievement Week (AAW) – suggested and contacted speakers for the awards ceremony, agreed upon request to help orate the event
- In tandem with Indigenous Graduate Students Council (IGSC), selected award recipient for AAW
- Attended GSA councillor meeting, town hall, executive meeting
- Met CeCe Bapiste (Institutional planning and assessment) – to discuss student involvement in definition of reconciliation
- Networking with ASC, gaining support for Indigenous students
- IGSC council meeting
- Attended governance meeting to discuss potential changes to the Aboriginal Liaison role and title
- Advertised the Building Reconciliation forum to Indigenous Graduate Students (word of mouth and Facebook)
- Co-planned a very successful all day craft fair on Valentine's day, showcasing local Indigenous artists, most of them students
- Planned a meeting with Indigenous students to discuss the meaning of the word “indigenize”
- Attended the Presidents Advisory Council on the Status of Women (PACSW) focus group to represent Indigenous graduate students and graduate students in general
- Attended breakfast with the president and discussed AAW

## GSA VP Finance Kusum's University council meeting report for February 2016

Dear GSA members,

Here is my eighth council report since I started as VP finance for the year 2016-17.

1. **Finance and Audit review committee 2017-18:** Currently I am chairing this committee and have met once with all the members. The committee is considering all the figures from the 2016-17 operating budget and trying to ensure a maximum value out of GSA's money. I have acquired reports from many services that GSA started with in the year 2015-16 fiscal year.
2. **Tax Filing services:** This year GSA has been registered as a tax filing hub on CRA website. I am successful in receiving a good list of volunteers for this clinic from our graduate students and post docs. Very soon all the volunteers will be trained and by the end of March we will be having our first free tax filing service on campus.
3. **Dean's Scholarship Round 2:** I am sitting in this committee once again to screen selected applications further. CGPS has received a good number of applications this year.
4. **Financial literacy workshop:** GSA had its second financial literacy workshop on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> at GSA commons. Nearly 40 students attended the workshop. The feedback from the attendees was very good and encouraging.

Here are the meetings I have attended:

Date	Discussion
Feb 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Meeting with GSA office manager to talk about filing system of GSA
Feb 9 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Financial literacy workshop
Feb 10 <sup>th</sup> 2017	GSA executive meeting. Minutes can be found online
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Finance and audit review committee meeting – Round 1. Minutes will be available on request
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup> 2017	University Awards and Scholarship committee meeting
Feb 17 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Meeting with U of S Finance department



## VP External Council Report

### Canadian Federation of Students

Meet with the CFS component for the Prairies Racialized and Indigenous Student Experience Summit (RISE) happening March 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> in Winnipeg. Awaiting the approval of the final number of delegates to be sent from the GSA.

CFS fees have increased from \$126.38 to \$128.38 this is a 1.4287%. In the letter it says " Article I, Section 2.a.ix, if the CFS and CFS-Services' Bylaws sets out that the CFS, CFS-Services and applicable provincial component membership fees are adjusted each academic year by the rate of change in the Canadian Consumer Price Index (CPI) during the previous calendar year." The fee per individual member of the 2017-18 academic year will be as follows:

CFS & CFS-Service membership fee (combined):	\$4.49/semester
CFS Provisional Component membership fee (Saskatchewan):	\$1.50/semester
Total Federation Membership Fee:	\$5.99/semester

### Gala

Gala is a month away!!! Please nominate your colleagues and/or supervisor/faculty who have provided you with excellent mentoring. Deadline to apply is **March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.** For more information on the awards terms of reference, please visit <http://www.gsa.usask.ca/events/gala-awards-nomination.php>

For nomination application please visit <https://fluidsurveys.usask.ca/surveys/gsa/graduate-awards-gala-award-nomination-2017/>

Don't forget to purchase your Gala tickets at: <https://gsa.inviteright.com/event/readyguest/E34739CB>

### Graduate Student Association Summit

Planning the graduate student association summit for April 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> with VP Operations. Stay tuned for more information.

### Governance

Worked on revising the policy and by-laws.

## Attended meetings

Date	Meetings
Feb 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Executive Committee Meeting
Feb 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	CGPS Council Meeting
Feb 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	TLARC
Feb 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	CFS-SK Component
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Finance and Audit Committee
Feb 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Governance Committee (regrets)
Feb 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	President Executive Committee Meeting
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Promotion Meeting
Feb 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Executive Committee Meeting (via telephone)
Feb 24 <sup>th</sup> – Feb 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	National Graduate Caucus CFS
Feb 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Interdisciplinary Meeting
Feb 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Council Meeting (regrets)