

GSA Council Meeting - List of Reports Circulated
Monday, 16 August 2021
Cancelled

Attachments	Attached Numbered Pages
1. Minutes from the 19 July 2021 GSA Council Meeting	1.0 - 1.5
2. President (Anas Fassih, President)	
i. President's Report	2.0
ii. GSA Board	2.1
iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee (no meetings this reporting period)	
iv. GSA Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee	2.2
v. GSA Governance Committee (no meetings this reporting period)	
3. Vice-President Academic (Kathy Haddadkar, Vice-President Academic)	
i. Vice-President Academic's Report	3.0 - 3.1
4. Vice-President External (Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa, Vice-President External)	
i. Vice-President External's Report	4.0
ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee (no meetings this reporting period)	
5. Vice-President Labour (Jessica Grenke, Vice-President Labour)	
i. Vice-President Labour's Report	5.0
ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee	5.1
6. Vice-President Student Services (Paresh Kumar, Vice-President Student Services)	
i. Vice-President Student Services' Report	6.0
7. Senator (Peter Isesele, Senator)	
i. Senator's Report (no written report at this time)	
8. Speaker (Lauren Hill, Speaker)	
i. Speaker's Report (no written report at this time)	
9. Chief Returning Officer (Muneeb Muhiuddin, Chief Returning Officer)	
i. Chief Returning Officer's Report (no written report at this time)	
10. GSA Nominating Committee (Kenzie Gordon, GSA Nominating Committee Chair)	
i. GSA Nominating Committee Report	10.0 - 10.1
11. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (Jennifer Bertrand, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Vice-Chair)	
i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report (no written report at this time)	
12. GSA Management (Courtney Thomas, Executive Director)	
i. Executive Director's Report	12.0 - 12.2

GSA Council Meeting MINUTES
Monday, 19 July 2021 at 6:00 pm
Held online via Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE:

Anas Fassih (President)	Zhiying Wang (AFNS)	Jaskiran Kaur (Internetworking)	Alexia Maheux (Pharmacology)
Kathy Haddadkar (VP Academic)	Allan Yarahmady; Madeleine Fleming (Biochemistry)	Matt Ormandy (KSR)	Meagan Hayashi (Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences)
Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa (VP External)	Andrew Cook (Biological Science)	Janet Zhou (Laboratory Medicine & Pathology)	Spencer Hayden (Philosophy)
Jessica Grenke (VP Labour)	Kathryn MacDonald (Business MBA)	Kim Jones (Library & Information Studies)	Zoe Frank (Physical Therapy)
Paresh Kumar (VP Student Services)	Omnath Ekambaram (Chemical & Materials Engineering)	Matt Kelley (Linguistics)	Logan Cooke (Physics)
Lauren Hill (Speaker)	Karen Hoy (Chemistry)	Alain Gervais (Mathematical & Statistical Sciences)	Isha Ralhan (Physiology)
Sana Amjad (Deputy Speaker)	Michelle Gauthier (Communication Sciences & Disorders)	David Gordon (Mechanical Engineering)	Telisa Courtney (Political Science)
Muneeb Mohiuddin (CRO)	Ifaz Kabir (Computing Science)	Luthfia Friskie (Media and Technology Studies)	Ruby Prinsen (Psychology)
Peter Isesele (Senator)	Harsimrat Kaur (Dentistry)	Shui Jiang (Medical Genetics)	Naima Riaz (Public Health)
Amber Ali (Councillor-at-Large)	Collette Slevinsky (Drama)	Julia May (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	Kathryn Lambert (Rehabilitation Science)
Laura Manerus (Councillor-at-Large)	Avni Patel (Earth & Atmospheric Sciences)	Danielle Munsterman (Medicine)	Elena Schaefer (Renewable Resources)
Sanhita Pal (Councillor-at-Large)	Qingyan Sun (Educational Policy Studies)	Leah Hrycun (Native Studies)	Hotaka Kobori (REES)
Varshini Prakash (Councillor-at-Large)	Lauren Trafford (Educational Psychology)	Charbel Baaklini (Neuroscience)	Rebekah McNeilly (Sociology)
Abigail Quaye (Councillor-at-Large)	Yina Liu (Elementary Education)	Laura Reifferscheid (Nursing)	Lindy Schaffrick (Surgery)
Janmejy Rao (Councillor-at-Large)	Jessica Kennedy (Human Ecology)	Shayla Mosley (Oncology)	
Maura Roberts (Councillor-at-Large)	Jesse Alook (Indigenous Grad Students' Association)	Shubham Soni; Kaya Persad (Paediatrics)	

Guests: Leon Pfeiffer (RMS Canada); Natashalee Thompson (Educational Policy Studies)

Speaker L Hill in the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. Speaker acknowledged the Traditional Territory of Treaty Six.

As this was her first meeting, Speaker outlined procedural expectations for GSA Council meetings going forward, directing Council members to use the Raise Hand function in Zoom. Speaker also announced the cancellation of the August meeting of GSA Council; the next meeting of GSA Council will be held in September.

Approval of Agenda**1. Approval of the 19 July 2021 Consolidated Agenda**

Members had before them the 19 July 2021 Consolidated Agenda, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. L Trafford **MOVED**; K Jones **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Minutes

2. Minutes from the 21 June 2021 GSA Council Meeting

Members had before them the 21 June 2021 GSA Council meeting minutes, which had been previously distributed on 9 July 2021. R McNeilly **MOVED**; J Grenke **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**.

Changes in GSA Council Membership

3. Changes in GSA Council Membership

- i. **Introduction of New GSA Council Members:** M Hayashi (Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences); M Fleming (Biochemistry); J Alook (Indigenous Graduate Students' Association); M Mohiuddin (Chief Returning Officer).
- ii. **Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members :** M Kelley (Linguistics); A Yarahmady (Biochemistry).

GSA Council Member Announcements

4. GSA Council Member Announcements: None.

Action Items

5. 2020-2021 GSA Audited Financial Statements

A Fassih (President and GSA Budget and Finance Committee Chair) presented the item, introduced the guest (Leon Pfeiffer, RMS Canada), and explained that this item has previously moved through the GSA Budget and Finance Committee and GSA Board and was now coming to GSA Council for information.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That the GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2020-2021 GSA audited financial statements.

L Pfeiffer then presented the independent auditor's report for GSA Council's consideration. He noted that the goal of an independent auditor's report was to present an organization's financial position fairly; he also emphasized not-for-profit accounting standards. L Pfeiffer pointed to the statement of financial position, which showed an organization with a strong financial position, reporting just under \$2.1 million in current assets (up from \$1.8 million in the previous year) and an accumulation of just over \$4 million in net assets. L Pfeiffer summarized that the GSA remains in an excellent financial position, is strong operationally, and has a cash position that has improved over the past year. Additionally, in the Statement of Operations, L Pfeiffer noted that operating revenues were down slightly from the previous year, with expenses also dropping slightly. Overall, 2020-2021 was an excellent year from an operational standpoint. There were no questions posed or comments raised.

MOTION: That the GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2020-2021 GSA audited financial statements. A Cook **MOVED**; L Friskie **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**.

6. 2021-2022 GSA Spring/Summer Term Budget and Expenditure Report

A Fassih (President and GSA Budget and Finance Committee Chair (GSA BFC)) presented the item and explained that fee collection, tethered to enrollment rates, was the main source of revenue for the GSA and that while enrollment was down a little due to the pandemic it was expected to rebound in the fall but the GSA's budget had also been constructed conservatively to offset periods of lower enrollment. It was also noted that the GSA was able to cut costs in the first few months of the fiscal year as a result of business travel and in-person events and meetings not occurring.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That the GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA 2021-2022 Spring/Summer Term Budget and Expenditure Report.

GSA Council members then discussed the following matters, among others: increased usage of the legal fees budget line over the past year (it was noted that this related to assistance with collective bargaining); a perceived increase in demand for GSA Emergency Bursaries (GSA EBs) (it was noted application numbers remained stable but, because of depressed demand for GSA Academic Travel Grants, these excess funds had been redirected to the GSA EB funding pool and then released to the University to distribute in the form of supplementary bursaries, which the pandemic had increased demand for); and lower than anticipated claims for dental coverage through the GSA Health and Dental Plan (it was noted this was related to the pandemic and unused funds were directed to the GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund to offset potential future cost increases). GSA Council members also discussed a potential survey to gauge interest in increasing dental coverage under the GSA Health and

Dental Plan and it was noted that any increases in dental coverage would be accompanied by an increase to the cost of the Plan. Members next briefly discussed whether a tiered coverage plan was possible and P Kumar noted that tiered plans had been discussed previously in GSA Council but such a significant change would never be imposed without commensurate input from graduate students.

MOTION: That the GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the GSA 2021-2022 Spring/Summer Term Budget and Expenditure Report. A Cook **MOVED**; K Jones **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**.

7. Transfer of a Portion of the GSA Operating Budget 2020-2021 Surplus to the GSA Labour Fund

A Fassih (President and GSA BFC Chair) and J Grenke (Vice-President Labour and GSA BFC Vice-Chair) presented the item. A Fassih noted that GSA Council members had previously approved the establishment of the GSA Labour Union Fund with the understanding that a portion of the GSA's operating budget surplus would be transferred to it following the fiscal year end. J Grenke noted the importance of this step for advancing student advocacy and the years of work it required, and also noted that these funds will act as seed funding for the labour union.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council, following on recommendations from the GSA Budget and Finance Committee and GSA Board **APPROVE** the transfer of \$100,000 from the GSA's 2020-2021 operating budget surplus to the GSA Labour Union Fund.

GSA Council members then discussed the following matters, among others: the process of establishing the fund and how it would be managed and grown (it was noted that the GSA BFC recommended the transfer of \$100,000 to the GSA Labour Fund, which would be held in restricted funds and subsequently supplemented by the collection of a union due, which would commence 1 September 2021 and was previously approved by members of the bargaining unit); why \$100,000 was chosen as opposed to the entirety of the \$142,000 surplus from the 2020-2021 fiscal year (the GSA felt it was prudent to retain some of the operating surplus to bolster the budget for the current fiscal year); the importance of growing the GSA Labour Union Fund to support collective agreement negotiations and other labour-related work; and whether future budget surpluses would be transferred (it was noted this was a discussion had annually by the GSA BFC at the end of each fiscal year).

MOTION: That GSA Council, following on recommendations from the GSA Budget and Finance Committee and GSA Board **APPROVE** the transfer of \$100,000 from the GSA's 2020-2021 operating budget surplus to the GSA Labour Union Fund. J Kennedy **MOVED**; L Hrycun **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**.

8. Recommended Changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section D: GSA Officers and Section Q: Collective Bargaining

J Grenke (Vice-President Labour) presented the item and noted that this was the second reading of the recommended changes. J Grenke noted that the changes aligned with changes to both provincial legislation and the latest Collective Agreement.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSA Labour Relations Committee, **APPROVE** recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section D: GSA Officers and Section Q: Collective Bargaining, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council.

There were no questions posed or comments raised.

MOTION: That GSA Council, on the recommendation of the GSA Labour Relations Committee, **APPROVE** recommended changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section D: GSA Officers and Section Q: Collective Bargaining, as shown in the attached double column document and effective upon approval by GSA Council. A Cook **MOVED**; H Kaur **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**.

9. 2021-2022 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan

A Fassih (President) presented the item and noted that this year's SWP was coming to GSA Council for information prior to being distributed to campus stakeholders and beyond. The SWP guides the work of the elected graduate student leaders, under the themes of "Connect," "Support," and "Advocate."

Under Connect, some priorities worth highlighting included: work relating to the University of Alberta For Tomorrow initiatives, and the preservation of a high quality graduate student experience; the creation of the GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Committee (GSA EDIC) which commenced its work in April and had now met a few times to identify a direction; and representation to all levels of government.

Under Support, priorities included: health and wellness supports and resources, including work to increase accessibility to such resources; work to support students who parent; and increased financial support especially in the face of turbulence resulting from COVID-19.

Lastly, under Advocate, highlights included: continued advocacy against tuition increases without a commensurate increase in program quality; work to elevate the priorities of equity-seeking groups and communities on campus; and the preservation of the University's reputation as a world-class institution.

Updates would come to GSA Council in October 2021, January 2022, and April 2022.

MOTION BEFORE GSA COUNCIL: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2021-2022 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.

In the ensuing discussion, members raised points relating to continued advocacy to the Government of Alberta in opposition to the significant cut in funds disbursed to the University of Alberta.

MOTION: That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the 2021-2022 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.
M Kelley **MOVED**; I Kabir **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Discussion Items

10. Academic Restructuring Update

A Fassih (President) presented the item and noted the college model had taken effect as of 1 July 2021. The University was now working to roll out this model. Within this discussion, there was talk of clarifying ambiguity around who graduate students should refer to for information and for services, given the close relationship these students have with their departments. Secondly, there was work to be done in clarifying the administrative process for deploying academically-employed graduate students. It was noted that this discussion had no impact on the amount of funding graduate students receive, it was only an administrative question.

Reports

11. President

i. President's Report:

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted. In addition, A Fassih highlighted the exceptional tuition increases proposed for a number of programs, including four programs in Business, Engineering, and Counselling Psychology. Meetings were scheduled with both the Ministry of Advanced Education and the Office of the Provost. Another current priority, A Fassih noted, was graduate student access to technology. And lastly, as previously mentioned, academic restructuring remained a priority item for the GSA.

Members inquired as to how students could engage in advocacy in connection with exceptional tuition increases. Members from affected departments indicated a range of perspectives, both support for and against these exceptional tuition increases, but there was consensus that the speed at which the proposals were brought forward, and the amount of consultation the University engaged in prior to advancing them, remained areas of concern and were worthy of further discussion with the University and government.

ii. GSA Board

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted.

iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted.

iv. GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted.

v. GSA Governance Committee

No written report at this time.

12. Vice-President Academic

i. Vice-President Academic's Report:

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted. In addition, K Haddadkar highlighted a 29 June meeting with the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR), Dr Brooke Milne, at which the proposed wording for the Academic Standing Regulations for graduate students was discussed. As the General Faculties Council Programs Committee did not approve the Academic Standing Regulations portion of the FGSR Supervisor Initiatives, the proposed wording would be brought forward in September 2021 alongside the entirety of this initiative for voting at General Faculties Council. The proposed wording remained a work in progress.

13. Vice-President External

i. Vice-President External's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted. In addition, M T Bin Mostafa highlighted meetings with the International Students' Association (ISA) regarding their proposed fee collection and planned services timeline and the Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA) regarding their planned increase in municipal engagement. M T Bin Mostafa was also anticipating more robust consultation with the units impacted by the University's proposed exceptional tuition increase proposals, to share with the Ministry of Advanced Education at their next meeting (as the Minister's Chief of Staff indicated their desire to discuss this in greater detail). He also noted that the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council was planning a strategic work plan retreat in August to develop organizational priorities.

ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee

No written report at this time.

iii. Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Update to Member Organizations

No written report at this time.

14. Vice-President Labour

i. Vice-President Labour's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted.

ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee

No written report at this time.

15. Vice-President Student Services

i. Vice-President Student Services' Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted. In addition, P Kumar stated that face masks would no longer be mandatory other than in healthcare facilities and on public transit. Spaces on campus will be assessed individually, as needed. He also noted that UAlberta Libraries would suspend its laptop lending program due to budget cuts and staff shortages and that Campus and Community Recreation (CCR) would continue offering online services along with in-person services as they have received some good feedback and are also keeping in mind that some students might be still studying remotely but want to make use of services.

16. Senator

i. Senator's Report

No written report at this time.

17. Speaker

i. Speaker's Report

No written report at this time.

18. Chief Returning Officer

i. Chief Returning Officer's Report

No written report at this time.

19. GSA Nominating Committee

i. GSA Nominating Committee Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted. In addition, M Roberts pointed out several important committee vacancies that were only available to GSA Council members. Departmental councillors, alternates, and Councillors-at-Large were all eligible to serve in these positions. They noted that these long-term vacancies were impacting the functionality of the GSA as an organization. Concerning long-standing vacancies on the GSA Governance Committee, it was noted that the committee had had only had 4 email votes since May and no meetings; it was a minimal time commitment, but the work of the committee was critical. Currently, the committee did not have enough members to fulfill its mandate so the work must shift down the line to GSA Council. The work that should be done at this committee level tends to be non-substantive but will needlessly bog GSA Council down and be an ineffective use of members' time. M Roberts asked members to please consider serving and to discuss these opportunities with alternates who may not be present at the meeting.

C Thomas added that most GSA Standing Committees have a provision in their compositions for 'recent former members' so even if a member planned to graduate soon or leave GSA Council, they could still serve for a time after completion. C Thomas asked GSA Council members to please consider filling these positions, even if they could only commit for a short time.

20. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee

ii. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report

No written report at this time.

21. GSA Management

i. Executive Director's Report

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 16 July 2021. The report stood as submitted.

Question Period

22. Written Questions: None

23. Oral Questions: A Cook expressed thanks to A Fassih, K Haddadkar, and J Grenke for their recent help with an issue encountered by the Biological Sciences GSA.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

President
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting

To: GSA Council
 From: Anas Fassih
 Date: 13 August 2021

Dear Council Colleagues,

hope you all are enjoying your summers. It has been a busy month for me, even amidst taking a short leave, as I participate in ongoing conversations and meetings about the upcoming return to campus and all the planning associated with that. Alongside faculty, staff, and undergraduates, many graduate students have serious and legitimate concerns about their safety on campus come September and I have been in regular communication with various partners to ensure these concerns are brought forward to government (via the Alberta Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC)) and to University administration. I expect some official announcements next week and urge you all to watch closely for those and to continue to bring forward any concerns you may have by contacting me at gsa.president@ualberta.ca.

Additionally, I am pleased to report that, following our conversation in GSA Council last month, the GSA made a written submission to the Ministry of Advanced Education (and spoke with the Ministry) about our concerns about the consultation undertaken by University administration in relation to several proposals for exceptional tuition increases that would have impacted four graduate programs. The result of this work, augmented by comparable efforts by the Students' Union, is that the Minister has directed that a more fulsome consultation process with students be engaged in, in advance of the proposals being resubmitted to government in the fall. To this end, the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) will join us at GSA Council in September to discuss this matter. I am pleased to see that the Ministry has responded in this way and reaffirmed the importance of student voices being fully heard and considered in these processes.

I will report more fully in September and hope you all have a safe and restful remainder of August.

Anas Fassih, President 2021-2022

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 20 July and 16 August 2021 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Please also note that I was away from 26 July to 8 August 2021.

20 July	Residence Associations House Rules Consultation
21 July	Meeting with S Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
21 July	Phone Call with the Ministry of Advanced Education
22 July	GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (GSA EDIC)
23 July	Meeting with C Singh, International Students' Association (ISA) President
27 July	Academic Leaders' Task Group
10 August	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
12 August	Edmonton Student Associations' Meeting
13 August	Meeting with B Flanagan, President

GSA Board
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting

To: GSA Council
From: Courtney Thomas, Executive Director; Erika Heiberg, Associate Director

The GSA Board (GSAB) reports regularly to GSA Council by listing its agenda items, Motions/agreements, and main items of discussion (meeting reports are also offered at each meeting). Motions of Agenda approval and approval of the Minutes are not included unless there were amendments made. Closed session items are not minuted. GSA Council members are always able to ask questions about items that were discussed in closed session. Open session Minutes are available upon request. The President, Vice-Presidents, and the administrative team will be happy to answer any questions or provide more information at the GSA Council meeting. Also see the weekly Management Reports to the GSAB in Item 12 (Executive Director's Report to GSA Council) on pages 12.0-12.2.

21 July 2021 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

GSA Council Debrief; International Students' Association Fee Proposal; COVID-19 Update; and Meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

None to report.

11 August 2021 GSA Board Meeting:

Main Agenda Items:

Return to Campus Survey Summary Report; COVID-19 Update; and Meeting Reports.

Motions and Agreements:

None to report.

Motions Approved via Electronic Vote Between Meetings

MOTION: That the GSA Board **APPROVE** the estimated expense for two (2) representatives to attend an Alberta Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Board Retreat, 7-8 August 2021 in Calgary, AB, as noted in the attached document. PK **MOVED**. AF Seconded. **CARRIED**.

**GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Anas Fassih
Date: 13 August 2021

Dear Council Colleagues,

The GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (GSA EDIC) held its third meeting on 22 July. The GSA EDIC discussed various potential initiatives and agreed to work to develop a survey to gain data and help identify priorities. The committee will work to develop a survey electronically and will meet again in the coming months to discuss its launch, as well as the committee's next steps.

Sincerely,

Anas Fassih, President and Chair of the GSA EDIC

**Vice-President Academic
Report to GSA Council for Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Kathy Haddadkar
Date: 13 August 2021

Dear Council Colleagues,

We have made it to August! How did time fly by so fast? With a new year of learning just around the corner, each of you have been on my mind. My hope is that you enter the new year with renewed energy and remain in good health while pursuing your passions. While I recognize that we may hold different views on returning to campus, I do hope that you will take time to not only adjust to a “new kind of normal”, but also make the most of it.

Here are some highlights from meetings I have attended this month:

26 July – Meeting with H Vallianatos, Associate Dean of Students

- During this introductory meeting with Dr. Vallianatos, we discussed the concept and nature of exam proctoring moving forward from Fall 2021
- Dr. Vallianatos mentioned plans to have different spaces across campus such as the Central Academic Building (CAB) or Education Building to use for undisturbed exams, with the possibility of having a few graduate students assist in monitoring proctoring rooms
- Regarding software, Dr. Vallianatos expressed that automation would be the main method of proctoring at this point and clarified that, unlike the Spring 2020 semester which involved the sole use of remote proctoring, there are intentions to employ both live and remote proctoring during Fall 2021
- Dr. Vallianatos also spoke to the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and how this system of continued inclusivity in the classroom will be encouraged going forward to further accommodate students who would for instance require extra time to complete an exam
 - In this case, the instructor may choose to keep a 1-hr exam open for 24hrs in order to accommodate students who will be studying remotely
- Finally, our meeting came to a close with the introduction of an Academic Integrity Project inspired by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) citizenship course, which addresses the value and why of integrity

27 July – Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of FGSR

- In addition to recapping the Minister of Education’s response regarding the University’s proposal for Exceptional Tuition Increases and a brief discussion on proctoring, Dr. Milne provided an important update regarding the structural shifts occurring within the scope of academic restructuring and how this will impact FGSR and graduate student voices
- While currently under discussion at the level of the Provost, several structural changes are emerging including attempts to group FGSR alongside the rest of the Student Services, Administration and Scholarships, and other “like” groups
- While these decisions ultimately stand with the Provost, these and like-changes not including a proposed shift to replace FGSR with the Office of Registrar as graduate students’ home faculty and sole group which would administer awards is worrisome
- Acknowledging the importance of having graduate student voices heard as these changes begin to take shape, the GSA will investigate further into this matter to ensure that adequate consultation has been completed
- This will include gaining further insight around a survey conducted in 2020 by the Dean of Students Office as a part of the Service Excellence Transformation (SET), which Dr. Milne expressed has continued to add to the conflation of services across the institution

10 August – Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of FGSR

- Following what had been discussed at our previous meeting together, Dr. Milne shared an urgent matter regarding the Student Supervisory Initiative and how some members of the University have created a group to oppose the motion during the General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting which is set to take place in early Fall 2021
- Thus, it is imperative that graduate student voices of the GFC are present and heard in order to move this motion forward with success and strength after two years of consultation and hard work

I warmly welcome further discussion and correspondence on this report, as well as any other academic-related matters and can be reached at gsa.vpacademic@ualberta.ca.

Kathy Haddadkar, Vice-President Academic 2021-2022

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 20 July 2021 and 16 August 2021 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

21 July	Phone Call with the Ministry of Advanced Education
26 July	Meeting with H Vallianatos, Associate Dean of Students
27 July	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
10 August	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)

Vice-President External
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting

To: GSA Council
 From: Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa
 Date: 13 August 2021

Dear Council Colleagues,

The last month was quite eventful for me as I engaged with the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC). This started with attending the Governance Committee meeting with the Chair of ab-GPAC, where we discussed my roles and responsibilities as Chair of the Governance Committee. For now, I will be working on some IT policies that need some immediate changes. In the executive meeting with ab-GPAC, we mainly discussed the board retreat that took place in Calgary. Furthermore, we reviewed the performance of the newly hired researcher for ab-GPAC. I participated in the board retreat on 7-8 August, where the board members of ab-GPAC discussed the direction the organization is heading towards and what values we hold and what can be added to make this organization the strongest possible advocate for graduate students in Alberta. However, the main goal of the retreat was to finalize our advocacy priorities for this year, and I am happy to say that after two days of extensive brainstorming and idea generation, we identified three top advocacy priorities for this year, which are funding for mental health, institutional clear justifications for tuition and fees (and associated increases), and alleviation of barriers to post-secondary education for Indigenous peoples in Alberta.

Another meeting associated with ab-GPAC was the Alberta Student Post-Secondary Council meeting, where other student organizations also participated alongside ab-GPAC, including the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) and the Alberta Students' Executive Council (ASEC). In this meeting, CAUS informed us of their fifth and final advocacy priority for this year, which is geared towards addressing the unique barriers that Indigenous students face. Moreover, ASEC shared their ongoing work on developing frameworks for accountability and consultation processes regarding AB 2030 and proposals being sent to the government by the post secondary institutions.

Thank you,

Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa, Vice-President External 2021-2022

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 20 July to 16 August 2021 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

20 July	Meeting with K Husing, Associate Vice President, Campus Services
21 July	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Governance Committee
21 July	Phone Call with the Ministry of Advanced Education
3 August	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Committee
5 August	Alberta Student Post-Secondary Council
6-8 August	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Board Retreat
12 August	Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA)
12 August	Residence Advisory Committee (RAC)

**GSA Vice-President Labour
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Jessica Grenke
Date: 13 August 2021

Dear Council Colleagues,

As summer draws to a close, I hope you are able to set aside some time to reflect and recharge. At the risk of plagiarizing a cat poster, everyone benefits when we commit to inhabiting our fullest selves. These last weeks prior to Fall 2021 are a good opportunity to reassess what that will look like this upcoming year.

I'm happy to report a diverse array of fruitful discussion and teambuilding with provincial union peers. I had the opportunity to meet once again with my counterparts at the University of Calgary (Kiera Gunn) and University of Lethbridge (Jackson Ham) to review our current labour landscape. As we prepare for the loss of our exclusive right to represent graduate students, these talks allow us to strategically consider our partnership options with external unions. The Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) recently hired a researcher to outline the federal graduate student union landscape. Kiera, Jackson, and I are engaged in ongoing conversations on the most effective ways to utilize this research over the upcoming year.

I also held an introductory meeting with the President of the Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA), Jillian Pratt. I'm sure many of you are aware of NASA's powerful workers' rights advocacy efforts and the recent decision by University administration to outsource their custodial staff members (<https://www.nasa.ualberta.ca/custodial-outsourcing-july-13-2021>). This will be a challenging year for labour rights across campus and I am committed to standing with our union peers. J Pratt and I discussed potential opportunities for actionable expressions of solidarity, and I will keep you all posted as these come to fruition.

The GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) also engaged in an extremely productive meeting. As chair, I solicited feedback on our external union partnership options (following meetings and email correspondence with several candidates). We continue to make good progress towards a decision in advance of collective bargaining this fall. The GSA LRC also considered how to most effectively support NASA and I expect this conversation to remain ongoing as circumstances shift. My thanks to this team for their top-notch service and engagement.

I am here to serve you. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns or ideas.

Best,
Jessica Grenke, Vice-President Labour 2021-2022

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 20 July and 16 August 2021 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Please also note that I was away from 3 August to 11 August 2021.

20 July	Meeting with the University of Lethbridge GSA Vice-President Labour and the University of Calgary GSA Associate Vice-President Labour
22 July	Meeting with M Strong, Faculty Relations Director
22 July	GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (GSA EDIC)
23 July	GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC)
27 July	Meeting with J Pratt, NASA President
27 July	Fall Vaccination Clinics Working Group
29 July	Meeting re Unions
12 August	GSA LRC Union Agreement Discussion

**GSA Labour Relations Committee
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Jessica Grenke
Date: 13 August 2021

Dear GSA Council Colleagues,

The GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) met on 23 July 2021. Members discussed the potential for a service agreement with an outside union and options for supporting the Non-Academic Staff Association building workers as the University has proposed outsourcing their labour.

The committee met again on 12 August 2021 with an outside union to discuss potential services.

I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Grenke, Vice-President Labour and Chair of the GSA LRC

**Vice-President Student Services
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Paresh Kumar
Date: 13 August 2021

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope you all are doing well and getting ready to start the upcoming term. I am happy to share a few highlights from the meetings I attended last month:

- We have been hearing queries related to U-Pass from students. At this point we want to mention that students have to be able to access transit using U-Pass by 25 August as per our contract. But there are still some uncertainties about the functioning of the Smart Fare program. We wanted to go with the U-Pass stickers for certainty, but Edmonton Transit Service (ETS) is pushing us to implement the Smart Fare program. We will be getting more than enough Smart Fare cards from ETS, so distribution won't be an issue and can be done very quickly. We are trying to collect all the bits and pieces and will share more updates in the following weeks.
- The University will continue to encourage its community to wear masks for the safety of each other. More COVID related information will be also provided to students during welcome week.
- Alberta Health Services (AHS) will be setting up mobile vaccine clinics at the University to encourage students to get vaccinated and this will also make the process easier for those students who have just arrived in Alberta and don't have a provincial health card yet. Details regarding dates and locations will be shared soon.
- Federal hotel quarantine is no longer required. Fully vaccinated students *may* no longer have to quarantine for 2 weeks, dependent on individual circumstances. We are encouraging students to bring an approved quarantine plan with them in case a border officer determines they do not meet the exemption.
- The University will provide various kind of signage with key messages being to wear a mask, get vaccinated and stay home if you feel sick.
- I had a monthly meeting with the Campus Community and Recreation (CCR) team and we discussed their website and how to engage more graduate students in accessing their services. I have asked them to see if there is any possibility to make the website more student friendly and provide information on what activities are included in the student plan and what they have to pay extra for.
- If there is an employee who needs special accommodations because of some hurdles in transitioning back to campus, they can refer this webpage: <https://www.ualberta.ca/human-resources-health-safety-environment/health-and-wellbeing/injury-illness/permanent-medical-accommodations-for-employees.html>
- Guidelines for event planning can be found on this webpage: <https://www.ualberta.ca/covid-19/campus-safety/safety-measures-general-directives/events.html>
- Building hours information is listed on this webpage: <https://www.ualberta.ca/facilities-operations/service-catalogue/buildings-grounds-and-environmental-services/buildings/building-hours.html>

Feel free to reach out to me with any comments/concerns regarding this report or any other specific issue you want to discuss regarding student services at gsa.vpstudentservices@ualberta.ca

Thank you,
Paresh Kumar, Vice-President Student Services 2021-2022

6.1

Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 20 July 2021 and 16 August 2021 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.

20 July	U-Pass Working Committee
21 July	Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) Standard Network
22 July	Return to Campus Safety and Logistics Committee
22 July	GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (GSA EDIC)
26 July	Student Equity Survey Meeting
27 July	Meeting with K Friese, Assistant Dean of Students (Health and Wellness)
29 July	Return to Campus Safety and Logistics Committee
30 July	Campus and Community Recreation Meeting
5 August	Student Services and Experience Working Group Meeting
5 August	Return to Campus Safety and Logistics Committee
9 August	U-Pass Administrative Committee Meeting
9 August	Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) Standard Network
12 August	Return to Campus Safety and Logistics Committee
12 August	Smart Fare Readiness Meeting
12 August	Campus Food Bank Board Meeting
12-13 August	Collaborations for Change Post-Secondary Student Mental Health Conference
16 August	U-Pass Administrative Meeting

**GSA Nominating Committee
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Kenzie Gordon
Date: 13 August 2021

Dear Council Colleagues,

The report from the GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) this month is a summary of discussions/decisions the committee has made since its last report, together with a list of all vacancies filled and those which will be filled shortly.

GSA Policy governing the GSA NoC is located in GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating. As provided for in its Terms of Reference, the GSA NoC has been conducting business via e-mail.

Sincerely,

Kenzie Gordon, Chair of the GSA NoC

Memorandum to GSA Councillors

As reported previously on multiple occasions, there are a number of vacancies on GSA Standing Committees for GSA Council Members (Departmental Councillors, Alternates, and Councillors-at-Large). These positions play a pivotal role in the GSA's ongoing efforts to keep its processes transparent and itself accountable and long-term vacancies adversely impact these efforts. **GSA Councillors (including Alternates) are strongly encouraged to consider serving on these committees.**

It is important to note that the time commitment for these committees varies greatly. While some meet regularly throughout the year (usually every two (2) to three (3) months) others meet less frequently, and some do almost all of their work over email. Additionally, **there is an appreciation of people's schedules and other commitments and accommodations are routinely made for those who cannot attend all meetings.**

Service on these bodies is an excellent way to make sure your voice is heard and a great opportunity to add to your CV/resume!

On behalf of the GSA NoC, I strongly encourage GSA Councillors (and Alternates) and Councillors-at-Large to consider the next round of vacancies, which will be circulated to GSA Council electronically and which are listed below. Questions can be directed to me at mlgordon@ualberta.ca or GSA Elections Coordinator Monica Brzak at gsanomco@ualberta.ca.

GSA Standing Committees

1) GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council on 4, 11, 18, and 25 June, and 9 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 14 July 2021. **No nominations were received; this vacancy will be advertised again.**

2) GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (One (1) Member Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Member was circulated via the GSA newsletter on 25 June and 2 and 9 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 14 July 2021. **No nominations were received; this vacancy will be advertised again.**

3) GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC) (Three (3) GSA Councillor Positions)

Information regarding the positions for three (3) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council on 25 June and 2 and 9 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 14 July 2021. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

4) GSA Board and GSA Nominating Committee (GSAB/NoC) (Two (2) Joint GSA Councillor Positions)

Information regarding the positions for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council on 25 June and 2 and 9 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 14 July 2021. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

5) GSA Board (GSAB) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council on 25 June and 2 and 9 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 14 July 2021. **No nominations were received; this vacancy will be advertised again.**

External Committees: Vacancies

6) Faculty of Arts Standing Committees (Two (2) Graduate Student Positions)

Information regarding the one (1) vacancy on the Faculty of Arts Academic and Grade Appeals Committee and the one (1) vacancy on the Faculty of Arts Academic Affairs Committee was circulated via email directly to Faculty of Arts graduate students on 23 and 30 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 4 August 2021. **One (1) nomination was received for the Arts Faculty Academic Affairs Committee; Olajide Salawu was elected. The remaining vacancy on the Arts Academic and Grade Appeals Committee will be advertised again.**

7) Faculty of Science Committee (Two (2) Graduate Student Positions)

Information regarding the two (2) vacancies on the Faculty of Science Committee was circulated via email directly to Faculty of Science graduate students on 23 and 30 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 4 August 2021. **One (1) nomination was received; Ethan Proctor was elected. The remaining vacancy will be advertised again.**

8) Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Committee (Twenty-Five (25) Graduate Student Positions)

Information regarding the twenty-five (25) vacancies (twenty (20) Councillors and five (5) Alternates) on the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Council was circulated via the GSA newsletter on 23 and 30 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 4 August 2021. **Three (3) nominations were received; Nicole Dittmann, Sania Amiri-Ishani, and Nayyar Shahid were elected. The remaining vacancies will be advertised again.**

9) Graduate Program Support Team (Two (2) Graduate Student Positions)

Information regarding the two (2) vacancies on the Graduate Program Support Team was circulated via the GSA newsletter on 23 and 30 July 2021 with a nomination deadline of 4 August 2021. **One (1) nomination was received; Kapil Gangwar was elected. The remaining vacancy will be advertised again.**

**Executive Director
Report to GSA Council for the Cancelled 16 August 2021 Meeting**

To: GSA Council
From: Courtney Thomas
Date: 13 August 2021

Dear GSA Council Members,

The big projects for the office staff over the past month have related to preparing for the start of the small semester and a partial return to pre-pandemic operations for the office.

Typically, at the end of August, we would host our large-scale fall orientation events, which takes the shape of a short presentation followed by refreshments and an information fair. As was the case last year we are, obviously, unable to host such an event and so, instead, are updating the series of e-class modules we constructed last, in partnership with the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Office of the Dean of Students. Each module features pieces of information typically articulated at Fall Orientation, alongside interactive quizzes and a prize for completion. Additionally, while in August and September we would typically be engaged with sending out small teams of staff members and student leaders to deliver departmental orientation presentations, last year we developed an online version of those presentations that we are updating and will be rolling out over the coming weeks.

With respect to reopening of the office, several staff will continue to work remotely (some doing a hybrid of both in-office and remote work), the virtual front desk will continue to be provided, and the GSA in-person front desk will be open on a part-time basis. All staff will be practicing mask wearing and physical distancing while in the office and will immediately shift to remote work if they become ill or need to isolate. We have also done an IT analysis and made some associated purchases to ensure that all staff are equipped to move to remote work on short notice. Meetings, including those of GSA Council, will continue to be hosted remotely. Ensuring the safety of staff and graduate students visiting the GSA office is a top priority.

My weekly reports to the GSA Board are attached (pages 12.1-12.2) and, as always, I am happy to answer any questions.

Best,

Courtney Thomas, Executive Director

Management Report to the GSA Board, 21 July 2021

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 14 July 2021:

Strategic

- Ongoing forward planning for the reopening of the GSA office and a partial return to pre-pandemic operations (meeting with FGSR staff to discuss their plans, finalizing an inventory of IT resources to ensure remote meetings can be effectively held from the office and staff are equipped to work from home as needed, meeting as a staff team tomorrow to review plans, etc).
- Preparing for the post-GSA Council release of the Board Strategic Work Plan (developing a recipients list and draft emails for review) and compiling the 2020-2021 Annual Report.
- Action associated with the most recent meeting of GSA Council.
- Drafting a submission to government concerning the exceptional tuition increase proposals.
- Preparing to submit the GSA's audited financial statements to the University Board of Governors, as per the requirements of the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (advising individual graduate student workers, etc), preparing for the beginning of the collection of a union due, as well as the next round of negotiations, and supporting the work of the GSA Labour Relations Committee (including supporting an upcoming meeting).
- Annual review of GSA Bylaw and Policy for needed amendments (potential sections to amend including some changes to the mandate of the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board with respect to Councillors-at-Large, sections detailing the operation of the U-Pass program, changing the timing of the election of the GSA Senator to align with terms of office for the Senate, and Section K in related to the establishment of the GSA Labour Union Fund). Other sections will be reviewed for potential needed amendments over the summer and proposals will be developed for the fall.

Operations

- Supporting the process of an GSA Emergency Bursary appeal.
- GSA Appeals and Complaints Board new member training.
- Development of the GSA planner for 2021-2022 and forward planning for fall orientation (both will be finalized by the first week of August), as well as continued work on the annual Council remuneration process.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council and via the GSA newsletter), the GSA Governance Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board/GSA Nominating Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the Faculty of Arts Academic and Grades Appeals Committee (advertised directly to graduate students in the Faculty of Arts), the Faculty of Arts Academic Affairs Committee (advertised directly to graduate students in the Faculty of Arts), the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council (advertised via the GSA newsletter), the Faculty of Science Council (advertised directly to graduate students in the Faculty of Science), and the FGSR Graduate Program Support Team (FGSR GPST) (advertised via the GSA newsletter).
- Facebook = 1,694 likes (up 1 from 14 July) and 1,848 followers (up 1 from 14 July); Facebook posts reached 248 users last week and our "post engagement" count was 11. Twitter = 1,212 followers (up 3 from 14 July); our tweets earned 367 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 656 followers (up 3 from 14 July); Instagram posts reached 313 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period starts 1 July (not accepting applications for travel outside the province but online costs accepted); GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period starts 1 July; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period starts 1 July. All funding continues to be closely monitored so we can direct it to where the most need is and funds not projected to be spent are being transferred to the University to dispense in the form of COVID-related supplementary bursaries for graduate students.

Management Report to the GSA Board, 11 August 2021

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 21 July 2021:

Strategic

- Ongoing forward planning for the reopening of the GSA office and a partial return to pre-pandemic operations (meeting with FGSR staff to discuss their plans, finalizing an inventory of IT resources to ensure remote meetings can be effectively held from the office and staff are equipped to work from home as needed, developing and circulating a re-opening plan, etc).
- Preparing for the second mailing of GSA Council (drafting minutes from July, committee reports, etc).
- Discussing outreach strategies to GSA Council concerning several long-standing vacancies on GSA standing committees.
- Scheduling meetings with various stakeholders to discuss the 2021-2022 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (advising individual graduate student workers, developing a newsletter, etc), preparing for the beginning of the collection of a union due, as well as the next round of negotiations, and supporting the work of the GSA Labour Relations Committee (including supporting an upcoming meeting to review a service agreement with PSAC).
- Developing amendments to GSA Bylaw and Policy (sections detailing the operation of the U-Pass program, changing the timing of the election of the GSA Senator to align with terms of office for the Senate, and updates to Section K in relation to the establishment of the GSA Labour Union Fund). Other sections will be reviewed for potential needed amendments over the summer and proposals will be developed for the fall (further potential sections to amend including some changes to the mandate of the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board with respect to Councillors-at-Large).

Operations

- Finalizing the orientation e-class for circulation.
- Coordinating mailouts of the GSA planner to departments that have requested a supply for in-coming students.
- Continued work on the annual Council remuneration process (planning to prepare cheques in August once the office re-opens).
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council and via the GSA newsletter), the GSA Governance Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Board/GSA Nominating Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), the GSA Budget and Finance Committee (advertised via the GSA newsletter), the GSA Nominating Committee (advertised via the GSA newsletter), the Faculty of Arts Academic and Grades Appeals Committee (advertised directly to graduate students in the Faculty of Arts), the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council (advertised via the GSA newsletter), the Faculty of Science Council (advertised directly to graduate students in the Faculty of Science), the FGSR Graduate Program Support Team (FGSR GPST) (advertised via the GSA newsletter), and the AFNS GSA.
- Facebook = 1,692 likes (down 2 from 21 July) and 1,849 followers (up 1 from 21 July); Facebook posts reached 25 users last week and our "post engagement" count was 27. Twitter = 1,214 followers (up 2 from 21 July); our tweets earned 134 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 665 followers (up 11 from 21 July); Instagram posts reached 4 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period starts 1 July (as the University has updated its travel directive, we are now accepting applications for travel outside the province, as well costs associated with online events); GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period starts 1 July; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period starts 1 July. All funding continues to be closely monitored so we can direct it to where the most need is and funds not projected to be spent are being transferred to the University to dispense in the form of COVID-related supplementary bursaries for graduate students.