

**GSA Council Meeting AGENDA**  
Monday, 25 April 2022 at 6:00 pm  
Held online via Zoom

*The GSA and the University of Alberta reside on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. This territory is a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples including the Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway, Saulteaux, Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. In acknowledging this traditional territory and its significance for the Indigenous peoples who lived and continue to live upon it, we recognize its longer history that reaches beyond colonization and the establishment of European colonies and recognize the GSA's ongoing collective responsibility in working with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) peoples and what that means for the work of the GSA as it aims to practice the principles of being Good Relations with FNMI peoples, Nations, communities, and lands.*

**Substantive material** is sent to all GSA Council members at least one week prior to the date of the meeting to give members abundant time to review. Any additional substantive material received after this mailing will be emailed as soon as possible.

**Reports** from committees, Directly-Elected Officers, and Management are emailed the Friday before a Monday meeting so that the content is as current as possible.

**Speaker Lauren Hill in the Chair**

**OPEN SESSION**

**Attached  
Numbered Pages**

1. Approval of the 25 April 2022 Agenda (*suggested time: 1 min*)
2. Approval of the Minutes from the 21 March 2022 GSA Council Meeting (*suggested time: 1 min*)  
*Attachment:*
  - i. Minutes from the 21 March 2022 GSA Council Meeting **2.0 - 2.4**
3. Changes in GSA Council Membership (*suggested time: 1 min*)
  - i. Introduction of New GSA Council Members (*If you are new to GSA Council, please let us know it is your first meeting*)
  - ii. Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members (*If this is your last GSA Council meeting, or if your last GSA Council meeting is approaching, please let us know*)

**GSA Council Member Announcements**

4. GSA Council Member Announcements (*suggested time: 5 min*)

**Presentations**

5. University of Alberta Sexual Violence Response (*suggested time: 20 min*)  
**Jessica Grenke (Vice-President Labour) will present the item and introduce the guest.**

**Guest:** Deb Eerkes (Sexual Violence Response Coordinator)

*Attachments:*

- i. Responding to Sexual Violence Introduction Slides **5.0 - 5.1**
- ii. Code of Student Behaviour (COSB) and Sexual Violence Policy Revisions 2022 **5.2 - 5.3**

**Discussion Item**

6. GSA Board Strategic Work Plan (SWP): Update to GSA Council (*suggested time: 30 mins*)  
**Jessica Grenke (Vice-President Labour) will present the item.**

*Attachment:*

GSA Board Strategic Work Plan 2021-2022: Update to GSA Council **6.0 - 6.3**

7. GSA Council Meeting Format  
**Lauren Hill (Speaker) will present the item.**

**Reports** (suggested time: 15 min)

8. President (**Anas Fassih, President**)
- i. President's Report 8.0
  - ii. GSA Board Report 8.1
  - iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee Report (**no written report at this time**)
  - iv. GSA Governance Committee Report (**no written report at this time**)
  - v. GSA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report (**no written report at this time**)
9. Vice-President Academic (**Kathy Haddadkar, Vice-President Academic**)
- i. Vice-President Academic's Report 9.0 - 9.2
10. Vice-President External (**Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa, Vice-President External**)
- i. Vice-President External's Report 10.0
  - ii. GSA Awards Selection Committee Report (**no written report at this time**)
  - iii. Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) – Update to Member Organizations (**no written report at this time**)
11. Vice-President Labour (**Jessica Grenke, Vice-President Labour**)
- i. Vice-President Labour's Report 11.0 - 11.3
  - ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee Report 11.4
12. Vice-President Student Services (**Pareesh Kumar, Vice-President Student Services**)
- i. Vice-President Student Services' Report 12.0 - 12.1
13. Senator (**Peter Isele, Senator**)
- i. Senator's Report (**no written report at this time**)
14. Speaker (**Lauren Hill, Speaker**)
- i. Speaker's Report (**no written report at this time**)
15. Chief Returning Officer (**Muneeb Mohiuddin, Chief Returning Officer**)
- i. Chief Returning Officer's Report (**no written report at this time**)
16. GSA Nominating Committee (**Kenzie Gordon, GSA Nominating Committee Member**)
- i. GSA Nominating Committee Report 16.0 - 16.1
17. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (**Jennifer Bertrand, GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Chair**)
- i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report 17.0
18. GSA Management (**Courtney Thomas, Executive Director**)
- i. Executive Director's Report 18.0 - 18.4

**Question Period**

19. Written Questions (**none received**)
20. Oral Questions

**Adjournment**

**GSA Council Meeting MINUTES**  
Monday, 21 March 2022 at 6:00 pm  
Held online via Zoom

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Anas Fassih (President)	Madeleine Fleming (Biochemistry)	Anita Amir Labonno (Human Ecology)	Alexia Maheux (Pharmacology)
Kathy Haddadkar (VP Academic)	Thomas Goodhart (Biomedical Engineering)	Teresa Kumblathan (Laboratory Medicine & Pathology)	Fadumo Isse (Pharmacy)
Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa (VP External)	Jennifer Sloan (Business PhD)	Maia Trotter (Library & Information Studies)	Avontay Williams (Philosophy)
Jessica Grenke (VP Labour)	Brenna Hourigan (Cell Biology)	Hannah Lam (Linguistics)	Bryanna Chan (Physical Therapy)
Lauren Hill (Speaker)	Karen Hoy (Chemistry)	Alain Gervais (Mathematical & Statistical Sciences)	Hamid Hassani (Physics)
Sana Amjad (Deputy Speaker)	Sana Homsy (Communication Sciences & Disorders)	Luthfia Friskie (Media and Technology Studies)	Isha Ralhan (Physiology)
Muneeb Mohiuddin (CRO)	Ifaz Kabir (Computing Science)	Kara Goodkey (Medical Genetics)	Telisa Courtney (Political Science)
Sophie Shi (DRO)	Nathalia Fernandes Fagundes (Dentistry)	Asna Latif (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	Emilie Desnoyers (Psychiatry)
Hope Eze (Councillor-at-Large)	Xavia Publius (Drama)	Leah Hrycun (Native Studies)	Angela Ma (Psychology)
Laura Manerus (Councillor-at-Large)	Kasjan Koziak (Economics)	Charbel Baaklini (Neuroscience)	Hotaka Kobori (REES)
Abigail Ameley Quaye (Councillor-at-Large)	Qingyan Sun (Educational Policy Studies)	Farrell Bryenton (Nursing)	Rebekah McNeilly (Sociology)
Janmejy Rao (Councillor-at-Large)	Devon Heath; Madison Dabbs-Petty (Educational Psychology)	Alicia Chichak (Occupational Therapy)	Kasra Shayeganpour (Surgery)
Saeed Siddik (Councillor-at-Large)	Yina Liu (Elementary Education)	Benjamin Schultz (Oncology)	
Devyn Caldwell (Anthropology)	Janan Assaly (History, Classics, & Religious Studies)	Shubham Soni (Paediatrics)	

Guests: Robyn Paches (Program Manager, Studentcare); Brandon Simmons (Executive Director, Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC)); Jacob Lamb (Chair, ab-GPAC).

Speaker Lauren Hill in the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm. Speaker acknowledged the Traditional Territory of Treaty Six.

**Approval of Agenda****1. Approval of the 21 March 2022 Consolidated Agenda**

Members had before them the 21 March 2022 Consolidated Agenda, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. T Courtney **MOVED**; E Desnoyers **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**. 1 Abstention.

**Approval of Minutes****2. Minutes from the 28 February 2022 GSA Council Meeting**

Members had before them the 28 February 2022 GSA Council meeting minutes, which had been previously distributed on 11 March 2022. A Gervais **MOVED**; L Friskie **SECONDED**.

Prepared by M Toghrai and F Robertson for GSA Council 21 Mar 2022

Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

### Changes in GSA Council Membership

#### 3. Changes in GSA Council Membership

- i. **Introduction of New GSA Council Members:** M Dabbs-Petty (Educational Psychology)
- ii. **Farewell to Departing GSA Council Members:** D Heath (Educational Psychology); I Kabir (Computing Science).

### GSA Council Member Announcements

#### 4. GSA Council Member Announcements

A Fassih announced that, as part of ongoing work with the Office of Advancement and the Office of the Registrar, a donor campaign was being organized to provide enhanced bursary support to graduate students. Graduate students that had previously benefited from needs-based bursary funding were invited to contact him ([gsa.president@ualberta.ca](mailto:gsa.president@ualberta.ca)) to tell their stories and speak on how the funding benefited them in the hopes of encouraging others to donate.

### Presentations

#### 5. Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC)

MT Bin Mostafa (Vice-President External) presented the item and introduced the guests (B Simmons, Executive Director, ab-GPAC and J Lamb, Chair, ab-GPAC).

J Lamb presented on the work of ab-GPAC as a provincial advocacy and lobby group (representing graduate students at the U of A, University of Calgary, Concordia University, and Athabasca University) that advocated to the Government of Alberta on matters related to graduate students and the post-secondary sector, engaged in information sharing, developed and implemented a strategic plan, and produced research papers and policy statements, among other work. J Lamb outlined the organizational structure of ab-GPAC, with 12 members (three from each GSA), two working committees (Advocacy & Outreach and Governance), and one Executive Director.

J Lamb also commented on the mission, vision, and values of ab-GPAC. ab-GPAC was currently advocating on matters related to COVID-19, economic recovery, fluctuating oil prices, and the Fair Deal Panel Report; it was important for the organization to understand the political landscape so they could try to work with the provincial government toward mutually agreeable outcomes. J Lamb concluded the presentation with highlights of the organization's work and progress updates.

GSA Council members then posed a series of questions including, but not limited to: whether the University of Lethbridge would be joining the organization (J Lamb shared that these conversations were ongoing; U of L had been invited to collaborate on some topics and ab-GPAC hoped to formalize this arrangement next year); future directions for the post-secondary sector, and what resources ab-GPAC might need in the future (might consider increasing membership fees in order to hire a full-time researcher).

### Action Items

#### 6. Drawdown of the GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund and GSA Health and Dental Plan Fee for 2022-2023

A Fassih (President) presented the item and introduced the guest (R Paches, Program Manager, Studentcare).

**SUGGESTED MOTION 1:** That GSA Council **APPROVE**, on the recommendation of the GSA Budget and Finance Committee, that the GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund be drawn down by approximately \$39.03 per Plan member for 2022-2023 to partially offset an increase in the GSA Health and Dental Plan Fee.

**SUGGESTED MOTION 2:** That GSA Council **APPROVE**, on the recommendation of the GSA Board, that the GSA Health and Dental Plan Fee be set at \$525.38/annum, effective 1 September 2022, with collection from graduate students to begin 1 September 2022.

A Fassih noted that the GSA Health and Dental Plan was one of the most important services offered by the GSA and usage of the Plan had increased, which in turn resulted in increasing costs. To offset the cost of the Plan paid by graduate students (which would still increase but by a more moderate amount), the GSA Board and GSA Budget and Finance Committee recommended that the GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund be drawn down as it was currently in a very healthy state and the two motions before GSA Council were reflective of this.

GSA Council members then posed a series of questions including, but not limited to: concerns with the level of coverage provided for the cost and pointing out that Studentcare could be difficult to reach; issues with Desjardins (the insurer) referring queries back to Studentcare (broker) while Studentcare directed them back to Desjardins; that the coverage for mental health services, physical therapy, and dental work was not sufficient; and difficulty with direct billing with some service providers.

R Paches requested that concerns with customer service be brought forward to Studentcare's attention as they were committed to improving after some difficulties during the past year and these complaints were taken very seriously. He noted that direct billing was an issue that Studentcare did not have control over as a practitioner was required to have certain infrastructure in place for direct billing but Studentcare recently moved to working with TELUS as a carrier so this should have alleviated some of those issues. R Paches also explained the balance between comprehensive coverage and low costs and noted that if there was a specific coverage area members wished to see expanded, they were encouraged to bring this forward to GSA elected representatives as coverage expansions were possible but would come with enhanced costs. R Paches then clarified that questions should go to Studentcare first, not Desjardins. As Desjardins primarily offered work-based or union-based benefits, their customer service representatives might not be familiar with student coverage whereas Studentcare worked primarily with students. R Paches added that the motions before members were specifically about drawing down from the GSA Health and Dental Reserve Fund to offset the fee and to approve the fee amount; coverage specific questions did not need to be decided today and were always an ongoing conversation with the GSA Board as the benefit structure could be discussed well into spring. While the fee had to be set now for it to go through the necessary governance process, R Paches could provide consultation to GSA Board and GSA Council on possible Plan changes. A Fassih noted that in previous surveys, graduate students indicated that they would be willing to increase the cost of the Plan to increase benefits and members discussed potential additional surveys of graduate students to determine priority areas for potential coverage expansions.

**MOTION 1:** That GSA Council **APPROVE**, on the recommendation of the GSA Budget and Finance Committee, that the GSA Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund be drawn down by approximately \$39.03 per Plan member for 2022-2023 to partially offset an increase in the GSA Health and Dental Plan Fee. E Desnoyers **MOVED**; D Heath **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**. 6 Opposed. 1 Abstention.

**MOTION 2:** That GSA Council **APPROVE**, on the recommendation of the GSA Board, that the GSA Health and Dental Plan Fee be set at \$525.38/annum, effective 1 September 2022, with collection from graduate students to begin 1 September 2022. D Heath **MOVED**; J Sloan **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**. 8 Opposed. 6 Abstentions.

#### 7. 2022 GSA General Election Results: To Receive for Information for the Purposes of Transferring Banking Signing Authority

M Mohiudden (Chief Returning Officer) presented the item.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:** That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the results of the 2022 GSA General Election wherein the following graduate students were duly elected as President, Vice-President Academic, Vice-President External, Vice-President Labour, and Vice-President Student Services:

<b>President</b>	<b>Anas Fassih</b>
<b>Vice-President Academic</b>	<b>Bishoi Hany G Aziz</b>
<b>Vice-President External</b>	<b>Janmejaya Rao</b>
<b>Vice-President Labour</b>	<b>Hiren Rameshbhai Kaklotar</b>
<b>Vice-President Student Services</b>	<b>Monisha Vinod</b>

M Mohiudden reported the names of the incoming 2022-2023 Elected Officials to GSA Council members.

**MOTION:** That GSA Council **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the results of the 2022 GSA General Election wherein the following graduate students were duly elected as President, Vice-President Academic, Vice-President External, Vice-President Labour, and Vice-President Student Services:

<b>President</b>	<b>Anas Fassih</b>
<b>Vice-President Academic</b>	<b>Bishoi Hany G Aziz</b>
<b>Vice-President External</b>	<b>Janmejaya Rao</b>
<b>Vice-President Labour</b>	<b>Hiren Rameshbhai Kaklotar</b>
<b>Vice-President Student Services</b>	<b>Monisha Vinod</b>

D Heath **MOVED**; T Courtney **SECONDED**.

Motion **PASSED**. 3 Abstentions.

## **Reports**

### **8. President**

#### **i. President's Report:**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, A Fassih emphasized ongoing work on graduate student technology bursaries; ongoing work to formalize the Graduate Students' Society of Canada as a national advocacy body; and continued work on centralized graduate funding packages, which was a long-term project that he was looking forward to pursuing in 2022-2023 during his next term as GSA President.

#### **ii. GSA Board**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted.

#### **iii. GSA Budget and Finance Committee**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted.

#### **iv. GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Report**

No written report at this time.

#### **v. GSA Governance Committee**

No written report at this time.

### **9. Vice-President Academic**

#### **i. Vice-President Academic's Report:**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, K Haddadkar brought attention to the upcoming Centre for Teaching and Learning Open Education Symposium, which was seeking session facilitators.

### **10. Vice-President External**

#### **i. Vice-President External's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, M T Bin Mostafa brought attention to talks with the Ministry of Advanced Education regarding increasing student loan limits, and the slate of services offered by Alumni Career Services and the more generalized support offered by the UAlberta Switchboard.

#### **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.

### **11. Vice-President Labour**

#### **i. Vice-President Labour's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, J Grenke noted that "Meet the GSA LRC" tabling events were scheduled for March 28 and April 8 and that refreshments and games and prizes would be offered; a number of faculty steward positions remained vacant; and departmental Labour 101 sessions were being offered consistently.

#### **ii. GSA Labour Relations Committee**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted.

### **12. Vice-President Student Services**

**i. Vice-President Student Services' Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted. In P Kumar's absence, A Fassih noted that UAlberta students, following negotiations between the student associations and transit providers, would be receiving a partial refund of the Winter 2022 U-Pass fee, to be credited onto their respective accounts by the end of the term.

**13. Senator**

**i. Senator's Report**

No written report at this time.

**14. Speaker**

**i. Speaker's Report**

No written report at this time.

**15. Chief Returning Officer**

**i. Chief Returning Officer's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, M Mohiuddin stated that the GSA ERC would be meeting to debrief the 2022 GSA General Election. The voter turnout was 7.36%.

**16. GSA Nominating Committee**

**i. GSA Nominating Committee Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted.

**17. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee**

**i. GSA Elections and Referenda Committee Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted.

**18. GSA Management**

**i. Executive Director's Report**

Members had before them a written report, which had been previously distributed on 18 March 2022. The report stood as submitted. In addition, C Thomas stated that the GSA was hosting an end-of-term event featuring Rapid Fire Theatre on 21 April 2022.

**Question Period**

**19. Written Questions**

**20. Oral Questions**

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

**RESPONDING TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

1

### Sexual Violence Response Coordinator (SVRC)

**University of Alberta**

- Review of the University of Alberta Response to Sexual Assault (2016)
- Sexual Violence Policy Suite (2017)
- Restorative Initiatives for Sexual Violence (2018, 2019)

**Courage to Act (2019-2023)**

- Co-Lead, Reporting, Investigation and Adjudication Working Group

Lead author

- *A Comprehensive Guide to Campus Gender-Based Violence Complaints: Strategies for Procedurally Fair, Trauma-informed Processes to Reduce Harm*
- *Essential Elements for Non-Punitive Accountability: a Workbook for Understanding Alternative Responses to Campus Gender-Based Violence*
- *Key Principles of Gender-Based Violence Investigations at PSIs: A Guide for Workplace Investigations*

Deb Eerkes  
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3

**STRATEGY**

Shift away from the punitive approach and move toward an **equity orientation, grounded in the academic mission.**

4

**“Within a vibrant and supportive learning environment,** the University of Alberta discovers, disseminates and applies new knowledge through teaching, learning, research and creative activity, community involvement and partnerships.”

- University of Alberta Mission Statement

5

**Every response to be grounded in the academic Mission**

1. Recognize SV as an impediment to the academic mission.
2. Recognize SV as a barrier to full access to University activities.
3. Aim to restore (or establish) full access to University activities.

6



## Course correction

- Driven by the needs of the survivor
- Decriminalizes processes
- **Corrective measures in the learning/working environment**, not just responding to individual incidents
- Guides decisions in individual cases
- Creates space for other forms of accountability
- Forward-looking; envision the academic environment we want
- Our response is preventative

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## Clarity of Purpose

- **Aligns response with Human Rights and Occupational Health and Safety legislation and policy, and away from criminal mindset.**
- Provides decision framework for Interim Measures and Complaints
- Clarifies authority to “act” (and what “act” means in our context)
- Sets reasonable expectations re: the University’s role
- Guides resource allocation
- Is defensible in court

8

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## Options for those who disclose SV

1. Personal support
2. Modifications (reasonable accommodation)
3. Interim Measures (safety/supportive measures)
4. Medical support
5. Safety planning
6. Complaint (investigation/adjudication)
7. **Non-disciplinary accountability options (to be developed)**
8. **Institutional accountability options (to be developed)**

9

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## Q & A



10

### Code of Student Behaviour (COSB) and Sexual Violence Policy Revisions 2022

As a result of a mandate letter from Advanced Education and Status of Women, the 26 public post-secondary institutions in Alberta are required to review, modernize and update all policies and procedures relating to sexual violence. At the University of Alberta, the *Code of Student Behaviour* (COSB) is identified in the *Sexual Violence Policy* as the procedure for allegations against a student and, therefore, the Ministers' letter necessitates reviewing and revising the COSB as well. This allows us to adapt to recent developments in academic misconduct, including mass cheating and contract cheating. Both new policies will be simplified, streamlined and, as far as possible, expressed in plain language. The chart below details the issues being addressed in the policy revision, and some of the substantive changes under consultation.

	Non-academic	Academic
Issues to be addressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compliance with Government of Alberta <a href="#">letter</a> and <a href="#">checklist</a> requiring specific change</li> <li>- Align with best practices as established through <a href="#">Courage to Act</a> tools</li> <li>- Align with other conduct-related policies, such as <i>Discrimination, Harassment and Duty to Accommodate Policy; Protocol 91</i>;</li> <li>- Procedural fairness and trauma-informed practice for respondent and complainant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evolution of cheating (e.g. mass cheating events, contract cheating)</li> <li>- Associate Dean and instructor workload vis a vis academic misconduct cases</li> <li>- Fairness to students; timely process</li> <li>- Educational process/sanctions</li> <li>- Graduate students</li> <li>- Nature of appeal to align with Non-academic conduct appeal</li> <li>- Incorporate and reflect new College/Faculty structure</li> <li>- Align with other academic integrity-related policies, such as <i>Research &amp; Scholarship Integrity Policy, Practicum Intervention Policy, Code of Applicant Behaviour</i></li> </ul>
Proposed policy suite	<p><u>Phase 1</u>  <i>Student Conduct Policy</i>  <i>Student Interpersonal Misconduct Procedure</i>  <i>Student Misconduct Appeal Procedure</i></p> <p><i>Sexual Violence Policy</i>  <i>Sexual Violence Disclosures Procedure</i>            Information documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interim Measures</li> <li>- Education and Training; and</li> <li>- Options, Resources, and Services</li> </ul> <p><u>Phase 2</u>  <i>Violation Notice Procedure</i></p>	<p><u>Phase 2</u>  <i>Academic Integrity Policy</i>  <i>Academic Misconduct Procedure</i>  <i>Academic Misconduct Appeal Procedure (to use same appeal body as the Student Misconduct Appeal Procedure)</i></p>

	Non-academic	Academic
	<p><i>Student University-related Misconduct Procedure</i></p> <p>-</p>	
Substantive changes	<p>Separate academic from non-academic misconduct            Convert to UAPPOL formats            Remove elements and language improperly imported from criminal legal system            Appeal becomes a true appeal on the record (not <i>de novo</i> hearing)            No adversarial (trial-like) hearings            Implement the use of Symplicity Advocate (case management system) across University</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fully separate investigation from decision-making</li> <li>- Include Non-disciplinary accountability option</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Examine role of instructors and Associate Deans in decision-making</li> <li>- Build in educational/remedial pathway</li> <li>- Include both students and applicants, as well as application-related misconduct (TBD)</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
Timelines	<p>Phase 1 - Deadline for approval November 1, 2022            Phase 2 - approval Winter term 2023</p>	<p>Phase 2            Consultation: Fall 2022            Approval: Winter 2023</p>
Consultation	<p>Student: SU, GSA, CORA, COFA, ISA, BSA, ASC            Staff/Faculty: Deans' Council, AASUA, NASA, Faculty Relations, HRHSE            Governance: COSA, SCPC, GFC Exec, GFC, BLRSEC, BOG</p>	<p>Student: SU, GSA, COFA, ISA, BSA            Faculty: Associate Deans, College conduct admin, Deans' Council            Governance:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SCPC, COSA, GFC Exec, GFC, BLRSEC, BOG</li> </ul> </p>



## 2021-2022 GSA Board Strategic Work Plan 25 April 2022 Update to GSA Council

Each spring the GSA Directly-Elected Officers (hereafter referred to, informally, as the student executive team) work with the GSA Board to produce a Strategic Work Plan (SWP). The SWP is the document that steers and prioritizes the work and initiatives of the GSA, and is subject to revision as opportunities arise, shifting directions as needed. The SWP reflects the GSA's vision and mission to advocate for all graduate students to the University of Alberta and the Alberta Government for a safe, supportive, respectful, accessible, and inclusive community that fosters the multi-faceted roles played by graduate students.

This year's consultation initiatives were carried out in Summer 2021 and yielded a significant amount of feedback which helped shape the 2021-2022 SWP. The final document was approved by the GSA Board in late June and received by GSA Council for information at their July meeting. It can be viewed [on the GSA website](#).

A selection of ongoing work and new initiatives pursued and undertaken by the 2021-2022 student executive team (President Anas Fassih, VP Academic Kathy Haddadkar, VP External Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa, VP Labour Jessica Grenke, and VP Student Services Paresh Kumar), in accord with the 2021-2022 SWP, can be found below.

Earlier updates were shared with GSA Council in October and January; thus this document is the third and final installment of updates in the 2021-2022 term.

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- Engaging in repeated consultation efforts with the graduate student body throughout a tumultuous academic year resulting from the pandemic and shifting provincial mandates and University directives. Three surveys were launched between July 2021 and February 2022 to establish a frequent dialogue with graduate students and to ensure that advocacy efforts were reflective of these experiences;
  - The development of a dedicated bursary to assist graduate students with the often-untenable burden of technology requirements of graduate-level research. This work, led by the President, is still in its primary stages but a strong foundation of support has been established by our colleagues at the Office of the Registrar and at the Office of Development and Alumni Relations;
  - Supporting the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) as part of the steering committee for the Open Education Symposium (March 2022) and the Festival of Teaching and Learning (FoTL) (May 2022). The VP Academic also served as a session facilitator for the Symposium;
  - Significant advocacy on the part of the VP External in the wake of the closure of Michener Park residence in 2021 has so far yielded a recently made offer for dedicated couples' housing to be made available. A number of units at HUB will be offered to students as of Fall 2022;
  - The President has been representing the graduate student constituency to the University as it navigates the academic restructuring initiative which was implemented in Summer 2021. This advocacy was in part channelled through the work of the GFC *Ad Hoc* Committee for the Formal Review of the Consultations and Action Processes for Academic Restructuring, on which the VP Academic served. A report from this *ad hoc* body, the product of several months of work that has several significant recommendations, was shared with GFC in March 2022;
  - The following efforts pertain to the role of the GSA as the union for Academically-Employed Graduate Students (AEGSs):



# Graduate Students' Association

## University of Alberta

- The establishment of a service agreement with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), the result of which is a more robust union and a stronger bargaining position for Academically-Employed Graduate Students (AEGSs);
  - Bargaining for the next GSA Collective Agreement in advance of the expiration of the existing agreement in August 2022. This work began as scheduled in Fall 2021 and frequent updates have been provided to AEGSs as union members;
  - Following the creation of a slate of union steward roles, associated stewardship training sessions were offered in March 2022;
  - An outreach initiative led by the VP Labour has also been carried out in the form of connecting with individual departments to ensure ground-level engagement and department-specific information sharing. Further efforts in this vein have been represented by “Meet the GSA Labour Relations Committee” tabling in the North Campus Quad;
  - The development and launch of a novel eClass module that provides self-guided education on the GSA Collective Agreement;
  - Pledging solidarity with the Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA) and the Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta (AASUA) during February 2022 as bargaining efforts between AASUA and the University stalled and formal mediation began. Significant efforts were also made to address graduate student concerns given the interconnected nature of graduate student and academic staff employment, and the potential for strike action or a lock out;
- The use of the GSA Health and Dental Reserve Fund (GSA HDPRF) to the amount of \$39.03 per student to help offset upcoming increases to the cost of the GSA Health and Dental Plan. The annual cost of enrolment for this plan was frozen for a period of two years as part of the previous round of negotiations with Studentcare. Since then, as a result of increasing usage, the cost of the plan has continued to grow. With the two-year freezing period ending in August 2022, the per-person fee of the plan for the 2022-2023 academic year was reported at \$564.41. Thus the GSA Board and GSA Budget and Finance Committee have opted to utilize the GSA HPDRF to help offset this increase for the duration of the 2022-2023 academic year, meaning that the existing per-person cost will see a 5% increase to \$525.38. Work to expand coverage offerings under the Plan is ongoing;
  - The VP Student Services has negotiated with Edmonton Transit Services (ETS) and other regional transit services, alongside partner student associations at UAlberta, MacEwan University, NAIT, and NorQuest, to secure a partial refund of \$45 on the Winter 2022 U-Pass;
  - As previously reported, the GSA Budget and Finance Committee, led by the President, conducted a review of the GSA’s investment policy to ensure it remains reflective of the organization’s goals. These priorities are a risk-averse portfolio, and one with an ethical investing caveat. In addition, the work of this body has culminated in the decision to dedicate 30% of the 2021-2022 GSA operating budget surplus to the Campus Food Bank. This decision reflects years of partnership and is made in part as a response to the rising need demonstrated by graduate students in recent years;
  - Financial barriers to accessing post-secondary education continue to stand, as they have for a number of years, as a primary strategic priority for the GSA. Work motivated by this priority manifests through ongoing conversations between the President and Dr. Brooke Milne (Vice-Provost and Faculty of

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# Graduate Students' Association

## University of Alberta

Graduate Studies and Research Dean) regarding guaranteed minimum funding packages, as well as ongoing vigorous advocacy to University administration and the provincial government for increased post-secondary funding and affordable tuition. On this latter point, the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (with whom the President and VP External work closely) released a statement in February 2022, urging the provincial government yet again to reconsider ongoing and increasing budget cuts. These efforts represent larger projects that will continue in the coming years;

- In alignment with their respective portfolios, the VP Academic, VP Student Services, and VP Labour each dedicated a notable portion of time to one-on-one meetings with graduate students;
- The University's temporary online learning period in Winter 2022 was preceded by a significant effort from the Return to Campus Safety and Logistics Committee, whose mandate is to endeavour to ensure safety and wellness for community members. The VP Student Services represented graduate students on this body;
- Following the Winter 2022 temporary online learning period, the GSA office has returned to operations in a hybrid format where staff work in office as well as remotely in order to balance public health standards with the need to support graduate students in-person;
- Virtual Game Night was hosted on 18 March, in consideration for public health guidance and raised concerns surrounding safety. Planning for future events, particularly in-person offerings, has begun in advance of the Spring/Summer term;
- Alongside our partners at Campus and Community Recreation (CCR), this year saw a focused effort to consult with graduate students to help ensure the unique needs of this group are being recognized by the CCR slate of offerings. This involved frequent meetings between the VP Student Services and CCR administration, as well as a survey for large scale consultation;
- Efforts pertaining to the mandate of the GSA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (GSA EDIC) continue under the leadership of the President. Current priorities revolve around the lack of engagement with a number of specific equity-seeking demographics in our community, including graduate students who are part of the LGBTQ+ community, and students who are disabled or differently-abled;
- The GSA Recognition Awards disbursed a sum of \$[total forthcoming] this year in the form of 32 individual awards to graduate students for demonstrated exemplary service, leadership, research, and teaching, 1 award for graduate student groups, among others. A small, in-person Awards Ceremony was also hosted this year in consideration for public health and safety;
- The GSA communications strategy and practices has undergone a review, particularly in relation to the GSA newsletter which saw, as a result, a formatting change in an effort to garner greater engagement. Informational videos featuring each of the student executives were also produced and launch this year, and can be found [on the GSA website](#); *and*
- The GSA executive team continues efforts to cultivate and sustain productive relationships with prominent members of University administration and stakeholders which remains a high priority. The student executives therefore engage in regular meetings with University President, Bill Flanagan; Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Steve Dew; Vice-Provost and FGSR Dean, Brooke Milne; Chief Strategy Officer, Catherine Swindlehurst; Dean of Students, André Costopoulos; Acting Dean of Students, Helen Vallianatos; and Acting Associate Dean of Students, Karsten Mündel, among many others.

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# Graduate Students' Association

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The student executive team will continue to work diligently in accordance with the 2021-2022 SWP until the conclusion of the 2021-2022 term on 30 April 2022. Thereafter, the proverbial baton will be passed to the 2022-2023 student executive team.

**President  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
Date: 22 April 2022

The President was unable to file a report this month. Please find below a list of meetings attended by the President between 22 March and 25 April 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. The President will report in full at the May meeting of GSA Council.

22 March	Meeting with K Chisholm, Board of Governors (BoG) Chair
23 March	Meeting with T Shandro, University of Calgary GSA President
23 March	General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC)
24 March	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
24 March	Meeting with C Swindlehurst, Chief Strategy Officer
24 March	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Outreach Committee
25 March	Board of Governors (BoG)
29 March	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Presentation to the University of Calgary GSA Council
30 March	Meeting with B Flanagan, President
30 March	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council
31 March	GSA Transition
31 March	Meeting with S Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)



**GSA Board  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

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 Directly-Elected Officers 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 18 (Executive Director's Report to GSA Council) on pages 18.1-18.4.

**22 March 2022 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items:

GSA Academic Travel Grants, Child Care Grants and Emergency Bursaries: Reallocation of Graduate Student Support Fund Rolling Opening Balances; Potential GSA Board Statement on University Masking Mandate Removal; COVID-19 Update; GSA Council Debrief; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

**MOTION:** That the GSA Board **APPROVE** the reallocation of the amounts remaining in the budgets and contingency budgets for GSA Academic Travel Grants, GSA Child Care Grants, and GSA Emergency Bursaries in 2021-2022 as follows: ~\$92,862 to the 2022-2023 budget line for GSA Academic Travel Grants, ~\$50,000 to the 2022-2023 budget line for GSA Emergency Bursaries, and ~\$216,678 to the 2022-2023 budget line for GSA Child Care Grants. KH **MOVED**. MM Seconded. **CARRIED**.

**29 March 2022 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items:

COVID-19 Update; and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

None to report.

**5 April 2022 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items:

COVID-19 Update and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

None to report.

**19 April 2022 GSA Board Meeting**

Main Agenda Items:

COVID-19 Update and meeting reports.

Motions and Agreements:

None to report.

**Vice-President Academic  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Kathy Haddadkar  
Date: 25 April 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

While one more report will be reaching your eyes and digital fingers-tips for May 2022, I want to begin my final update by thanking each of you immensely for electing me to serve you as the outgoing GSA Vice-President Academic. Each member before me has brought value and admirable courage in sharing their thoughts and contributing to our council each month. It has made my job as VPA even more of an adventure, to say the least! I will truly miss my time at the GSA but will hold onto my passion for supporting graduate students – no matter where life takes me! You have taught me courage, treated me with respect and showed me kindness as I explored many facets of leadership through your wisdom as graduate students and for that, I am forever grateful. While the end is bitter-sweet, I have full faith that the incoming Vice-President Academic Bishoi Aziz will continue to maintain an open and trusted connection with all academic matters concerning our graduate students at the University of Alberta. To that end, please feel free to reach out to me till 30 April 2022, and Bishoi thereafter. I am always happy to be of assistance in any way that I can. May the spring bring each of you peace, rest and many colourful flowers that infuse you with refreshed energy!

Please find a few important highlights from my meetings this month:

**24 March/5 April – Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)**

- During both meetings, several items were clarified and discussed including the way in which FGSR items are listed in the General Faculties Council agenda (consent versus action item), calendar language to be approved pertaining to the program and academic standing such as failed courses and extra-to-degree courses (which do not count for credit nor are considered as a part of CGPA calculation when declared as such) and residence requirements of which FGSR recently added new language impacting future programs that may wish to have a residency requirement for students in the future

**4 April – General Faculties Council Executive Committee (GFC EXEC) Subcommittee on Governance and Procedural Oversight (GPO)**

- This session of GPO focused on completing a 3-year review and discussion of the terms-of-reference for the following subcommittees: GFC Executive Committee, GFC Council on Student Affairs (GFC COSA), GFC Academic Planning Committee (GFC APC), and General Faculties Council
- Of note was recognizing thoughts dealing with faculty of education and the college model when considering the terms of reference for GFC EXEC as well as clarifying the role of the Registrar. It was confirmed that these terms of reference will return to GPO in September 2022 and will be recommended to move forward to GFC EXEC as the next path within the governance stream
- Regarding the GFC COSA, there was significant discussion on increasing graduate and undergraduate student involvement by supplementing from student members of GFC at large, as well as the recommendation for the presence of the Vice-Provost and Dean of the FGSR and a graduate and undergraduate student vice-chair on GFC COSA

**11 April – General Faculties Council Executive Meeting (GFC EXEC)**

- Several items were approved to move forward to GFC including proposed changes to the terms of reference for the GFC APC and the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment related to the

proposed disbanding of the GFC Facilities Development Committee; we also considered proposed changes to the terms of reference for GFC COSA

- The following items were discussed: a review of the GFC Nominating Committee (GFC NC) terms of reference and procedures with proposed changes to the terms of reference for the GFC NC and a potential motion to rescind a motion given by Dean Baldwin on 17 Feb 1975 by GFC member Jerine Pegg, which currently allows the motion of not permitting faculty members on leave to sit on faculty councils or schools to stand across all committees; regardless of the type of leave or sabbatical

#### 12 April – Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC)

- Discussion at this meeting focused primarily on the projected inflationary increases to tuition which will impact the graduate and undergraduate students at our institution over the next 5 years at approximately 5.7%, which equates to an approximate average increase of \$107.72 in tuition for programs beginning Fall 2022
  - The likelihood is that tuition prices will continue to inflate for the following year of student intake by 2% with an overall increase of 6% over the course of 2023-2026
  - These numbers come from individuals who manage the inflation portfolio for the University including in-house investments and treasury group alongside Bloomington financials and economics Canada and consistent monitoring of bank inflation, which only goes up to 3%
  - The confirmed projection of inflated tuition for the Fall 2022 student intake will be available by the end of Summer 2022

#### 14 April – General Faculties Council Programs Committee (GFC PC)

- The final meeting of my term for GFC PC included the approval of the following action items: proposed termination of the Baccalauréat en sciences de l'environnement et de la conservation/BSc in Environmental and Conservation Sciences, the proposed dental assisting certificate for the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, proposed changes to the embedded certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies (with the addition of an Indigenous requirement), proposed changes to academic standing regulations for graduate students from FGSR
  - This particular FGSR item speaks to calendar language pertaining to failure of required courses which can lead to withdrawal unless the student is able to complete a required failed course and receive a C+ (2.7) based on the number of maximum allowable credits of failed coursework permitted in the graduate student's respective program as well as the encouragement of remediation (prior to considering withdrawal as a last resort) by having the graduate student's academic unit and supervisor set an actionable timeline/milestones oriented plan, should a thesis-based student fail to meet satisfactory progress in their research

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](mailto:gsa.vpacademic@ualberta.ca).

Respectfully,

Kathy Haddadkar, Vice-President Academic 2021-2022

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 22 March and 25 April 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing.*

23 March	Days of Action (DoA)
24 March	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
31 March	GSA Transition

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4 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
4 April	General Faculties Council Executive Committee (GFC EXEC) Subcommittee on Governance and Procedural Oversight
5 April	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
6 April	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Policy Review Committee (FGSR PRC)
7 April	GSA Recognition Awards Ceremony
8 April	Festival of Teaching and Learning Committee (FoTL)
11 April	General Faculties Council Executive Meeting (GFC EXEC)
12 April	Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC)
13 April	General Faculties Council Nominating Committee (GFC NC)
14 April	General Faculties Council Programs Committee (GFC PC)
14 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
19 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
19 April	Tuition Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC)
21 April	Meeting with K Mundel, Associate Dean of Students (Acting)
21 April	Meeting with B Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
21 April	End of Term Celebration with Rapid Fire Theatre
25 April	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Graduate Program Support Team (FGSR GPST)
25 April	Festival of Teaching and Learning Committee (FoTL)

**Vice-President External  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa  
Date: 22 April 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

Please find below a summary of my activity from the past month. As I have been on leave, my meeting schedule was relatively light.

The Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) has been working hard to update its strategic planning and the 2023 Advocacy Week as we wrapped up meeting with the Ministry of Advanced Education last month.

I'm happy to report that, at the Residence Advisory Committee (RAC), it was decided that tenant insurance will no longer be an extra charge to students. However, this does now require that students who are wanting tenant insurance to purchase it privately. I encourage students with questions to reach out, and please note that the GSA has a partnership with [TD Insurance](#).

The University Research Policy Committee (URPC) has engaged in continuity planning and how in the future, we can better address emergency preparedness and its research impact. This planning involved discussions on how to better collaborate with other institutions in terms of research and I look forward to seeing these plans unfold.

I also attended a social media training session with the University Senate and Alumni Council, which was very informative in terms of using social media as a tool as an institution.

Thank you,

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

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 22 March and 25 April 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. I am on leave from 12 April to 29 April.*

24 March	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Outreach Committee
25 March	University Research Policy Committee (URPC)
25 March	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Governance Committee
28 March	Senate and Alumni Council Social Media Training
29 March	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) Executive Committee
31 March	GSA Transition
31 March	International Students' Association (ISA) Council
6 April	Residence Advisory Committee (RAC)
6 April	Alumni Career Services
7 April	GSA Recognition Awards Ceremony
8 April	GSA Emergency Bursary Appeal Hearing

**GSA Vice-President Labour  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Jessica Grenke  
Date: 22 April 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

I wish you all an end-of-term full of reflection and recognition of all your accomplishments. Whether these consist of finishing up a draft of a thesis chapter, working through the pile of final exams to mark, or simply keeping to a set schedule every day, our work is worth celebrating! Though this is not my final report, I took the opportunity this month to compile a summary of my work as Vice-President Labour 2021-2022 so far, including work conducted throughout April 2022. The detailed review is outlined below:

**What We've Accomplished:**

<b>Core Goal</b>	<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>
<b>Collection of a union due</b>	<b>Collection of 1% union due on the salary portion of the stipends of all academically-employed graduate students</b>	This has ensured protection of the broader GSA against upcoming legislation governing core and non-core union activity.
		This has expanded our capacity to serve our members through outreach (detailed below) and our partnership with PSAC (Public Service Alliance of Canada; detailed below).
<b>Growing networks of solidarity</b>	<b>Service agreement with PSAC. For a flat payment of \$76,000 per year (paid quarterly), we receive access to their outreach, bargaining, and legal teams, as well as their strike fund.</b>	More effective bargaining including: access to their lead expert negotiator, bargaining researchers, and legal support.
		Access to outreach support, including PSAC event planning support, social media support, swag items, and teambuilding events.
		Access to their legal team, negotiators, and strike fund has allowed us to more effectively advise our members on their rights and options for action.
		Solidarity with other provincial graduate student worker unions. The University of Calgary GSA and University of Lethbridge GSA have both entered similar service agreements, enabling streamlined joint action.
	<b>Establishing regular meetings with the Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA) president</b>	This has allowed the GSA and NASA to strengthen their relationship and take advantage of areas of mutual interest. For example, we released a joint statement in support of AASUA (The Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta) and CUEFA (Concordia University of Edmonton Faculty Association) collective bargaining and informally pursued potential grievances in areas impacting both NASA and GSA members.
	<b>Establish regular meetings with U of C and U of L counterparts</b>	Albertan graduate student worker unions are now in constant, regular contact on their own terms. This allows for better informed decision-making,

		solidarity in bargaining and communications, and potential joint action.
	<b>Picket in support of CUEFA Strike</b>	Showed our union's solidarity with the CUEFA picket in January 2022 along with the GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) team and NASA.
	<b>Picket in support of NASA Informational Picket</b>	Showed our union's solidarity with NASA November 2021 in support of their Collective Agreement bargaining informational picket.
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Outreach to graduate student groups</b>	Once per term I have reached out to all graduate student groups listed, asking to present at their meetings. This has enabled our team to better serve our members by opening two-way communication between our members and myself.
	<b>Faculty Steward network</b>	By recruiting, deputizing, training, and empowering our faculty stewards, we lay the foundation for long-term community building. Our team of 7 stewards is off to a great start.
	<b>Proactive communication RE potential AASUA strike</b>	The community and networks we'd built this last year enabled us to proactively inform our members of the developing potential for AASUA strike-action. We held a joint town hall with AASUA, released easy to read Q & As (one written by me, one jointly written by AASUA, me, and NASA), and answered many of our members' concerns directly over email.
	<b>Video series</b>	As a team, the GSA LRC has developed the first in a series of videos highlighting the union in accessible terms. These will be publicly posted, long-term resources for our members and put faces to titles.
	<b>Infographics</b>	I have developed two infographics relevant to our members (Know Your Rights and Bargaining 101), these are posted on our website and available in poster form for our members.
	<b>Meet the GSA LRC events</b>	We launched our first in-person "Meet the GSA LRC" tables this last month. This enabled us to directly meet and talk with our members, hand out swag, and become a more visible part of the campus community.
	<b>Labour 101 eClass Module</b>	Created an eClass introducing our union and basic collective agreement rights to our members. Now up and running and available for members to use!
	<b>Graduate Student Supervision Program Module</b>	Created an introduction to the Collective Agreement rights of graduate student workers for a supervisory audience through this module. Collaboration between the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the GSA.
<b>Collective Bargaining</b>	<b>Proactive, professional outreach to our members</b>	In order to ensure our bargaining was informed from our members as directly as possible, we held a town hall on priorities, solicited and gathered feedback over email, and used the graduate student group initiative to inform our priorities.
	<b>Development of proposals</b>	Using the expertise of the GSA staff, PSAC professionals, the GSA LRC, and our members, we

		prepared and exchanged a top-rate non-monetary proposal.
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### Key Initiatives to Continue:

#### Outreach:

- Once per term proactive outreach to graduate student groups (I've compiled a directory and mailing list to make this easy) asking for an invitation to present. GSA VP Labour tailors these presentations to each groups' needs (ie, a Labour 101 presentation followed by a question period). These are invaluable for ensuring our governance remains democratic and that the GSA enacts the will of its members.
- Stewards network. We've developed training (in collaboration with the PSAC) for all our stewards and there are still many unfilled positions to recruit for. Stewards are the community-centre of the union and it's vital that this program continues to grow across the University. As it grows, we will need to ensure a more sophisticated communication/accountability structure is put into place.
- Video series on our union. In collaboration with the GSA LRC, we've been working hard at developing a series of videos for posting on our website (and eventually targeted to our twitter, Facebook, and Instagram accounts). The first of the series (an abridged Labour 101) is in development and should be ready to release by the time of this meeting. The rest of the series is intended to be longer-form videos interviewing a diverse array of our governance structure and members. We planned one on: collective bargaining, union stewards, each article of the collective agreement, and applicable legislation. Intended interviewees included: students impacted by each CA article, stewards, GSA LRC members, PSAC staff, and the VP Labour. They're intended to highlight the community-based nature of our union, so as many speakers as possible.
- Infographics/posters. At the suggestion of graduate students groups we've been developing a series of infographics on our union. These are intended for quick and easy awareness of us and can be posted on graduate student common-areas, graduate student group websites/social media etc. We should continue to develop these resources.
- Meet the GSA LRC events. We've launched our first "Meet the GSA LRC" and this event should become a regular occurrence (ie, 1 / early term). We should continue to talk to our members and PSAC for more ideas about effective in-person events.

#### Collective Bargaining

- Our team will continue to bargain in the upcoming spring/summer term. We will need to ensure the entire bargaining team is kept organized and well informed, our members are kept up-to-date with each new development, and that everyone's voice is heard and considered during this process.

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Representing our union has been a great privilege. It has also been immensely humbling. Our brilliant, passionate, and hard-working members amaze me with all they accomplish. This position will continue to be key to ensuring their value is recognized and rewarded in full by the University administration.

In solidarity,  
Jessica Grenke, Vice-President Labour 2021-2022

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 22 March and 25 April 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. Additionally, please note that, as the President is temporarily unavailable while he attends to a personal matter, in accordance with the line of succession for Acting President reported to GSA Council in May 2021, I have been serving (where necessary) in the President's stead.*

23 March	Meeting with the Bio Sci Chair re TAs/ship Policy
28 March	Meeting with a Graduate Student



28 March	Meet the GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) Quad Event
30 March	Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council
31 March	Alberta Graduate Student Associations Monthly Labour Meeting
4 April	Meeting Re Collective Agreement Matters
4 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
7 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
7 April	GSA Recognition Awards Ceremony
8 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
8 April	Meet the GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) Event
13 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
14 April	Meeting with a Graduate Student
25 April	GSA Labour Relations Meeting (GSA LRC)

**GSA Labour Relations Committee  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Jessica Grenke  
Date: 22 April 2022

Dear GSA Council Colleagues,

The GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC), with assistance from the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), hosted two “Meet your GSA LRC – Open Table” events on 28 March and 8 April in the Quad for members to come and meet who is behind the scenes on the GSA labour front. We were able to connect with many graduate student workers to talk about our bargaining and hand out swag. We look forward to hosting similar events in the future.

Members of the GSA LRC have worked to put together an introduction video about the GSA labour union, and we are excited to have shared this with our members in our newsletters and the GSA social media this week. This will be added to our labour website as a welcome and introduction to our members. We hope to build more topic-specific videos moving forward.

The GSA continues to recruit Faculty Stewards, and the GSA LRC has been reviewing applications and appointing individuals to these roles. We are still looking for individuals to fill this role from: Business, Campus St. Jean, Education, Kinesiology and Recreation, Law, Public Health, and Rehabilitation Medicine. If you know of an AEGS that could be a good fit in any of these faculties, please encourage them to reach out to me.

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 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Paresh Kumar  
Date: 22 April 2022

Dear Council Colleagues,

I hope you all are doing well and had a great winter session. Officially, this is the last Council meeting of my term and I heartfully welcome the incoming team. I really wanted to thank all the Council members for their involvement and participation in the Council meetings. It was a challenging year but with all your support it felt very smooth. With that, I will start my report for the last month. I do not have much to report this time as I was on leave for a couple of weeks. Here are the main takeaways from the meetings I attended last month:

- World Health Day review: The Health Day workshop “Understanding Health & Wellbeing on our Path to Reconciliation” was a great success. Many students joined the workshop even during the exam season. The group discussed the events and things that had gone well and if there was anything that needed to be updated. Everyone seemed very happy with the way Days of Action (DOA) Committee is working towards organising the events. I personally liked the way group was divided into focus groups to work on different events and then meet as the whole DOA group to discuss the approach.
- Meeting to Review Studentcare Health and Dental Survey Results: The meeting was organised to discuss the additional coverage survey results. In the next few months, decisions about any additional coverage in the GSA Health and Dental Plan will be made. I will share some highlights from the survey category-wise:
  - Virtual Health Care:
    - 74.2% of respondents would support the implementation of a Virtual Health Care service for GSA members with the possibility to opt out of the service.
    - 93.7% of surveyed students felt it was either very important or somewhat important for students to have quick referrals to medical specialists.
    - 33.3% of surveyed students rated their current level of access to health-care professionals as very accessible.
  - Legal Assistance and Representation:
    - 73.9% of surveyed students would support the implementation of a Legal Protection Program for GSA members with the possibility to opt out of the service.
    - 80.3% of respondents reported having only a vague understanding or not knowing where to start when it comes to understanding their legal rights.
  - Sexual Violence Legal Support:
    - 68.8% of respondents would support the implementation of a Sexual Violence Care Program for GSA members with the possibility to opt out of the service.
    - Only 21.4% of GSA members who participated in the survey think there are sufficient legal resources available on campus to support students who experience sexual violence.

Feel free to reach out to me for any comments/concerns regarding this report or any other specific issue you want to discuss regarding student services at [gsa.vpstudentservices@ualberta.ca](mailto:gsa.vpstudentservices@ualberta.ca).

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

*Please find below a list of meetings I attended between 22 March and 25 April 2022 (not inclusive of weekly GSA Board meetings). The meetings were accurate at the time of printing. I was on Leave from 21 March to 7 April and will be on leave from 26 April to 29 April.*

13 April	World Health Day Review
14 April	Meeting to Review Studentcare Health and Dental Survey Results
21 April	U-Pass Administration Committee
21 April	End of Term Celebration with Rapid Fire Theatre

**GSA Nominating Committee  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Kenzie Gordon  
Date: 22 April 2022

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](mailto:mlgordon@ualberta.ca) or GSA Elections Coordinator Monica Brzak at [gsanomco@ualberta.ca](mailto:gsanomco@ualberta.ca).

### GSA Standing Committees

**1) GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) (Two (2) GSA Councillor Positions)**

Information regarding the position for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council 1, 8, and 14 April 2022 with a nomination deadline of 19 April 2022. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

**2) GSA Governance Committee (GSA GC) (Two (1) GSA Councillor Position)**

Information regarding the position for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA 1, 8, and 14 April 2022 with a nomination deadline of 20 April 2022. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

**3) GSA Board (GSAB) (One (1) GSA Councillor Position)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Councillor was circulated via email to GSA Council GSA 1, 8, and 14 April 2022 with a nomination deadline of 20 April 2022. **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 position for two (2) GSA Councillors was circulated via email to GSA Council GSA 1, 8, and 14 April 2022 with a nomination deadline of 20 April 2022. **No nominations were received; these vacancies will be advertised again.**

### External Committees: Vacancies

**5) General Facilities Council (GFC) (Thirteen (13) GSA member Positions)**

Information regarding the position for thirteen (13) GSA members was circulated the GSA Newsletter on 11 and 18 March 2022 and 1, 8, and 14 April 2022 with a nomination deadline of 20 April 2022. **Adekunle Mofolassayo, Sophie Shi, Dweej Shah, Emily Holden, Rachel Yang, Sargun Sokhi, Jad-Julian Rachid, Josephine Bolaji, Subrat Sharma, Srivathsan Shanmuganathan, Marian Sanchez and were elected. The remaining vacancies will be advertised again.**

**GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC)  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Jennifer Bertrand  
Date: 22 April 2022

Dear GSA Council Members,

The GSA ERC met to debrief the 2022 GSA General Election on 1 April. The committee discussed potential changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda to enhance clarity and potential changes to the content of the All-Candidates Meeting to better convey clear and concise information to candidates about the various election regulations. The committee also discussed voter turnout and ways to spread awareness about the election and encourage voting. The committee will meet again in the coming months to continue these conversations.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Bertrand, Chair of the GSA ERC

**Executive Director  
Report to GSA Council for the 25 April 2022 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Courtney Thomas  
Date: 22 April 2022

Dear GSA Council Members,

In the weeks following the last meeting of GSA Council, the office team has been engaged with: planning for the beginning of the terms of the new team of Directly-Elected Officers (DEOs) that will happen at the start of May; the closing out of the GSA's fiscal year on 31 March; hosting an in-person ceremony to honour the recipients of the 2022 GSA Recognition Awards (our first in-person event since the onset of the pandemic); supporting the GSA Labour Relations Committee in its ongoing bargaining work and outreach coordination; planning an online end of term event with Rapid Fire Theatre; opening a new funding period for GSA grants and bursaries (new granting period opened on 1 April); beginning to review a legal opinion on possible structural changes to the GSA to create greater autonomy for the GSA's role as a labour union (in light of the GSA's losing its exclusivity as a bargaining agenda for academically-employed graduate students in July 2022 and the release of the regulations associated with the province's Bill 32 legislation); and supporting the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee as it debriefs the 2022 GSA General Election and identifies potential revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda to enhance clarity.

As this is the final meeting before a new team of Directly-Elected Officers takes office (under the continued leadership of the re-elected President), I would also like to take this opportunity to offer my warmest thanks to the outgoing members of the current team. This is tenth team of Directly-Elected Officers that I have had the pleasure of supporting and, over the past year, I have greatly appreciated the dedication, insightfulness, and conscientiousness that they have brought to their roles; they have all worked diligently to support graduate students at the U of A. We are happy to be able to continue working alongside the current President for another year and, along with all the members of the office team, I wish the outgoing members of the current team all the best in their future endeavours and thank them for their service.

I am happy to answer any questions and, as always, the weekly reports from myself to the GSA Board are attached (pages 18.1-18.4).

Best,  
Courtney Thomas, Executive Director



### Management Report to the GSA Board, 22 March 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 15 March 2022:

#### Strategic

- Preparing for the fiscal year end.
- Developing the final Board Strategic Work Plan update to GSA Council and a timeline for the development of next year's plan.
- Planning the 2021-2022 annual report.
- Meeting with the new Executive Director of the Campus Food Bank.
- Planning for transition at the end of the month (finalizing the transition manual, etc).
- Soliciting a legal opinion on the recently released regulations for Bill 32 and how they may impact the GSA, including potential changes to the structure of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President. We're hoping to hear back from the lawyers soon and can then begin the process of reviewing their advice and planning next steps.
- Still working on the renewal of the GSA's fee disbursement agreement with Financial Services.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team, the GSA Labour Relations Committee, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network and hosting training sessions).

#### Operations

- Action arising from the recent GSA Council meeting.
- Planning for the 7 April ceremony to distribute GSA Recognition Awards and a GSA Labour Relations Committee tabling event in Quad.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), 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), and General Faculties Council (advertised via the GSA newsletter).
- Facebook = 1,745 likes (up 2 from 15 March); Facebook posts reached 156 users since 15 March. Twitter = 1,291 followers (up 0 from 15 March); our tweets earned 326 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 801 followers (down 2 from 15 March); Instagram posts reached 123 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 January; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 January; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 January. 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 supplementary bursaries for graduate students from the GSA. We are also preparing for the end of the fiscal year with respect to grants, and developing a proposal concerning the rollover of any unspent funds in the current fiscal year and discussing the distribution of the Graduate Student Support Fund in the coming year.

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 29 March 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 22 March 2022:

#### Strategic

- Preparing for the fiscal year end (processing any remaining invoices, considering the timing of the audit, etc).
- Developing the final Board Strategic Work Plan update to GSA Council and a timeline for the development of next year's plan, as well as planning the 2021-2022 annual report.
- Preparing a submission to the Board Finance and Property Committee concerning the GSA fees to be collected in 2022-2023 and still working on the renewal of the GSA's fee disbursement agreement with Financial Services.
- Planning for transition at the end of the month (finalizing the transition manual, other content, etc).
- Soliciting a legal opinion on the recently released regulations for Bill 32 and how they may impact the GSA, including potential changes to the structure of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President. We're hoping to hear back from the lawyers soon and can then begin the process of reviewing their advice and planning next steps.
- Preparing for an upcoming GSA Elections and Referenda Committee for the committee to have its annual review of GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team, the GSA Labour Relations Committee, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network and hosting training sessions).

#### Operations

- Facilitating an appeal of a denied GSA Emergency Bursary application.
- Planning for the 7 April ceremony to distribute GSA Recognition Awards and an end of term event with Rapid Fire Theatre; also forward for hosting in-person GSA coffee breaks in the Triffo Hall lounge space.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), 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), and General Faculties Council (advertised via the GSA newsletter).
- Facebook = 1,743 likes (down 2 from 22 March); Facebook posts reached 216 users since 22 March. Twitter = 1,293 followers (up 2 from 22 March); our tweets earned 78 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 803 followers (up 2 from 22 March); Instagram posts reached 148 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 January; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 January; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 January. 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 supplementary bursaries for graduate students from the GSA. We are also preparing for the end of the fiscal year with respect to grants, and developing a proposal concerning the rollover of any unspent funds in the current fiscal year and discussing the distribution of the Graduate Student Support Fund in the coming year.

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 5 April 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 29 March 2022:

#### Strategic

- Preparing for the fiscal year end (processing any remaining invoices, considering the timing of the audit, etc).
- Developing the final Board Strategic Work Plan update to GSA Council (and preparing to redraft based on feedback from members) and a timeline for the development of next year's plan, as well as developing the 2021-2022 annual report.
- Preparing a submission to the Board Finance and Property Committee concerning the GSA fees to be collected in 2022-2023 (to be reviewed by the Registrar's Office before submission on 11 or 12 April) and still working on the renewal of the GSA's fee disbursement agreement with Financial Services.
- Hosting transition programming, coordinating job shadowing, and planning 101 scheduling by portfolio, etc.
- Soliciting a legal opinion on the recently released regulations for Bill 32 and how they may impact the GSA, including potential changes to the structure of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President. We're hoping to hear back from the lawyers soon and can then begin the process of reviewing their advice and planning next steps (work will likely be ongoing to November/December).
- Starting to draft some minor proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda following a recent meeting of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team, the GSA Labour Relations Committee, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network and hosting training sessions).

#### Operations

- Facilitating an appeal of a denied GSA Emergency Bursary application.
- Planning for the 7 April ceremony to distribute GSA Recognition Awards (drafting a script, constructing a slide show presentation, framing certificates, etc) and an end of term event with Rapid Fire Theatre; also forward for hosting in-person GSA coffee breaks in the Triffo Hall lounge space.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), 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), and General Faculties Council (advertised via the GSA newsletter). Also assisting with elections for the executives of the Indigenous Graduate Students' Association, the Renewable Resources Graduate Students' Association, and the Sociology Graduate Students' Association (SGSA) (advertised directly to graduate student members of those respective groups).
- Facebook = 1,744 likes (up 1 from 5 April); Facebook posts reached 246 users since 5 April. Twitter = 1,296 followers (up 3 from 5 April); our tweets earned 117 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 802 followers (down 1 from 5 April); Instagram posts reached 5 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April (26 applications funded and \$11,689.29 disbursed in the last period); GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April (30 applications funded and \$41,000 disbursed in the last period); GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs (144 applications funded and \$450,100 disbursed since 1 April 2021); GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April (3 applications funded and \$2,985 disbursed in the last period). Breakdown of grants for 2021-2022 fiscal year: GSA Academic Travel Grants = 115 applications funded and \$35,794.92 disbursed; GSA Child Care Grants = 229 applications funded and \$382,000 disbursed; GSA Emergency Bursaries = 144 applications funded and \$450,100 disbursed; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = 10 applications funded and \$7,810 disbursed. 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, 19 April 2022

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 5 April 2022:

#### Strategic

- Discussing the logistics of hybrid meetings of GSA Council with the Speaker – the Speaker will consult with GSA Council members at the April meeting.
- Developing a timeline for the development of next year's GSA Board Strategic Work Plan, as well as developing the 2021-2022 annual report.
- Reviewing the results of surveys done by Studentcare concerning the GSA Health and Dental Plan.
- Coordinating job shadowing and planning 101 scheduling by portfolio, etc.
- Reviewing a legal opinion on the recently released regulations for Bill 32 and how they may impact the GSA, including potential changes to the structure of the GSA to make the Vice-President Labour an Associate Vice-President. We're hoping to move forward with planning next steps in the coming weeks (work will likely be ongoing to November/December).
- Working on minor proposed revisions to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections and referenda following a recent meeting of the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee.
- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (supporting the GSA Negotiating Team, the GSA Labour Relations Committee, meeting with graduate students, and soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network and hosting training sessions).

#### Operations

- First mailing of GSA Council meeting materials and preparing materials for the second mailing.
- Planning the end of term event with Rapid Fire Theatre and forward planning to hosting in-person GSA coffee breaks in the Triffo Hall lounge space.
- Supporting the work of the GSA Nominating Committee: vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to GSA Council), 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), and General Faculties Council (advertised via the GSA newsletter). Also assisting with elections for the executives of the Indigenous Graduate Students' Association, the Renewable Resources Graduate Students' Association, and the Sociology Graduate Students' Association (SGSA) (advertised directly to graduate student members of those respective groups).
- Facebook = 1,751 likes (up 7 from 11 April); Facebook posts reached 2068 users since 12 April. Twitter = 1,298 followers (up 2 from 12 April); our tweets earned 829 "impressions" over the past week. Instagram = 806 followers (up 4 from 12 April); Instagram posts reached 319 users last week.
- GSA Academic Travel Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Child Care Grants = new funding period started 1 April; GSA Emergency Bursaries = no funding periods for GSA EBs; GSA Graduate Student Group Grants = new funding period started 1 April. We are seeing an increase in applications as pandemic prevention measures ease and 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.