

**GSA Executive Director  
Report to GSA Council for the 20 November 2023 Meeting**

To: GSA Council  
From: Lewie Moodley  
Date: 13 November 2023

Dear Members of the GSA Council,

The office has experienced a flurry of activity lately, primarily focused on welcoming new staff, organizing events, and assisting the GSA board with their Fall initiatives. As is customary, the commencement of the new academic year brings a surge of activities to our office.

We recently hosted a Halloween-themed Fall Coffee Break, which proved to be an enjoyable and successful event. With a full complement of staff, we are actively engaged in providing the necessary training to our new team members. The recent Budget and Finance Committee meeting revealed a robust financial position for the GSA, ensuring our continued strength. After undergoing discussions by both the GSA Budget and Finance Committee and the GSA Board, these financial statements will be presented to the GSA Council on November 20, 2023. Following this, the GSA's audited financial statements will be forwarded to the University Board of Governors, aligning with the stipulations of the Post-Secondary Learning Act.

Our focus is currently on the upcoming Fall Social event, scheduled in the coming days, and the planning of future events such as Awards night and the Spring Social.

We have processed over 200 grant applications in the past month, our office is dedicated to supporting all new grant applications with diligence and efficiency.

My weekly reports to the GSA Board are attached, and, as always, I am happy to answer any questions.

Lewie Moodley, GSA Executive Director

## Management Report to the GSA Board, 18 October 2023

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 11 October 2023:

### Strategic

- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network, advising individual graduate student workers, and supporting the work of the GSA Labour Relations Committee, distribution of new agreement, outreach and strategic planning with PSAC).

### Operations

- Assessment of Graduate Students' Financial Situation report has been completed and distributed, the GSA office has received praise from various University departments for its efforts with this work.
- The next BFC will be held by the end of the month, this will entail reviewing the Fall quarterlies and ATB investment strategy.
- The office is currently working on upcoming events such as the Halloween Coffee Break and the Fall Ball. We are currently preparing for next week's council meeting.
- Facebook = 2024 followers (down 1 since 10 October); Facebook posts reached "101" users since 10 October. Twitter = 1,348 followers (up 1 since 10 October); our tweets earned "91" impressions over the past week. Instagram = 1158 followers (up 0 since 10 October); Instagram posts reached "240" users over the last week.
- The Grants department is open and reviewing applications. We are working tirelessly to clear the backlog; we have been able to clear a large portion of the grants to date.

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 25 October 2023

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 18 October 2023:

#### Strategic

- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network, advising individual graduate student workers, and supporting the work of the GSA Labour Relations Committee, distribution of new agreement, outreach and strategic planning with PSAC).

#### Executive Director update

- The next BFC will be held by the end of the month, this will entail reviewing the Fall quarterlies and ATB investment strategy. We have received the final version of the audit report which will be reviewed at the BFC.
- The office is currently working on upcoming events such as the Halloween Coffee Break and the Fall Ball. We are currently preparing for next week's council meeting.
- Facebook = 2024 followers (up 0 since 16 October); Facebook posts reached "1211" users since 16 October. Twitter = 1,347 followers (down 1 since 16 October); our tweets earned "22" impressions over the past week. Instagram = 1163 followers (up 5 since 16 October); Instagram posts reached "263" users over the last week.
- The Grants department is open and reviewing applications. We are working tirelessly to clear the backlog; we have been able to clear a large portion of the grants to date. Vanessa Miller has taken over Council Secretary associated tasks.
- Concluded a meeting with the DOA and Collective Teatime. Collaboration on Coffee Breaks and potentially a distinct event for Tiffany Sampson and Courtney Wagner. Final activities for the Nov 24 Coffee Break with DoA are in the works.
- For the Fall Social, Brandy Ellamil is compiling a list of potential venues with Vanessa Miller , both on and off-campus.

#### Associate Directors update

- I attended a Solidarity Meeting last Thursday and got to meet Nina from the PSAC. There will be a labour outreach session in the Quad and then Bargaining 101.
- On Wednesday (October 25), PSAC is hosting a breakfast in the common lounge in Triffo Hall.

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 1 November 2023

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 25 October 2023:

#### Strategic

- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network, advising individual graduate student workers, and supporting the work of the GSA Labour Relations Committee, distribution of new agreement, outreach and strategic planning with PSAC).

#### Executive Director update

- The BFC was held yesterday, reviewing the Fall quarterlies and ATB investment strategy. We have received the final version of the audit report which will be reviewed at the BFC. This will be presented to the board next Wednesday (November 8, 2023).
- Facebook = 2024 followers (up 0 since 23 October); Facebook posts reached "190" users since 23 October. Twitter = 1,347 followers (up 0 since 23 October); our tweets earned "76" impressions over the past week. Instagram = 1165 followers (up 2 since 23 October); Instagram posts reached "214" users over the last week.
- The Grants department is open and reviewing applications. We have worked tirelessly to clear the backlog. We processed over 100 grant applications (Academic Travel and Childcare Grants) in a 3-week period.
- For the Fall Social, Brandy Ellamil has seen a venue with Vanessa Miller and is compiling pricing and logistics.

#### Associate Directors update

- Last week we ran elections for two vacant seats on the Labour Relations Committee and the results were announced to the Academically Elected Graduate Students on Friday.
- Attended the Bargaining 101 session and I found it very informative as the process and potential timelines were laid out very well. This week we are planning to send a survey to the AEGS.
- Training and learning about elections and referendums with Monica.

### Management Report to the GSA Board, 15 November 2023

Management has been engaged with the following issues since the last GSA Board meeting on 8 November 2023:

#### Strategic

- Work associated with the Collective Agreement (soliciting expressions of interest for the steward network, advising individual graduate student workers, and supporting the work of the GSA Labour Relations Committee, distribution of new agreement, outreach and strategic planning with PSAC).

#### Executive Director update

- The Fall financial statement will be presented to the Council on November 20 2023. The first meeting for 2024-2025 budget discussions has been scheduled for December 5 2023.
- Facebook = 2023 followers (up 0 since 7 November); Facebook posts reached "257" users since 31 October. X (formerly Twitter) = 1,346 followers (down 2 since 7 November); our posts earned "123" impressions over the past week. Instagram = 1165 followers (down 1 since 7 November); Instagram posts reached "203" users over the last week.
- The Grants department is currently investigating a software program that can provide better cybersecurity and improved grant review times. The 3rd quarter will close Dec 31, 2023 within the fiscal year budget for all grant spending.
- The GSA Elections and Referenda Committee and the GSA Nominating Committee has vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (advertised directly to Council), GSA Awards and Selection Committee (advertised via Newsletter), GSA Board/GSA Nominating Committee (advertised directly to GSA Council), GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (advertised via Newsletter), Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (advertised via Newsletter), and Chemical and Materials Engineering Graduate Students' Association (CMEGSA) (advertised via email to CMEGSA students).
- For the Fall Social, Brandy Ellamil is currently working tirelessly to organize this with help from Vanessa Miller. We have selected a venue and date, and invites will be sent out at the end of this week.