



**Council Meeting Agenda
October 24, 2012. 5:00pm
GSA Lounge**

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Samantha Peters/Ryan Couling

Timi Ojo – Addition: GSA Rep on International Competition for Southwood Lands Jury
(Item 8)

Carried

3. Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2012 GSA Council Meeting

MOTION: BIRT the minutes from the September 26, 2012 GSA Council Meeting be approved as presented.

Tonia Bates/Jessica Rebizant

Carried

3.1 Business arising from the minutes

none

4. Unanimous consent agenda

Any item that has a ☒ beside it denotes unanimous consent agenda

Any member who wishes to debate an item that is listed below may have it removed from the consent agenda by contacting the Chair prior to the meeting or by asking that it be removed before the Chair calls for a mover and seconder for the following motions.

Tonia needs to pull out her report because she needs to make a correction (Item 11.5).

MOTION: BIRT The Vice President External's Report, written by VPE Tonia Bates be removed from the unanimous consent agenda.

Tonia Bates/Alex Salt

Carried

5. Presentation on the Advisor-Student Agreement- Dr. George MacLean (Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies)

Dr. George MacLean presented the Advisor-Student Agreement (ASA). The Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) has been speaking to representatives from different faculties and departments on campus to get feedback on the ASA. The ASA document, as presented, is a draft document and will incorporate relevant recommendations from faculty, departments, and student groups. The current draft is the original draft that started

circulating in the summer, and does not include any suggestions made thus far. There have already been several identified points that need to be changed. The development of the document was initiated when FGS discovered a university guideline referring to an existing policy on intellectual property agreement between advisors and students. They also identified a range of issues beyond this relevant to both advisors and students. There are no new policies contained in the document ultimately everything is already in place in different policies. This document was put together as something of a clearinghouse of issues. The Faculty of Graduate Studies feels this document needs to be in place.

There are a lot of responsibilities listed in the document. What happens if those responsibilities are not met (e.g. a graduate student not getting funding

This is not meant to be a stick to hit anyone over the head with. It is not punitive, though it is obvious that in signing any agreement responsibilities exist. The document is meant to mediate problems that may arise between advisors and students. It is meant to be a living document, and will change over time. If part of the agreement not upheld, either side can use this documents as a basis towards mediation.

The last page is a list of policies applying for advisors and students, making all of the policies easy to find in one place.

Has there been much resistance, or is there expected resistance, to the document from any of the faculties or departments?

There is a general feeling that there is a need for this type of document. There has been some feedback from different departments about things that need to be changed. Agreements can mean different things, may change wording so that it's a little more flexible.

Will the ASA be mandatory across all departments?

Yes, for thesis and practicum based programs. This document will not replace any existing agreements in any department.

At what stage are students and advisors expected to sign the document?

FGS anticipates the document will be signed at some point during first year, and handed into FGS with submission of the first progress report. If a student does not have an advisor, the document will be signed by the graduate chair for the department, and a subsequent agreement will be completed when an advisor is chosen.

Some students have concerns over signing an agreement in the first year of their program. New students don't know their rights, or have a realistic idea of how long their degree will take to complete. Signing this document in the first year can give legitimacy to an advisor cutting a student's funding if after (e.g.) 2 years.

FGS doesn't want the document to be signed too early or too late. Leaving it open to be signed 'sometime in the first year' gives some latitude for students and advisors to work out an agreement. The FGS feels allowing the full first year for signing provides

enough flexibility. FGS will think about including some reference to time frame and expectations in the preamble for the document.

If the purpose of this document is to provide information for new graduate students, why do signatures need to be included?

Signatures provide proof to FGS that there has been a meeting between the advisor and student, and allows FGS to track progress. The signatures indicate that both sides have sat down and understand the content of the agreement. Similarly, Progress Reports require signatures and are not legal documents.

The statement 'This is not a legal document' is not easy to justify given the language of the sentences prior to the signatures. The document states that it replaces any previous agreements. The document protects the university, not the student or advisor. The wording here is a different form than the original version. FGS also feels the wording here is too rigid and need to be changed. The document supersedes an agreement signed within the department, as it is university wide and not restricted to a department. It would only supersede existing agreements pertaining to student advisor agreements. The document is meant to provide information to both sides. Dr. MacLean will take the point on the wording. Protecting the university is not the intention of the document. The primary intention for the document was that it was meant to set something up for the students. Advisors have a much clearer set of knowledge of what their responsibilities are than students.

What an advisor might think a student's role is might not be what their actual role is. What prevents advisor from exploiting student? (E.g. Required to perform lab work and duties not related to thesis work)

Aside from outlining in the preamble and the tone of document, this is an interesting point and FGS will take a closer look at it to see if there's something they can include in the document related to this issue. Not sure an agreement like this could avoid the given example, but it may be a starting point for mediation.

Under the section on the signatures, it may be beneficial to add something about the dissolution of the relationship between the student and the advisor. If the relationship dissolves, the agreement is no longer valid.

This is a good point. Faculty members are often surprised that they can't walk away from a student they are advising, but the student can walk away from their advisor. Discussing dissolution can go a long way to help that.

'Financial support beyond normal expected length of grad program is not guaranteed', is there something that can be added to protect students in terms of financial support within the stated period of the degree?

Funding for students cannot be guaranteed by the advisor or the university, as funding can be contingent on certain conditions, and be related to external funding, scholarships, etc. The wording around the financial support section needs to be

corrected, as it currently looks like financial support is guaranteed for the length of the program.

Timeliness of completion wording seems uncomfortable, advisor should be aware of the idea of student having outside responsibilities, but not that they should not affect the completion of the degree in a timely manner.

It is Important that both parties are aware that there is a time limit and it is difficult to get more time to finish a degree. Discussion in this document allows an advisor to say 'Here's what I think your timeline will be, here's what you need to do to have me advise you adequately', barring outside or unavoidable circumstances. Current time to completion at the University of Manitoba is way too long.

End of Question Period

What is the general feeling of Council? Is Council willing to support this document?

- The intent of this document is not clear, as there are other ways of delivering information to new graduate students. If the information is laid out clearly, it makes sense to deliver to new students but does not need to be signed.
- The section on 'outside activities' is concerning, as advisors and new students may interpret 'outside activities' as including GSA involvement, and GSA involvement contributes to professional development.
- If all of these policies already exist, why introduce a legal document at all instead of making the policies available? The policies can be discussed between advisors and students, but the agreement seems very cumbersome and may be including too many details that are not relevant to all departments.
- Some departments have very short timelines between completion of coursework and starting and completing the thesis, and advisors may see this as a waste of time.

Is this document something the GSA can support?

Council in favour (3 against, 2 abstain), with the caveat that there needs to be some correction made to the document. Timi will make sure that Dr. MacLean returns with the document after the changes are made and before it is voted on by the senate, and we can decide if we can support the finalized document. .

6. Motions With Notice

6.1 Motions recommended for approval by the Executive Committee:

- 6.1.1 Whereas the UMGSA executive term runs from May 1st to April 30th of the following year,
Whereas the Association's budget runs concurrently with the executive cycle,
Whereas the official year end registered with Canada Revenue Agency for Financial Audit purpose is March 31st

MOTION: BIRT the Council approve the request to change the official year-end of the Association to April 30th to sync with the executive cycle.

Carried

6.2 Motions coming from the Campaigns Committee:

6.2.1

MOTION: BIRT the Council approves UMGSA Goals, Mission and Vision Statement.

Carried

6.3 Motions tabled from September 26, 2012 Council Meeting.

6.3.1

MOTION: BIRT the GSA Council accept Senator 2's September report as corrected by Mr. Olivier Gagne.

Carried

7. Election for Senator II Position

There are five candidates for the position. The candidates are: Michael Cardillo, Margam Shamloo, Lilei Yu, Gurinderjit Kaila, Johanu Botha.

Council voted, Johanu Botha had the highest number of votes

MOTION: BIRT the ballots and the tally sheet be destroyed.

Tonia Bates/Chad Cowie

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA Council ratify the vote and approve Johanu Botha as the new GSA senator.

Alex Salt/Carolyn Weiss

Carried

8. Addition of a Graduate Student to the Southwood Land Development Jury

The University of Manitoba is opening the Southwood Land development to an international design competition. CPAC is putting the GSA, UMSU and a faculty member on something called the 'Guest Jury', the jury will be composed of admin and people with technical experience. The time commitment for sitting on this jury will be significant and it will be an intense time where the jury will look at the applications and decide who should develop the land. Timi has someone from civil engineering to sit on the committee, but after finding out this is a Guest Jury, we can potentially select a new person.

Any interested person should submit their CV, and the exec will make a decision. The position is open to any grad student.

9. Committee Reports

9.1 Finance Committee Report

This Finance committee has been meeting and reviewing conference grant applications, and will be meeting on November 7th to discuss conference grants, 3 project grants and review the budget.

Reminder to all councillors that Department Grant applications are due on Nov. 1.

9.2 Awards Committee Report

The Awards Committee is in the process of reviewing the t-shirt competition submissions. Recommendations will be submitted to council to ratify.

9.3 Bylaws Committee Report

The Bylaws Committee will have a discussion on creating 'Hiring' and 'Room Rental' policies. They will also be looking at putting together a policy on student groups at the graduate level.

9.4 Campaigns Committee Report

The Campaigns committee is talking about Aramark, the UPass, and the ASA. Supposed to have meeting on the first Thursday of every month, but Nov. 1 is the Spencer West presentation. The meeting is moved to Nov. 8.

9.5 Internal Development and Review Report

The IDRC has met twice. They will be able to provide an interim assessment in November to deliver at the January meeting. The second review will be done in March for the April Council meeting.

10. Canadian Federation of Students

- ☒ Update on Membership Status

11. Executive Reports

- ☒ 11.1 President
- ☒ 11.2 Vice President Internal
- ☒ 11.3 Vice President Academic
- ☒ 11.4 Vice President Health Sciences Report

11.5 Vice President External

The Orientation report is ready and needs to go to the Finance Committee before going to council. \$1000.00 was budgeted for Orientation, \$6500.00 went to food, The HSGSA asked the GSA to donate more money for their Orientation to cover food costs so we will be about \$300.00 over budget.

- ☒ 11.6 Senator Rebizant

- ☒ 11.7 Senator Moreno

12. ☒ Senate Report

13. Department Reports

Social Work is holding an international conference on November 1 and 2.

Political Studies is having a program review.

13. Other Business

VPI – According to the Financial Policy manual, any amount over \$500 needs to be approved by council. Carolyn Weiss, VPHSC put the cost for the Council Retreat on her credit card, and needs approval for reimbursement.

MOTION: BIRT the GSA approve the reimbursement of Carolyn Weiss for \$639.96 incurred on her personal credit card relating to the GSA Council Retreat.

Ryan Couling/Calistas Ekenna
Carried

14. Announcements

Special General Meeting- October 30th, 2012. Halloween social after the SGM.

Holiday Hamper Program- Registration Deadline November 30. Fill out online form at <http://umgsa.ca/section/43>

Spencer West on November 1: The GSA gave the Office of Student Life up to \$800 to support the event. Email vpa@umgsa.ca to get one of the reserved seats if you want to attend.

CUPE meeting on the 28th. They need 13 people to attend to approve their budget.

15. Adjournment

MOTION: BIRT the GSA Council Meeting be adjourned.

Carolyn Weiss/Jessica Rebizant

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 6:51pm

Next Meeting Tuesday, November 27th, 2012, 5 pm at the GSA Lounge.

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	E. RoTimi Ojo	present
VP Internal	Chad Cowie	present
VP Academic	Jennifer Chen	present
VP External	Tonia Bates	present
VP Health Sciences	Carolyn Weiss	present
Senator1	Jessica Rebizant	present
Senator2	Vacant	
Senator3	Sem Moreno	present
Office Manager (Non-voting)	Ruth Prokesch	present
Office Assistant (Non-voting)	Trish Kelley	present
Researcher (Non-voting)	Liz Gonsalves	present

<i>Agric & Food Science</i>		
Agribusiness & Agric. Economics		
Animal Science	Hamidreza Khazanehei	Present – left at 6:02pm
Biosystems Engineering	Behzad Bashiri	present
Entomology	Lars Andreassen	present
Food Science	Yao Wu	present
Plant Science	Chami Amarasinghe	present
Soil Science	Taiwo Akinseloyin	Present – left at 6:40pm
<i>Architecture</i>		
Architecture	Samantha Peters	present
City Planning	Lise Gibbons	Present – arrived at 5:47pm, left at 6:40pm
Interior Design		
Landscape Architecture	Britney Bell Tamara Urben-Imbeault	Present present
<i>Arts</i>		
Anthropology	Autumn Whiteway	present
Classics		
Economics	Fariba Solati (Co-councilors) Prosper Koto	present
English, Film & Theatre	Kendra Magnusson	regrets
French, Spanish & Italian		
German		
History	Sarah Gauntlett	present

Icelandic Studies		
Linguistics	Kay Hamadzadeh	regrets
Native Studies	Ryan Duplassie	present
Philosophy		
Political Studies and Public Administration	Alexander Salt	Present
Psychology	Julie Erikson Yunqiao Wang	regrets
Religious Studies		
School of Art	Shannon Yashcheshen	regrets
Sociology	Ryan Coulling	present
Canadian Studies St. Boniface		
<i>Arthur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice</i>		
Peace and Conflict Studies	Paul Cormier	
<i>Management</i>		
Management 1 (MBA)		
Management 2	Paul Dueck Ji Zhou (Co-councilors)	present
<i>Education</i>		
Curr: Hum. & Soc. Sc.		
Curr: Math & Nat Sc		
Curr: Teaching & Learning		
Educ. Admin & Foundations		
Educational Psychology		
Educ. Adm. Fnd. & Psy		
Faculty based PhD		
Educ. St. Boniface		

Engineering		
Civil	Pouria Jabari Barjesteh	Present – arrived at 5:40pm
Electrical & Computer	Ahmed Byagow (co-councillors) Dan Lockery	present
Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering	Sobhan Sadri Masoumeh Esfandiani	Present present
Environment		
Geography & Environment	Matthew Gale Proxy: Geoff Gunn	present
Geological Sciences	Kerry Bates	present
Nat Resources Institute	Jessica Lockhart	present
Disability Studies		
Food & Nutritional Sciences		
Interdisciplinary		
Human Ecology		
Clothing & Textiles		
Family Social Sciences	Monika Wetzel	present
Human Nutritional Sciences	Shyamchand Mayengbam	present
Law		
Law		
Music		
Music		
Nursing		
Nursing	Crystal Cook (Co-Councillors) Antonina (Nina) DePaul	present
Phys Ed & Rec Studies		
Recreation Management & Kinesiology	Soyun Chapman	Present – left at 6:18pm
Science		

Biological Sciences	Helia Zhang	
Chemistry	Joey Lussier	present
Computer Science		
Mathematics		
Microbiology	April Gislason Ruhi Bloodworth	present
Physics & Astronomy	Kurt Hildebrand (Co-councilors) Sebastien Kerherve	Present Present – left at 6:02pm
Statistics		
<i>Social Work</i>		
Social Work	Calistas Ekenna	present
<i>UMSU (Non-Voting)</i>		
President or Designate	Jennifer Black Bilan Arte	Present – left at 6:50pm present
<i>CUPE 3909 (Non-Voting)</i>		
President or Designate	Shannon Price	present
<i>FGS Rep (Non-Voting)</i>		
Dean or Designate	George MacLean	Present – arrived at 5:35pm left at 6:03pm
<i>Student Life (Non-Voting)</i>		
	David Grad	Present – left at 5:38pm
<i>Senator Candidates</i>		
	Johanu Botha	present
	Gurinderjit (Sunny) Kaila	present
	Lilei Yu	present

	Maryam Shamloo	present
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Minutes prepared by Trish Kelley

DRAFT