

**Annual General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 2, 2012
5:00pm – 7:00pm
University of Manitoba Senate Chambers**

1. Call to Order: 5:11pm

MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership ratify the President of the Association to chair the GSA Annual General Meeting.

Hilary Gough (Anthropology)/ Cathy Scofield-Singh (Nursing)
Carried

Guests to be approved by the membership:

Mr. Baback Salamifard (spouse of graduate student in attendance)
Mr. Adam Awad – CFS Deputy Chair, Chairperson Elect for upcoming year

MOTION: BIRT The GSA membership approve the presence of the guests at the GSA AGM.

Ashlyn Haglund (City Planning)/Kyla Doll (Sociology)

Discussion:

Can the guests (specifically Adam Awad) be asked to leave if a perceived conflict of interest (voting on CFS matters) exists at any time in the meeting?

Peter Nawrot: Yes, the membership can vote to ask someone to leave for a portion of the meeting (deliberation and presentation of CFS material).

Why is Adam Awad in attendance?

Adam Awad: Adam was on campus helping out a number of different schools. He wanted to come and say hi, but since there are a lot of CFS items on the agenda, he wanted to be there to provide background information and answer questions, not interested in participating in debate.

Peter Nawrot: Visitors don't have speaking rights.

Amendment to current motion: BIRT Adam Awad have speaking rights at the AGM, and allow him to stay for the issues related to CFS.

Greg Boese (Psychology)/Emmanual Rotimi Ojo (Soil Science)

Discussion on the Amendment to the Motion:

Against

Kasey Martin (Management): He shouldn't be here during the conversation. It's confidential and for the GSA to decide. CFS representatives don't need to be part of it.

For

Greg Boese (Psychology): The democratic thing to do is allow him to stay and speak.

Vote Count: 14 for, 17 opposed.

Defeated

Second Amendment to the Motion: Change the guest list to one (1) guest, Babeck Salimifard, and remove Adam Awad from the list of guests allowed to remain in the room.

Olivier Gagne (Senator)/Cathy Scofield-Singh (Nursing)

Vote Count: 18 for, 12 opposed

Carried

AMENDED MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership approve the presence of Babeck Salimifard at the GSA AGM.

Vote Count: 28 for, 0 opposed

Carried.

The Chair asked Adam Awad to leave.

Review of Robert's Rules:

It is currently not in our Bylaws to allow for electronic devices to be present at meetings. It detracts from full participation and oral communication between all attending members. Unless it is an emergency, please refrain from using electronic devices.

The HSGSA held their AGM yesterday. All individuals who voted in that meeting yesterday are not permitted to vote again at this meeting. The votes they cast yesterday will be counted at this meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: BIRT the Agenda be approved.

Chad Cowie (Political Science)/Hilary Gough (Anthropology)

Discussion:

Michelle Keller (French, Spanish, and Italian). Item 4. 'Approval of minutes' should be April 27, not January 27.

Carried

3. Introduction of GSA Executive members

The GSA Executive members introduced themselves.

4. Approval of minutes from April 27, 2011 GSA AGM.

A Special General Meeting was held on October 12, 2011. The minutes were approved from the April 27, 2011 meeting, but according to Robert's Rules, a members at Special General Meeting cannot approve an AGM's minutes.

MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership approve the minutes from the April 27, 2011 General Meeting.

Ashlyn Haglund (City Planning)/ Cathy Scofield-Singh (Nursing)
Carried

5. Approval of the minutes from the October 12, 2011 Special General Meeting.

MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership approve the minutes from the October 12, 2011 Special General Meeting.

Chad Cowie (Political Studies)/Tonia Bates (VP External)
Carried

6. Executive Committee Annual Report

Executive Committee and Researcher Liz Gonsalves' reports are attached.

- a. MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership approve and continue the employment of a research assistant (Elizabeth Gonsalves, MSc.) to continue investigating the relationship between the Canadian Federation of Students and the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association until such time that the membership status of the Canadian Federation of Students is validated by the legal counsel of the Association, the University of Manitoba, and the Canadian Federation of Students.**

Cathy Scofield-Singh (Nursing)/Graham Parsons (Entomology)

Friendly Amendment to the motion:

MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership approve and continue the employment of a research assistant (Elizabeth Gonsalves, MSc.) to continue investigating the relationship between the Canadian Federation of Students and the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association until such time that the membership status of the Canadian Federation of Students is confirmed or denied by the legal counsel of the Association, the University of Manitoba, and the Canadian Federation of Students

Hilary Gough (Anthropology)/ Angela Freeman (VP Internal)
Amendment Carried

Motion Carried

- b. BIRT the GSA membership hold in trust the CFS fees collected until the membership status of the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students is validated by the legal counsel of the Association, the University of Manitoba and the Canadian Federation of Students.**

Angela Freeman (VP Internal)/Chad Cowie (Political Studies)

Amendment to the motion:

BIRT GSA membership hold in trust the fees collected in the 2011-2012 academic year until the membership status of the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students is validated by the legal counsel of the Association, the University of Manitoba and the Canadian Federation of Students.

Greg Boese (Psychology)/Emmanuel Rotimi Ojo (Soil Science)
Amendment Carried

Motion Carried

- c. BIRT the GSA membership approve a request to the Board of Governors to cease the collection of CFS fees until the membership status of the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students is validated by the legal counsel of the Association, the University of Manitoba, and the Canadian Federation of Students.**

Sunday Malomo (Human Nutritional Sciences)/Graham Parsons (Entomology)
Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA AGM recess for 5 minutes for the first two prize draws.

Carolyn Weiss (Immunology)/Michelle Keller (French, Spanish, and Italian)
Carried

Attendance Prize Draw:

\$50 for St. Vital Centre winner: Apinder Sidhu
\$50 for St. Vital Centre winner: Sandra Krahn

MOTION: BIRT the GSA AGM reconvene.

Hilary Gough (Anthropology)/Olivier Gagne (Senator)
Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership cease acceptance of services from the CFS until the membership status of the UMGSA as a member of the CFS is validated by the legal counsel of the association, the University of Manitoba, and the Canadian Federation of Students.

Hilary Gough/Cathy Scofield-Singh

Discussion:

Does this mean that we are no longer participating in the CFS MB meetings?

Peter Nawrot: The motion refers only to services, we can still attend meetings and try to get the information we need. If we completely cut ourselves off, we might not be able to get anything more.

By attending these meetings, are we asserting that we are members?

Peter Nawrot: This is a question that has come up before with the legal counsel. Because the money is being held in trust, we can still function in the capacity of members. But we can cut out the services. The next executive can decide whether or not to attend meetings.

Is it possible to spell out our current relationship with the CFS so that the membership can understand exactly what our current status is?

Peter Nawrot: Our status is questionable. Right now our membership is in question. If we keep attending the meetings but not paying our fees, we can be potentially expelled and no longer need to research.

If we are attending provincial meetings and voting, it would indicate that we are agreeing that we are members. Can we attend and abstain from voting until our membership status question has been settled?

Peter Nawrot: If we're participating in meetings, it indicates we are, but by withholding our fees, it indicates we aren't. We've had little cooperation from national office so far. We've paid our fees for the first half of the year, so we can still participate.

What services are we not going to be using?

Peter Nawrot: No more free ISIC via the CFS (but we would be willing to pay for it), no more attending CFS-National meetings or National Grad Caucus meetings in Ottawa. We will no longer be getting CFS daytimers, but we're looking at getting some made in MB. Website and Email services will be gone, when we get the new network this will no longer be an issue (though we are paying for the website and email). We will lose access to Quicktax for free, but we will still be able to use the University of Manitoba Tax office since we are giving UMSU money for the tax office. No more posters, buttons, stickers, student saver cards. We will lose 10% off at Motel 6, and the 90% off Microsoft products via the CFS website that you can't log into.

Carried

7. Review of the GSA's Budget

The GSA Budget is included in the AGM package (attached).

a. MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership formally approve the renaming of the “Office Equipment Fund” to the “Capital Fund”.

Olivier Gagne (Senator)/Jennifer Chen (VP Academic)

Carried

b. MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership formally approve a maximum of \$150, 000 to be allocated from the Capital Fund towards the capital projects rooms 221 (GSA Office) and 217 (GSA Lounge) University Center.

Angela Freeman (VP Internal)/Carolyn Weiss (Immunology)

Carried

c. BIRT the GSA membership formally approve a maximum of \$15,000 to be allocated from the Capital Fund towards the computer network project for the GSA office.

The Macs will be sold at fair market value to buyers (including the university) to recoup some of the costs and PCs will be purchased in their place. We didn't get what we were promised with the original Mac system and it has affected productivity of the staff. This might require the purchase of 1 new computer. The old PCs will be reused as part of the new network.

Angela Freeman (VP Internal)/Michelle Keller (French, Spanish, Italian)

Carried

8. Presentation of the GSA's 2010 Audit.

Last year there were some concerns that cheques hadn't been cancelled after 6 months. As recommended by the auditors, Ruth should continue giving monthly statements to be reviewed by the executive. It was also suggested some account names be changed to keep in line with bookkeeping practices.

Audit report included in the AGM package (Attached)

a. MOTION: BIRT the GSA membership approve the GSA audit as presented for the period ending March 31, 2011.

Hilary Gough (Anthropology)/Sunday Malomo (Human Nutritional Science)

Carried

b. BIRT the GSA membership approve BDO Canada, LLP as the GSA's auditors for the 2011-2012 term.

Angela Freeman (VP Internal)/Chad Cowie (Political Studies)
Carried

9. Other Business

Presentation from the Gradzette (Phil Dunphy):

The last 6 months have been the first 6 months that the Gradzette has become a more established publication. There was relatively low readership in September and October, but the last 3 months have shown a trend towards increased readership. The challenges are getting people aware of the publication and getting content. The Gradzette is hoping to get 1/3 of graduate students reading it.

In terms of content, the editors feel it's an important magazine for grad students, with longer, more engaging articles than the Manitoban, and articles that are relevant to grad students. These stories are in the Gradzette prior to a mainstream publication like the Free Press or the Manitoban. It is also published in more colour than the Manitoban.

Future Plans for the Gradzette: Over the next 6 months, editors want more content, and have approved a marketing budget for freelancers. As freelancers gain more experience and they stay with the Gradzette, they will develop content and contacts inside the university and community. The editors are also working with other grad student papers to get a wire service that allows sharing of content across Canada. The wire service will serve 2 purposes: it will allow us access to content from other universities and gain exposure. Readership will increase via marketing product and developing content.

Additionally, the editors want to develop better web hosting. The Gradzette is currently using Issue, a free online program. They want something with better tracking and archiving abilities. Also, there is a desire for more predictable operations, which comes from a consistent freelancer base, and more brand awareness.

10. Announcements

a. The GSA election process begins today, February 2 and the nominating period ends Feb. 17. There is no campaigning during Reading Week. Campaigning begins on the Monday after Reading Week (Monday, February 27, 2011) for 2012-2013 term.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: BIRT the GSA AGM be adjourned.

Carolyn Weiss (Immunology)/ Kyla Doll (Sociology)
Carried

Attendance Prize Draw:

\$100 gift card for St. Vital Centre winner: Tanya Pribytkova

Honey from Saskatchewan winner: Oyekunle Ola

1	Kay Hamid Zadeh	Linguistics
2	Kimberly Hart	Social Work
3	Cathy Scofield – Singh	Nursing
4	Adam Reisacher	GSA Executive
5	Yijie Jennifer Chen	GSA Executive
6	Angela Freeman	GSA Executive
7	Tonia Bates	GSA Executive
8	Olivier Gagne	GSA Executive
9	BeiBei Lu	Kinesiology and Recreation
10	Kyla Doll	Sociology
11	Ashlyn Haglund	City Planning
12	Matthew Trendota	Architecture
13	Chad Cowie	Political Studies/Public Administration
14	Tamara Urben – Imbeault	Landscape Architecture
15	Graham Parsons	Entomology
16	WeiWei Guo	Food Science
17	Andrew Olynyk	Biological Sciences
18	Carolyn Weiss	Immunology
19	Kasey Martin	Management
20	Greg Boese	Psychology
21	Emmanuel Rotimi Ojo	Soil Science
22	Navid Nasir Esfahani	Computer Science
23	Hoda Zare	Linguistics
24	Melissa Tiessen-Dyck	Food Science
25	Ahmad Byagowi	Electrical & Computer Engineering
26	Doreen Moellenbeck	Social Work
27	Monica Martinez	School of Art
28	Daniel Balcha	Mechanical Engineering
29	Hilary Gough	Anthropology
30	David Boutellier	Anthropology
31	Michelle Keller	French, Spanish, and Italian
32	Peter Karari	GSA Executive
33	Sandra Krahn	Peace and Justice
34	Rong Yue	Biosystems Engineering
35	Xuehua Zhang	Plant Science
36	Damian Kruk	Civil Engineering
37	April Gislason	Micorbiology
38	Tanya Pribytkova	Microbiology
39	Ruhi Bloodworth	Microbiology

40	Marjaneh Aghvami	Economics
41	Parya Jalilvand	Economics
42	Siavesh Malektaji	Electrical & Computer Engineering
43	Ikechukwu Agomoh	Soil Science
44	Taiwo Akinseyin	Soil Science
45	Omudhohwo Oshobe	Mechanical Engineering
46	Sunday Malomo	Human Nutritional Sciences
47	Chen Wu	Food Science
48	Kuuku Biney	Food Science
49	Lovemore Malunga	Food Science
50	Alok Arora	Food Science
51	Apwinder Sidhu	Public Administration
52	Gurinderjit Kaila	Public Administration
53	Idris Adelakun	Biosystems Engineering
54	Tonia Santos	Public Administration
55	Adebayo Emmanuel	Mechanical Engineering
56	Oyekunle Ola	Geological Science
57	Lawrence Osoba	Mechanical Engineering
58	Jun Zhao	Economics
Non-Voting		
1	Peter Nawrot	GSA Executive/Chairperson
2	Neil Salter	GSA/HSGSA Executive
3	Ruth Prokesch	Office Manager
4	Liz Gonsalves	Research Assistant
5	Phil Dunphy	Gradzette
6	Sarah Petz	Manitoban
7	Babak Salimifard	Guest/Spouse of Graduate Student
8	Adam Awad	Canadian Federation of Students (asked to leave by majority vote)

Special General Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2012. 5:00pm

Senate Chambers (E3-262)

1. Call to Order

5:09pm

2. Approval of the Agenda

Chad Cowie (VP Internal)/ Jennifer Chen (VP Academic)

E. RoTimi Ojo (President): Additions to the Agenda: Under Item 3., add Opening Address By the President; add Item 4. Recognition of Guests

Carried

3. Introduction of UMGSA Executive Members and Opening Address by the President

All members of the Executive introduced themselves.

E. Rotimi Ojo (President):

In line with University Policy, we acknowledge that we are on the Treaty 1 territory, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe people, and the homeland of the Metis nation. The university and the Forks of the City of Winnipeg sit at the crossroads of the Anishinaabe, Metis, Cree, Dakota, and Oji-Cree Nations. The decision today is a crucial one in the history of the UMGSA, and we have options to choose from. In all of our discussion, we need to put into perspective what we decide will be in place for graduate students who come after us.

4. Recognition of Guests

- I. Tony Gonsalves, father of Liz Gonsalves, UMGSA Researcher
- II. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou, current Chairperson of CFS-MB
- III. Marakary Bayo, former chairperson of CFS-MB. Bayo dealt with most of the issues the GSA had with the CFS last year.

MOTION: BIRT the GSA consider the attendance of all three guests.

Tonia Bates (VP External)/ Pouria Jabari (Civil Engineering)

8 in favour 18 against, 5 abstain

Defeated

MOTION: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Gonsalves to stay for the Special General Meeting.

Kendra Magnusson (English, Film and Theatre)/Tonia Bates (Vice President External)

MOTION: BIRT the motion regarding Mr. Gonsalves' attendance be amended to state: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Gonsalves to stay for the Special General Meeting, but that he leaves the meeting before discussion of Item 5b. Research Staff Employment.

Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)/Chad Cowie (Vice President Internal)

2 abstain

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Gonsalves to stay for the Special General Meeting, but that he leaves the meeting before discussion of Item 5b, Research Staff Employment.

Calistus Ekenna, Social Work. (Against) What we are doing tonight is a package, nothing is in isolation from any other part of the meeting.

1 abstain

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Marakary Bayo, former CFS-MB Chairperson to stay for the Special General Meeting.

Ahmed Byagowi (Electrical and Computer Engineering)/ Daniel Labine (Sociology)

MOTION: BIRT the motion regarding Mr. Marakary Bayo's attendance at the SGM be amended to read: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Marakary Bayo, former CFS-MB Chairperson be allowed to stay for the Special General Meeting.

BIFRT Mr. Marakary Bayo be given speaking rights during the discussion on CFS-MB and CFS, and leave the meeting when discussion on Item 5b, Research Staff Employment, begins..

Chad Cowie (Vice President Internal)/ Jennifer Chen (Vice President Academic)

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Marakary Bayo, former CFS-MB Chairperson be allowed to stay for the Special General Meeting.

BIFRT Mr. Marakary Bayo be given speaking rights during the discussion on CFS-MB and CFS, and leave the meeting when discussion on Item 5b. Research Staff Employment, begins.

2 abstain

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou, the current CFS-MB Chairperson, to stay for the Special General Meeting.

Tonia Bates (Vice-President External)/Calistus Ekenna (Social Work)

MOTION: BIRT the motion regarding Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou's attendance at the SGM be amended to read: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou, the current CFS-MB Chairperson, to stay for the Special General Meeting.

BIFRT Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou be given speaking rights during the discussion on CFS-MB and CFS, and leave the meeting when discussion on Item 5b. Research Staff Employment, begins

Chad Cowie (Vice President Internal)/Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou, the current CFS-MB Chairperson, to stay for the Special General Meeting.

BIFRT Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou be given speaking rights during the discussion on CFS-MB and CFS, and leave the meeting when discussion on Item 5b. Research Staff Employment, begins.

Carried

5. GSA-CFS Report Presentation

a. There are four options currently open to the UMGSA:

- I. Decide that the UMGSA is a full member of the CFS/CFS-S and the CFS-MB. This may include a) assigning all fees collected in trust to be remitted to the CFS/CFS-S and the CFS-MB and to continue collecting and remitting these fees from the UMGSA students, and/or b) pursuing decertification from the CFS/CFS-S and the CFS-MB.
- II. Decide that the UMGSA is not a member of the CFS/CFS-S and the CFS-MB. This may include a) continuing to collect and hold the fees in trust (for any length of time), or b) requesting that the University of Manitoba Board of Governors discontinue collecting those fees from graduate students (which may lead to a decision about what to do with the current funds sitting in trust and/or a decision on when this issue should be reconsidered by the membership).

- III. Seek the decision from an external authority (i.e. in court) to declare whether or not the UMGSA is a member of the CFS. This may include a) continuing to collect and hold the fees in trust (for any length of time), or b) requesting that the University of Manitoba Board of Governors discontinue collecting those fees from graduate students (which may lead to a decision about what to do with the current funds sitting in trust and/or a decision on when this issue should be reconsidered by the membership).
- IV. Continue with the mandate of the last UMGSA general meeting to continue research and attempt to acquire relevant information in pursuit of an agreement on the question of membership between the legal counsels of the University of Manitoba, the UMGSA and the CFS/CFS-S and the CFS-MB. This may include a) continuing to collect and hold the fees in trust (for any length of time), or b) requesting that the University of Manitoba Board of Governors discontinue collecting those fees from graduate students (which may lead to a decision about what to do with the current funds sitting in trust and/or a decision on when this issue should be reconsidered by the membership).

Presentation by Ms. Liz Gonsalves, UMGSA Researcher.

MOTION: BIRT the GSA reconsider the original motion to allow Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou to stay during this part of the meeting.

Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)/Johanu Botha (Senator)

Carried.

MOTION: BIRT the GSA allow Mr. Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou to stay for the Special General Meeting, and leave the meeting when discussion of Item 5b. Research Staff Employment, begins.

Tonia Bates (Vice President External)/Shannon Price(Linguistics)

6 in favour, 3 abstain

Motion defeated.

MOTION: BIRT the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association (UMGSA) maintain the position that it is not, in fact, a member of the Canadian Federation of

Students (CFS), the Canadian Federation of Students-Services (CFS-S) or the Canadian Federation of Students-Manitoba (CFS-MB), herein referred to as CFS/-S/-MB and in that regard if and when necessary it shall dispute all statements, claims, indications and suggestions of membership (full or otherwise) in the CFS/-S/-MB; and

BIFRT the UMGSA President is authorized in his sole discretion to communicate the position of the UMGSA on membership in the CFS/-S/-MB immediately to the CFS/-S/-MB in writing, with the President having full discretion as to when and whether to communicate the UMGSA position to the CFS/-S/-MB and the appropriate manner of doing so, and that the UMGSA President is authorized in his discretion to take such advice from legal counsel to UMGSA and the University of Manitoba as he shall deem appropriate in making all determinations as to communication of the position of UMGSA with respect to said membership issues ; and

BIFRT the UMGSA membership approve the use of fees which have been to date and may in the future be collected from the UMGSA members in respect of possible membership in CFS/-S/-MB, and held in a contingency fund, toward the reasonable costs associated with the process of defending the position of UMGSA regarding membership in the CFS/-S/-MB until such time that the membership status is officially conceded, in writing, between the legal counsels of the CFS/-S/-MB, the University of Manitoba and the UMGSA or determined by the courts, whichever is sooner; and

BIFRT the UMGSA continue to collect and hold related fees from the UMGSA members in a contingency fund, up to and including the completion of the 2017-2018 academic term (for a total of seven [7] full academic terms) or until such time that the membership status is officially conceded, in writing, between the legal counsels of the CFS/-S/-MB, the University of Manitoba and the UMGSA or determined by the courts, whichever is sooner; and

BIFRT the UMGSA revisit and determine the use of all remaining related fees collected from the UMGSA members and held in a contingency fund at each annual general meeting of the UMGSA membership until the issue of membership in the CFS/-S/-MB is finally resolved; and

BIFRT the UMGSA immediately cease to participate as a member of the CFS and the CFS/-S; and

BIFRT the UMGSA immediately cease to participate as a member of the CFS-MB; and

BIFRT the UMGSA Bylaws Committee be charged with presenting Bylaw updates, for approval at the next general membership meeting, that reflect the aforementioned decisions on membership (fees) and participation in the CFS/-S/-MB.

Tonia Bates (Vice President External)/Johanu Botha (Senator)

MOTION: BIRT the GSA table the vote on the standing motion regarding the UMGSA's potential membership in the CFS.

Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)/Jessica Rebizant (Senator)

MOTION: BIRT the GSA debate the four options regarding the UMGSA's potential membership presented in the agenda.

Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)/ Joey Lucier (Chemistry)

MOTION: BIRT the speaker's list be extended by five people.

Chad Cowie (Vice President Internal)/ Valery Agbor(Biosystems Engineering)

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA consider the first option regarding our relationship to CFS presented on the agenda.

E. Rotimi Ojo (President)/Chad Cowie (Vice President Internal)

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA affirm full membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the Canadian Federation of Students – Services (CFSS), and the Canadian Federation of Students – Manitoba (CFS-MB).

BIFRT the UMGSA remit all membership fees collected and held in trust on behalf of those organizations for the 2011-212 academic term including any interest accrued to the CFS, CFSS and CFS-MB.

BIFRT the UMGSA continue to collect and remit those fees until such time that we cease to be a member through the relevant decertification processes outlined in the bylaws of all three organizations or until the dissolution of the relevant organizations, whichever is sooner.

BIFRT the UMGSA participate as a full member of CFS and CFSS.

BIFRT the UMGSA participate as a full member of CFS-MB.

BIFRT the UMGSA President immediately inform those bodies of the UMGSA position on membership in the CFS and CFS-MB in writing.

BIFRT the UMGSA pursue decertification from those bodies via membership referendum according to the bylaws of those bodies to be initiated as soon as reasonably practical.

BIFRT the UMGSA Bylaws Committee be charged with presenting bylaw updates for approval at the next general membership meeting that reflect the aforementioned decisions on membership and participation in those organizations.

E. RoTimi Ojo (President)/Calistus Ekenna (Social Work)

MOTION: Amend the motion to read: “BIRT the UMGSA affirm full membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the Canadian Federation of Students – Services (CFSS), and the Canadian Federation of Students – Manitoba (CFS-MB).

BIFRT the UMGSA remit all membership fees collected and held in trust on behalf of those organizations for the 2011-212 academic term including any interest accrued to the CFS, CFSS and CFS-MB.

BIFRT the UMGSA continue to collect and remit those fees until such time that we cease to be a member through the relevant decertification processes outlined in the bylaws of all three organizations or until the dissolution of the relevant organizations, whichever is sooner.

BIFRT the UMGSA participate as a full member of CFS and CFSS.

BIFRT the UMGSA participate as a full member of CFS-MB.

BIFRT the UMGSA President immediately inform those bodies of the UMGSA position on membership in the CFS and CFS-MB in writing.

BIFRT the UMGSA Bylaws Committee be charged with presenting bylaw updates for approval at the next general membership meeting that reflect the aforementioned decisions on membership and participation in those organizations.”

Propser Koto (Economics)/Shannon Price (Linguistics)

Defeated (2 in favour)

Vote on Original Motion:

6 for, 4 abstain

Motion Defeated.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA dissolve as a corporation.

Shannon Price (Linguistics)/ Kendra Magnusson (English, Film and Theatre)

Motion Defeated.

MOTION: BIRT the University of Manitoba Graduate Students’ Association (UMGSA)

maintain the position that it is not, in fact, a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the Canadian Federation of Students-Services (CFS-S) or the Canadian Federation of Students-Manitoba (CFS-MB), herein referred to as CFS/-S/-MB and in that regard if and when necessary it shall dispute all statements, claims, indications and suggestions of membership (full or otherwise) in the CFS/-S/-MB; and

BIFRT the UMGSA President is authorized in his sole discretion to communicate the position of the UMGSA on membership in the CFS/-S/-MB immediately to the CFS/-S/-MB in writing, with the President having full discretion as to when and whether to communicate the UMGSA position to the CFS/-S/-MB and the appropriate manner of doing so, and that the UMGSA President is authorized in his discretion to take such advice from legal counsel to UMGSA and the University of Manitoba as he shall deem appropriate in making all determinations as to communication of the position of UMGSA with respect to said membership issues ; and

BIFRT the UMGSA membership approve the use of fees which have been to date and may in the future be collected from the UMGSA members in respect of possible membership in CFS/-S/-MB, and held in a contingency fund, toward the reasonable costs associated with the process of defending the position of UMGSA regarding membership in the CFS/-S/-MB until such time that the membership status is officially conceded, in writing, between the legal counsels of the CFS/-S/-MB, the University of Manitoba and the UMGSA or determined by the courts, whichever is sooner; and

BIFRT the UMGSA continue to collect and hold related fees from the UMGSA members in a contingency fund, up to and including the completion of the 2017-2018 academic term (for a total of seven [7] full academic terms) or until such time that the membership status is officially conceded, in writing, between the legal counsels of the CFS/-S/-MB, the University of Manitoba and the UMGSA or determined by the courts, whichever is sooner; and

BIFRT the UMGSA revisit and determine the use of all remaining related fees collected from the UMGSA members and held in a contingency fund at each annual general meeting of the UMGSA membership until the issue of membership in the CFS/-S/-MB is finally resolved; and

BIFRT the UMGSA immediately cease to participate as a member of the CFS and the CFS/-S; and

BIFRT the UMGSA immediately cease to participate as a member of the CFS-MB; and

BIFRT the UMGSA Bylaws Committee be charged with presenting Bylaw updates, for approval at the next general membership meeting, that reflect the aforementioned decisions on membership (fees) and participation in the CFS/-S/-MB.

Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)/ Sem Moreno (Senator)

Motion carried.

b. Research Staff Employment

MOTION: Whereas a motion to approve and continue the employment of a research assistant was carried at the February 2, 2012 UMGSA Annual General Meeting

Whereas staff employment or termination should not be tied to the occurrence of an Annual General Meeting

Whereas the position is estimated to cost about \$30,000/annum

Whereas the membership can vote to increase the budget line for staff salary

BIRT the UMGSA membership terminates the employment of Ms. Elizabeth Gonsalves, the Association's current research assistant with immediate effect.

BIFRT the position of research assistant, if needed, be determined by an ad hoc hiring committee who will advertise the position, conduct interview for applicants and recommend the best candidate to the UMGSA Council for ratification.

Chad Cowie (Vice President Internal)/ Aiman Syed (Education)

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA allow Vice President External, Tonia Bates, to speak on behalf of a student, Deborah Lawless from the Department of Psychology, who could not be present at the meeting.

Dan Levin (Sociology)/Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)

Carried

MOTION: BIRT the motion regarding a research staff position at the UMGSA be amended to read: Whereas a motion to approve and continue the employment of a research assistant was carried at the February 2, 2012 UMGSA Annual General Meeting

Whereas staff employment or termination should not be tied to the occurrence of an Annual General Meeting

Whereas the position is estimated to cost about \$30,000/annum

Whereas the membership can vote to increase the budget line for staff salary

BIRT the UMGSA membership terminates the employment of Ms. Elizabeth Gonsalves, the Association's current research assistant with immediate effect.

BIFRT the position of research assistant be determined by an ad hoc hiring committee who will advertise the position, conduct interview for applicants and recommend the best candidate to the UMGSA Council for ratification.

Kurt Hildebrand (Physics and Astronomy)/ Valery Agbor (Biosystems Engineering)

13 for, 18 against, 7 abstain.

Motion defeated

Vote on original motion:

7 abstain

Carried

6. Other Business

7. Announcements

- a. Halloween Social- October 30, 2012 at 7:30pm at the HUB.
- b. Leadership Speaker Series with Spencer West- November 1, 2012 at 7pm (seating begins at 6:30pm) at the Engineering Atrium.
- c. GSA/FGS Workshop Series: Using Reference Management Software (pre-registration required).

Fort Garry: November 6, 2012 at 1pm at the Science and Technology Library.

*Bannatyne: November 14, 2012 at 1pm at the Paterson Lab, Neil John Maclean
Health Sciences Library.*

- d. UMGSA Council Meeting- November 27, 2012 at the GSA Lounge.
- e. Holiday Hamper Program- Registration Deadline November 30. Fill out online form at <http://umgsa.ca/section/43>

8. Adjournment.

MOTION: BIRT the Special General Meeting of the UMGSA adjourn.

Tonia Bates (Vice President External)/Trish Kelley (Environment and Geography)

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm

	Name	Department
	Ruth Prokesch	GSA-Staff
	Liz Gonsalves	GSA-Staff
1	Tritsya Kelley	Environment and Geography
2	Aiman Syed	Education
3	Alison Kimlinger	Political Studies
4	Alexander Salt	Political Studies
5	Prosper Koto	Economics
6	Sem Moreno	Immunology
7	Jack Shen	Sociology
8	Daniel Levin	Sociology
9	Tonia Bates	Kinesiology and Rec Management
10	Jeremy Strong	English, Film and Theatre
11	Lise Gibbons	City Planning
12	Johanu Botha	Political Studies
13	Emmanuel R Ojo	Soil Science
14	Chadwick Cowie	Political Studies
15	Laura Cabus	Physics and Astronomy
16	Kurt Hildebrand	Physics and Astronomy
17	Sebastien Kerherve	Physics and Astronomy
18	Kendra Magnusson	English, Film and Theatre
19	Dustin Geeraert	English, Film and Theatre
20	Stephanie George	English, Film and Theatre
21	Breanna Muir	English, Film and Theatre
22	Mandy Elliot	English, Film and Theatre
23	Jessica Rebizant	Political Studies
24	William Gray	Interior Design
25	Melissa Vasconcelos	Interior Design
26	Crystal Cook	Nursing
27	Shane Ray	Kinesiology
28	Chami Amarasinghe	Plant Science
29	Pouria Jabari	Civil Engineering
30	Calistus Ekenna	Social Work
31	Joey Lussier	Chemistry
32	Shyamchand Mayengbam	Human Nutritional Science
33	Emmanuel Ocran	Mechanical Engineering
34	Johnson Ains	Mechanical Engineering
35	Ahmad Byagowi	Electrical and Computer Engineering
36	Dario Schor	Electrical and Computer Engineering

37	Shannon Price	Linguistics		
38	Mohammed Alizadeh	Animal Science		
39	Behzad Bashiri	Biosystems Engineering		
40	Maria Lucia Zapata-Cancelado	Peace and Conflict Studies		
41	Valery Agbor	Biosystems Engineering		
42	Ali Khosrozadeh	Mechanical Engineering		
43	Adebayo Emmanuel	Mechanical Engineering		
44	Oyekunle Ola	Geophysics		
45	Nicholson Jeke	Soil Science		
			Arrival Time	
46	Kun Wang	Food Science	5:45pm	
47	Akinseloyin Taiwo	Soil Science	5:52pm	
48	Adenike Hassam	Soil Science	5:55pm	
49	Hoda Zare	Linguistics	6:45pm	
50	Masoumeh Esfardiuri	Mechanical Engineering	6:45pm	
Guests				
1	Tony Gonsalves			
2	Mohamed Abdel Karim Ammoumou			
3	Marakary Bayo			

Graduate Students' Association

Executive Committee Report

Annual General Meeting

January 30, 2013

UMGSA Internal Activities

Orientation 2012

A three-day orientation was held from September 11–13 at the Fort Garry Campus in collaboration with the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The theme of the event was “The Beginning of the End” and highlights include morning sessions on welcome to the apocalypse (FGS), working to survive (CUPE), preparing for the end. Fun evening sessions included the screening of the Piled Higher and Deeper (PHD) movie, trivia and pub night. Breakfast and lunch were served on all three days. The UMGSA/HSGSA also participated at the Bannatyne Joint Orientation with Bannatyne Student Services and UMSU.

The HSGSA orientation was held on September 21 at the Bannatyne campus. Attendance at the orientation sessions at both campuses averaged 40 participants, which was higher than previous years.

UMGSA Special General Meeting

The UMGSA Special General Meeting was held at both the Bannatyne and Fort Garry campuses on October 30, 2012. At the meeting, the membership voted to maintain that the University of Manitoba Graduate Students’ Association is not a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the Canadian Federation of Students- Services (CFS-S) or the Canadian Federation of Students- Manitoba (CFS-MB), and in that regard if and when necessary, it shall dispute all statements, claims, indications and suggestions of membership (full or otherwise) in the CFS/-S/-MB.

Health and Dental Plan

The UMGSA is in the process of evaluating the current Health and Dental plan that we have with Green Shield (through UMSU). The review is in its initial phase and is being conducted by StudentCare at no cost to UMGSA. An online survey was sent out to all graduate students in December 2012 on their evaluation and knowledge of the current services being offered. The review is expected to analyse the services that most graduate student currently use and suggest alternate plan (if necessary). This review is not a binding contract, thus, we are not bound to go with the result of their evaluation as this decision rests on the general membership.

UMGSA Office and Lounge Renovation Project

The GSA Office and Lounge were renovated between February and March 2012. The cost of both projects was about \$129,000.00. The GSA lounge is a room that is constantly booked for a variety of events ranging from seminars, exercise classes, meetings and socials. The scope of the

project includes soundproofing, new carpeting and installation of audio and visual equipment. In the summer of 2012, there were few double bookings due to mis-communication between the UMGSA office and the Conference and Catering Service. It was agreed that all bookings for student programs should be done through the GSA office and for external events; CCS must confirm the availability of the space with UMGSA before booking.

The GSA Network

In 2011, the UMGSA purchased a network and computers using the MAC platform to operate as an organization. Unfortunately the network has not met our needs and has led to inefficient use of time for staff and executive. Support for the MAC network has been expensive and not expedient. We are in the process of switching to a pc based network system with the cost of technical solutions being 37% cheaper than the current rate the Association is paying. Four out of the five current mac systems will be sold for a fair market price to help subsidize the cost of moving to a pc network solution with proper support and network assistance to improve the productivity and efficiency of the organization.

Staffing

The GSA is grateful to Mr. David Jacks for his valuable contribution to the Association as the Office Assistant. He resigned in April 2012. Ms. Trish Kelley has since filled the position effective from June 4, 2012. At the Special General Meeting that was held in October 2012, the Association's research position was terminated with immediate effect. The contract term of our full time staff expired on October 31, 2012. A new contract has been negotiated with the Canadian Office and Professional Employees (COPE) Union Local 342. The new contract will expire in April 2016.

UMGSA Year-End Proposed Change

The UMGSA Council at the October 2012 Council meeting approved the motion recommended by the executives to change the official year-end of the Association to April 30th to sync with the executive cycle. The UMGSA executive term runs from May 1st to April 30th of the following year and the Association's budget runs concurrently with the executive cycle. However, the official year-end registered with Canada Revenue Agency for Financial Audit purpose is March 31. The non-synchronization of our budget and audit cycles presents some challenges during year audit. The request for this change is being sent to CRA for approval.

Advisors' Evaluation

Annually, all graduate students submit progress report to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. This report requires comments from the student's advisor and committee members. However, there is no mechanism to evaluate graduate student experiences in the course of their program-especially, as it relates to their advisor. The time to completion report of August 2010 suggested an exit survey as part of the requirement before convocation to query students' experience. As

good as this recommendation is; the UMGSA believes that it will be better to periodically evaluate student experience before they finish their program. We are in partnership with FGS to explore ways of having grad student feedbacks in order to assess student experience.

U of M Business Cards for Grad Students

Concerns raised by some students about not having official University of Manitoba business cards to give out at conferences are currently being addressed. At a meeting with the Director, Marketing and Communications, John Danakas, he confirmed that his office has no problem with graduate students having the official U of M business cards. He only cautioned that it should not be used for personal business or non-university related purposes. Graduate students can request for the cards through their department.

Code of Conduct and Declaration

The UMGSA Council at the November 2012 meeting approved a new code of conduct for Council members. The 'Code' outlines general duties and obligations of members when representing UMGSA as well as rules governing confidentiality and conflicts of interest. See appendix I.

UMGSA Vision, Mission and Goals

The Campaigns committee worked on developing vision, mission and goals for the Association, which was approved at the October 2012 Council meeting. See appendix II.

UMGSA on the U of M Alumni Association Board

Following the review of their bylaws, the U of M Alumni at her June 25, 2012 AGM ratified the inclusion of the President of the UMGSA or designate as a member on their board of directors. This is sequel to our autonomy from UMSU. The UMGSA President has participated on all the Alumni Board meetings and is a member of the Student Engagement Committee.

U-Pass Discussion

The campaigns committee evaluated the cost of post secondary Universal Pass at different cities in the country. The committee wants the Executive to negotiate more of the details of the pass before proposing a referendum. An online survey is being developed to poll graduate students' preference on the issue. UMSU has had their referendum that caused graduate students to become more aware of this issue and ask more questions of the UMGSA Executive about the graduate student role with regards to the UPass. The VP External and Executives will continue to engage in conversations with all stakeholders about the UPass.

GSA Soccer Tournament

This year's edition of the UMGSA Soccer tournament was held on July 28, 2012 at the U of M outdoor soccer fields. About 55 graduate students participated in the tournament that received

overwhelming positive feedbacks. Faculty of Agriculture won this year's trophy and Bison Recreation Services supported the event.

UMGSA Softball League

Ten teams and 130+ players originally signed up for the league. As the season went on, teams recruited a lot of new players to avoid forfeiting games. A rough estimate would be that 170 players have benefitted from the league. Every team played each other once in the regular season, for a total of 9 regular season games per team, and a total of 45 games were played. The average size of 13 players per team roster has proven to be too low as a lot of games resulted in forfeits (failing to meet the minimum number of 7 players at scrimmage). In the majority of these cases however, players were shuffled around and a friendly unofficial game was played.

The best 8 out of 10 teams entered sudden-death playoffs starting August 24th. Congratulations to the Geology team for winning it all in the Finals against the Psychology team. An All-Star game was played August 30th opposing the Master's students vs. the Ph.D. students. Congratulations to the Master's students who won the honours in a dramatic ending. Congratulations to Kendra Magnusson and Ryan Sestric for being presented with the league female and male MVP recognition respectively. The criteria were based on effort, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm for the game. Senator Olivier did a fabulous job of coordinating the league.

Gimli Icelandic Festival Trip

The UMGSA partnered with the International Centre for Students (ICS) for this year's trip to Gimli's Icelandic Festival. 16 graduate students went for the event on August 4, 2012. The UMGSA subsidized the cost for each graduate student by \$10.00.

2012-2013 UMGSA Council Retreat

The UMGSA Council Retreat was successfully held on October 21, 2012 at the Millennium Library meeting room, Winnipeg Downtown. About 35 people participated at the retreat. It was followed by an interactive scavenger hunt around downtown and social at Tavern United. This event was held to equip UMGSA council members with the tools they need to successfully participate and contribute at council meetings and events.

Speaker Series – Stephen Lewis and Spencer West

For the 2012 Speaker Series, the UMGSA partnered with the Office of Student Life to bring Mr. Stephen Lewis to the University of Manitoba for the GSA Speaker Series on March 28, 2012. The event was well attended by many students, university staff and friends in the community.

The UMGSA co-sponsored leadership speaker series was held on November 1, 2012 at the Engineering building atrium. A number of RSVPs were received from graduate students. Overall, the event was well attended and Spencer West's stories were inspirational for all

attendees. The UMGSA President gave the closing remarks at the event. The next speaker series will be held in spring 2013 collaborating with the Office of Student Life.

Food Services on Campus

The UMGSA Campaigns committee is looking into food services on campus. At one of its meetings, a special guest, Julie Rempel, who has begun a new discussion forum about food on Fort Garry campus was invited. While UMGSA applauds UMSU and St. John's food services, there are concerns about other organizations on campus whose food services are not meeting the needs of students at the Fort Garry campus. The consensus at the meeting was that the Fort Garry campus has a lack of healthy options, hours of food services are too short, and cost of food appeared to be higher than off-campus chain stores. The UMGSA will continue to be part of the food conversation on campus in order to continue improving food services on campus.

Advocacy

Because of the confidential and personal information associated with advocacy cases, and in the interest of privacy, details of advocacy cases are not presented in this report. Advocacy cases can pertain to academic appeals (including relationships between students and their advisors, funding, fees, plagiarism, time to completion issues and others) as well as personal or health related issues.

2012-2013 UMGSA Academic Workshops

As part of the academic workshops, UMGSA co-sponsored the Academic Learning Centre and University Teaching Services for the two-day graduate workshop on May 31 and June 1, 2012. The Association's President gave welcome remarks at the event on behalf of UMGSA. There were 120 students registered per day.

A wide range of university offices and departments participated in the Workshop Committee, including the Academic Learning Centre, University Teaching Services, Student Advocacy Office, Career Services, Dafoe library, Faculty of Graduate Studies, and Student Services. The VP Academic has been working on the 2012-2013 UMGSA academic workshops. Eleven workshops have been set up to reflect the most common issues facing graduate students on both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campus. The workshop topics include: writing a thesis, writing literature review, copyright, working with advisors, career planning, time of completion, and statistics (see table below).

Details of workshops:

Name	Date & Time	Location
Copyright	FG: Sept 18, 1-2 pm HSc: Sept 19, 12-1 pm	GSA Lounge Theatre F

Avoiding Procrastination and Getting it Done: Completing Your Thesis on Time	HSc: Sept 21, 3-4 pm	Theatre F
Working with Sources: Citing, Referencing and Paraphrasing	FG: Oct 16, 1-2 pm HSc: Oct 17, 12-1 pm	GSA Lounge Theatre F
Using Reference Management Software	FG: Nov 6, 1-2:30 pm HSc: Nov 14, 1-2:30 pm	Sciences and Technology Library Neil Maclean Health Sciences Library
Healthy Life: Work/Life Balance	FG: Nov 20, 1-2 pm HSc: Nov 21, 12-1 pm	GSA Lounge Theatre F
Resumes and/or CVs for Graduate Students	FG: Dec 18, 1-2 pm HSc: Dec 19, 12-1 pm	GSA Lounge Theatre F
How to Write a Literature Review	FG: Jan 22, 1-2 pm HSc: Jan 17, 12-1 pm	GSA Lounge Theatre F
Finding Statistics	FG: Jan 29, 1-2 pm HSc: TBA	GSA Lounge Theatre F
Avoiding Procrastination and Getting it Done: Completing Your Thesis on Time	FG: Feb 12, 1-2 pm HSc: Feb 9, 12-1 pm	GSA Lounge Theatre F
Dealing with Difficult People	FG: Mar 12, 1-2 pm HSc: Mar 13, 12-1 pm	GSA Lounge Theatre F

Holiday Food Hampers

This year the annual UMGSA food hampers usually co-sponsored with UMSU was organized independently due to the last minute notice received by UMSU that our orders were not received despite sending them days in advance. The UMGSA executives found alternatives that proved to be better. Graduate students that requested hampers picked them up on December 13, 2012. The VP Academic coordinated this event with support from both the HSGSA and UMGSA executives. Please find below the holiday hamper data for the past few years.

Year	# of Hampers *	# of Adults	# of Children	Veggie Option
2009	51	80	N/A	4
2010	30	59	28**	7
2011	47	95	34	10
2012	52	116	28	14

* Actual hampers registered may not reflect the actual number of hampers delivered

** Adjusted for error in survey question

Food Bank

The GSA budgeted \$3,000.00 for the 2012-2013 towards the University of Manitoba Food Bank, operated by UMSU. Students in need can drop by the University Financial Aid and Awards office (4th floor of University Centre) for access to the UMSU food bank.

GSA Hardship Fund Requests

Two cases of UMGSA hardship fund requests have been received and disbursed with consideration of the students' situation, the UMGSA budget, and discussion between the President and the VP Academic. A change to the financial policy has included the VP Internal in the review of hardship fund requests.

GSA Awards & Bursaries

The Graduate Students' Association confers peer-to-peer recognition of fellow graduate students who are currently not recognized by the University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship or other national awards. The Awards are designed to recognize the important contributions graduate students make to society through scholarship and community involvement. The awards have been made possible by the generous contribution of Dr. James Burns, a levy applied to all graduate students approved through a GSA referendum, and a contribution made by the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative.

Awards

The 2012-2013 UMGSA Awards Committee met throughout the summer, and came to a decision for the Award recipients after reviewing over 80 applications.

The UMGSA Awards were awarded to the following individuals:

Graduate Students' Association Teaching Award

Dr. Kelley Main - School of Business (Marketing)

Graduate Students' Assoc. Award for Full time Master's Program

Kim Witges - Nursing

Mary Anne Clarke - Peace and Conflict Studies

Graduate Students' Assoc. Award for Full time Doctorate Program

Aynslie Hinds - Community Health Sciences

Graduate Students' Assoc. Award for Part time Master's or Doctorate Program

Leanne Leclair - Community Health Sciences

Carla Loewen - Education

The UMGSA held the annual awards luncheon on August 28, 2012. Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy Erin Selby and Dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies gave welcoming remarks. Chair of the Council on Post Secondary Education Curtis Nordman, the University Vice

Presidents, Vice Provost, Directors of student-related offices, colleagues from the UMGSA and HSGSA, UMGSA council members, awards recipients and their families also attended the event to celebrate graduate student achievements. The awards recipients' names and photos of the luncheon were sent to the Faculty of Graduate Studies for advertising,. The event was very successful and increased the profile of the UMGSA among government and university representatives.

Bursaries

The bursary funds for the Fall 2012 and Winter 2013 session was released in December 2012 and deposited through students' Aurora accounts. The UMSU and GSA Graduate Student Bursary Fund (Award number: 43819) has been granted to 4 graduate students at \$4,000 in total. The GSA/UMSU Graduate Bursary (Award number: 44830) has been granted to 19 graduate students at \$19,000 in total. The Graduate Students' Association Bursary (Award number: 45358) has been granted to 13 graduate students at \$ 65,000 in total. The total amount of bursaries given to graduate students is \$88,000 in addition to the GSA Awards given for the 2012-2013, which is valued at \$50,000. In the 2012-2013 session, UMGSA has provided \$138,000 in awards and bursaries to graduate students. Please find below the GSA bursary change over the past few years.

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
UMSU & GSA Graduate Student Bursary Fund	\$1,000×5=\$5,000	\$1,000×4=\$4,000	\$1,000×4=\$4,000
GSA/UMSU Graduate Bursary	\$1,000×20=\$20,000	\$1,000×7=\$7,000	\$1,000×19=\$19,000
Graduate Students' Association Bursary	\$5,000×14=\$70,000	\$5,000×13=\$65,000	\$5,000×13=\$65,000
Total	\$95,000	\$76,000	\$88,000

Audit

The annual audit was performed by BDO Canada LLP and completed in the fall of 2012. The President and VP Internal reviewed the recommendations of the auditor, and have worked to implement those recommendations. The primary concern raised was pertaining to the susceptibility to misappropriation of credit card due to easy access of present and past executives to card number and PIN. Another concern dealt with bank reconciliations regarding stale dated cheques and the lack of segregation of duties. The overall opinion of the auditor is that *“the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Graduate Students' Association as at March 31, 2012 and its financial performance and its*

cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles”.

Based on the auditor’s recommendation, a motion to cancel the current UMGSA credit card was passed at the November 28, 2012 Council meeting.

Insurance

Since being granted autonomy from UMSU, the UMGSA requires its own insurance. The approximate cost for insurance is \$4,500.00 a year, which includes \$150,000.00 in content insurance and \$5,000,000.00 Board and Trustee insurance. The UMGSA has renewed the financial policy with Western Financial Insurance Company that was secured in September 2011.

GSA Endowment Funds

The GSA has currently two endowment funds. The first fund is named the *Endowment Fund* and is valued at \$852,622.14 (September 30th, 2012). This fund has been invested with RBC Financial and generates a 5.41% income gain with additional market gains being re-invested onto the principle. The 4% return of \$3,590.00 a month has been allocated to support student conference grants. The second fund is named the *Capital Fund* and is valued at \$453,979.42 (September 30th, 2012). This has been invested with RBC Financial and all income and market gains are applied to the principle amount. It is estimated that within the past year both funds have gained about \$60,000.00 in market and income gains.

Departmental Grants

Over the past year, the amount of money that departments receive for their department grants remained the same. Pre-2011, departments with representation on UMGSA Council and Committees could receive \$10.00 per academic year for every graduate student paying full-time student organization dues to the UMGSA and belonging to the departmental association and \$5.00 per academic year for every graduate student paying part-time student organization dues to the UMGSA and belonging to the departmental association. With the funding structure introduced in 2011, departments will be able to provide \$20.00 per academic year for every full time graduate student and \$10.00 per academic year for every part-time graduate student.

Travel Grants

Conference Travel grants are being subsidized by the income and market gains of the Endowment Fund (4%). Travel grants are well funded with an annual \$100,000.00 budget line. The finance committee received 178 applications for conference grants (May 1, 2012 – January 16, 2013), and awarded \$56,123.46. These figures reflect a 25% increase in the number of applications received in the same time frame as last year and a 26.5% increase in the amount awarded.

Special Project Grants

Over the years the UMGSA has not always been able to afford, within its funding structure, all the requests it receives from graduate students requesting financial support for special projects related to the university community. The finance committee received 4 applications for special project grants, and awarded \$1,250.00 between May 1, 2012 and January 16, 2013. Graduate students involved in special projects are encouraged to apply for this grant.

Donations

The finance committee has awarded four (4) donations that totaled \$1,600.00 from May 1, 2012 to January 16, 2013. Donations received from graduate students go towards events or initiatives that impacts the university and broader community.

Graduate Student Fee Structure 2012/2013

Per semester, each graduate student contributes a total of \$84.255 with the following breakdown:

UMFM Radio station - \$2.50

All students pay to operate the FM Radio station that opened in the Fall of 1998.

UMREG – \$1.25

All students pay this fee to assist in the operation of the recycling program at the U of M and with promotion and education related to environmental awareness.

WUSC - \$1.25

All students pay to support the efforts WUSC to bring refugee students to the U of M.

World Wise – \$0.25

All students pay this fee to support student exchange / study programs.

Engineers without Borders - \$0.125

Gradzette - \$3.00

All graduate students pay this fee to assist in the operation of the autonomous graduate student publication.

UMGSA Operating Budget – \$53.88

Goes towards the general expenses of operating UMGSA.

UMGSA Endowment Fund – \$15.00

Goes towards paying for conference travels grants to fund graduate student travel to conferences

**CFS Manitoba - \$2.80 adjusted to the rate of inflation each year*

**CFS Membership – \$3.15 adjusted to the rate of inflation each year*

**CFS-Services Fee – \$1.05 adjusted to the rate of inflation each year*

* Based on the motions that were passed at the October 30, 2012 Special General Meeting, these fees are being collected but held in trust. A proposal to rename the fees will be submitted to the Board of Governors for approval before Spring 2013.

HSGSA Internal Activities

Halloween

The annual Halloween Social on October 26, 2012 had around 80 attendees. Pizza, popcorn, mini donuts, and cotton candy were served. There was a costume contest, a pumpkin carving competition, and mummy-dressing contest with cash prizes, candy apples, gift cards and a BlackBerry Playbook given out.

PhD Movie

The Piled Higher and Deeper (PHD) movie was shown on November 15, 2012 at 4:30pm in Theatre C. There were lots of candies, popcorn, drinks and fun! The event received positive feedbacks.

Canadian Student Health Research Forum

We had a successful three days of conference, with a record high attendance of almost 350 students. On June 11, 2012, executives worked together creating almost 400 welcome bags, name tags, signs, sign-up lists and prepping various necessities. June 12 was the welcome day, providing participants with schedules, information and other necessities. Dinner was held in the Brodie Centre, followed by a meet and greet at Tavern Downtown. June 13 was a busy day with poster judging, four tours in the morning, and four in the afternoon, and a historic tour and dinner at Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site, finishing off at King's Head Pub. All items ran very successfully. June 14 was final judging and the Inflammation Symposium.

The event was very successful with a review meeting on June 28. We received numerous positive comments and desire to return to next year's event.

Orientation

The Bannatyne campus-wide orientation was held on August 28-31, for all students. HSGSA with the help of the UMGSA donated \$500 towards food and an Apple iPad as a Prize.

A full day HSGSA orientation was held on September 21. Department heads were contacted and were very supportive of this one-day venture. Many departments added the event into their departmental schedules, and some departments even rescheduled annual presentations.

The schedule was as follows:

8:30 FREE Breakfast – *Joe Doupe Concourse* (outside Theatre C)

9:00	Welcome (FGS, FoM, GSA, HSGSA) – <i>Theatre C</i>
10:00	Coffee Break
10:15	Getting' Er Done: Completing Your Degree In A Timely Manner
11:30	FREE Lunch – <i>Joe Doupe Concourse</i>
1:00	Working With Your Advisor: Myths & Realities – <i>Theatre C</i>
2:00	Bison Recreation Services – <i>Joe Doupe Centre Gymnasium</i>
3:00	Coffee Break – <i>Joe Doupe Concourse</i>
3:15	Dealing With Procrastination & Life Outside School – <i>Theatre C</i>
4:30	Orientation Social – <i>204 Brodie</i>

Handbook

Working together, the HSGSA Executive created a Bannatyne and St. Boniface campus specific section of the new Grad Student Handbook. Using suggestions from graduate students, new headings and helpful information specific to Bannatyne campus were created.

Dragonboating

The HSGSA signed up a team for this year's Winnipeg dragonboat festival, *The Winnipeg Hot Dragons*. 22 Students participated in three practices and a weekend race (June 8&9, 2012). Captain Neil Salter created custom T-shirts.

Hot Heats! Cool Treats! Ice Cream Mondays

Brought back by popular demand, the events were held every other Monday in July and August in the new HSGSA Lounge. Positive feedbacks were received and new departments are getting involved. More students are seeing the student lounge, and using it during free times.

HSGSA SWAG

In order to increase branding and knowledge of HSGSA branch, the decision was made to order some HSGSA themed SWAG. Using a few various branding sites, stickers, magnets and pens were ordered. The SWAGs were in high demand and very popular among students.

		2012/2013	2012/2013	May 1, 2012 - Jan. 16, 2013
		Proposed	Revised	
Income				
4000 · Revenue				
	4010 · Membership Fees	370,000.00	370,000.00	347,255.40
	4020 · Rent from CUPE3909	-	0.00	0.00
	4031 · GSA Cash Box Revenue	500.00	500.00	0.00
	4032 · GSA Cash Box Float	-	0.00	0.00
	4050 · Ad Sales - Gradzette	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
	4070 · Endowment Fund	100,000.00	100,000.00	96,308.48
	4075 · Endowment Fund Transfer	0.00	0.00	0.00
	4080 · Capital Fund	175,000.00	175,000.00	-275.86
	4090 · To CFS - National	28,500.00	28,500.00	26,664.15
	4100 · To CFS - Provincial	19,000.00	19,000.00	17,758.68
	4110 · Gradzette Fees (Manitoban)	20,000.00	20,000.00	19,077.79
	4111 · UMFM Radio Fund	18,000.00	18,000.00	16,128.04
	4112 · UMREG Fee	9,000.00	9,000.00	8,064.02
	4113 · WUSC Fee	9,000.00	9,000.00	8,064.02
	4114 · World Wise Fee	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,605.15
	4115 · Engineers without Borders	500.00	500.00	802.57
	4120 · Interest on Bank Accts	4,000.00	4,000.00	480.36
	4125 · Interest - GIC's	-	-	0.00
	4130 · Other (Endowment Fund Interest)	40,000.00	40,000.00	32,310.00
	4000 · Revenue - Other	-	-	0.00
	Total 4000 · Revenue	796,500.00	796,500.00	574,222.80
	4150 · Other income	-	0.00	0.00
	4999 · Office Equipmnt Fund Withdrawal	-	0.00	0.00
Total Income		796,500.00	796,500.00	574,242.80
Expense				
5000 · Honorarium/salary/benefits				
	5005 · Executive	56,400.00	58,500.00	38,750.00
	5010 · HSGSA	14,400.00	14,400.00	9,300.00
	5015 · CRO	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
	5020 · Council Chairperson	-	-	0.00
	5025 · Minute Taker	-	-	0.00
	5030 · Employee Pay	78,000.00	85,000.00	60,266.34
	5040 · Employer Paid CPP	6,000.00	6,000.00	3,863.03
	5045 · Employer Paid EI	4,000.00	4,000.00	2,914.50
	5050 · Employer Paid RRSP	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,292.53
	5055 · Blue Cross Premiums	4,500.00	5,500.00	4,913.93
	5060 · Parking or Bus Pass	1,200.00	1,200.00	798.37
	5000 · Honorarium/salary/benefits - Other			
	Total 5000 · Honorarium/salary/benefits	170,500.00	180,600.00	124,098.70
6000 · Expenses				

6005 · HSGSA - Bannatyne Disbursements	17,550.00	17,550.00	553.14
6010 · Campaigns	4,000.00	2,500.00	12.28
6020 · Capital Expense			
6025 · Major Purchases	1,000.00	1,000.00	792.90
6035 · Office Space	75,000.00	50,000.00	37,594.03
6040 · Lounge Space	75,000.00	95,000.00	93,334.63
6020 · Capital Expense - Other	-	-	0.00
Total 6020 · Capital Expense	151,000.00	146,000.00	131,721.56
6100 · CFS Canada	28,500.00	28,500.00	0.00
6125 · CFS Manitoba	19,000.00	19,000.00	0.00
6200 · Council & Committees			
6205 · Venue Booking & Equipment	200.00	0.00	0.00
6210 · Committee Hospitality	600.00	600.00	218.42
6215 · Hospitality (Meals at Meetings)	2,500.00	3,000.00	2,102.94
6220 · Parking/Bus for Meetings	500.00	500.00	458.80
6200 · Council & Committees - Other	-	0.00	0.00
Total 6200 · Council & Committees	3,800.00	4,100.00	2,780.16
6300 · Donations	-	-	0.00
6325 · Elections			
6021 · Elections	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
6325 · Elections - Other	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.00
Total 6325 · Elections	2,250.00	2,250.00	0.00
6375 · External meeting Expenses			
6380 · CFS External Meetings	-	1,000.00	784.11
6385 · Other External Meetings	10,000.00	6,500.00	1,835.95
6375 · External meeting Expenses - Other	-	0.00	0.00
Total 6375 · External meeting Expenses	10,000.00	7,500.00	2,620.06
6400 · Fees			
6405 · Bank Service Charges	70.00	70.00	0.00
6410 · Annual Incorporation Fee	25.00	25.00	25.00
6415 · Subscriptions, Etc	300.00	900.00	864.91
6420 · Professional Consulting	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
6425 · Revenue Canada - Penalty Charge	-	-	0.00
6430 · University Charges	-	-	0.00
6435 · Other Fees	500.00	600.00	504.00
6400 · Fees - Other	-	-	0.00
Total 6400 · Fees	2,895.00	3,595.00	1,393.91
6450 · Fees Paid to UMSU			
6451 · UMFM	18,000.00	16,200.00	16,128.04
6452 · UMREG	9,000.00	9,100.00	8,064.02
6453 · WUSC	9,000.00	8,100.00	8,064.02
6454 · World Wise	2,000.00	1,700.00	1,605.15
6455 · Engineers without Borders	500.00	805.00	802.57
6450 · Fees Paid to UMSU - Other	-	0.00	0.00
Total 6450 - Fees Paid to UMSU	38,500.00	34,905.00	34,663.80
6475 · Gradzette	20,000.00	20,000.00	282.50

6500 · Grants			
6503 · Departmental Grants	50,000.00	50,000.00	24,801.25
6505 · Graduate Teaching Award	250.00	250.00	250.00
6510 · Special Projects	10,000.00	9,000.00	1,250.00
6520 · Conference Grants	140,000.00	140,000.00	56,123.46
6535 · Donations	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,600.00
6540 · Emergency Loans/Grants	3,000.00	3,500.00	1,800.00
6545 · Childcare (PlayCare DayCare)	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
6550 · Holiday Hampers	5,000.00	5,500.00	5,279.53
6555 · Food Bank	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
6560 · Tax Office	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
6500 · Grants - Other	-	0.00	0.00
Total 6500 · Grants	216,750.00	216,750.00	94,104.24
6600 · Promotions			
6605 · GSA Designed Items	2,000.00	2,000.00	300.00
6610 · Handbook/Student Planner	4,000.00	4,450.00	4,438.67
6615 · Sports	2,500.00	5,000.00	3,622.31
6625 · CFS Bulk Purchases	-	0.00	0.00
6640 · CFS Website Administration	-	1,000.00	614.40
Total 6600 · Promotions	8,500.00	12,450.00	8,975.38
6725 · Long Term Accounts Payable			
6730 · Expense	-	0.00	0.00
6725 · Long Term Accounts Payable - Other	-	0.00	0.00
Total 6725 · Long Term Accounts Payable	-	0.00	0.00
6750 · Office Expenses & Supplies			
6755 · Stationery and office supplies	2,000.00	2,000.00	296.65
6760 · IOS Copier Lease	4,000.00	4,000.00	2,481.45
6765 · IKON Photocopies	1,000.00	1,000.00	650.80
6770 · Insurance	5,000.00	5,000.00	4,501.49
6775 · Office Improvements	250.00	250.00	176.06
6777 · CUPE3909 Expenses	-	200.00	113.75
6780 · U of M - Monthly Ledger	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,361.02
6785 · Office Expenses/Supplies - Other	50.00	150.00	130.80
6750 · Office Expenses & Supplies - Other	-	50.00	22.40
Total 6750 · Office Expenses & Supplies	13,800.00	14,150.00	9,734.42
6795 · Professional Development	1,000.00	1,000.00	260.00
6800 · Programming			
6805 · Orientation	10,000.00	10,400.00	9,899.72
6810 · Social Events	10,000.00	7,000.00	1,721.64
6815 · Seminar Series	4,000.00	4,000.00	611.39
6820 · Speakers Series	7,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
6825 · GSA Awards Luncheon	3,000.00	2,000.00	1,877.99
6830 · Council Retreat	2,500.00	1,400.00	1,339.69
6800 · Programming - Other	-	0.00	0.00
Total 6800 · Programming	36,500.00	29,800.00	15,450.43

6850 · Endowment				
6851 · Endowment Fund	-	0.00	0.00	
6852 · Capital Fund	-	0.00	0.00	
Total 6850 · Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6925 · Professional Consulting				
6930 · Audit	7,000.00	11,000.00	10,657.37	
6935 · Legal	7,000.00	7,000.00	5,000.00	
6940 · Computer & Website Maintenance	25,000.00	25,000.00	505.16	
6925 · Professional Consulting - Other	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	
Total 6925 · Professional Consulting	41,000.00	45,000.00	16,162.53	
6950 · Retained Earnings Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	
Total Expense	795,545.00	795,650.00	442,813.11	
955.00	850.00	131,429.69		

University News

Tuition Fees

At the May 22, 2012 Board of Governor's meeting, the board approved a 2.8% tuition fee increase on all programs and ancillary fees for the 2012-2013 academic year based on a 12 month rolling average of inflation rate as provided by the provincial government.

More User-Friendly Email System

Based on various limitations to the current students' email accounts in terms of size and functionality, the University's IST department has proposed a migration to a more user-friendly, cloud based email, calendar and contact through Microsoft's Office 365. Consultation with student organizations is underway to ensure that students are actively engaged in the process and all concerns are noted. The migration is not happening yet but background work is currently going to ensure a smooth transition.

Southwood Lands

Sarah Mitchell, a graduate student from Landscape Architecture, has been selected as the graduate student designate on the Southwood Land International Design Competition Jury Guest. The first jury colloquium meeting was held on November 9, 2012. In 2008, the University purchased the 48-hectare Southwood Golf Club adjacent to the Fort Garry Campus. The five guiding principles in developing the land are: connected (network the campus, connect to the city), destination (reasons to come, reasons to stay), sustainable (campus as a living lab), community (build for people and design for people), and transformative (research and learning to garner acclaim).

Strategic Enrolment Management Planning (SEMP)

The SEMP committee was established to provide advice on enrolment goals, policies and practices. The official 2012 fall term enrolment report released by the Office of Institutional Analysis showed that there are 3,580 graduate students enrolled at the University of Manitoba. This is a 2.3% increase from last year's enrolment record. The break down shows 979 PhD students, 2504 Masters students, 43 Occasional students and 54 Pre-Masters students. The UMGSA will keep advocating for corresponding increase in the level of services/space to accommodate this increase.

Academic Integrity Week

The UMGSA partnered with the Student Advocacy and Accessibility Office for this year's Academic Integrity Week tagged "Protect Your Degree" held from November 5 – 9, 2012 with focus on a national survey on academic integrity. The survey started on November 5 and

ended on November 23, 2012. Graduate students were encouraged to participate in the anonymous survey either as a graduate student or teaching assistant (or both). Graduate Student and teaching assistants data from this survey will help the UMGSA to compare national trends, identify focus areas on academic integrity issues for graduate students at the U of M, and direct campaigns towards such areas.

Co-Curricular Records

The Office of Student Life purchased new software that will assist in the official recognition of students' co-curricular activities. All departmental graduate students' associations under UMGSA can receive recognition. The Director of the Office of Student Life, Brendan Hughes, did a presentation to council members at the November 2012 Council.

FGS Council Meeting

The Discipline and Appeals report April 2012 – September 2012 on disciplinary matters was presented at the FGS Council meeting. Matters included cases of application fraud, copying from other student's/own previous work, inappropriate collaboration, and plagiarism. The FGS Appeals Committee received six appeals during this time period. A range of course and curriculum changes involving various departments was approved.

ICS Orientation Day

The International Centre for Students held orientation days on August 30, 2012 and January 3, 2013. The President and VP Academic presented during the GSA session, which included approximately 40 new international graduate students in September. Senator Botha represented the UMGSA at the January orientation that had about 30 new international graduate students. Topics covered included GSA structures, services, grants, advocacy and campaigns. UMGSA handbooks, pamphlets and promotional materials were distributed to the students.

Senate

Key points of senate meetings held from May 2012 until December 2012 are presented. Please address any questions to the appropriate senator;

May 2012: Senator Gagné

June 2012: Senator Gagne

September 2012: Senator Rebizant

October 2012: Senator Moreno

November 2012: Senator Rebizant

December 2012: Senator Moreno

Agendas of any and all senate meetings are available at the following website:

<http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/senate/agendas/index.html>

Motions considered for any and all senate meetings are available at the following website:
<http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/senate/motions/index.html>

Minutes of the senate meetings are available at the following website:
<http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/senate/minutes/index.html>

Items of interest to graduate students:

- The Senate Committee on Awards recommended amendments to the Manulife Actuarial Scholarship, which was approved.
- The Senate Committee on Awards proposed two new scholarships and fourteen amendments to existing scholarships/bursaries, which were approved by Senate.
- The Senate Committee on Awards' proposal for the Agrium Inc. Aboriginal Student Bursaries in Agriculture was approved.
- The Senate Committee on University Research proposed the establishment of an Endowed Research Professorship in Pediatric Allergy and Asthma, which was approved.
- The Senate Committee on Rules and Procedures recommended the proposal by which any item or items may be considered by a standing or *ad hoc* Committee of Senate by: a) teleconference; or b) resolution in writing. Senate approved this.
- Senator Johanu Botha was elected to the Senate Executive Committee to replace Senator Gagne.
- Introduction of a new award offer, Jeeny Fraser Memorial Award, for graduate students in Family Social Sciences
- Course changes in the Department of Psychology have been approved under the recommendation of the *Canadian Psychological Association* and the *American Psychological Association*.

Items of interest to students in general:

- The Senate Committee on Admissions' proposal of the Faculty of human Ecology introducing an articulation agreement with Red River College to allow students who have completed the Culinary Arts program at Red River College to continue their studies in the Human Nutritional Sciences degree program at the University of Manitoba was approved.
- The Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation proposed revised degree regulations for B.Sc. in Geological Sciences- Major, Honours, and General Programs, which were approved.
- The Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation proposed the establishment of the Riddell Faculty Direct Entry Procedures and Policy, which was approved.

- The Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation proposed the establishment of the Faculty of Medicine Policy on: Supplemental Examinations, Deferred Examinations, the Invigilation of Examinations, Remediation, and on Midpoint In-Training and Evaluation (MITER) and Final In-Training Evaluation (FITER) Preparation, Distribution, and Completion and Essential Clinical Presentation Preparation, Distribution, Audit and Remediation. Senate approved all these.

-Introduction of new award offers for undergraduate and professional student in various disciplines

1. Dr. Biruta Anna Osins Medal and Award in Endodontics (language is being modified to make it more accessible to students)
2. Thomas H. Gillman Electrical Engineering Award
3. HSBC Bank Canada Award
4. Leonard A. Bateman Scholarship for Electrical Engineering Power Option
5. Tire Stewardship Manitoba Scholarship in Environmental Studies

-The following awards have been amended

1. Bison Student AT Awards
2. Ian N. Morrison Award for Advanced Studies in Crop Protection
3. Dr. John M. Embil Award for Excellence in Clinical Infectious Diseases
4. ICH Wealth and Succession Prize
5. Rabbi Dr. Moshe Stern Memorial Award
6. Sun Life Financial Scholarship in Actuarial Mathematics
7. Manitoba Association of Home Economists- Winnipeg Bursary

-The following awards have been withdrawn

1. Bernice McLaren Memorial Prize
2. Bernie and Leya Tapper Entrance Award
3. CanWest Global Fund
4. Mr. and Mrs. Max Shore Travelling Scholarship
5. Ratuski Memorial Prize

-The Senate Planning and Priorities Committee is working to create a Bachelor's of Art in Criminology

-The Faculty of Medicine has proposed the establishment of policies on Examination Conduct, Formative Assessment, and Communicating Methods of Evaluation in the Undergraduate Medical Education Program

- The student advocacy annual report was presented
- A new admission category for Canadians of Aboriginal ancestry has been implemented in the I.H. Asper School of business
- A proposed policy for screening oral proficiency in the Faculty of Nursing has been sent back for revisions as it could be interpreted as discriminatory
- Revised policies in (1) Examinations and Final Grades, (2) Final Examinations, (3) Deferred, Special and Supplemental Regulations and (4) Final Grades have been approved with minor modifications

External Relations and Press Review

Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)

At the council meeting in April, Ms Tonia Bates and Cathy Scofield were ratified as the UMGSA co-representatives to the CFS-MB Provincial Executive. However, legal counsel advised against having two reps as board members and thus, the pre-April 2012 status quo of having Mr Peter Nawrot as the only UMGSA representative was maintained. Effective from August 1, 2012, Ms Tonia Bates assumed this position on the CFS-MB Provincial Executive.

As directed by the membership at the February 2, 2012 annual general meeting, the UMGSA had limited participation in the CFS-MB events but no participation at the national level. Three delegates from UMGSA attended the CFS-MB skill's symposium in Pinawa from July 13-15. However, at the UMGSA Special General Meeting that was held at both the Bannatyne and Fort Garry campuses on October 30, 2012, the membership voted to maintain that the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association is not a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the Canadian Federation of Students- Services (CFS-S) or the Canadian Federation of Students- Manitoba (CFS-MB), and in that regard if and when necessary, it shall dispute all statements, claims, indications and suggestions of membership (full or otherwise) in the CFS-/S-/MB. All participation in CFS /S-/MB has been stopped.

Student Loan Interest Rate Reduced to Prime

The provincial government has announced changes in the Student Aid Act to reduce the interest rate on Manitoba student loans from prime plus 1.5 per cent to prime. The Advance Education and Literacy Minister, Erin Selby made the announcement at the University of Manitoba in September. The University President and Vice-chancellor, David Barnard as well as the UMGSA President, RoTimi Ojo gave speeches at that announcement.

Meeting with Minister Selby

Four UMGSA executives met briefly with the Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy, Minister Erin Selby on October 22, 2012. The Minister spoke kindly of the good working relationship she has had with UMGSA and sought for ideas on why the province should put more money into graduate studies. She was encouraged by the feedbacks and hope for more support in making post-secondary education affordable and accessible.

Conference of Graduate Group 15 (GU-15)

E. Rotimi Ojo (the president-elect) and Tonia Bates (returning VP External) attended the GU-15 conference at the University of Alberta between April 20 and 21, 2012. The U15 are the fifteen leading research-intensive universities in Canada, whose Deans meet each year to discuss common achievements and challenges at their institutions. The GU15 is the graduate student associations of these universities who also work with each other to discuss achievements and issues at their respective institutions. As vision and mission statements, goals and objectives are

being developed for this group, it is evident that graduate students across Canada are in need of conversation and connection to improve the graduate student experience across these institutions.

Two Panel Discussions:

What Will a Successful Graduate Program Look Like in 20 years?

Three U of Alberta Deans shared with the group their thoughts on this topic.

- Graduate studies will become more flexible with course based work, increased joint degrees, added international scholarship evident outside North American.
- Thesis and dissertations will become smaller projects that take fewer years and focus on real-life settings with easy application to life outside academia.
- Funding will become a joint effort between public, private, industry, private and NGO groups.
- Universities and colleges will no longer be the main spaces for knowledge creation but only one of many sectors linked together with industry, private organizations, and other public facilities adding to knowledge development
- Research will continue to progress to the idea of multiple ways of knowing rather than trying to find one truth or prove a theory through research.

Professional Services Development on Campuses

- 70% of graduate students will not continue in academia.
- several universities have graduate student professional development staff.
- at U of Alberta their staff connects with other departments on campus to share. Professional development information and has 740 volunteers, 193 events, and 17,000 people were reached in 2011-2012 year.
- Tri-Council is beginning to acknowledge that graduates need skills and high academic standards.
- graduate experience will move to develop a broader base of skills, provide a holistic experience, and remain committed to high academics.

Press Review: January 2012 – January 2013

1. The Manitoban

CFS' National Day of Action returns to Manitoba

January 31st, 2012

Shuja Safavi

2. The Manitoban

GSA questions membership with CFS-MB

January 31st, 2012

Sarah Petz

3. *The Manitoban*

U of M reorganizing 20 faculties into 13
January 31st, 2012
Joanna Graham

4. *The Manitoban*

GSA members vote to hold CFS fees in trust
February 6th, 2012
Sarah Petz

5. *The Gradzette*

February 2012
CUPE gets the boot
Sarah Petz

6. *The Gradzette*

March 2012
Interview with outgoing GSA President, Peter Nawrot
Leif Larsen

Interview of GSA candidates
Sheldon Birnie

7. *The Manitoban*

Board of Governors notes
March 24th, 2012
Joanna Graham

8. *The Manitoban*

U of M considers enrolment goals
April 2nd, 2012
Jeremy Gregoire

9. *The Gradzette*

April 2012
Tackling grad student cohesion at the U of M – Small student programs falling through cracks?
Matthew Austman

Fast, cheap, and in control – CRO praises 2012 election despite low turnout

Leif Larsen

10. *The Gradzette*

May 2012

HSGSA Summer Events

Grace Romund

Unpaid internships – Hardship or part-in-parcel of a graduate student

Emily Wessel

Rapid transit has arrived – The only problem is grad students need more than just a fast bus

Gemma Manangan

11. *The Gradzette*

June 2012

GSA Summer Events

Grace Romund

Making the switch – A primer for those contemplating graduate studies

Grace Romund

12. *The Gradzette*

August 2012



GSA Announcements

GSA Awards Luncheon Celebrates Graduate Student Achievement: The Graduate Students' Association confers peer-to-peer recognition of fellow graduate students who are currently not recognized by the University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship or other national awards. The Awards are designed to recognize the important contributions graduate students make to society through scholarship and community involvement. The awards have been made possible by the generous contribution of Dr. James Burns, a levy applied to all graduate students approved through a GSA referendum, and a contribution made by the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative.

Venue: Marshall McLuhan Hall, Room 204 University Centre

Date: August 28, 2012

Time: 11:30

13. *The Gradzette*

September 2012

It's that time of year again! – Orientation Week promises fun for grad students

Foster Lyle

14. *The Gradzette*

October 2012

GSA to hold special general meeting – Discussion of CFS membership on the table in October

Grace Romund

Taking the pressure off – Provincial government reduces interest rate on Manitoba student loans

Sheldon Birnie

Putting yourself out there – Why you should consider participating in conferences as a graduate student

Jennifer Wasko

15. *The Gradzette*

November 2012

A message from the GSA – Holiday Hampers program registration opens now!

Yijie (Jennifer) Chen

16. *The Gradzette*

December 2012

Defederation on the horizon? – GSA relationship with CFS worsens after October's Special General Meeting

Grace Romund

17. *The Gradzette*

January 2013

U of M daycare inaccessible to students – Long wait lists and high costs create roadblocks for grad students

Foster Lyle

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (THE "CODE")

This Code applies to all Council members.

I. GENERAL DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS WHEN REPRESENTING THE UMGSA

All members have a fiduciary duty to act only in the best interests of the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association (hereinafter referred to as "UMGSA").

At the time of appointment to Council, each Member shall sign and file a declaration with the GSA Office Manager indicating that he/she has read, understood and agreed to comply with this Code.

During his/her term of office, each Member:

- shall carry out his/her functions with honesty, integrity, independence, and good faith;
- shall act responsibly with the prudence of a reasonable individual;
- shall respect the confidentiality of information received in the performance of duties, as well as the confidentiality of the deliberations of the Council, both during and after his/her tenure on the Council or its committees;
- shall respect fellow Council Members; the authority of the Council and Council decisions once made;
- shall treat all Members equal, no matter their gender, ethnicity, creed, disability or sexual orientation;
- shall prepare for, attend and participate in meetings of the Council, and committees as appropriate or send a proxy;
- shall declare any real or apparent conflict of interest as soon as he/she is aware of it;
- shall not assist any person or any organization in its dealings with the GSA when such intervention may result in real or apparent preferential treatment to that person or organization by the GSA;
- shall not use, for his/her personal benefit or advantage, or for the benefit or advantage of any family member, any information acquired in the exercise of their office that is not otherwise generally available to the public; and
- shall not use, directly or indirectly, any facilities, property or services of the GSA, nor allow them to be used, for purposes other than as expressly approved by the GSA.
- shall not make use of any confidential information obtained as a Member, in order to derive therefrom a benefit or advantage for himself/herself or that of any family member;

II. RULES GOVERNING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Preamble: A Member holds a position of trust. As such, there is a general obligation to avoid situations of conflict of interest.

Definition of Conflict of Interest: A conflict of interest arises when a Member's personal and/or business/occupational/professional interests compete with or supersede the Member's dedication to the interest of the GSA. This could arise from a real or apparent conflict of interest.

Real conflict of interest: A "real conflict of interest" exists when a Member holds a business, occupational or professional interest, whether directly or indirectly ("a personal interest"), that in the

opinion of a reasonable person is sufficient to put into question the Member's ability to exercise his or her duties on the Council independently, impartially and objectively.

Avoidance of Conflicts: Each Member must arrange his/her personal interests and conduct himself/herself in a manner to avoid a real or apparent conflict of interest. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, a Member:

- shall not act on behalf of, or deal with, the GSA, in any matter where a real or apparent conflict may exist;
- shall not use the relationship with the GSA to confer an advantage on oneself or on a close friend, any related person, business associate, or a corporation or partnership in which the Member holds a significant interest;
- shall not use property owned by the GSA to confer an advantage on oneself or on a close friend, any related person, business associate, or a corporation or partnership in which the Member holds a significant interest;
- shall not use information acquired through membership on the Council to confer an advantage on oneself or on a close friend, any related person, business associate, or a corporation or partnership in which the Member holds a significant interest;

Clarification: If a Member is in doubt as to whether or not a conflict exists, the Member must seek the advice of the Chair of the Council; or of a person designated by the Council; and must follow the advice given. In the case of the Council Chair, he or she is to seek the advice of the Executive Committee.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: A Member must take immediate steps to resolve the conflict or to remove the perception that one exists. Each Member is required to make a declaration of the nature and extent of any conflict of interest at the first opportunity after the facts related to the conflict of interest have come to the Member's attention.

After making a declaration of a conflict of interest, the Member:

- shall not take part in the discussion of the matter and shall not vote on any question in respect of the matter (that Member may be counted for the purposes of reaching a quorum for that meeting);
- shall leave the meeting for the period during which the matter is under discussion; and
- shall not attempt in any way, before, during or after the meeting, to influence the discussion and/or voting on any question in respect of the matter. After a declaration of a conflict of interest has been made by a Member:
- the declaration and the resolution of any conflict of interest shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

III. RULES GOVERNING CONFIDENTIALITY

Proceedings at "open" sessions of meetings of the Council are not confidential. Agendas, briefing documents, minutes, reports and other documents received by a Member for purposes of an open session are not confidential, unless specifically identified as "confidential".

Proceedings at "closed" sessions of meetings of the Council are confidential. Proceedings at meetings of committees of the Council are confidential, unless otherwise explicitly directed by the Council.

Agendas, briefing documents, minutes, reports and other documents received by a Member for purposes

of a closed session of a Council meeting or a committee meeting are confidential.

During the term of the member and thereafter, confidential information received by a Member shall not be divulged to any other person without the express prior, written authorization of the Council.

It is the responsibility of Members and any other person who receives confidential information to ensure the security of confidential information entrusted to them at all times. At the appropriate time, such documentation must be destroyed in a confidential matter. Members may return such documentation to the Office Manager for destruction.

OTHER

Rules about Gifts:

Members should not accept entertainment, gifts or favours that create or appear to create preferential treatment for the Member or the GSA. Gifts and entertainment should only be accepted or offered by a Member in the course of performing Council responsibilities where:

- the gift has no more than token value;
- it is the normal exchange of hospitality or customary gesture of courtesy between persons doing business together;
- the exchange is lawful and in accordance with local ethical practices and standards, and
- it could not be construed as creating a sense of obligation on the part of the Member.

Inappropriate gifts received by a Member should be returned to the donor.

Non-Compliance:

A Member who breaches any of the terms of this code shall be subject to sanction by the Council, up to and including a request for the Member's resignation, or removal from the Council by the appointing body, as the case may require. An Executive Member who breaches any of the terms of this code may face impeachment according to the UMGSA bylaws. The Chair and/or the Internal Development and Review Committee shall assess the circumstances surrounding any non-compliance with these guidelines and shall make a recommendation to the Council.

All individuals are required to report any events that do not appear to be in compliance with the policy to the Office Manager so as to reasonably ensure that the President/Chair of the Council, the Internal Development and Review Committee and Auditor are informed of such events.

Orientation:

The Code shall form part of the orientation program for all Members.

Endnote:

Nothing in the Code is intended to preclude any person from membership on the Council. The Code exists to provide a framework within which to deal with situations that arise between a Member's duties to the Council and her/his private affairs. As long as the "Declaration" is properly made and the provisions of the Code followed, the relationship may continue.

DECLARATION

Purpose:

The purpose of this Declaration is to identify, in advance, any possible areas where a member's private affairs might come into conflict with the business of the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association (UMGSA). It is to be completed and signed by each member on an annual basis and will be maintained in confidence in the Office of the Graduate Students' Association.

Declaration: Please indicate which of the following applies to you:

_____ 1. To the best of my knowledge, there are no situations in which my personal interests would come into conflict with my duties as a member of the UMGSA Council.

_____ 2. I do have personal interests that fall within the realm of the UMGSA. These are listed on the attached sheet of paper.

I understand my responsibilities to avoid situations wherein these interests conflict with my duties as a member of the UMGSA Council and that, by following these guidelines, I will be able to avoid such conflicts.

If, during my tenure as a UMGSA Council member, any situation arises in which my private affairs would come into conflict with my duties as a member of the UMGSA Council, I will immediately inform the President of the UMGSA, in writing.

(Name)

(Signature)

(Department)

(Date)

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

(To be completed by all members of the UMGSA Council.)

I have read and understand the Code of Conduct for Members of the UMGSA Council and agree to abide by its terms and spirit.

I have completed the Declaration.

(Name)

(Signature)

(Department)

(Date)

UMGSA VISION, MISSION AND GOALS

Vision: The University of Manitoba, Graduates Students' Association (UMGSA) is an independent and recognized voice committed to enhancing and contributing to the positive experiences of all graduate students, across the University's campuses.

Mission: The University of Manitoba, Graduates Students' Association (UMGSA) represents, supports, advocates and is a liaison for all full-time and part-time graduate students and their collective interests at the University, municipal, provincial and federal levels.

Goals

To Provide Services and Benefits:

Provide graduate student with member benefits including:

- Workshops, seminars, and speaker series
- Social events and activities
- Health Care benefits
- Handbooks
- A graduate student publication (The Gradzette)
- Printing and photocopying

To Provide Financial Assistance:

Provide students access to financial supports, bursaries, grants and awards for continuing study and research.

To Act as Advocates:

Advocate for graduate student on and off campus:

- Representing students on numerous campus committees such as the Board of Governors, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Senate, and student service committees
- Advocate for students in broader community, including municipally, provincially and federally.

Uphold high standards of academic excellence and integrity by being a liaison between students and the University.

Use the by-laws and policies guiding the association to be responsive to the needs of our membership.

To Promote Community Involvement:

Take the opportunity to contribute to the campus community:

- Through yearly orientations
- Through the GSA Council and committees
- Through membership on campus committees
- Through collaborating with organizations to help students meet their basic needs

Extend our positive influence and reach beyond the UMGSA community by:

- Collaborating with numerous post-secondary student organizations provincially, nationally, and internationally
- Collaborating with local organizations
- Provide volunteer opportunities for students

To accommodate the unique needs of Health Sciences graduate students by operating a satellite association known as the Health Sciences Graduate Students Association (HSGSA):

To act as a physical presence for the GSA at Bannatyne and St. Boniface campuses.

To communicate with graduate students at Bannatyne and St. Boniface campuses.

To foster professional networking skills and interdisciplinary collaboration by:

- Hosting the Canadian Student Health Research Forum
- Hosting graduate student social events and activities
- Working with the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Graduate Studies to present workshops and seminars to prepare students to become leaders in the health research community