

Agenda - GSA Council
Wednesday Aug. 27, 2008
4:45 pm, UMSU Council Chambers

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Presentation from the U of M Student Community Garden
3. Round of introductions and review of meeting procedures.
4. **Motion to ratify Alan McGreevy as Chair for the 2008/2009 GSA Council**
5. **Motion: Approval of May 28 GSA Council Meeting Minutes**
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee
 - b. Finance Committee

Motion: Approve Special Project Grant for UM Community Garden
7. Executive Reports
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President (Internal)
 - c. Vice President (Academic)
 - d. Vice President (External)
 - e. Vice President (Health Sciences)
 - f. Senators
8. Other Business
 - a. GSA Committee Membership
 - b. University Committee Membership
 - c. Fall Orientation Week - 2008
9. Announcements
 - a. SmarkPark Eureka Project Information Luncheon – Sept. 18
(lunch hour in the GSA lounge – 217 University Centre)
 - b. Next Meeting – September 24 at 4:45pm
10. Adjournment

Minutes – GSA Council
May 28, 2008
4:45 pm, UMSU Council Chambers

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion

BIRT the agenda be approved.

Zhang/Henry

CARRIED

2. Appointment of Chair

Motion

BIRT Alan McGreevy be appointed as chair for the meeting.

Zhang/Sun

CARRIED

3. Committee Reports

11. Executive Committee

Motion

BIRT the following 3 motions from the executive report be considered omnibus.

Glenn/Labine

CARRIED

Motion

BIRT we transfer the 2007-2008 Office Equipment surplus to the Office Equipment Fund.

BIRFT we transfer the 2007-2008 Retained Earnings surplus to the Retained Earnings Fund.

BIRFT we approve the 2008-2009 budget as presented.

CARRIED

Motion

BIRT the GSA donate \$500.00 to the Canadian Red Cross – China Earthquake relief and recovery efforts.

Amendment

BIRT the GSA donate \$1000.00 to the Canadian Red Cross- China Earthquake relief and recovery efforts.

Parada/Baert

CARRIED

Amendment

BIRT the GSA donate \$500.00 to the Canadian Red Cross – China Earthquake relief and recovery effort and \$500.00 to the Canadian Red Cross – for Burma Cyclone Relief and Recovery efforts.

Bhan Singh/Moustafa

DEFEATED

Motion

BIRT the speakers list be extended.

Zhang/ Sun

DEFEATED

Motion as amended

BIRT the GSA donate \$1000.00 to the Canadian Red Cross – China Earthquake relief and recovery effort.

CARRIED

Motion

BIRT the GSA send a letter of support to members of the Federal and Provincial Governments in support of the May 29th, 2008 Day of Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous people; and

BIFRT the GSA participate in educational events and mobilization of our members in support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, the National Day of Action and issues facing Aboriginal people in Canada.

CARRIED

Motion

BIRT the GSA support Winnipeg Pride (may 30th – June 8th, 2008); and

BIFRT the GSA donate up to \$500.00 to support the Winnipeg Pride Parade.

Amendment

BIFRT the GSA donate up to \$250.00 to a float in the Winnipeg Pride Parade and the remainder of \$500.00 be donated to a community service organization.

Parada/Henry

CARRIED

Amendment

BIRT the GSA support and participate in Winnipeg Pride (May 30th – June 8th, 2008)

Sun/Moustafa

DEFEATED

Motion as amended

BIRT the GSA support Winnipeg Pride (may 30th – June 8th, 2008); and

BIFRT the GSA donate up to \$250.00 to a float in the Winnipeg Pride Parade and the remainder of \$500.00 be donated to a community service organization.

CARRIED

b. Committee Appointments

Motion

BIRT the following committee appointments be approved:

Finance – Mavganiela Demarchi (Family Social Science), Tamara Fleming (History), Erin Shepherd (Nursing), Arvimd Hirani (Plant Science)

Bylaws and Policy –Shabnam Shahambr (Electrical and Computer Engineering)

Internal Development and Review -

Awards – Gosia Parada (Sociology), Natalie Berard (Animal Sciences), Dan Lockery (Electrical and Computer Engineering), Nikolay Repin (Food Science)

Selections – Christopher Iyogun (Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering), Chris Henry (Electrical and Computer Engineering)

Campaigns -

Henry/Sun

CARRIED

Motion

BIRT the committee reports be accepted.

Zhang/ Labine

CARRIED

4. Executive Reports

President – Please see attached report

VP Internal – Please see attached report

VP Academic – Please see attached report

VP External – Please see attached report

VP Health Sciences – Please see attached report

Senators – Please see attached report

Motion

BIRT the executive reports be accepted.

Henry/Glenn

CARRIED

5. Other Business

Motion

BIRT the GSA make a \$500.00 donation to the Canadian Red Cross – to the Burma Cyclone Relief and Recovery Efforts.

Bonar/Bhan Singh

Amendment

BIRT the GSA make a \$500.00 donation to Burma Cyclone Relief, through an organization to be researched and chosen by the executive.

Henry/Bonar

CARRIED

Motion as amended

BIRT the GSA make a \$500.00 donation to Burma Cyclone Relief, through an organization to be researched and chosen by the executive.

CARRIED

6. Announcements

- June 13-15 CFS MB will be hosting a skills building workshops. It's free for members, so please register.
- Allan Building is where the office of institution analysis is – thank you Physics and Astronomy
- Council meeting dates are on the back of the agenda. 4th Wednesday of every month except June and July.

7. Adjournment

Motion

BIRT the meeting be adjourned.

Bonar/ Shepherd

CARRIED

Report

From: GSA Executive Committee (Aaron Glenn, Chairperson)

To: GSA Council

Date: August 27, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings

June 17

July 8

July 25

August 7

August 25

Fall 2008 Orientation/Welcome Back Week

The GSA Executive has been busy the past couple of months planning and organizing the Fall Orientation/Welcome Back week for Grad students at the U of M, to be held from September 5 to September 12. Events planned include: pancake brunch, campus tours, BBQs, movie screening, academic workshops and information sessions, Ultimate and Soccer games, trivia social, and more! (see enclosed schedule). We are in the process of putting the final touches on promotional materials and are seeking the help of volunteers to help us pull off the event.

GSA Office Manager and Gradzette Editor

The GSA Office Manager resigned earlier in August and the Executive committee posted for the position (deadline for applications was August 15) and has been evaluating applicants (we received over 20 application for the position) and conducting interviews. The final interview is scheduled for Thursday (August 28) afternoon. The GSA Executive is expected to make the selection decision by tomorrow evening and have the new office manger in place following the Labour Day weekend.

The position for the Gradzette Editor was posted at the same time as the Office Manager position and had the same closing date for applications. We received five applications for the position and have not conducted interviews as of yet but will be prioritizing them following the selection of the Office Manger. We hope to have the new Gradzette editor present to document orientation week events in September and to have the first issue of the year out by early October.

Report

From: GSA Finance Committee (Xuping Sun, Chairperson)

To: GSA Council

Date: August 27, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings

The Finance Committee met on May 30, June 26 and July 31, 2008 and will be meeting on August 28 for the August meeting.

Approval of Conference Grants

The committee has approved an amount of \$16,170.30 as conference grants to graduate students presenting/attending conferences during the months of June and July. With the given grant of \$5725.00, totally an amount of \$21,895.30 has been granted already. In terms of our budget of \$60,000 for this grant, we still have nearly \$40,000 to grant to our graduate students.

Donation:

Approved by the executive meeting in June, a donation of \$500 was given to Myanmar Cyclone Relief by Canada Red Cross.

Special Project:

A funding of \$500 to the U of M Student Community Garden was approved at the July Finance Committee meeting. They will give us a presentation about their project at today's council meeting.

MOTION:

Be it resolved that the GSA approve funding the U of M Student Community Garden special project grant for \$500.

Report

From: Aaron Glenn, President <pres@umgsa.ca >

To: GSA Council

Date: August 27, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended and Missed

GSA Finance Committee – May 30

CFS Provincial Executive – June 13

GSA Executive Committee – June 17

GSA Finance Committee – June 26

CFS Skills Symposium – July 4-July 6

Orientation Week Planning – July 8

National Student Health Network – July 17

UMFM Station Manager and Outreach Coordinator – July 18

GSA Executive – July 25

GSA Finance Committee – July 31

GSA Executive Committee – August 7

University Discipline Committee/Student Discipline Bylaw Meeting – August 21

GSA Executive Committee – August 25

Office Hours

My office hours continue to be held from 2pm to 4pm on Mondays. I missed my office hours on Monday, July 14 (on vacation).

Other Information

Student Discipline Bylaw

The University of Manitoba is in the process of updating the Student Discipline Bylaw. This has been ongoing for about decade and the University Discipline Committee is attempting to have the new bylaw get Board of Governors approval in September. While the bylaw does have some needed improvement and changes (such as adding the GSA President as an *ex-officio* UDC member), a number of concerns were flagged and raised by UMSU and the GSA, the most important being changes to how student members are selected to sit on committees and panels.

Time-to-Completion Task Force

The Faculty of Graduate Studies has struck a “TTC Task Force” and I will be the GSA representative on the task force committee (and the only student on the 6 member committee). TTC is a major issue in Grad Studies at the U of M and across Canada, and was used as justification to try to “re-structure” (increase) grad student tuition fees at U of M in 2007. There are meetings scheduled every month until January and public hearings promised for both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne Campuses.

Report

From: Xuping Sun, Vice President (Internal)
To: GSA Council
Date: August 27, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

Executive Committee meetings - June 17, July 25, August 7, and August 25
Finance Committee meetings – May 30, June 26 and July 31, 2008
Manitoba/Saskatchewan-Canadian Federation of Students Workshop – July 11-14, 2008

Office hours held

I held office hours on Fridays from 2pm-4pm during the past two months. Due to some other appointments, I missed my office on July 18 and August.1.

Other information

The summer of Winnipeg is beautiful. People enjoy it. Due to our office manager shortens their working time during this time of the year and our former office manager was sick or on a vacation and resigned then, and due to our executives went to Brandon for the workshop and some of them went to conferences, our office sometimes closed, which caused our graduate students some trouble to get access to our service. I am sincerely sorry for that and hope to get your full understanding of this whole situation.

Report

From: Andy Bonar, Vice-President (Academic)
To: GSA Council
Date: May 28, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

UMSU Senate Meeting – June 2, 2008
Meeting with Outgoing President – June 5, 2008
Senate Executive Meeting – June 11, 2008 (missed)
GSA Executive Meeting – June 17, 2008

Senate Committee on University Research Sub-Committee to Review Center for Defense and Security Studies – June 18, 2008
UMSU Senate Meeting – June 23, 2008
GSA Executive Meeting – June 23, 2008
Senate Executive Meeting – August 20, 2008
Director of Libraries Meeting – August 25, 2008
Student Affairs Meeting – August 25, 2008
GSA Executive Meeting – August 25, 2008
ISC Luncheon – August 26, 2008
Various Orientation based meetings – June-August, 2008

Graduate Student Representation

All positions requiring graduate student representation on University Senate Committees have been filled. Thank you to all our representatives.

We are seeking graduate students to serve as alternates on the following Faculty of Graduate Studies Committee:

12. Faculty of Graduate Studies Appeals Committee (4).

Interested parties should forward their names to vpa@umgsa.ca. It is expected that the interested party will have apprised himself or herself of information before forwarding his or her name. This information is readily available through the University of Manitoba website at: http://umanitoba.ca/graduate_studies/publications/academicguide.pdf

We are also seeking Graduate student representation on Faculty of Arts Standing Committees. We currently need:

13. Course and Program Approvals Committee (1)
14. Endowment Committee (1)
15. Research Committee (1)
16. Local Area Health and Safety Committee (1)

As always, councilors are reminded that there is also always a need for graduate students on Graduate Students' Association Committees. Please feel free to bring these names directly forward to Council meetings.

Academic Series

Students are encouraged to send workshop, seminar, panel or conference proposals to vpa@umgsa.ca. We are looking to hold six to eight events spanning September to May. We would like to have all dates and specifics determined by this August, so get your

ideas in quickly. If you do not have any specific ideas but would like to be involved as a volunteer or coordinator for any upcoming academic events, please do not hesitate to contact vpa@umgsa.ca.

We are currently in talks with two Canadian Research Chairs to come and share their knowledge.

Orientation

PANCAKES!:

There will be a free pancake brunch Friday, September 5 from 1130-1330 followed by campus tours. All graduate students are invited.

TRIVIA BOWL:

Councillors are encouraged to submit departmental teams for the **Wednesday, September 10 "Trivia Bowl"**. Teams may contain as few as three (3) members and it is recommended that teams have no more than seven (7) members as multiple teams could thus be formed, though there will be no official limit. There will be prizes given to all participants, as well as to the top teams in each round and in the overall event. Nobody will be leaving empty handed. There will also be free food and drinks, as well as plenty of snacks provided. Alcohol will be available for purchase. Thank you to Wise Guys, The University of Manitoba Bookstore and UFloria, who have already stepped up and donated prizes.

Advocacy

Strictly confidential.

For general questions or information concerning advocacy, or to book an appointment, please e-mail vpa@umgsa.ca. To book an appointment by phone, please call 474-9181. Students are also welcome to stop in during office hours, listed below.

Office Hours Held

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 1300-1400 Hrs.

*I was away from the office from July 28-August 18.

Report

From: Chandra B. Singh, Vice-President (External) <vpe@umgsa.ca >

To: GSA Council

Date: August 26, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended

CFS-MB Provincial Meeting- August 14, 2008

GSA Executive Meeting- August 25, 2008

Office Hours

My office hours are from 12 to 1 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Other Information

I attended the CFS-MB executive's meeting at the provincial office. CFS is planning a three-phase campaign with all the provincial students unions starting from September to keep the tuition fee freeze.

GSA Council Report:

Meaghan Labine – President HSGSA

August 27th, 2008

Meetings Attended:

HSGSA Executive meeting June 24th, 2008

HSGSA Executive meeting August 18th, 2008

HSGSA Executive meeting August 26th 2008

GSA Executive meeting August 25th, 2008

GSA Executive meeting July 9th, 2008

GSA Executive meeting July 2nd, 2008

Meetings Missed

GSA Executive meeting August 18th, 2008

GSA Executive meeting August 19th, 2008

GSA Executive meeting August 25th, 2008

The HSGSA over the summer has been preparing for orientation and deciding our direction for the year. We have decided to slightly alter our orientation format by extending our information session, and inviting the following groups to give short 15min

presentations; Financial Aid and Awards, Library Services, Student Advocacy and Equity Services.

Orientation has been scheduled for Sept 10th and 11th, where we are having both an afternoon party and an information session on the 11th.

REPORT

From: Abas Sabouni, Mohamed Moustafa, Cheng Zhang, Senators
To: GSA Council
Date: August 27, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

Skills Development Symposium of the CFS in Brandon- July 4-6
Senate Executive meeting – August 20
ICS orientation for International Student- August 26
Office hours in June and July

University Senate meeting

No Senate meeting in July and August.

Agenda - GSA Council
Wednesday Sept. 24, 2008
4:45 pm, UMSU Council Chambers

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Round of introductions and review of meeting procedures.
3. **Motion: Approval of August 27 GSA Council Meeting Minutes**
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee
 - b. Finance Committee
5. GSA Committee Membership
Motion: Approval of GSA Committee membership for the 2008/2009 academic year.
6. Executive Reports
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President (Internal)
 - c. Vice President (Academic)
 - d. Vice President (External)
 - e. Vice President (Health Sciences)
 - f. Senators
7. Department Reports/Announcements
8. Other Business
9. Announcements
 - a. SmarkPark Eureka Project Information Luncheon – *postponed*
 - b. Next Meeting – October 22 at 4:45pm
10. Adjournment

Attendance – GSA Council
 August 27, 2008
 4:45 pm, UMSU Council Chambers

<i>GSA Executive</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	Aaron Glenn	Present
VP Internal	Xuping Sun	Present
VP Academic	Andy Bonar	Present
VP External	Chandra Bhan Singh	Present
VP Health Sciences	Meaghan Labine	Present
Senators	Mohamed Moustafa	Present
	Cheng Zhang	Present
	Abas Sabouni	Present
<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
UMSU	Jonny Sopotiuik	Present (proxy)
CUPE 3909	Muthukumar Bagavathiannan	Present
<i>Agric & Food Science</i>		
Agribusiness & Agric. Economics	Brooke Fridfinnson	Present (proxy)
Animal Science	Natalie Berard	Present (proxy)
Biosystems Engineering	Vanathy Nalliah	Present
Entomology		
Food Science	Nikolay Repin	Present
Plant Science	Arvind Hirani	Present
Soil Science	Lekan Olatuyi	Present
<i>Architecture</i>		
Architecture		
City Planning	Richard Mahé	Regrets
	Becky Raddatz	
Interior Design	Andrea Ewanchyna	Regrets
Landscape Architecture	Erin Sawatzky	Regrets
<i>Arts</i>		

Anthropology	Jeniva Donalessen	Absent
Classics		
Economics		
English	Alyson Brickey	Present
French, Spanish & Italian		
German		
History	Tamara Fleming Graham Stinnett	Present
Icelandic Studies		
Linguistics		
Native Studies		
Philosophy		
Political Studies		
Public Administration		
Psychology		
Religious Studies	Matt Sheedy	Regrets
Slavic Studies		
Sociology	Gosia Parada	Present
Canadian Studies St. Boniface		
<i>Arthur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice</i>		
Arthur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice		
<i>Management</i>		
Management 1 (MBA)		
Management 2	Andre Laplume	Regrets
<i>Education</i>		
Curr: Hum. & Soc. Sc.		
Curr: Math & Nat Sc		
Curr: Teaching & Learning		
Educ. Admin & Foundations		

Educational Psychology		
Educ. Adm. Fnd. & Psy		
Faculty based PhD		
Educ. St. Boniface		
<i>Engineering</i>		
Civil	Justin Rak-Banville	Absent
Electrical & Computer	Christopher Henry	Present by proxy – Shabnam Shafar
Mechanical & Manufacturing	Christopher Iyogun	Absent
<i>Environment</i>		
Geography & Environment	Trish Kelley Kristin Westdal	Regrets
Geological Sciences		
Nat Resources Inst		
Disability Studies		
Food & Nutr Sciences		
Interdisciplinary		
<i>Human Ecology</i>		
Clothing & Textiles		
Family Social Sciences	Mika Kawaguchi	Regrets
Human Nutritional Sciences	Danielle Stringer	Absent
<i>Law</i>		
Law		
<i>Music</i>		
Music		
<i>Nursing</i>		
Nursing	Erin Shepherd	Present (Proxy)
<i>Pharmacy</i>		
Pharmacy		
<i>Phys Ed & Rec Studies</i>		

Recreation Management		
Kinesiology	JuSung Kim	Present
<i>Science</i>		
Botany		
Chemistry		
Computer Science		
Mathematics		
Microbiology		
Physics & Astronomy	Neil Moore	Present
Statistics		
Zoology		
<i>Social Work</i>		
Social Work		

Minutes – GSA Council
August 27, 2008
4:45 pm, UMSU Council Chambers

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion

BIRT the agenda be approved.

Sun/Fleming

CARRIED

2. Presentation from U of M Student Community Garden – *did not take place*

3. Round of introductions and review of meeting procedures

4. Appointment of Chair

Motion

BIRT Alan McGreevy be ratified as Chair for the 2008/2009 GSA Council.

Bonar/Labine

CARRIED

5. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee

b. Finance Committee

Motion

BIRT the Special Project Grant for U of M Student Community Garden for \$500 be approved as presented.

Bagavathiannan/Labine

CARRIED

6. Executive Reports

- a. President
- b. Vice president (Internal)
- c. Vice President (Academic)
- d. Vice President (External)
- e. Vice President (Health sciences)
- f. Senators

Motion

BIRT the Executive reports be accepted.

Parada/Brady (Animal Science Proxy)

CARRIED

7. Other Business:

- a. GSA committee Membership

Motion

BIRT Muthukumar Bagavathiannan be added to the GSA Bylaws and Policy committee.

Bonar/Labine

CARRIED

- b. University Committee Membership
- c. Fall Orientation Week - 2008
- d. NAVITAS explanation

7. Adjournment

Motion

BIRT the meeting be adjourned.

Bonar/Olatuyi

CARRIED

Report

From: GSA Executive Committee

To: GSA Council

Date: September 24, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings

September 19

GSA Office Manager and Gradzette Editor

After reviewing over 20 applications and conducting interviews for the position, the GSA Executive committee made the selection decision for the new Office Manager just prior to the Labour Day weekend. We are pleased to welcome Ruth Prokesch as the new Office Manager for the GSA! Ruth began work on September 2 and has been very busy getting up to speed with the office records, finances and other GSA initiatives. Please stop by and say hi to Ruth when you get a chance.

Following filling and striking the Selections Committee, the GSA will begin evaluating candidates for the Gradzette Editor position. We will hopefully have the editor in place by the first or second week of October. A call for submissions to the magazine will be sent out to grad students following selection of the editor.

Fall 2008 Orientation/Welcome Back Week

After months planning and organizing the GSA hosted a Fall Orientation/Welcome Back week for Grad students at the U of M from September 5 to September 12. Events held included: a pancake brunch, campus tours, BBQs, a screening of the film "My Winnipeg", academic workshops and information sessions, a Trivia Night, a soccer game and after party, and we wound things up with a social on Friday, September 12 featuring DJ Hunnicutt. Events were well-attended and received and a great time was held by those who participated. The GSA Executive extends sincere gratitude to all graduate students who volunteered, attended and participated in the events to help make the week a success. Thank you!

Stay tuned for more events and programming throughout the year!

Report

From: GSA Finance Committee

To: GSA Council

Date: September 24, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings

August 28

Approval of Conference Grants

The committee has approved an amount of \$6550 in August as conference grants to graduate students presenting/attending conferences.

Orientation Expenses Report

We had a welcome back orientation week from September 5 to 12, 2008.

We spent an approximated amount of \$4500 on orientation supplies, such as food, drinks, BBQ machine, prizes and other expenses, which is within our budget of \$8000 for this event.

Departmental Disbursement Reminder

Complete Departmental Grant applications (Form 004) and submit to the GSA office no later than 4:00 pm **November 1st** to receive the December departmental disbursement.

Report

From: Aaron Glenn, President <pres@umgsa.ca >

To: GSA Council

Date: September 24, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended and Missed

GSA Finance Committee – August 28

GSA Executive Committee Orientation Planning – September 4

CFS-Manitoba Levin Commission Preparation Meeting – September 14

Levin Commission Stakeholders Discussion Session – September 16

Board of Governors Meeting – September 16

Rally to Increase Aboriginal Student Access and Funding – September 17

GSA Executive Committee – September 19

CFS-Manitoba Executive – September 19 *cancelled*

Office Hours

My office hours are held from 2pm to 4pm on Mondays, and I am open to meeting at other times by appointment.

Other Information

Commission on Tuition Fees and Accessibility to Post-Secondary Education in Manitoba
A one-person (University of Toronto professor, Ben Levin) commission has been given a mandate to review the province's policy on affordability, accessibility and on the relationship between tuition fees and student aid and accessibility to post-secondary education in Manitoba. The commissioner will outline the recommendations in a report to the Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy Minister by March 2009. Dr. Levin kicked the commission off with 2 afternoons of open consultation sessions with stakeholders. I attended on behalf of graduate students on September 16, and brought grad student issues up with the commission that seems to be almost exclusively focusing on undergraduate accessibility and student aid. I stressed the need for both increased funding for graduate students and low (or no) tuition and user fees, and the impact of differential fees on international students. Although there are no public hearings being scheduled, it is possible to make submissions to the commission online or by snail mail, see <http://www.postsecondarycommission.mb.ca/> for more details.

Board of Governors

The University of Manitoba Board of Governors (BoG) met at the Bannatyne Campus on September 16. The President gave a lengthy and informative presentation on his first 100 days on the job, and outlined his vision of what the Board's responsibilities are to him (as

“CEO”) and vice versa. As well, the BoG approved a new Student Discipline Bylaw for the University of Manitoba. While the bylaw is not perfect, it has some needed improvement and changes, such as adding the GSA President as an *ex-officio* University Discipline Committee member. A number of concerns were flagged and raised by UMSU and the GSA, many of which were considered and even incorporated by the committee into the new bylaw.

Rally and Campaign for Aboriginal Student Access and Funding

I attended a rally and march on September 17 organized by the Southern Chiefs Organization, University of Winnipeg Aboriginal Student Council, University of Manitoba Aboriginal Students' Association and the Canadian Federation of Students. The event began with a short rally and march from the Indian and Northern Affairs Building to the Legislature where Aboriginal student leaders and chiefs spoke. The campaign is part of a broader Action for Aboriginal Access initiative, which is demanding the federal government lift the 2% cap on funding increases for the Post Secondary Student Support Program, the federal government and province provide more grants for Aboriginal students and that they sign onto the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Report

From: Xuping Sun, Vice President (Internal)

To: GSA Council

Date: September 24, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

Finance Committee meeting – August 28, 2008

Executive Committee meeting – September 19, 2008

Office hours held

I held my office hours on Fridays from 2pm-4pm this month.

Other information

We have a new office manager who works officially on September 2, 2008. During this month, we can see a big difference in our GSA office. The office opens from 9:00am to 4:00pm, which has facilitated our services for our graduate students, such as photocopying, ISIC card making and questions and answers for our new graduate

students. Also, the manager helps the executives with file keeping, document keeping and financial recording, which makes our office daily operation on a right and neat track.

The auditor came on September 2, 2008. We spent the whole day being ready for answering his questions and showing him the documents and records he needed. We will get the auditing results later.

The welcome back Orientation went well. Many new graduate students came to the events and got information they need. Our GSA president gave a speech at the FGS new graduate students welcoming luncheon introducing our GSA to new students and making our association accessible and knowable to more people.

Report

From: Andy Bonar, Vice-President (Academic)
To: GSA Council
Date: September 24, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

UMSU Senate Meeting – September 2, 2008
Senate Orientation Meeting – September 3, 2008
Senate Meeting – September 3, 2008
UMSAFE Training – September 3, 2008
Student Counseling and Career Centre Meeting – September 4, 2008 (missed)
GSA Executive Meeting – September 4, 2008
Orientation – September 5, 8-12, 2008
GSA Executive Meeting (informal) – September 10, 2008
Senate Executive Committee Meeting – September 17, 2008
GSA Executive Meeting – September 19, 2008
UMSU Senate Meeting – September 23, 2008

Graduate Student Representation

We are seeking graduate students to serve as alternates on the following Faculty of Graduate Studies Committee:

1. Faculty of Graduate Studies Appeals Committee (4 alternates).
2. Faculty Council of Graduate Studies (1)

3. Faculty of Graduate Studies Programs and Planning Committee (1)
4. Faculty of Graduate Studies Guidelines and Policy Committee (1)

We are also seeking Graduate student representation on Faculty of Arts Standing Committees. We currently need:

5. Endowment Committee (1)

We are also seeking Graduate student representation on University Disciplinary Committee. We currently need:

6. University Disciplinary Committee (1)

As always, councilors are reminded that there is also always a need for graduate students on Graduate Students' Association Committees. Please feel free to bring these names directly forward to Council meetings. We currently need:

7. Bylaws and Policy (2) (1 Humanities Designate; 1 Social Science Designate)
8. Internal Development and Review (7) (1 Social Science Designate; 1 Professional Studies Designate; 1 Graduate Student)
9. Campaigns (4-10) (2 Council Members; 2 Graduate Students; up to 6 additional Graduate Students)
10. Awards (2) (2 Graduate Students)
11. Selections (1) (1 Graduate Student)

Interested parties should forward their names to vpa@umgsa.ca. Alternately, council members can bring the names forward directly to council. It is expected that the interested party will have apprised himself or herself of information before forwarding his or her name. This information is readily available through the University of Manitoba website.

Academic Series

Students are encouraged to send workshop, seminar, panel or conference proposals to vpa@umgsa.ca.

We are currently in talks with two Canadian Research Chairs to come and share their knowledge.

Orientation

Orientation was a smashing success! Due to the overwhelming response for the GSA Trivia Bowl, plans are in the works to possibly host a second event this winter.

Advocacy

Strictly confidential.

For general questions or information concerning advocacy, or to book an appointment, please e-mail vpa@umgsa.ca. To book an appointment by phone, please call 474-9181. Students are also welcome to stop in during office hours, listed below.

Office Hours Held

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 1300-1400 Hrs.

Report

From: Chandra B. Singh, Vice-President (External) <vpe@umgsa.ca >
To: GSA Council
Date: September 24, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended

Finance Committee Meeting- August 29, 2008
GSA Executive Meeting- September 19, 2008

Meetings Missed

CFS-MB executive's Meeting-September 19, 2008

Office Hours

My office hours are from 12 to 1 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Other Information

This month I have been busy mostly with orientation work. I am looking for people to join the campaign committee. I encourage the council member to join the campaign committee so that we can start working together on various campaign issues. I look forward to see some of you in the committee very soon.

Report

From: Meaghan Labine – HSGSA President

To: GSA Council

Date: September 24, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended:

HS-FGS meeting – Sept 24th/ 2008

GSA executive meeting – August 25th, 2008

HSGSA executing meeting – Sept 16th, 2008

HSGSA executive meeting – Sept 5th, 2008

Report:

1) The HSGSA orientation which was held on Sept 10th and 11th was very successful this year. We had a great turnout at both our information session and the social event.

2) For this years HSGSA agenda, we are planning on holding one main seminar and one social per term. The seminar being organized for the fall semester is on investment planning for graduate students and the social event will be held end of November. To ensure the winter is a little less dull, we are starting up a graduate student curling league, and hoping to get departmental teams together to play once a week.

3) To address effective methods of communication with our graduates at this campus, we are looking into four methods of advertisement; mailing list, website, facebook page and graduate poster boards.

Report

From: Abas Sabouni, Cheng Zhang, Mohamed Moustafa (Senators)

To: GSA Council

Date: September 24, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

GSA Executive Meeting – September 4, 2008

UMSU Senate Meeting – September 2, 2008

Senate Orientation- September 3, 2008

Senate Reception- September 3, 2008

University of Manitoba Senate Meeting – September 3, 2008

Senate Executive meeting – September 17, 2008

GSA Executive Meeting – September 19, 2008

Office Hours held

Abas Sabouni: Tuesdays: 9am-11am

Cheng Zhang: Fridays: 12pm-2pm

Mohamed Moustafa: Thursdays: 11am-1pm

University Senate meeting

Senate approved the Joint Masters Programs between the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg: The Joint Senates Committee (on Master's Programs) has developed and submitted proposed guidelines for the review of these programs.

Senate approved the establishment of a Professorship in Jazz Performance.

Reports have been presented from:

1. The Senate Committee on Appeals.
2. The Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation.
3. The Senate Committee on Academic Review.
4. The Senate Committee on University Research- Periodic Review of Research Centers and Institutes.
5. The Senate Committee on Admissions.
6. The University Discipline Committee on the Student Discipline Bylaw and Procedures.

Agenda - GSA Council
Wednesday Oct. 22, 2008
4:45 pm, UMSU Council Chambers

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Presentations from the Political Studies Student Association and the Plant Science Graduate Students' Association regarding Special Project Grant requests.
3. **Motion: Approval of September 24 GSA Council Meeting Minutes**
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee
 - b. Finance Committee
Motion: Approval of Political Studies Students' Association special project grant for \$500.

Motion: Approval of Plant Science Graduate Students' Association special project grant for \$500.
 - c. Selections Committee
5. Executive Reports
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President (Internal)
 - c. Vice President (Academic)
 - d. Vice President (External)
 - e. Vice President (Health Sciences)
 - f. Senators
6. Student Representatives for Dean (Re)appointment Advisory Committees
7. Department Updates
8. Other Business
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment

Attendance – GSA Council
 September 24, 2008
 4:45 pm, UMSU Council Chambers

<i>GSA Executive</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	Aaron Glenn	Present
VP Internal	Xuping Sun	Present
VP Academic	Andy Bonar	Present
VP External	Chandra Bhan Singh	Present
VP Health Sciences	Meaghan Labine	Present
Senators	Mohamed Moustafa	Present
	Cheng Zhang	Present
	Abas Sabouni	Present
<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
UMSU	Jonny Sopotiuik	Present (proxy)
CUPE 3909	Muthukumar Bagavathiannan	Present
<i>Agric & Food Science</i>		
Agribusiness & Agric. Economics	Jordan Templeton Mark Fynn	Present
Animal Science	Natalie Berard	Present
Biosystems Engineering	Vanathy Nalliah	Present
Entomology		
Food Science	Nikolay Repin	Present
Plant Science	Arvind Hirani	Present
Soil Science	Lekan Olatuyi	Present (proxy)
<i>Architecture</i>		
Architecture	Joe Kaltornyk	Regrets
City Planning	Richard Mahé	Present
	Becky Raddatz	
Interior Design	Michelle Zelickson	Present
Landscape Architecture	Erin Sawatzky	Regrets

Anthropology	Jeniva Donaleshen	Absent
Classics		
Economics		
English	Alyson Brickey	Regrets
French, Spanish & Italian		
German		
History	Tamara Fleming Graham Stinnett	Present
Icelandic Studies		
Linguistics		
Native Studies		
Philosophy		
Political Studies		
Public Administration		
Psychology		
Religious Studies	Matt Sheedy	Present
Slavic Studies		
Sociology	Gosia Parada	Present
Canadian Studies St. Boniface		
<i>Arthur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice</i>		
Arthur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice		
<i>Management</i>		
Management 1 (MBA)		
Management 2	André Laplume	Present
<i>Education</i>		
Curr: Hum. & Soc. Sc.		
Curr: Math & Nat Sc		
Curr: Teaching & Learning		
Educ. Admin & Foundations		

Educational Psychology		
Educ. Adm. Fnd. & Psy		
Faculty based PhD		
Educ. St. Boniface		
<i>Engineering</i>		
Civil	Justin Rak-Banville	Absent
Electrical & Computer	Christopher Henry	Present
Mechanical & Manufacturing	Christopher Iyogun	Absent
<i>Environment</i>		
Geography & Environment	Trish Kelley Kristin Westdal	Regrets
Geological Sciences		
Nat Resources Inst	Sheldon Ratuski	Present
Disability Studies		
Food & Nutr Sciences		
Interdisciplinary		
<i>Human Biology</i>		
Clothing & Textiles		
Family Social Sciences	Mika Kawaguchi	Present
Human Nutritional Sciences	Danielle Stringer	Absent
<i>Law</i>		
Law		
<i>Music</i>		
Music		
<i>Nursing</i>		
Nursing	Erin Shepherd	Present
<i>Pharmacy</i>		
Pharmacy		
<i>Phys Ed & Rec Studies</i>		
Recreation Management		
Kinesiology	Jill Hnatiuk	Present (proxy)

<i>Science</i>		
Biological Sciences	Josh Levac	Present
Chemistry		
Computer Science		
Mathematics		
Microbiology		
Physics & Astronomy	Neil Moore	Present
Statistics		
<i>Social Work</i>		
Social Work		

**Minutes – GSA Council
September 24, 2008
4:45 pm, GSA Office**

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion

BIRT the agenda be approved.

Labine/Henry

CARRIED

2. Round of introductions and review of meeting procedures

3. Approval of August 27 GSA Council Meeting Minutes

Motion

BIRT the minutes of August 27 GSA Council Meeting be approved

Labine/Levac

CARRIED

4. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee

b. Finance Committee

Motion

BIRT the committee reports be accepted as presented.

Parada/Hirini

CARRIED

5. GSA Committee Membership

Motion

BIRT the GSA Committee membership for the 2008/2009 academic year be approved.

Bonar/Fleming

CARRIED

6. Executive Reports

- a. President
- b. Vice president (Internal)
- c. Vice President (Academic)
- d. Vice President (External)
- e. Vice President (Health sciences)
- f. Senators

Motion

BIRT the Executive reports be accepted.

Shepherd/Sheedy

CARRIED

7. Department Reports/Announcements

- a. Plant Science
- b. Management
- c. Biological Sciences
- d. History
- e. Nursing

8. Other Business

No other business

9. Announcements

- a. SmartPark Eureka Project Information Luncheon was postponed
- b. Next meeting: October 22 at 4:45 pm in the UMSU Council Chambers

10. Adjournment

Motion

BIRT the meeting be adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Bonar/Levac

CARRIED

Report

From: GSA Executive Committee

To: GSA Council

Date: October 22, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings

October 16

Other Information

While the exciting but extremely busy times of September have ended, the GSA Executive has remained active organizing the office, attending meetings on and off campus, and planning initiatives and events for the remainder of the year. We strongly encourage graduate students to come by the office and chat or hang out when you get the chance. Also, we are always in need of volunteers for committees and helping with events so if you or other students you know are interested, please give us a call, shoot us an email or pop by the office!

GSA Endowment Fund

Following the signing of the autonomy agreement with UMSU in April 2007, the GSA received 14% of the UMSU Endowment Fund that Graduate Students had been paying into up until that point (U of M was about 14% grad students at the time, this was equivalent to approximately \$500,000 of the Endowment Fund). The money was subsequently put into a high-rate savings account at the Assiniboine Credit Union, with the intention of eventually investing the money and using the return to fund GSA Travel Grants and/or other scholarships and bursaries for Graduate Students. During 2007-2008 the previous GSA Executive met with Lawyers and Financial advisors a few times with the intention of establishing an Endowment Fund Board to oversee the investment of the money. This was not completed and has been left to the current Executive to deal with. The Endowment Fund money has remained in a high-rate savings account at the credit union until present, which has been a smart move in hindsight (given the volatility of the commercial banks and markets), as it has gained thousands of dollars in interest. Currently we are in the process of transferring the Fund to a modest 1-year redeemable GIC at the credit union for the time being will it earn approximately 1% more in interest. We have been meeting with the Assiniboine Credit Union and their investment partners regarding long-term investment of the funds in a financially and socially responsible manner. Preservation of the principal and ethical investment will be a priority for the Fund, even if the return from the investment is modest in the first few years. We hope to have the plan for the Endowment Fund money in place by early 2009 for the GSA Annual General Meeting.

Report

From: GSA Finance Committee

To: GSA Council

Date: October 22, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings

September 25

Conference Grants

The committee has approved an amount of \$2950.00 in conference grants to graduate students presenting/attending conference.

Special Project Grants

The Committee recommends approval of \$500 to Political Studies Students' Association to support its Political Studies Student Conference.

Motion: Approval of Political Studies Students' Association special project grant for \$500.

Also, the committee recommends approval of \$500 to Plant Science GSA to support its Plant Science Graduate Students' Symposium.

Motion: Approval of Plant Science Graduate Students' Association special project grant for \$500.

Departmental Disbursement Reminder

Complete Departmental Grant applications (Form 004) and submit to the GSA office no later than 4:00 pm **November 1st** to receive the December disbursement.

Report

From: GSA Selections Committee (Aaron Glenn, Chair)

To: GSA Council

Date: October 22, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings

October 6

Gradzette Editor Hiring

After reviewing applicants, the GSA Selections committee made the selection decision for the new Gradzette Editor the week prior to the Thanksgiving long weekend. We are pleased to welcome Karine Duhamel as the new Gradzette Editor! Karine is a PhD student in the Department of History. She began work immediately finding people to write for the first issue and establishing methods of soliciting volunteers to help with the magazine.

A call for submissions to the magazine will be sent out to all graduate students.

Report

From: Aaron Glenn, President <pres@umgsa.ca >

To: GSA Council

Date: October 22, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended and Missed

Task Force on Time to Completion – September 24

GSA Finance Committee – September 25

FGS Executive Committee – October 1

GSA Selections Committee – October 6

Meeting with Assiniboine Credit Union – October 14

GSA Executive Committee – October 16

Task Force on Time to Completion Closed Hearing #1 – October 20

Office Hours

My office hours are held from 2pm to 4pm on Mondays, and I am open to meeting at other times by appointment.

Other Information

Time-to-Completion Task Force

The Faculty of Graduate Studies struck a “Time to Completion Task Force” in the summer and I am the Student representative on the task force committee. TTC is a major issue in Grad Studies at the U of M and across Canada, and was used as justification to attempt to “re-structure” (increase) grad student tuition fees at U of M in 2007. The committee's mandate is to seek input from various stakeholders on campus (Faculty, administration, and students) on the causes of students taking too long to do their graduate degrees at U of M and possible solutions for addressing the issue. The committee will make a number of key recommendations in early 2009 that will likely be implemented immediately. The GSA is encouraging students and Departmental GSAs to consider making presentations to the Task Force. The TTCTF will be holding both OPEN and CLOSED hearings.

Hearing meetings have been scheduled as follows:

FORT GARRY CAMPUS

Ft. Garry Campus, OPEN Hearing

Monday, November 3rd, 1-4 p.m.,

Rooms 543-544 University Centre

BANNATYNE CAMPUS
Bannatyne Campus, OPEN Hearing
Tuesday, November 18th, 1-4 p.m.
Theatre F, Old Basic Scs, Dentistry Wing

Bannatyne Campus, CLOSED Hearing
Monday, November 17th, 1-4 p.m.
212 Medical Services Bldg.

Presenters should confirm a time slot with the Task Force Secretary,
Joyce Culligan, via phone: 474-8086 or email: Joyce_Culligan@umanitoba.ca

Presenters should allow five (5) minutes for their presentation and are asked to focus on the cause(s) of protracted time-to-completion as well as potential remedies. While not mandatory, it would be useful to leave a written copy of your presentation with the Task Force.

Written submissions to the Task Force are also welcome. Written submissions can be submitted in confidence to Dr. John (Jay) Doering, Chair, Task Force on TTC, c/o Faculty of Graduate Studies, 500 University Centre.

Report

From: Xuping Sun, Vice President (Internal)
To: GSA Council
Date: October 22, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

Executive Committee meeting – October 16, 2008
Finance Committee meeting – September 25, 2008
CFS MB meeting - October 17, 2008

Office hours held

I held my office hours on Fridays from 2pm-4pm this month.

Other information

I got quite a lot of emails asking if our office is open to students during lunch time. They have nowhere to go since they do not have an office. Yes, you are welcome to our office

to have a rest or your lunch anytime. All our facilities are open to you, microwave, Internet, water, etc. If the GSA Lounge is not occupied during the day, we'd rather it to be open to graduate students too.

We have our new editor for the Gradzette that will be on her first issue soon. You are welcome to post your departmental information in it.

Report

From: Andy Bonar, Vice-President (Academic)

To: GSA Council

Date: October 22, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings attended and missed

FGS Meeting – October 1, 2008

Senate Meeting – October 1, 2008

GSA Selections Committee Meeting – October 6, 2008

Gradzette Interview – October 9, 2008

GSA Executive Meeting – October 16, 2008

CFS Meeting – October 17, 2008

GSA Investment Meeting – October 22, 2008

Senate Executive Meeting – October 22, 2008

Academic Series

Students are encouraged to send workshop, seminar, panel or conference proposals to vpa@umgsa.ca.

Advocacy

Strictly confidential.

For general questions or information concerning advocacy, or to book an appointment, please e-mail vpa@umgsa.ca. To book an appointment by phone, please call 474-9181. Students are also welcome to stop in during office hours, listed below.

Office Hours Held

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 1300-1400 Hrs.

Report

From: Chandra B. Singh, Vice-President (External) <vpe@umgsa.ca >
To: GSA Council
Date: October 22, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended

Finance Committee Meeting- September 28, 2008
GSA Executive Meeting- October 16, 2008
Activist Assembly -October 17, 2008

Office Hours

My office hours are from 12 to 1 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Other Information

CFS-Manitoba is planning a Drop Fees-Day of Action on November 5th, 2008. All the local members will join the day of actions. At U of M there will be a rally at the Administration Building from 11am to noon, then buses will leave to the Provincial Legislature Building for a rally with students from across Manitoba until 2pm.

Report

From: Meaghan Labine – HSGSA President
To: GSA Council
Date: October 22, 2008
Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended

HS-FGS Committee – Oct 8th
GSA Executive Committee – Oct 16th
HSGSA Council – Oct 14th

HSGSA Executive committee – Oct 21st

No meetings missed

- a. The HSGSA has been busy scheduling our up-coming seminar and social events for the fall term:
 - Rights and Responsibilities workshop – Nov 6th
 - Pubmed Social – Nov 21st
- b. To address the issue of time to completion, the HSGSA is preparing a report to present at the open meeting at the Bannatyne Campus on Nov 18th. This way we collect the opinions of students and present them in a well thought out manner.
- c. During the Week of Oct 6th- 10th we had students come and sign up for their isic cards
- d. We are currently in the process of establishing curling teams for St. Boniface and HSC graduates

Report

From: Abas Sabouni, Cheng Zhang, Mohamed Moustafa (Senators)

To: GSA Council

Date: October 22, 2008

Re: Monthly Report

Meetings Attended:

University Senate Meeting – Oct. 1, 2008

GSA Executive Committee Meeting – Oct. 16, 2008

CFS Manitoba Campus Activist Assembly – Oct. 17-18, 2008

Summary:

1. New offered scholarships for graduate students

Dr. Cameron Jay Memorial Scholarship, M.Sc. or Ph.D. in Entomology

Canadian Occupational Therapy Foundation Future Scholar Award, Master of Occupational Therapy degree

Northern Sky Architecture Award for Environmental Stewardship, Master of Architecture program

President's Graduate Scholarship in Human Genetics, Masters or Doctoral program in human genetics

E. Scherer Memorial Scholarship, Masters or Doctoral program in the Department of Biological Sciences

Lillian Webb, Arthur Webb, and Elsie M. Webb Scholarship Fund, Masters program in the Faculty of Arts

2. Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program

At the meeting of 12 June 2008, the council on Post-Secondary Education approved Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program and also authorized the release of funds in support of this program.

3. Statement of Intent: Graduate Program in Pediatric Dentistry

4. Report of the Senate Planning and Priorities Committee on Siting of a proposed Football Stadium within the Designated Sports and Active Living Precinct

