

**UMGSA Council Meeting Documents  
November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 5:00pm UMGSA Lounge**

Council Meeting Agenda .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Minutes from the October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 Council Meeting.....	6
Executive Reports October 1 <sup>st</sup> - October 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2015 .....	16
Kristjan Mann - President .....	16
Valery Agbor- VP Internal.....	20
David Terrazas- VP Academic .....	22
Beibei Lu- VP Marketing & Events.....	25
Enoch A-iyeh- VP External .....	29
Richard From- Executive at Large.....	31
Colin Graydon- VP Health Sciences.....	33
Kathryn Marcynuk- Senator 1 .....	36
Gagan Sidhu- Senator 2 .....	48
Hadeesha Piyadasa- Senator 3 .....	40
Senate Report from meeting on November 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 .....	41
Updated UMGSA Elections Policy and Procedure Manual .....	APPENDIX I
Proposal of Investment from National Financial Bank.....	APPENDIX II
GU15 Fall 2015 Conference Report .....	APPENDIX III
Halloween Social Report .....	APPENDIX IV
Letter to the Members of the Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation.....	APPENDIX V

# Council Meeting Agenda

November 25th, 2015, 17:00

GSA Lounge

## 1. Call to Order

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** BIRT the agenda for the November 25th, 2015 UMGSA Council meeting be approved.

### 2.1. Unanimous consent agenda

2.1.1. Any item that has a  beside it denotes unanimous consent agenda

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

**MOTION: BIRT all Executive Reports and Senate Report are accepted omnibus.**

## 3. Approval of Minutes

**MOTION: BIRT the minutes from the October 28th, 2015 UMGSA Council Meeting be approved.**

## 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

4.1. **UMGSA Finances** In part to deal with the increasing demand for conference grants administered by the UMGSA, as well as to ensure the viability of our external relations fund and to expand existing UMGSA services, measures have been taken to invest currently uninvested UMGSA reserves into portfolio managed accounts (See Minutes from August 26<sup>th</sup> UMGSA Council Meeting). As requested at the October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015, UMGSA Council meeting the proposal from national bank has been attached with this month's council documents for review prior to voting on the proposal.

**4.1.1. BIRT the UMGSA Council approves Robert Tetrault Financial Wealth Management Group as an additional portfolio manager of the University of Manitoba Graduate Students Association.**

## 5. New Business

5.1. **Elections Policy and Procedure Manual Updates** At the request of last year's UMGSA Elections Committee the UMGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee, in consultation with last year's co-CRO's, has reviewed and amended the Elections Policy and Procedure Manual. This motion is coming from the B&P Committee and requires a member of council to second it.

**5.1.1. BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the amendments to the Elections Policy and Procedure Manual as presented by the Bylaws and Policy Committee.**

5.2. **UMGSA Halloween Social Report** This year's UMGSA Halloween Social, which

took place on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, was a great success (check out the UMGSA Facebook Group for pictures!). Please find the attached report presented by the VPME.

5.3. **GU15 Report** The GU15 conference in August was a great success thanks to the hard work of your UMGSA executive team and the conference attendees from the other graduate student associations at Canada's 14 other comprehensive universities. Please find the report on the event attached presented by the VPE.

5.4. **Ratification of IDRSC Chair** The UMGSA Internal Development and Review Sub-Committee has formed and elected a chair for the next academic year, UMGSA Councilor Carl Neumann. A motion has been put forward by the IDRSC to ratify the chair and must be approved by council in order for IRDSC to begin its task. This motion comes from the committee and must be seconded at council to be voted upon.

**5.4.1. BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the ratification of Carl Neumann as IDRSC chair for the 2015-2016 Academic Year.**

5.5. **Proposed Changes from SCIE** Recently changes to the authorized withdrawal and voluntary withdrawal processes, and as a result the system of GPA calculation, were proposed at the Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation. These changes were brought to the attention of the UMGSA president via the graduate student representative on that committee and a response was prepared (see attached). Due to the tight turnaround necessary (less than 24 hours) these issues were discussed at the executive level and an appropriate response was drafted and circulated to the SCIE members. While the proposed changes do address real problems with the current system they would potentially cause undue pressure and stress on the majority of the student body who are not contributing to these problems, and as such the executive chose to urge the SCIE to disapprove of these changes as a whole, and instead address the core issues contributing to these problems; which are a lack of spaces in "bottle-neck" courses, as well as a culture of acceptability around VW which has developed in some programs where it has almost become normative behavior to VW indiscriminately. As the process develops the executive will continue to keep council up to date.

## 6. Verbal Committee Reports

6.1. Executive Committee Report

6.2. Finance Committee Report

6.3. Bylaws and Policy Committee Report

6.4. Events Committee Report

6.5. Campaigns Committee Report

## 6.6. Awards Committee

### 7. Senate Report

Senate Report.

### 8. Executive Committee Reports

President

Vice President Internal

Vice President External

Vice President Academic

Vice President Marketing and Events

Vice President Health Sciences

Senator 1

Senator 2

Senator 3

### 9. Department Reports

### 10. Other Business/Announcements

10.1. **TED X** The UMGSA will be sponsoring the upcoming TEDX UManitoba conference happening in March, 2016. The organizers are currently looking for presenters, this is a great opportunity to gain experience or to talk about something you are passionate about; applications are available online and are open to grad students. Last year there were 3 grad students who presented, let's see if we can increase that number this year! Stay tuned for details about the live stream we will set up for Grads who can't get into the limited seating event.

### 11. Adjournment

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council meeting be adjourned.**

**Next Meeting: January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 17:00 in the UMGSA Lounge**

# Council Meeting Minutes

October 28th, 2015, 17:00

GSA Lounge

## 12. Call to Order (Start time 5:13)

*There was a technical delay with the UMGSA laptop so while some executive were figuring that out, Rich From (Chair) initiated the meeting informally by allowing Romel Dhalla to present to council.*

*The presentation by Romel Dhalla from National Financial bank (served 9 years previously as a university Manitoba Governor) was regarding investing currently uninvested UMGSA reserves into portfolio managed account. Their Team Lead is Robert Catro (Best portfolio manager in Canada). They are expecting a 4 % annual return on investments. They believe in a balanced and diversified approach.*

*Question by Mehdi Rahimian (Education AD Hoc): What have the GSA currently investment with you?*

*Romel: Currently GSA is not investing with National bank but they are planning investing with us.*

*Question by Ifeanyi Nwachukwu (Human Nutritional Sciences): Is there a guaranteed return?*

*Romel: No but it's better than leaving the money and losing value due to inflation.*

*Question by Darcy McDougall (Environment and Geography): How have you voted on graduate student related issues when were a member of the university board of governors?*

*Romel: I helped bring in 1 million dollars for a graduate studentship award and has always been supporting of graduate students.*

*Val (VPI): This is actually how we found Romel in the first place because he was involved and supportive of graduate student work and was noted by the previous GSA president.*

## 13. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** BIRT the agenda for the October 28th, 2015 UMGSA Council meeting be approved.

*Moved – Afua Mante (Biosystems Engineering)*

*Seconded – Jonathan Ferreira (Architecture)*

*Friendly amendment on the table to add in one point and bring to top of agenda. Everyone is ok with that.*

*Agenda APPROVED as presented.*

13.1. **Unanimous consent agenda**

13.1.1. Any item that has a  beside it denotes unanimous consent agenda

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

**MOTION: BIRT all Executive Reports and Senate Report are accepted omnibus.**

*Moved: Brett Mallon (Peace and Conflict)*

*Seconded: Travis Hrubeniuk (Kinesiology and Rec Management)*

*All Reports APPROVED*

14. **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: BIRT the minutes from the September 23rd, 2015 UMGSA Council Meeting be approved.**

*Moved: Kyle Ritchie (Biological Sciences)*

*Seconded: Irina Volchok (Linguistics)*

*Discussion: (Mac Kohlmeier) Microbiology: Looking at the attendees part on the minutes from the last council meeting and information is missing regarding the members who attended that are in the faculty of sciences. (Page 12 – 13)*

*Chair: that will be corrected. The main document contains it but not the document sent to councilors.*

*Minutes APPROVED as presented.*

**Special Presentation:**

*Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Program presentation:*

*(<http://umanitoba.ca/centres/cahr/training/6016.html>). Elizabeth Cooper presented \$6000 scholarship for travel or research related to health. Health in this case is very flexible. The scholarship has applications twice a year University of Manitoba has 75 spots but last year no one applied.*

*Question by Afua Mante – can anyone apply?*

*Elizabeth: Yes, as long as they are students and the next round of applications are due January 2016. This program will run until 2018.*

*Question by Anderson Assuah (Natural Resources Institute): Are the countries listed on the pamphlet the only countries that eligible?*

*Answer by Elizabeth Cooper: No, any common wealth country is eligible.*

## 15. Business Arising from the Minutes

15.1. **UMGSA Annual Audit** As noted at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015 Council Meeting the annual audit plan (for fiscal year ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015; See Appendix II from the September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 UMGSA Council documents package) produced by BDO Canada LLP is being presented to council at the request of BDO Canada LLP. This is an annual process, as indicated, and is a Canada Revenue Agency requirement for any non-profit organization, the process was approved at council last year (2014-2015) and representatives from BDO will be available at this UMGSA Council Meeting to answer any questions you may have.

**MOTION: BIRT the annual audit plan for the UMGSA for fiscal year ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 be approved as presented.**

*Questions by Afua Mante. Who reviews if BDO has a query.*

*Val: outside party.*

*Kristjan – this process is done annually to make sure there is no internal fraud.*

*MOTION: Do we need a presentation?*

*Question by Hamid Reza Nasrinpour: How much will it be?*

*Kristjan: Maybe 200 to 300\$ not exactly sure.*

*Moved: Afua Mante (Biosystems Engineering)*

*Seconded: Joseph Dipple (Native Studies)*

*APPROVED as presented.*

15.2. **UMGSA Finances** In part to deal with the increasing demand for conference grants administered by the UMGSA, as well as to ensure the viability of our external relations fund and to expand existing UMGSA services, measures have been taken to invest currently uninvested UMGSA reserves into portfolio managed accounts (See Minutes from August 26<sup>th</sup> UMGSA Council Meeting). Representatives from National Financial Bank will be on hand at this month's council meeting to discuss the proposal which has already been vetted by the UMGSA Lawyer.

*Motion on the floor: Do we think National bank financial is the best to manage our money?*

*Question from a councilor: What exactly is the proposal?*

*Val – It is national bank that has developed the plan. And sent to lawyer for vetting.*

*Question by Anderson Assuah. Do the executive consider other proposals?*

*Val: no because we are not financial expertise to make this kind of decision.*

*Kristjan: However we did hire an extern expert to vet this proposal against others.*

*Question by Afua Mante: Did the lawyer approve?*

*Val: Yes*

*Question by Cody Ross (Geological Sciences): Was there any ethical guidelines put forward by GSA for the investments?*

*Val: good question, we have not looked at the details of the investment areas.*

*Question by Darcy McDougall (Environment and Geography): Can we vote on this next month after looking at the proposal.*

*Kristian: Do we really have the expertise to look at this document and critique it?*

*Mehdi Rahimian: If I want to vote on something, I want to know what it is.*

*Question by Cody Ross: Is there a consequences for extending the approval of this for a month?*

*Kristjan: No*

*Question by Ahmed Elwali (Biomedical Engineering): What kind of penalties would we have in case we want to withdraw from national bank?*

*Val: Client can pull out if there is proper grounds.*

*Question by Joseph Dipple (Native studies): I don't think we are questioning your expertise but we may have areas we don't want to invest in.*

*Ifeanyi Nwachukwu: Please don't show this document to anyone. I suggest that counselors go to the office to read the documents.*

*Question by Hamid Reza Nasrinpour (Electrical and Computer Engineering): Where is the money coming from? And how much money are you investing?*

*Val: Current investment funds are at RBC. The external relations funds of \$198, 000 in Assiniboine credit union is the amount we are planning on investing.*

*Chair: proposed that this is carried on to next council meeting.*

*Majority agreed.*

15.3. **Councilor Orientation** Councilor orientation 2015 took place on Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup> and saw an increased turnout from last year. After the afternoon session of presentation, we adjourned for a meal together and an evening of socializing at Maw's Beer Hall in the historic Winnipeg Exchange District. Presentation topics included Roberts Rules of Order, the roles and responsibilities of councilors, council, and the exec, and bylaws and policy, to name a few. A big thank you too all the councilors who came out and took part, it was great to have a chance to get to know you all a little better! Judging from initial responses it seemed like a great success, but as always if you have any suggestions or comments please feel free to share them with this years executive so we can pass them on to the next exec to incorporate them for next year!

**15.3.1. Roberts Rules of Order Quick Reference Sheet** As promised at council orientation the slides that had a quick reference sheet for Roberts Rules of Order have been included as an attachment in this month's council package.

15.4. **UMGSA Office Assistant** At the September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015 UMGSA Council meeting the UMGSA VPI put forward a motion that the UMGSA council approve advertisement of the position of Executive Assistant to UMGSA executive. This motion was postponed to the next council meeting as there wasn't enough information provided to have a meaningful debate on the motion. The hiring process would take place through the IRDC as dictated by UMGSA bylaws and policies. When a job description has been drafted then council will be notified so it can review the document and ratify it prior to IRDC beginning the hiring process.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves advertisement of the position of Executive Assistant to UMGSA executive following the establishment of IDRC.**



*Kristian: Bylaws say IDRC has to hire GSA employees. Council has to pre-approve the description before going to IDRC. The job description will be sent by email to all councilors. Amend this motion that the council can vote on email after job description is emailed out.*

*Question by Ifeanyi Nwachukwu: Will there be room for discussion and debate for the email?  
Kristjan: No not really but this is just a description. IDRC will have a chance to tweak it and bring it back to council meeting then there can be debate.*

*Carl Neumann (Philosophy): Please clarify the above statement.*

*Joseph Dipple: Still confused.*

*Kristjan re-clarified.*

*Rich further clarified the situation and gave council the recommendation that since this motion still does not have the backing of any relevant documents to provide further information it should be defeated and a new motion can be brought forward in the future when the time is right.*

**MOTION DEFEATED .**

*Ifeanyi Nwachukwu (Human nutritional sciences), Mehdi Rahimian (Education Ad-Hoc) and Joseph Dipple (Native Studies) would like to be noted for abstention.*

## **16. New Business**

- 16.1. **TED X** The UMGSA has been approached by TEDX organizers about potential sponsorship for the conference hosted at the U of M this year. In addition to guaranteed grad student access to the event which has limited capacity (100), we are also in talks to live stream the presentations to the GSA lounge so even more grad students could take part. On top of additional access through access to live-streaming the event, sponsorship would also include mention of the UMGSA involvement in all the TEDX materials produced as well as in perpetuity online in the TEDX video series.

*TEDx Presentation by Jordan McCallum*

*Kristjan Mann (President): We are supporting TEDx with the speaker's series budget.*

*Jordan MacCallum (TEDx Presenter): Last year there were 9 speakers and 2 of them from graduate students at the university of Manitoba. Also all speakers have a direct connection to the UofM. 20 seats will be always reserved for grad students. Last year there were 400 applications for 100 seats and 70 applicants for the 9 speakers. This year's goal is to get 17-20% graduate student attendance. The presenter discussed the advantages of the all the levels of sponsorship.*

*Question from councilor: are the applications already available?*

*TEDx Presenter: Yes, It's on the [www.tedxumanitoba.com](http://www.tedxumanitoba.com) website.*

*Kristian: Further explained the advantages of the live streaming which will allow an extra 70 – 100 graduate students to see the TEDx live.*

*Enoch A-iyeh (VPA): reiterated that this is a great channel to present our own research.*

*Question from Afua Mante: what package are we choosing?*

*Val: Premier package because of all the added advantages.*

*Mehdi Rahimian (Education Ad Hoc). Can you please clarify how many presenters there were last year? The information was answered by Kristjan (see above).*

- 16.2. **International Student Tuition Differential** As many of you may be aware the University recently approved a 10% increase in the tuition fee differential paid by international graduate students. The majority of funds generated by this increase have been pledged towards increasing financial and academic supports for international students included expanding residences, improving and increasing the availability of writing tutors, including introducing a grad student focused writing tutor. And improving and enhancing supports focused on the orientation/transition process for students who are new to the country. 30% of the funds have been slated to be put directly into the financial aid for international students. In the following weeks we will be trying to organize a town-hall meeting with the administration to allow further student input on how the support is distributed.

*Question by Ifeanyi Nwachukwu: When is the meeting?*

*Kristjan: Not organized yet.*

- 16.3. **UMGSA Co-Sponsored Political Panel Discussion** At the beginning of October the UMGSA hosted a political panel discussion on postsecondary issues and the environment in University College. After the much publicized cancellation of the UMSU/UMFA sponsored debate this became the only political forum for candidates hosted on campus. While candidates from all parties in a variety of ridings were invited only representatives from the Green Party, Liberal Party, and NDP responded and agreed to attend. Those who did attend (Robert-Falcon Oulette, Brianne Goertzen, and Andrew Park) were enthusiastic and excited to speak with students about the election. The event was broadcast by UFMF and a recording can be found in their online archives.

- 16.4. **UM Vice President Academic and Provost Search** The U of M is currently conducting a search for a new VPA and Provost to replace Dr. Joanne Keselman who will be stepping down at the end of her term. The President of the University has invited input on the questions listed below which will be considered in the search process. Kindly submit responses in writing to the President ([pres@umgsa.org](mailto:pres@umgsa.org)) by 16:00, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 for consideration by the committee.

16.4.1. In light of the recent adoption of Taking Our Place, the University's strategic plan for 2015-2020, and our desire to move forward with its implementation, what are your thoughts on the most important qualifications to be sought in candidates for the position of Provost and Vice-President (Academic) in terms of leadership style, academic credentials, background, and experience?

16.4.2. What do you see as the opportunities, issues and challenges facing the University of Manitoba over this period, specifically those related to the portfolio held by the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)?

16.4.3. Are there any particular individuals you would like to recommend?

## 17. Verbal Committee Reports

- 17.1. Executive Committee Report

*Kristian – VPI and I have been busy organizing the finances. We just had our Halloween social which was well attended. There were some issues with the lack of proper government ID to get in and we are working on that. Looking further in to TEDx and online streaming. Trying to set up town hall meeting regarding International student differential*

17.2. Finance Committee Report

*Val - We are now halfway into our term. At this stage of our budget we have spent 41.9% of conference grants. Even after the GU15 or other events hosted by GSA we have been sticking to budget.*

17.3. Bylaws and Policy Committee Report

*Val - Currently working on the elections policy manual. Last meeting we had all the recommendations of the last years CRO. If you are sitting under the elections committee please step up to be a CRO for next year it's a paid position*

17.4. Events Committee Report

*Beibei Lu (VPME) - Had a meeting on Oct 19. Pretty much planning the Halloween social. We have a new committee set up with new councilors and members. Next meeting is Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. 5pm and will talk about next social.*

17.5. Campaigns Committee Report

*Enoch - 5 days ago was when we received the last finalized list of new councilor so we can start forming the committee. I have already been approached councilors wanting to join.*

17.6. Awards Committee

*David Terrazas (VPA) – We will be convening a meeting in the near future*

**18. Senate Report**

Senate Report.

**19. Executive Committee Reports**

- President
- Vice President Internal
- Vice President External
- Vice President Academic
- Vice President Marketing and Events
- Vice President Health Sciences

- Senator 1
- Senator 2
- Senator 3

## 20. Department Reports

*Nothing.*

## 21. Other Business/Announcements

- 21.1. **Internal Committees** As you may remember from this year's councilor orientation it is each individual councilor's responsibility to sit on at least one UMGSA internal committee (IRDC, Events, Campaigns, Awards, etc...). If you have not signed up for one yet please see Ruth at the conclusion of the meeting.

*Kristjan: We need council members to volunteer for committees and we can't form them without councilors volunteering. I have sent out a doodle poll to the current 5 members for a meeting in November but we cant put any motions forward without meeting the minimum member requirements.*

- 21.2. **HSGSA Halloween Social** October 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 at the Brody Centre on Bannatyne Campus. Come out and celebrate with the HSGSA!

- 21.3. **Department Grant Applications** The deadline for the first application is Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 at 4pm in the GSA Office. You can still apply after the deadline but there are deductions to the disbursement that will be applied. This first application does not require a Financial Report, but you do need to complete the application in full. Here is the link to the application from the GSA website: <http://www.umgsa.org/documents/departmental-grants/DepartmentGrantApplication.pdf>

Please complete the application online, print off pages 1-2 and submit to UMGSA.

*Question by Afua Mante: Could council consider childcare for council meetings.*

*Kristjan: Yes as long as it's not too much of distraction for council. If you can't come to council meetings because of a child then GSA will do everything we can to accommodate you.*

*Question by Yvette Shang (Animal Science) St Boniface: Council member transportation covered by GSA?*

*Val: not sure, come talk to me and Ruth after. If your home campus is different the Fort Garry then we will cover it*

## 22. Adjournment

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council meeting be adjourned.\**

Time – 19:55

Brett Mallon (Peace and Conflict Studies)

Seconded: Travis Hrubeniuk (Kinesiology and Rec Management)

APPROVED

**Next Meeting: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ 17:00 in the UMGSA Lounge**

<i>Position/Department</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	Kristjan Mann	Present
VP Internal	Valery Agbor	Present
VP Academic	David Terrazas	Present LE 6:55
VP External	Enoch A-iyeh	Present LE 6:43
VP Marketing & Events	Beibei Lu	Present
VP Health Science	Colin Graydon	Present
Senator	Kathryn Marcynuk	Present
Senator	Gagan Sidhu	Present
Senator	Hadeesha Piyadasa	Present
Chair / Exec At Large (Non-voting)	Rich From	Present
Office Manager (Non-voting)	Ruth Prokesch	Present
<b><i>Agric &amp; Food Science</i></b>		
Agribusiness & Agric. Economics	Tao Wang (Co-Councilors) Tijani Bio Abdul-Salam Proxy: Samuel Darko	Regrets Proxy Present
Animal Science	Yue (Yvette) Shang (Co-Councils) Deepak Ettungalpadi Velayud	Both Present
Biosystems Engineering	Afua Mante	Present
Entomology	Megan Colwell	Regrets
Food Science	Carly Isaak	Present
Human Nutritional Sciences	Ifeanyi Nwachukwu Tara Loader (Co-Councilors)	Both Present
Plant Science	Anjan Neupane (Co-Councilors) Suraj Sapkota	Both Present
Soil Science	Ashley Soloway (Co-Council) Mick Runzika	Both Present
<b><i>Architecture</i></b>		

Architecture	Brooke Conrad (Co-Council) Jonathan Ferreira	Both Present
City Planning	Adam Fiss (Co-Councilors) Jessica Russell-Edmonds	Jessica Present
Interior Design	Erns Walls	Present
Landscape Architecture	Connor Redman	Present
<b>Arts</b>		
Anthropology	Sardana Nikolaeva	Present
Economics	Currently No Rep	No Rep
English, Film & Theatre	Mike Hayden (Co-Councilors) Karalyn Dokurno	Both Absent
History	Ulysses Patola	Present LE 6:45
Linguistics	Irina Volchok	Present
Native Studies	Joseph Dipple (Co-Councilors) Colleen McIvor	Joseph Present
Philosophy	Carl Neumann	Present
Psychology	Kristene Cheung (Co-Council) Karmen McDivitt	Karmen Present LE 6:45
Sociology	Erin Scott	Present
<b>Management</b>		
Management – PhD and MSc	Ji Zhou	Present
Management – MBA	Currently No Rep	No Rep
<b>Education</b>		
Education – PhD – Ad hoc	Mehdi Rahimian	Present LE 6:43
<b>Engineering</b>		
Civil Engineering	Sam Esfandianpour Mahmud Amin (Co-Council)	Both Absent
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Hamid Reza Nasrinpour	Present
Mechanical & Manufacturing Eng.	Masoud Nasiri Sarvi	Present
<b>Environment, Earth &amp; Resources</b>		
Environment & Geography	Darcy McDougall	Present LE 6:16
Geological Sciences	Cody Ross	Present
Natural Resources Institute	Anderson Assuah	Present
<b>Graduate Studies</b>		
Applied Health Sciences	Navjot Pachu (Co-Councilors) Scott Kehler	Nav Regrets

Biomedical Engineering	Ahmed Elwali	Present
Peace and Conflict Studies	Brett Mallon	Present

**UMGSA Council Meeting Documents**  
**October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

## **Executive Report**

**Kristjan W. K. Mann, President**

### **Report**

From: Kristjan W. K. Mann, President  
To: Graduate Students of the University of Manitoba  
Date November 25 2015 Council Meeting  
Re: October 1st 2015 – October 31st, 2015

### **Executive Summary of Work:**

- At the beginning of October the UMGSA hosted a political panel discussion on postsecondary issues and the environment in University College. As organizer I wrote the questions on post-secondary education based on current student concerns expressed at round table discussions, co-moderated the debate, booked the room, purchased and picked up all the refreshments and arranged them and the room setting, arranged the audio-visual and coordinated with UFMF to have the panel taped, broadcast, and stored online and co-ordinated with Environment and geography on editing the environmental questions. After the much publicized cancellation of the UMSU/UMFA sponsored debate this became the only political forum for candidates hosted on campus. While candidates from all parties in a variety of ridings were invited only representatives from the Green Party, Liberal Party, and NDP responded and agreed to attend. Those who did attend (Robert-Falcon Oulette, Brianne Goertzen, and Andrew Park) were enthusiastic and excited to speak with students about the election. The event was broadcast by UFMF and a recording can be found in their online archives.
- I attended the Canadian Association of Graduate Studies Annual Conference as a representative from the UMGSA, the event is attended by deans, administrators, and student associations from around Canada. With the focus of the event being to keep deans and administrators in touch and up to date on tri-council and other national level issues. I was also able to connect with several GU15 and make plans for the GU15 website and the upcoming meeting. This year's focus was on "Rethinking the PHD", and there were several presentations around the Tri-Council. A more In depth report will be distributed to council in the new year.
- I planned and organized councilor orientation including booking the venue and meals, and preparing all of the presentations given by the executive that day.
- I participated in the planning and execution of the UMGSA Halloween Social and attended the event.
- I had further meetings with TEDX regarding UMGSA participation as well as setting up a live stream for grad students as the event is capped at 100 attendees but can be



expanded upon through an on campus live stream for grads as well as potentially setting up a networking event for grads with TED participants.

- The VPME and I met with student life regarding a planned upcoming winter orientation as well as setting a structure for a combined university wide orientation in upcoming years. While the UMGSA orientation would remain separate and distinct it would overlap with a university wide orientation allowing use to enhance our current seminars and events.
- I was a member of the platform party at this year's convocation, and attended the convocation lunches as UMGSA representative, I would especially like to congratulate our own VPI Valery Agbor, who was among the graduating PHDs.
- I attended UMFm's pledge-o-rama kick off, the proceeds of which are used to keep the station operating from year to year. This year they once again exceeded the goal of 32,000 so thank you to everyone who may have donated as that is how community radio stays on the air. If you are interested in volunteering at UMFm or hosting your own show please contact the president, or Jared at UMFm.
- As the president of the UMGSA, and a member of the Board of Governors, and Alumni Association Board I attended all Front and Centre Launch campaign actives throughout homecoming week as well as the homecoming dinner to make sure graduate students were properly represented. I took the opportunity to have several key discussions which will be expanded upon over the next few months regarding strengthening the relationship between the UMGSA and the University and taking advantage of the support they can provide for the organization to improve the grad student experience on campus.
- I facilitated the File and Print changeover with IST (who supplies the computers and telephones for the UMGSA office) as the University is switching from a Novell to Microsoft based client server.
- I also met with IST regarding the expansion of our current contract to include additional workstations for the VP's as currently there are only 3 workstations to be shared by 7 executive and there is no workstation capable of running the design software necessary for the VPME to manage their portfolio.
- I attended the Front and Centre announcement in the Engineering Atrium and represented the UMGSA as a member of the platform party when the provincial announcement of 150 million dollars in support was made.
- Reminder: As a member of the Arts reappointment Advisory Committee which has been meeting over the past month I am involved in the Decanal review of Jeffery Taylor, Dean of Arts, whose term is expiring. The proceedings of the committee are confidential but if you are a student in arts, or who has had contact with the dean, your opinion is welcome and you may contact the president to express it, good or bad, all communications will be considered a part of the confidential process.
- I have been meeting with the excellence in mentoring committee over the last few weeks in the selection of 2 U of M professors who will be honored this year as exceptional mentors. While confidential, the selection process has recently completed and results should be published soon on UM Today.
- I currently sit on the UM VPA Provost search committee to replace Dr. Joanne Keselman who is stepping down from her role at the end of her current term. The committee will complete its search early next year. If you have any recommendations for a replacement (internal or external) please email the president, all recommendations are confidential.

- Reminder: As a member of the Arts reappointment Advisory Committee which has been meeting over the past month I am involved in the Decanal review of Jeffery Taylor, Dean of Arts, whose term is expiring. The proceedings of the committee are confidential but if you are a student in arts, or who has had contact with the dean, your opinion is welcome and you may contact the president to express it, good or bad, all communications will be considered a part of the confidential process.

**Executive Summary of Hours:**

**COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS**

**Meetings Attended:**

October 1st, 2015	UM VPA-Provost Search	2 hours
October 1st, 2015	Political Panel	2 ½ hours
October 1st, 2015	UMFM Media Mixer	2 hours
October 3rd, 2015	F&C Launch + Homecoming	10 ½ hours
October 7th, 2015	SEC	1 ½ hours
October 9th, 2015	File and Print Meeting	1 hour
October 9th, 2015	F&C Platform Party	1 hour
October 14th, 2015	Executive Committee	3 hours
October 15th, 2015	Pledge-O-Rama	4 hours
October 16th, 2015	Campaigns Committee	1 hour
October 17th, 2015	Councilor Orientation	8 hours
October 19th, 2015	Events Committee	1 hours
October 22nd, 2015	Convocation Lunch	2 hours
October 22nd, 2015	Convocation	3 ½ hours
October 23rd, 2015	UMGSA Halloween Social	4 ½ hours
October 27th, 2015	Orientation Meeting (SL +VPME)	1 hour
October 17th, 2015	TEDX	1 hour
October 18th, 2015	UMGSA Executive	2 hours
October 18th, 2015	UMGSA Council	2 hours
October 22nd, 2015	TEDX Meeting	1/2 hour
October 29th, 2015	CAGS Travel	4 hours
October 30th, 2015	CAGS	8 ½ hours
October 31st, 2015	CAGS	9 hours

**Time spent in meetings:** 75 ½ (4 hrs @ Traveling to CAGS)

**Meetings Cancelled:** None

**Meetings Missed:**

October 29th, 2015	Bylaws and Policy	Travelling to CAGS
October 30th, 2015	Finance	Travelling to CAGS

**Office Hours:**

Wednesdays: 1pm - 3 pm

**Time spent in the office: 27.5** (Not including meetings in the office)

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA for October: 162.5**

## **Valery Agbor, VPI**

### **Report**

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

#### **Executive Summary of Work:**

- I began the month by attending and assisting in the setting-up of the Debate organized by both UMGSA and Environment and Geography students Union.
- I also signed cheques for approved conference grants and replied emails.
- I attended the Front and Center Campaign Launch at the Investor Group Stadium.
- I did my office hours on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October.
- I scheduled meetings with conference grant applicants and reviewed conference grants that have been rejected from or required more evidence from the finance committee.
- Scheduled the Bylaws and Policy and the Finance committee meeting for the third and fourth week of the month but had to reschedule them for quorum to be attained.
- Followed up with the UMGSA lawyer on going over the proposal from Rob Tetrault Wealth Management Group and his feedback for Council.
- Attended the UMGSA executive meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> October in GSA office.
- Participated in planning, preparation and attended the UMGSA Council orientation
- Made arrangement with Senator Gagan Sidhu to attend the 2015 fall convocation in my stead.
- Signed cheques for UMGSA executives / staff and for expense claims.
- Help to organize, participate and attended the UMGSA Halloween social.
- Attended the UMGSA executive and Council meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Gave a detail financial report at council and announced the opening of Departmental grants from Ruths Reminder.
- Held the Bylaws and policy meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October at 221 University centre.
- Requested for a formal proposal from NBF wealth management group to be sent to all Council members by the exec-at-large.
- Processed conference grants and held the finance committee meeting on the Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.
- Checked for phone call requests and responded to emails from conference grant applicants.

#### **COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS**

##### **Meetings Attended:**

Executive committee meeting	2 h
Office hours	8 h
Bylaws Committee	1.5h

Finance Committee meeting	1.5 h
Executive meeting	2 h
Council Orientation	3.5h
Council Meeting	1.5h
Email communication	1.h
Front and Center Campaign	3h
Time spent replying emails	2 h
Time on spent on the Phone	1 h
Time spent on mediation	2 h
Time spent processing conference grants	2 h
Meeting with president to discuss UMGSA business	1 h
Meeting with other executives	2 h
Halloween social	3 h

**Time spent in meetings: 36 hours**

**Meetings Cancelled:**

Non.

**Meetings Missed:**

Non.

**Office Hours:**

Wednesday: 12 - 2:00 pm

**Time spent in the office: 40 hours**

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA for October 1st - October 31st: 78.5 hours**

## David Terrazas, Vice-President Academic

### Report

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

### Executive Summary of Work:

- AIWG Meetings
  - Revised updates on Academic Integrity Week (Oct 5-9)
  - Discussion about key priorities for 2015-2016
- Student Senate Caucus
  - Highlighted the relevant topics for graduate students to be discussed in the coming Senate session: (i) Report of the Faculty Council of Graduate Studies on Course and Curriculum Changes RE: Deletion of PHAC 7220 (Page 312); (ii) Notification of Establishment of the Manitoba Chemosensory Biology Research Group (Page 318); and (iii) Notification of Establishment of the Violence and Injury Prevention Research Group (Page 329)
- FGS Executive Meetings
  - Discussion on Academic Programs Committee Report as of October 2, 2015. This involves: (i) Department of Human Anatomy & Cell Science: Credit Hour Reduction (MSc Transfer to Ph.D.); (ii) Department of Food Science: Credit Hour Reduction (Ph.D.); (iii) College of Nursing: Capstone Project Course Proposal; (iv) Department of Classics: (2) Course Introductions, (2) Course Modifications; and (v) Department of Sociology: (1) Course Modification
- UMGSA Executive Committee Meetings
  - Discussion about different activities like: (i) Council Agenda Review; (ii) Delegation of the executive attending the Canadian Conference On Student Leadership; (iii) Student Advocacy Email sent to GSA in regards to student concerns; and (iv) improvement of the internal communication dynamics of the GSA executive.
- Councilors Orientation
  - Presented the roles of my position and an overview of the GSA awards.
- Advocacy Meetings
  - Advocated students with personal and academic challenges and referred them to the appropriate offices at the University of Manitoba.
- Support for GSA Socials
  - Got UMSU sound equipment delivered to GSA office for October 23rd social
- Bylaws & Policy Committee Meetings
  - Discussion on recommendation of CROs for changes to elections Policy Manual.
- Email | Weekly activities

- Approximate time put into checking and sending emails as a weekly time allocation.

**Executive Summary of Hours:**

01/10/2015	3:00:00 PM	4:00:00 PM	Meeting   AIWG Student Sub Group	1
02/10/2015	2:00:00 PM	4:00:00 PM	Office Hours	2
	9:00:00 AM	11:00:00 AM	Email   Weekly activities	2
	6:00:00 PM	9:00:00 PM	Analysis of Agenda of Coming Senate Meeting	3
05/10/2015	5:30:00 AM	7:00:00 PM	Meeting   Student Senate Caucus	1.5
09/10/2015	10:00:00 AM	12:00:00 PM	Office Hours	2
	9:00:00 AM	11:00:00 AM	Email   Weekly activities	2
13/10/2015	12:00:00 PM	1:00:00 PM	Meeting   AIWG	1
14/10/2015	4:00:00 PM	5:30:00 PM	Meeting   Executive Committee	0
16/10/2015	2:00:00 PM	4:00:00 PM	Office Hours	2
	9:00:00 AM	11:00:00 AM	Email   Weekly activities	2
17/10/2015	12:00	13:00	Assisting to setup equipment for Councilor Orientation	1
	13:00	16:00	Councilor Orientation	3
21/10/2015	2:00:00 PM	4:00:00 PM	Office Hours	2
22/10/2015	12:00:00 PM	1:00:00 PM	Got UMSU sound equipment delivered to GSA office for October 23rd social	1
23/10/2015	9:00:00 AM	11:00:00 AM	Email   Weekly activities	2
28/10/2015	9:00:00 AM	10:00:00 AM	Meeting   FGS Executive	1
	3:00:00 PM	4:45:00 PM	Meeting   Executive Committee	1.75
	4:45:00 AM	6:50:00 AM	Meeting   UMGSA Council	2
29/10/2015	5:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	Meeting   Bylaws & Policy Committee	0.5
30/10/2015	12:30:00	2:30:00	Office Hours	2

	PM	PM		
	9:00:00 AM	11:00:00 AM	Email   Weekly activities	2
	2:30:00 PM	4:30:00 PM	Activities Analysis for the Awards Committee	2

## COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS

### Meetings Attended:

October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	AIWG Student Sub Group	1 hour
October 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Student Senate Caucus	1.5 hour
October 13 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	AIWG	1 hour
October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Councilor Orientation	3 hour
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	FGS Executive	1 hour
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	UMGSA Executive committee	1.75 hours
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	UMGSA Council	2 hours
October 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Bylaws & Policy Committee	0.5 hours

**Time spent in meetings:** 11.75 hours

**Meetings Cancelled:** None

### Meetings Missed:

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 UMGSA Executive committee  
 (Time sensitive research related activities required remote access to specific datasets from the Department of Homeland Security at some facilities in the United States of America) It was beyond my capacity to be available for this executive meeting.

**Office Hours:** Fridays: 14:00 - 16:00

**Time spent in the office:** 17 hours

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA for August:** 38.75 hours



## Beibei Lu, VP Marketing and Events

### Report

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

#### Executive Summary of Work:

- Newsletter update including hot issues about graduate students, general GSA news, upcoming scholarships and funding application, etc.
- Other regular update including UMGSA social media, UMGSA website, etc.
- Continue the branding work on UMGSA. Search for options for UMGSA 2015 branding hooded products, a local company will be preferred to produce UMGSA branding items.
- Order food for executive meetings for UMGSA office, etc.
- Kept the office while office manager was away, answered the door, responding to requests from students.
- After the UMGSA 2014 Orientation, reports from all executive members who helped out with the orientation planning were collected.
- After the orientation meeting with Student Life, based on Graduate Student Orientation proposal from Student Life, VPME began to collect executives' feedbacks and prepare a response to Student Life's proposal. Several discussions and email communications have been produced, a further discussion at the executive meeting is needed.
- Due to the computer damage from UMGSA designing workload (not included in the VPME work portfolio), it got influenced for update on UMGSA website for events and info. It influence the working hours for VPME to arrange using computer with proper applications to work on some UMGSA related stuff.
- **Update and confirmation** about UMGSA 2015-2016 events committee members. Had the first events committee meeting with renewed members.
- Based on the events committee meeting and members' participation, 2015 UMGSA Halloween social was successful organized. Next event to be planned for will be UMGSA 2015 Movie Night and 2016 Holiday Social.
- Events committee will work on the detailed information about 2015-2016 UMGSA Events plan. Some cooperation and variety formats of events will be considered. The event committee will work on further internal resources and external feedbacks collection. Detailed plans and further connections will be developed for necessary cooperation organizations such as the Degree (the HUB), and necessary party resources (magician, DJ, performers).
- **Academic Integrity week promotion with ALC:** Keep working on AI week promotion materials design and production (with necessary communication work with ALC), with update provided to VPA as his work portfolio.
- **UMGSA Branding merchandise.**
- **Gradzette monthly update.** Media cooperation with the Gradzette for feature articles on UMGSA focused event.
- **Follow up on TED UMGSA sponsorship.**

- **GU15 follow up of distributing Gradzette magazines + Thank you card**
- **Follow up on UMGSA executive UM SAFE certificates obtain**, for UMGSA social organizing.
- **Re-shop arrangement for office extra furniture.**
- **Attending University's Front and Centre campaign.**
- **Graphic Design:** Photography for UMGSA Halloween social and photo editing, Graphic Design for Academic Integrity week promotion, Graphic Design for UMGSA Halloween social **Total: 9.5 hours**

15-10-2	Academic Integrity week posters design and production	5
15-10-3	Academic Integrity week posters communication and send out	2
15-10-5	GSA Newsletter editing & release	1
15-10-6	Orientation report information collection	1.5
15-10-7	Office hour	4
15-10-7	UMGSA Social application: conference service, equipment, permit	2
15-10-7	UMGSA Social: Equipment rental from UMSU	1
15-10-7	UMGSA Social: Liquor permit purchase	1
15-10-7	Executive report writing	1
15-10-8	Events committee meeting preparation / social promotion	1
15-10-9	Attending University's Front and Centre campaign + office work	2
15-10-13	UMGSA Social: poster design	1.5
	Office hour - GSA Newsletter editing & release	
15-10-14	UMGSA Social: social supply purchase	2
15-10-14	Order food for executive meeting	0.5
15-10-14	Events committee meeting - agenda finalizing	1.5
15-10-14	Executive meeting	1.5
15-10-15	UMGSA Social: paperwork application confirmation	1
15-10-16	Campaign committee meeting	1
	Communication with VPA, VPE on UM SAFE issue/social participation	1
	UMGSA Social: Office decoration, social task assigning	1.5
	Material prepared for council orientation	1.5
15-10-17	UMGSA Council orientation	5
15-10-19	UMGSA Event Committee meeting	1
	GSA hoody and t-shirt order price quote/ browse for provider	3
15-10-20	UMGSA Social: social supply shopping	2.5
15-10-21	UMGSA Social: application confirmation/equipment pickup	1.5
	Office hour	2
	UMGSA Social: gift packing/DJ confirmation	3
	Office working issue mail communication -special meeting	3
	GU15 follow up of distributing Gradzette magazines + Thank you card	1.5
	Gradzette content follow up	1.5
15-10-22	UMGSA Social: supply shopping/office supply shopping	3
	Office working issue email communication -special meeting	2
	Academic Integrity week re production	1

	UMGSA Social: sign design and printing	1.5
15-10-23	UMGSA Halloween social	4
	UMGSA Social: preparation for social	4
	Process for Re-shop pick up	0.5
15-10-24	GSA hoody and t-shirt order price quote/ browse for provider	2
15-10-26	UMGSA Social: return social equipment/ wrap up social-payment	3
	Office working issue email communication -special meeting	2
15-10-27	Orientation meeting with Student Life	1.5
	Follow up work	1.5
	Follow up on submitting equipment damage for GSA	2
15-10-28	Office hour	3
	GSA Newsletter editing & release	1
	Executive meeting	2
	Council meeting	1.5
	Follow up discussion	1.5
	Office working issue email communication -special meeting	2
15-10-29	NSOC meeting	0
	Discuss with VPA, Ruth about orientation, email communication	2
	Discuss with Exec, senator about orientation	1
	Email confirmation with Student Life and further discussion	0.5
	Monthly total	101

## **COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS**

### **Meetings Attended:**

Oct9, 2015	University's Front and Centre campaign	1 hour
Oct 14, 2015	Executive meeting	1.5 hours
Oct 16, 2015	Campaign committee meeting	1 hour
Oct 17, 2015	UMGSA Council orientation	5 hours
Oct 19, 2015	UMGSA Event Committee meeting	1 hour
Oct 21, 2015	Special meeting with DJ for UMGSA social	0.5 hour
Oct 23, 2015	UMGSA Halloween social	4 hours
Oct 27, 2015	orientation meeting with Student Life	1.5 hours
Oct 28, 2015	Executive meeting	2 hours
Oct 28, 2015	Council meeting	1.5 hours
Oct 29, 2015	NSOC meeting (sent proxy)	

**Time spent in meetings and events: 19 hours**

### **Office Hours:**

Wednesday: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Time spent in office:**

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA for Sept: 101 hours**

## **Enoch A-iyeh, Vice President-External**

### **Report**

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

#### **Executive Summary of Work:**

- I honored all my office hours and commitments promptly in addition to extra office time put in
- Helped shopped and prepared for the UMGSA Halloween social event
- I helped organize and stage the GSA Halloween social
- I kept my committee commitments: Finance, Sustainability, Campus-wide food service, Students' IT Experience
- Part of executive time in this period of reporting was spent on executive and council meetings
- Planning campaigns committee for the month of November
- Helped a student who has trouble health and dental registration
- Helped organize and staged an orientation for UMGSA councilors
- Participated in the ICS welcome dinner
- Attended the Faculty of Education orientation
- Held and chaired campaigns committee meeting
- Attended Sustainability committee meeting
- Attended Students' IT Experience committee meeting

#### **Executive Summary of Hours:**

10/06/2015	UMGSA-VPE office hours	2
10/06/2015	Campus-wide food service committee meeting	1
10/13/2015	UMGSA-VPE office hours	2
10/14/2015	UMGSA executive meeting	2
10/14/2015	Departmental orientation-Education	2
10/15/2015	ICS Welcome dinner	4
10/16/2015	Campaigns committee meeting	1.5
10/17/2015	UMGSA councilor orientation	6
10/20/2015	UMGSA-VPE office hours	2
10/20/2015	Sustainability committee meeting	2
10/22/2015	Shopping for UMGSA Halloween party	2.5
10/23/2015	UMGSA Halloween party	4.5
10/26/2015	Students' IT experience committee meeting	1.5
10/27/2015	UMGSA-VPE office hours	2
10/28/2015	UMGSA executive committee meeting	2
10/28/2015	UMGSA council meeting	2

10/30/2015	Finance committee meeting	1.5
Monthly Total		41.5

## COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS

### Meetings Attended:

October 6, 2015	Campus-wide food service committee meeting	1
October 14, 2015	Departmental orientation-Education	2
October 14, 2015	UMGSA executive committee meeting	2
October 15, 2015	ICS welcome dinner	4
October 16, 2015	Campaigns committee meeting	1.5
October 17, 2015	UMGSA councilor orientation	6
October 22, 2015	Sustainability committee meeting	2
October 26, 2015	Students' IT experience committee meeting	1.5
October 28, 2015	UMGSA executive committee meeting	2
October 28, 2015	UMGSA council meeting	2
October 30, 2015	Finance committee meeting	1.5

**Time spent in meetings:** 25.5 hours

### Meetings Cancelled:

No meetings were cancelled.

### Meetings Missed:

Events committee meeting

### Office Hours:

Tuesdays: 10:00AM - 12:00PM

**Time spent in the office:** 5 hours (Not Including Meetings or office hours)

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA for October:** 41.5 hours

## Richard From – Executive at large

### Report

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

#### Executive Summary of Work:

- Executive Meetings: As a non-voting member of the executive, I took the minutes at the executive meetings held on October 14<sup>th</sup>, however I wasn't able to attend the executive meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup> due to a FGS committee commitment.
- Finalized council meeting minutes from September
- Assembled executive reports and other documents into compilation document for distribution to the UMGSA council
- Chaired the UMGSA council meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup>
- Presented material at the annual councilor orientation event on October 17<sup>th</sup>
- Helped with organizing, setup, execution and clean up for the UMGSA Halloween social held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>

#### COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS

##### Meetings Attended:

October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	UMGSA Executive meeting	2.5 hours
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	FGS appeals committee hearing	3.5 hours
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	UMGSA Council meeting	2.5 hours
October 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	UMGSA Bylaws and policy committee meeting	1.5 hours
October 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 hours	new student orientation committee meeting	1.5
October 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 hours	UMGSA Finance committee meeting	1.5

**Time spent in meetings:** 13.0 hours

##### Meetings Missed:

October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015                      UMGSA Executive meeting (due to schedule conflict)

##### Other Activities:

October 1-31, 2015	email correspondence	2.0 hours
October 7, 2015	writing exec report and assembling all exec reports	3.0 hours
October 8, 2015	transcribing minutes for September 23 <sup>rd</sup> council meeting	2.0 hours
October 17, 2015	planning / presenting at UMGSA councilor orientation	8.0 hours
October 22,23, 2015	preparing and executing UMGSA Halloween social event	8.5 hours
October 27, 2015	revising UMGSA office assistant document	1.0 hours

##### Office Hours:

Tuesdays @ 10am - 12pm

8.0

Rescheduled office hours: October 27<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> from 3pm-5pm due to schedule conflicts

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA for September: 42.5 hours**



## Colin Graydon, VP Health Sciences

### Report

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

#### Executive Summary of Work:

- Attended additional departmental orientations and spoke for 10-15 mins at each about UMGSA and HSGSA services etc.
- Met with DBO and Elizabeth Cooper from Aboriginal Health Studies for the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Scholarship. Brought this to UMGSA council, and Elizabeth presented at the council meeting.
- Asst Dean Kroeger asked HSGSA to produce a graduate student mistreatment survey. I met with HSGSA VPE to discuss this and asked VPE to lead this. I corresponded between VPE and Asst Dean and made changes to proposed survey.
- Created a draft of a survey to send to HS students about their participation and review of the HSGSA.
- Corresponded with VPI about sorting out committees and council nominations and departmental grant applications.
- Attended Councilor orientation and presented a section. (3 HSGSA council members attended).
- At FCGS meeting, expressed concerns brought up from students about students being paid less by their supervisors when they receive scholarships. Also brought up the fact that FG students are able to apply to Research MB and UMGF, but Bannatyne students can only apply to Research MB.
- Worked with Dean Kroeger and HSGSA VPA and externals to organize a writing series for students.
- Also with VPA met with Riya from TTO and organized entrepreneurship event which had attendance of ~20 students.
- Organize HSGSA IDRC meeting and exec and council meetings
- HSGSA Halloween Social event planning and execution (VPME was away for the event so was involved in shopping for alcohol, food and other). Also Emceed the event and distributed drinks for early rush. Had 130 students attend (up from ~75-80 last year). Afterwards, helped other executives clean the room.
- Created HSGSA Facebook page and started transition from HSGSA group to the page format.

#### Executive Summary of Hours:

2015-10-01	Email, Council updates, meeting prep	1.75
2015-10-01	Anatomy Departmental Orientation	0.75
2015-10-02	Meeting with VPA to discuss upcoming workshops	0.5
2015-10-02	Meeting with DBO and Aboriginal health studies for QEJ scholarship	1
2015-10-02	meeting Follow up tasks and email crafting	1.75
2015-10-02	Meeting with PT rep (missed council and requested meeting)	0.5

2015-10-05	Meeting with VPE about grad student abuse survey	1
2015-10-05	Office hours	2
2015-10-05	Email	1
2015-10-05	Meeting with VPI about committees and council docs	1
2015-10-05	Compile councilor information and other misc.	1
2015-10-06	Emails and document prep	1.5
2015-10-07	Prepping council docs and forming committees	1.5
2015-10-07	FCGS Meeting	2
2015-10-08	Email and organization	2
2015-10-08	Meeting with Asst Dean and VPA and others to discuss writing series	1
2015-10-08	Meeting with Riya (tech office) and VPA to discuss game changer and entrepreneurship seminar	0.75
2015-10-09	Email and prep Exec agenda	2
2015-10-13	Office hours	2
2015-10-13	HSGSA Exec meeting	2.25
2015-10-14	Prep council agenda, begin making facebook page, prepare student email	2.25
2015-10-14	UMGSA Exec meeting	2.75
2015-10-15	Exec meeting follow-up and council prep	3
2015-10-17	Councillor orientation	6
2015-10-18	Email and council prep	1
2015-10-19	Office hours	2
2015-10-19	UMGSA Events committee meeting	1
2015-10-20	HSGSA Council Mtng	2
2015-10-21	Council follow up and email	2
2015-10-22	Deal with potential councillor switch, make HSGSA survey, Facebook promotion/work on page and other misc.	2.5
2015-10-23	Attended UMGSA Halloween social, but as student, not as HSGSA pres	
2015-10-26	Office hours	2
2015-10-26	Email and switch over to facebook page	1.5
2015-10-26	Sorting out committees (elections and IDRC) and misc emails	1.5
2015-10-27	Grocery and liquor shopping for halloween social	2.5
2015-10-28	UMGSA Exec and Council meetings and after hours discussion	4.5
2015-10-29	HSGSA Exec meeting	1
2015-10-30	Entrepreneurship event	0.75
2015-10-30	HSGSA Halloween Social	5
Monthly Total		70.5

## COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS

### Meetings Attended:

Oct, 1, 2015	Anatomy Orientation	0.75 hours
Oct, 2, 2015	Workshop Meeting with VPA	0.5 hours

Oct, 2, 2015	Meet with DBO, QEJ scholarship	1 hour
Oct, 2, 2015	Meet with PT rep (missed council)	0.5 hours
Oct, 5, 2015	Meet with VPE Mistreatment survey	1 hour
Oct, 5, 2015	Meet with VPI (committees)	1.25 hour
Oct, 7, 2015	FCGS meeting	2 hours
Oct, 8, 2015	Meet with Asst Dean and VPA	1 hour
Oct, 8, 2015	Meet with VPA and TTO (entrepreneur)	0.75 hours
Oct, 13, 2015	HSGSA Executive meeting	2.25 hours
Oct, 14, 2015	UMGSA Executive meeting	2.75 hours
Oct, 17, 2015	Councillor orientation	6 hours
Oct, 19, 2015	UMGSA Events committee meet	1 hour
Oct, 20, 2015	HSGSA Council	2 hours
Oct, 28, 2015	UMGSA Exec and Council meet	4.5 hours
Oct, 29, 2015	HSGSA Exec meeting	1 hour

**Time spent in meetings:** 28.25 hrs

**Meetings Cancelled:**

**Meetings Missed:**

FGS Executive meeting - Lab meeting

**Office Hours:**

Monday: 11:00 - 13:00

**Time spent in the office:** 15 hrs

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA for May:** 70.5 hrs

# Kathryn Marcynuk, Senator 1

## Report

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

### Executive Summary of Work:

- I was available to address any graduate student concerns during my office hours as well as by email.
- In addition to office hours and regular duties I helped with the GSA Council Orientation including a brief presentation.
- I also attended Convocation as a GSA representative with the platform party.
- During October I also attended the Student Senate Caucus, Senate, and the Senate Executive meeting where I represented graduate students as a voting member of these committees.
- On October 7<sup>th</sup> I held two additional office hours to make up for the second of the two weeks that I was away during June (I made up the first of these two weeks in September). Due to convocation I missed my regularly scheduled office hours, but I made them up on October 29<sup>th</sup>. At this time I am fully caught up with my office hour commitments.

### COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS

#### Meetings Attended:

October 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Student Senate Caucus	1 hour
October 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Senate	0.5 hours
October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	GSA Exec Meeting	2.5 hours
October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	GSA Council Orientation	5.5 hours
October 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	Senate Executive Meeting	1.25 hours
October 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015	University of Manitoba Convocation	3.5
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	GSA Exec Meeting	2 hours
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	GSA Council Meeting	2 hours

**Time spent in meetings:** 18.25 hours

**Meetings Missed:** N/A

#### Office Hours:

Thursdays: 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Office hours rescheduled from June held from 10:30am-12:30pm on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Office hours rescheduled due to Convocation held from 12:30-2:30pm on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Time spent in office:** 12 hours

**Total Hours Spent on UMGSA:** 30.25 hours

## Gagan Sidhu – Senator 2

### Report

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

#### Executive Summary of Work:

- In the month of October, I spent quite some time in ensuring the students from various departmental GSA's had the necessary information required to elect new councillors in time for the UMGSA councillor orientation.
- At councillor orientation on October 17<sup>th</sup> I presented some information about the GSA to new councillors and spent time interacting with councillors one-on-one and answering any questions they had about the UMGSA.
- I attended the events committee meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup> and assisted the VPME in preparing for the Halloween social.
- I attended the October student senate caucus meeting (October 5<sup>th</sup>) and was well aware of all issues relevant to graduate students that were to be discussed in senate and made sure to follow up with my fellow UMGSA senators to find out if anything else had come up in the senate meeting that I should be aware of.

#### COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS

##### Meetings Attended:

October 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Student Senate Caucus	1.0 hour
October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Executive Meeting	1.5 hours
October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Councillor Orientation	5.0 hours
October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Events Committee Meeting	1.0 hours
October 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015	Halloween Candy shopping for social	0.5 hour
October 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	Halloween social	3.0 hours
October 28 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	Executive Meeting	1.25 hours
October 28 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	October Council Meeting	1.75 hours

**Time Spent in meetings:** 15 hours

##### Meetings missed:

- October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015                      Senate Meeting
- Regrets were sent because I had a department meeting that overlapped with the timing of the senate meeting
- October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015                      Bylaws and Policy Committee
- Regrets sent; I had committed to be an instructor in a volunteer program that evening

##### Office Hours:

Thursdays: 11 am – 12 pm

Fridays: 11 am – 12 pm

**Time spent in office: 10 hours**

**Total Hours spent on UMGSA for October:**

**23.50 hours**

## Hadeesha Piyadasa – HSGA Senator

### Report

Date: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting

Re: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

#### Executive Summary of Work:

- Attended student senate caucus (October 5<sup>th</sup>) and Senate meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup> and wrote the official senate report.
- Could not attend either the Finance committee or campaigns committee as both were scheduled due to prior commitment for volunteering and TAing.
- I also helped out with the GSA Halloween social and the councilor orientation.

#### COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND BUSINESS MATTERS

##### Meetings and events Attended:

October 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Student Senate Caucus	1.5 hours
October 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Senate Meeting	1 hours
October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Executive Meeting	2 hours
October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Councilor Orientation	3 hours
October 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	GSA Halloween Social	3 hours
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Executive Meeting	2 hours
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Council Meeting	2 hours

**Time spent in meetings and events:** 14.5 hours

##### Meetings Cancelled:

NIL

##### Meetings Missed:

Finance committee meeting and Campaigns committee meeting.

##### Office Hours:

Wednesdays: 11am -1pm

**Time spent in the office:** 8 hours

**Total hours spent on UMGSAs for October:**

**22.5 hours**



# Senate Report

Written by: Senator Gagan Sidhu

Reviewed by: Senators Kathryn Marcynuk and Hadeesha Piyadasa

To: Graduate Students of the University of Manitoba

Date: November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Re: November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Senate Meeting

## Link to senate agenda:

[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/2015\\_11\\_04\\_Senate\\_Agenda.pdf](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/2015_11_04_Senate_Agenda.pdf)

## Link to senate minutes:

[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/senate/minutes/2010\\_2019\\_senate\\_minutes\\_index\\_page.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/senate/minutes/2010_2019_senate_minutes_index_page.html)

## ITEMS OF INTEREST TO GRADUATE STUDENTS IN GENERAL:

### **MATTERS RECOMMENDED FOR CONCURRENCE WITHOUT DEBATE**

#### Report of the Executive Committee of Graduate Studies on Course and Curriculum Changes

- Dept. of Biochemistry & Medical Genetics proposes the addition of two introductory courses **IMED 7096 Stem Cell Biology: Introduction to the Principles of Regenerative Medicine (1.5 credits)** and **IMED 7098 Cancer Stem Cell Concepts and Therapeutic Applications (1.5 credits)** in order to provide thorough and more in-depth coverage of these topics than currently available in other courses. Total credit hour change of 3 credits.
- Asper School of Business is in the process of modifying GMGT 7210, to formally include MBA pre- and co-requisite courses with no change to the credit hours associated with course.
- Dept. of Interior Design proposes the introduction of **IDES 7290 Work Experience Program** in order for students to gain professional experience and understand workplace culture. Students will gain 175 hours of professional experience over 5 weeks, developing important skills and a knowledge of how to apply skills and techniques. There is not credit hour change associated with this course.

ALL APPROVED.

### **MATTERS FORWARDED FOR MORE INFORMATION**

#### Report of the Senate committee on awards

- The descriptions of two CPA Manitoba Award for students in the Masters of Business Administration program were changed to:
  1. *The CPA Manitoba Award for students in the Master of Business Administration program (\$500 cash and \$500 CPA Manitoba tuition) is to be offered in October to the graduating Asper MBA student achieving the highest degree grade point average in the program among those who took the program in one year and completed the program requirements in the last twelve months.*

2. *Three other awards (\$300 cash and \$700 CPA Manitoba tuition each) are to be offered. One award will be offered in October to a **graduating student from the Asper MBA** program achieving the highest degree grade point average in the program who required more than one year to complete the program and has successfully completed the program within the last twelve months. The two other awards will be offered to the top two graduating students in the B. Comm. (Hons.) program who majored in either finance or accounting.*

- Additionally, the selection committee statement was revised to:

*For recipients at the graduate level, the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (or designate) will ask the Chair of the M.B.A. Program Committee to convene the selection committee for this award.*

### Report of the Senate Committee on Appeals

Committee has received 10 appeals since the last report to Senate in April 2015, from which one relates to Graduate Students.

- An appeal was received against a decision by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The grounds were failure of the Faculty/School or Dean/Director to follow the rules of natural justice; failure of the Faculty/School or Dean/Director to reasonably consider all factors relevant to the decision being appealed; and failure of Senate, the Faculty/School, or Dean/Director to comply with applicable legislation. The appeal was granted.

ALL APPROVED.

### **REPORTS OF THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE**

#### Report of the Senate Executive Committee

At its meeting on September 23, 2015, Senate Executive made recommendations on nominations for two vacancies for students on the Senate Committee on Nominations. The students' names were reported to Senate in October but were not included in the motion approved by Senate. Members of the Senate Committee of Nominations are nominated by the Senate Executive Committee and elected by Senate (see below)

- The Senate Executive Committee recommends that the following nominations to the Senate Committee on Nominations be approved by Senate:
  - a) Ms. Bronte Charette (graduate student), for a one-year term ending May 31, 2016;
  - b) Mr. Aser Hailu (undergraduate student), for a one-year term ending May 31, 2016.

APPROVED.

### **REPORTS OF OTHER COMMITTEES OF SENATE, FACULTY AND SCHOOL COUNCILS**

## Report of the executive committee of the FGS on course and curriculum changes

The Asper School of Business proposes the deletion of three (3) courses, introduction of nine (9) courses, and the modification of six (6) courses. Most of the course deletions/introductions are in line with the MBA Program moving over the last year toward ensuring all courses are consistently at the 7000 level (there are still a small handful of 6000 level courses left from an original 2 year MBA curriculum). One of the course introductions (ACT 7400) addresses a lacking topic in the M.Sc. Actuarial Math area. Other course introductions have been taught as topics courses several times and are being introduced as regular offerings. The course modifications attempt to update course prerequisites and course descriptions.

- Courses to be deleted: **MSCI 5100-Mathematics for Management** (-1 credit hours), **FIN 6072-Corporate Finance** (-3 credit hours), **FIN 7120-Managerial Economics** (-1.5 credit hours)
- For the extensive list of course introductions and modifications please see page 46 of the Senate agenda for November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Comments in Senate on this topic:

**Jay Doering** (Dean of FGS): Asper school colleagues try to keep MBA program up to date. Part of this involves course changes such as those proposed, which include addition of course to make course requirements beyond the 9 credit hours previously indicated.

## Report of Senate Committee on Nominations

Nomination of Graduate students (Senators and non-senators) to senate committees of academic dress (Mr. Kenny So), academic review, rules and regulations (Ms. Gagan Sidhu - Senator), the calendar (Mr. Hadeesha Piyadasa - Senator), and rules and procedures (Ms. Kathryn Marcynuk - Senator). Nominations are for one year terms - ending 2016/05/31.

ALL APPROVED.

## **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

### Fall Break

The University of Manitoba Students' Union submitted a proposal regarding a Fall term break to be implemented into the University's academic schedule. This proposal was discussed at length in Senate. Two important points are listed below:

- Fall term break is fairly commonplace across Canada at post-secondary institutions
- Students would get two days off prior to Thanksgiving long weekend in order to allow for a 5 day break

**Jeremiah Copp (President, UMSU):**

- The Fall term break is a part of UMSU's broader plan to focus on mental health issues
- This two-day break is a good start, but not cutting edge in comparison with our U15 colleagues who are ahead of us in this regard.
- He further spoke on statistics in the proposal – and importance of the structural change that it indicates (for further information see proposal documents starting on page 83 of the senate agenda)

Comments in Senate on this topic:

- Constraint of exam scheduling is something to consider
- Lab-based courses are especially vulnerable to fall-term calendar change
- The two extra days for mid-terms means two less days to study for final exams which is particularly concerning due to the constraints that the winter breaks poses on the fall term, this is especially important to consider if the proposed break will eventually become a 1 week break
- It may be more difficult for professors to teach the appropriate lessons, cram more information into ~10% less time possibly causing more duress on students; proposal requires more consultation
- Are the mental- health related numbers indicated in the proposal indicative of University-related duress or the impact of larger/broader structural societal issues on students?
- Much of this proposal would lead to a reality in which labs and classes will have to be scheduled in ways rather unfavourable to students; the scheduling of later final exams will lead to duress on faculty having to provide grades in a timely manner and furthermore would stress students who will not be receiving grades until the start of Winter term. Registrar should perhaps review this further.
- Stress happens to be related to post-exam period after students have received the marks for the midterms; how is the fall break scheduled at other institutions and how is counseling handling this?

**Rebecca Kunzman (VP-advocacy, UMSU):**

- Provided detailed student testimonials as to the importance of the Fall term break
- Present student petition; and further support to approve the two-day break.

Motion that Senate approve the proposed request for a Fall Term Break: APPROVED.