
UMGSA Council Meeting Documents Index Page

Wednesday, May 25th, 2022 – 5:30 PM – Zoom

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UMGSA Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 25th, 2022 – 5:30 PM – Zoom

1. Call to Order

2. Traditional Territories Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

3. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the agenda for the May 25th, 2022, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the April 27th, 2022, UMGSA Council Meeting are included as Appendix I to this Council meeting agenda.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the April 27th, 2022, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. April Committee Reports (Appendix II)

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. April HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

7. Senate Report

7.1. April Senate Report (Appendix IV)

8. Executive Reports

8.1. April Reports (Appendix V)

9. Departmental Reports

10. Unfinished Business

10.1.

11. New Business

11.1 UMGSA Budget 2022/23: Each year the UMGSA's budget is approved by Council at the start of each new Executive term. The proposed budget for 2022-2023 is included as an email attachment with these council documents.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the UMGSA Budget for 2022-2023 as presented

12. Announcements

12.1. Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, August 24th, 2022 - 5:30PM – Zoom

12.2. June Newsletter: If anyone has anything they want to share e-mail gcc@umgsa.org

13. Adjournment

Appendix II :

UMGSA Committee Reports April 1st- April 30th, 2022

Executive Committee

Chair: Silvia Sekander (UMGSA President)

Meeting Dates: April 5th & 19th, 2022

Executives discussed about the following

- UMGSA executives transition work updates
- Covid 19 Relief Fund Event updates
- Monetary support for UMGSA clubs
- Advisor/ student relationship
- Advocacy for summer bursaries
- Donation acceptance system setup with help from Vice Provost
- ELC subsidy
- Farewell to outgoing executives
- Cultural competency and conflict resolution training

Finance Committee

Chair: Nora Ampomah (UMGSA VPFA)

Meeting Date: April 14th, 2022

- The Committee finalized discussions on increase in executive honorarium
- Reviewed feedback on BDO trainings
- Reviewed and processed Conference Grant applications
- Discussed 2022/2023 upcoming tasks

Bylaws and Policy Committee

Chair: Nora Ampomah (UMGSA VPFA)

Meeting Date: April 7th, 2022

- The committee finalized discussions on the increment of executive honorarium, pay structure and ways to develop policies & procedures to evaluate yearly honorarium increments
- Discussed the upcoming tasks for 2022/2023

Events Committee

Chair: Golnaz Shirzadi (UMGSA VPSS)

Meeting date:

- No meetings were held in April.

Services and Support Committee

Chair: Golnaz Shirzadi (UMGSA VPSS)

Meeting Date:

- Planned details regarding the in person gathering for the grad students.
- It has been decided to send out an email and students can apply for the amounts which will be decided by the VPFA. Our goal was giving the students cheque in the in person meeting we were going to have next week, but the in person gathering is postponed now to the next month (weather issues).
- Discussed dates to book the UMGSA Lounge.

Awards and Academic Affairs Committee

Chair: Rubel Chandra Talukder (UMGSA VP Academic)

Meeting Dates:

- There were no awards committee meetings in the month of April.

Appendix III :

HSGSA Report April 1st – April 30th, 2022

HSGSA Executive Committee and Council

Chair: Akshi Malik

In April, HSGSA held an in-person event for giving out graduate student care packages and mental health care packages. This event was held for both Bannatyne and St. Boniface campuses. We had over 15 different kinds of gift cards and students were given three raffle tickets to put their name in any of the available gift card options. All the winners received their gift cards at the end of the same week.

HSGSA exec team met with the incoming team of 2022-23 in-person and discussed HSGSA projects. HSGSA council approved the appointment of Toby Le as MHRE program lead till the end of the MHRE term and will receive an honorarium of \$500 from the HSGSA 2021-22 term.

HSGSA council also approved the unused \$900 budget towards the Forough Khadem Award 2022. HSGSA Execs submitted their annual report to the council and annual finance report to the council as well as UMGSA Office.

Akshi Malik

HSGSA President (2021-2022)

Appendix IV :

April Senate Report

Meeting Date: April 6th, 2022

Meeting Link:

http://umanitoba.ca/governance/sites/governance/files/202203/2022_04_06_senate_agenda_reduced.pdf

***This report was prepared by Uche Nwankwo (newly appointed Senator 1)**

Please note that this report contains only relevant items discussed in Senate related to graduate studies and graduate students.

Report Includes:

1. President Report
2. Senate Committee on Proposal for a Master of Applied Human Nutrition, Department of Food and Human Nutritional Sciences

1. President Report

The President's report included an update on COVID-19 recovery planning. The President noted that In-person classes and other activities were taking place on the University campus. Mandates to be vaccinated and wearing of masks will continue until the end of the Winter Term. Beginning in the Summer Term time, proof of vaccination will no longer be required but the requirement to wear a mask will be maintained. The University will continue to closely monitor cases of COVID-19 on campus. While it is noted that infection cases have been reported, there have been no outbreaks, which shows the phased reopening was a wise approach.

President Benarroch said the province had announced that, beginning in April, Indigenous individuals over the age of fifty and others over the age of seventy who had received a third COVID-19 vaccine dose at least six months prior, would be eligible for a fourth dose. He urged those who are eligible to get the booster shot. University Health Services offers COVID-19 vaccines, and the University will investigate the possibility of having a vaccine clinic on campus in the Fall Term.

Report of a recent discussion between the province and the Presidents of postsecondary institutions regarding Bill 33 (*The Advanced Education Administration Amendment Act*) was

presented by President Benarroch. According to President Benarroch, the province noted there is no preconceived policy framework yet but consultation with colleges and universities are ongoing to come up with a policy framework. The various institutions, as well the University of Manitoba Students' Union, were aligned in their messages to government, which were that postsecondary education must continue to be accessible and affordable; the province cannot rely only on increasing tuition as a source of increased revenue for postsecondary; tuition should not be used as a public policy tool; individual institutions must continue to have autonomy in how tuition structures are applied within their institution without government intervention; and all stakeholders should have an opportunity to provide feedback to government on Bill 33, including staff and faculty.

Community members can provide feedback, and members of the University community were consistent with these comments. Regarding student fees, it was noted that consideration should be given to the balance between student fees and tuition and that student fees should remain transparent.

Responding to the President's report, Professor Chernomas expressed support for the important messages postsecondary Presidents had delivered to the province. He remarked on the lack of trust of the provincial government, with respect to its plans for Bill 33, among some members of the University community. He anticipated, if the current government remains in power, that it would implement performance-based funding that might result in similar outcomes that have occurred in other places, such as Australia and Tennessee, including significant cuts to postsecondary funding, rising tuition, and faculty lay-offs

2. Senate Committee on Proposal for a Master of Applied Human Nutrition, Department of Food and Human Nutritional Sciences

The Acting Dean Main presented a brief review of the proposal delivered by the Department of Food and Human Nutritional Sciences, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, for a Master of Applied Human Nutrition. It was noted that the proposed program would fill a critical need for students in the province by providing an opportunity to further their education in nutrition and dietetics, which would qualify them to sit the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination. The proposal is timely, as the practicum placement requirements in the proposed program would replace a dietetic internship that the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority will cease to offer in 2022.

The program will require 30 credit hours of graduate level courses, including 18 credit hours of practicums, to address the required competencies for Registered Dietitians. The proposal will require the introduction of seven new courses, including practicums and courses to provide advanced knowledge and training in human nutrition, food provision, and population health promotion. The program would be unique in Canada, as it would integrate Indigenous perspectives throughout the curriculum.

The Acting Dean Main observed that external reviewers who had reviewed the proposal had identified no weaknesses with the proposed program.

Motion was moved by the Acting Dean Main and seconded by Professor Eskicioglu requesting Senate to recommend that the proposed Master of Applied Human Nutrition, Department of Food and Human Nutritional Sciences be approved. Motion was carried.

As a follow up, Dean Taylor enquired about the source of internal Faculty resources (\$899,706) that would be used to support the program, including whether the funds were currently being used to cover other things and would be reallocated to the proposed program. He observed that the proposal suggests that the program would rely on existing faculty, which might be the source of the funds. Dean Scanlon confirmed the Faculty's contribution represents existing salaries for Registered Dietitians in the Department of Food and Human Nutritional Resources who would be assigned to teach in the program. In the budget, this internal contribution appears on the revenue line and is then taken off as an expense.

Dean Scanlon said the faculty was requesting one new academic position to teach in the program based on Faculty guidelines for a standard teaching load of 9 credit hours. The position is reflected in the costs associated with the program. The Department would also consolidate some courses and readjust teaching of existing and new faculty members so they would be available to mentor practicum placements. President Benarroch thanked members of the Department of Food and Human Nutritional Sciences and the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences for their work on the proposal.

Appendix V :

UMGSA Executive Reports April 1st- April 30th, 2022

President - Silvia Sekander

Executive Summary of Work:

- Advocacy for summer bursaries
- Advocacy for graduate student facing problem with supervisor
- Selection for FGS Dean search Committee
- External Committee Member selection

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
April, 5 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	2 Hours
April 5 th , 2022	Meeting with Laurie	1 Hour
April 6 th , 2022	Senate Meeting	2 Hours
April 7 th , 2022	Special BOG Meeting	0.5 Hours
April 7 th , 2022	Bylaws and Policy Committee Meeting	1 Hour
April 8 th , 2022	FGS Executive Meeting	2 Hours
April 11 th , 2022	Student Project (CREATE)	1.5 Hours
April 13 th , 2022	COPE Negotiation	1 Hour
April 14 th , 2022	Finance Committee Meeting	2 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	2 Hours
April 21 st , 2022	COPE Negotiation	1 Hour
April 21 st , 2022	Meeting with Laurie, Kelley, Mark and Greg	1 Hour
April 27 th , 2022	UMGSA Council Meeting	1.5 Hours

Time Spent in Meetings in April: 18.5 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in April: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: N/A

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
e-mail Correspondence & other activities	70 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in April 2022: 88.5 Hours

Vice-President Finance and Administration- Nora Ampomah.

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Review of UMGSA Documents, Financial Reports and Connect with U15 Universities:** Reviewed monthly financial reports, reviewed governing manuals, connected with other U15 universities for research and prepared reports for meetings.
- **Virtual Conference Grant Applications:** Prepared, reviewed, and processed Conference Grant applications for virtual conferences.
- **VPFA Transition:** Documents review and going out of office preparations for transition purposes.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
April 5 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting	2.25 Hours
April 6 th , 2022	CCR Experiential Learning	1 Hour
April 7 th , 2022	UMGSA Bylaws & Policy Committee Meeting	1 Hour
April 13 th , 2022	UMGSA CUPE Negotiations w/ Stephanie Mack	1 Hour
April 14 th , 2022	UMGSA Finance Committee Meeting	2 Hours
April 21 st , 2022	UMGSA CUPE Negotiations w/ Stephanie Mack	1 Hour
April 27 th , 2022	UMGSA Council Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 29 th , 2022	VPFA Transition Meeting	1.5 Hours

Meetings Missed: None

Time Spent in Meetings in April: 11.25 Hours

Office Hours:

**All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020. **

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in April: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Time Spent at Working Events in April: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Preparing Documents for Meetings	18 Hours
e-mail Correspondence	8 Hours
Other	70 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in April 2022: 107.25 Hours

Vice-President Services and Support – Golnaz Shirzadi

Executive Summary of Work:

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	Services and Support Committee	1 Hour
April 20 th , 2022	MHCC Campaign Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 29 th , 2022	Transition Meeting w/ new VP	3 Hours

Meetings Missed:

Date	Meeting Missed	Reason for Missing
April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	Misunderstood the date

Time Spent in Meetings in April: 7 Hours (maybe more, I lost my calendar during the move)

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in April: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Preparing Documents for Meetings	2 Hours
E-mail and Other Correspondence	3 Hours
Other	5 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in April 2022: 17 Hours

Vice-President Academic – Rubel Chandra Talukder

Executive Summary of Work (April 2022):

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
April 5 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	2 Hours
April 6 th , 2022	Senate Meeting	2 Hours
April 8 th , 2022	CCR Experiential Learning	1 Hour
April 8 th , 2022	FGS Executive Meeting	2 Hours
April 12 th , 2022	Services & Support Committee Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 14 th , 2022	UMGSA Finance Committee Meeting (part of transition work)	2 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	2 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	Services & Support Committee Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 21 st , 2022	UMGSA Bylaws & Policy Committee Meeting (part of transition work)	2 Hours
April 27 th , 2022	UMGSA Council Meeting	1 Hour
April 28 th , 2022	Transition Meeting with Nora	2 Hours

Time Spent in Meetings in April: 19 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in April: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
e-mail Correspondence & other activities (discussing with senator1 about Akshi's council incident, CCR stuff prep, transition preparation etc.)	40 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in April 2022: 59 Hours

HSGSA President - Akshi Malik

Executive Summary of Work:

- Chaired HSGSA Exec and Council meetings
- Attended UMGSA Exec and Council Meeting
- Meeting with Dr. Todd Duhamel
- Planned and organized HSGSA Giveaway event
- Finished transition of new President

Meetings Attended:

April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA Exec Committee Meeting	0.5 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	MMID Townhall	1.5 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	HSGSA Exec Committee (informal in-person meeting)	3 Hours
April 22 nd , 2022	HSGSA Giveaway Event	5.5 Hours
April 27 th , 2022	CSHRF Committee Meeting	1 Hour
April 27 th , 2022	UMGSA Council Meeting	1 Hour
April 29 th , 2022	HSGSA Council Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 29 th , 2022	HSGSA Exec Committee Meeting	1 Hour

Meetings missed: 1

Date	Meeting
	UMGSA Exec meeting (due to conference in Philadelphia)

Time Spent in Meetings in April: 15 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in April: 0 Hours

Working events attended:

Approximate time spent on other activities:

E-mail correspondence & housekeeping	10 Hours
HSGSA Giveaway coordination and distribution of gift cards	10 Hours
Documents Preparation and handing over to the new President	10 Hours

Total hours spent on the UMGSA & HSGSA for April 2022: 45 Hours

Senator 1 – A K M Monsurul Alam

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
April 5 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 5 th , 2022	Senate Caucus	1.5 Hours
April 6 th , 2022	Senate Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 11 th , 2022	Senate on Instruction & Evaluation	2 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1.5 Hours
April 27 th , 2022	SCAR	1.5 Hours
April 28 th , 2022	UMGSA Council Meeting	1 Hour
April 29 th , 2022	HSGSA Council Meeting	1.5 Hours

Time Spent in Meetings in April: 12 Hours

Office Hours:

**All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020. **

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in April: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Responding emails, reviewing meeting agendas and minutes, preparing senate reports etc.	10 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in April 2022: 22 Hours

Senator 2 - William Dowie

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Ongoing Senator Meetings:** Senate Executive, Regular Senate, Student Senate Caucus (SSC); Admissions (SCADM); Libraries (Open Access sub-committee); President's Executive Team (PET) check-in with FGS (Kelly Main)
- **UMGSA portfolio – other committees:** COVID-19 Response Steering Committee (CRSC; less meeting frequency); Sustainability / UM-Lands consulting sessions; Indigenous/racism webinars; MAPSS; MITACS

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
April 1 st , 2022	Indigenous Awareness webinar (weekly series)	1.25 Hours
April 5 th , 2022	UMGSA Exec	2 Hours
April 6 th , 2022	Full Senate – not attended (medical appt)	-
April 7 th , 2022	CRSC	1 Hour
April 8 th , 2022	Indigenous Awareness webinar (weekly series)	1.75 Hours
April 11 th , 2022	Student Issue (confidential) – financial distress	0.25 Hours
April 11 th , 2022	Student Project (CREATE) – Indigenous Education	1.5 Hours
April 11 th , 2022	MAPSS	0.5 Hours
April 12 th , 2022	Sus Comm – UM-Lands briefing	2 Hours
April 12 th , 2022	MITACS experience focus group (racism?)	1 Hour
April 13 th , 2022	MAPSS – political meeting	1 Hour
April 14 th , 2022	<i>storm shutdown most UM activity</i>	-
April 15 th , 2022	<i>Good Friday holiday</i>	-
April 19 th , 2022	Libraries – Open Access	0.75 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	SCADM	0.25 Hours
April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA Exec	1 Hour
April 19 th , 2022	UMGSA – Student Support	0.5 Hours
April 20 th , 2022	Leadership Webinar	1 Hour
April 20 th , 2022	Sustainability Comm.	1.5 Hours
April 20 th , 2022	UMFM Board Meeting (budget approval)	1.5 Hours
April 21 st , 2022	CRSC	0.75 Hours
April 22 nd , 2022	Indigenous Awareness webinar (weekly series)	1.25 Hours
April 23 rd , 2022	Memorial for Dr. David Barber (YouTube)	1.5 Hours
April 27 th , 2022	UMGSA General Council	1 Hour
April 28 th , 2022	MAPSS – Education Minister+	0.75 Hours
April 29 th , 2022	Indigenous Awareness webinar (weekly series)	1.25 Hours

Meetings Missed: 1

Time Spent in Meetings in April: 25.25 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in April: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended:

		Hour
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Time Spent at Working Events in April: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Preparing for Council – Review Tasks, Peer Review, and Reports	4 Hours
Email / WhatsApp correspondence (one hour per week allotted)	4 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in April 2022: 33.25 Hours

Appendix VI:

UMGSA Executive End of Term Annual Reports

May 1st, 2021 - April 30th, 2022

UMGSA President – Silvia Sekander

Committees

- UMGSA Council
- UMGSA Executive Committee (Chairperson)
- UMGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee
- UMGSA Finance Committee
- UMGSA Awards Committee
- UMGSA Services and Support Committee
- UMGSA Events Committee
- Senate Committee
- UofM Board of Governors
- UofM Board of Governors Governance and Nomination Committee
- University of Manitoba Senate (Assessor - Non-Voting)
- FGS Executive Committee
- FGS Graduate Student Experience Committee
- UofM Student Experience Committee
- UofM Budget Advisory Committee
- UofM Organizational Safety and Health Advisory Committee
- External Relations Fund Committee
- Covid 19 Recovery Research Team
- Vice-President (Research and International) Search Committee

2021-2022 Highlights

- **Strike Relief Fund:** We have communicated the financial struggle with administration after conducting a survey and advocated for more bursary options for our students.
- **U-pass Subsidy:** We took the initiative to help the students' bear the additional cost of U-pass. We approached FGS with the proposal of matching fund and they approved our request. Luckily, UMGSA need not contribute and it has become a part of FGS throughout the year. We have maintained communication to continue the subsidy.
- **ELC Subsidy:** Along with FGS, we have continued to provide graduate students subsidy for attending English Language Center courses.
- **Holiday Hamper:** We have started the communication in our executive committee to help all the students who have applied for the hamper this year. I am keeping my communication channel open with the administration for their support.

- **UMFA Strike:** Along with the pandemic, we were threatened by the ongoing faculty strike. We have done our best to prevent the strike by taking part in several conversations with UM admins, Faculty, UMSU. During the strike, we supported UMFA to quickly end the strike. We listened to the students with specific concerns and resolved their problems after communicating these with the FGS. We have been in constant communication with UM admins, UMFA members and FGS.
- **Vice-President (Research and International) Search:** I was in the VP RI Search committee to represent graduate students.
- **External Relations Fund Issue:** I have been part of the ad-hoc committee that was formed to receive graduate students' perspective on the usage of the fund. I have been in constant communication with our lawyer regarding this.

HSGSA President – Akshi Malik

Committees:

- HSGSA Executive Committee (Chairperson)
- HSGSA Council (Chairperson)
- HSGSA By-laws Committee
- HSGSA Finance Committee
- HSGSA Internal Development and Review Committee (Chair)
- HSGSA Research Days Committee
- HSGSA Special Project Grant Ad-hoc committee
- HSGSA MHRE Project Ad-hoc committee
- COVID-19 Support Working Group – Rady Faculty of Health Sciences
- FGS Executive Committee
- FGS Council
- UMGSA Executive Committee
- UMGSA Council
- UMGSA GCC Selections Committee

HSGSA Report 2021-22:

This year HSGSA executives started their tenure remotely starting from the transition period to day-to-day functioning due to COVID-19 pandemic and we worked hard to ensure Health Sciences graduate students stayed connected and well during these unprecedented times. We sent out student opportunities survey to students to address their needs and inquire about opportunities and events they would be interested in attending. Students had emphasised on social events and academic awards.

We held the 34th Annual Canadian Health Research Forum (virtual conference) in collaboration with the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences in August. HSGSA organized networking and round table discussion sessions for both Manitoba and National participants. We invited guests from MATICS, Manitoba Bioscience Association (BAM), BioTalent Canada and NML Govt. of Canada, faculty members, PostDocs and entrepreneurs to provide students with a broad perspective. The sessions were very successful, and we received great feedback from attendees. We got a handful of students to volunteer for the conference who were able to get credit hours towards their co-curricular records. This year we gave out 3 awards valued at \$200 for the poster competitions. Additionally, HSGSA in collaboration with Rady Faculty awarded Dr. Forough Khadem Memorial awards in amount of \$1000 (one PhD and one Masters) to honor the life, spirit and work of Dr. Khadem, who was an outstanding PhD student in the Department of Immunology. In addition to CSHRF awards, HSGSA gave out two Graduate Student Excellence Awards in the amount of \$1000 for one Masters and one PhD student.

HSGSA co-hosted the Fall and Winter orientation with FGS, for Bannatyne campus graduate students over Zoom. Newly admitted students had the opportunity to have Q&A after the session. HSGSA in collaboration with UMGSA and FGS committed to provide subsidy for U-pass to graduate students as it was not covered by the University due to the pandemic. This

bursary was available for all the terms in 2021-22 as well. HSGSA led the panel discussion on the RFHS Graduate studies open house 2022 and represented the graduate student life at RFHS. HSGSA was able to organise two social events this year, Summer bbq event and Halloween social. Both events were attended by fully vaccinated students in adherence to provincial and university COVID-19 guidelines. In-person social events were very well received, and students finally had the chance to meet fellow graduate students. We also organised in-person three days sexual assault prevention workshop at St. Boniface campus.

In October, we had new councillors taking over and we structured our internal committees. HSGSA executives and councillors have set up a WhatsApp chat group to increase the communication amongst us and to not miss out on any information important to our grad students.

HSGSA organized two Dr. Patrick Choy Distinguished Lectureships on March 10th and March 11th. First lecture was given by Dr. Vincent Munster on the ecology of emerging coronaviruses, from host reservoir to disease. Second lecture was by Dr. Srinivas Murthy who is a lead investigator on the Canadian treatments for COVID-19 (CATCO) trial. Both lectures were a success and were attended by faculty members and students. Lectures were then followed by networking sessions for students.

Another interesting project was launched with the help of an ad-hoc committee and is led by Toby Le (VP-External), 'Multi-Disciplinary Health Research Experience' to provide teaching opportunities to graduate students. HSGSA received funding (\$1200) for this project from Science Students' Association and the seminar series started in February. Ad-hoc committee was in-charge of selecting candidates for lectures and from 40 applications, 12 graduate students were selected. HSGSA also received \$5000 funding from Dr. Hope Anderson's office. This extra budget is to be used for social events, special projects and extended education for graduate students. This budget's fiscal term will be April 2022-March 2023.

HSGSA Annual General Meeting 2021-22 was held in February and major changes in all the by-laws and procedures manual were presented and then approved.

In the 2021-22 term most of the activities were held virtual and HSGSA did not utilise most of its budget until the last few months. Thus, on councillors' suggestion we provided the budget depending upon the number of students to each department for the use of special projects as proposed by councillors. Ad-hoc committee was in-charge of the project review and payment disbursement. The final remaining budget was then used to provide students with Graduate student care and Mental health care packages for both campuses.

HSGSA also worked upon their website improvement by posting informational videos on how to navigate graduate student life. These videos involve Q&A sessions to make it easy for students to follow.

HSGSA strongly advocated for graduate students in different committees throughout the university. HSGSA reached out to all the Department heads and RFHS Dean's office with the petition of a match-up program to support graduate students with summer continuing fees.

During the UMFA strike, HSGSA kept its members informed through townhall organisation as well as email communication. HSGSA also organised a townhall for MMID students with FGS Dean and RFHS Associate Dean to talk about the issue of students working in Government labs.

Akshi Malik
HSGSA President 2021-22

Vice-President Finance and Administration – Nora Ampomah

Committees:

- UMGSA Council
- UMGSA Executive Committee
- UMGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee (Chairperson)
- UMGSA Finance Committee (Chairperson)
- FGS Faculty Council
- FGS Awards Committee
- Senate Committee on Nominations
- Graduate Strategic Enrolment Management Plan Sub-Committee
- UMSU Board of Directors (Proxy)

Recommendations:

- UMGSA Executives to record the exact number of hours spent on GSA Activities.
- Prioritize and Include in Governing Documents the Universities Agreement to Process Gifts Receipts on Behalf of the GSA.
- Mandatory Conflict Resolution and Cultural Competency Trainings for UMGSA Executives.

2021-2022 Highlights:

- Executive Honorarium Increase.
- Significant revisions to the Governance and Operations Manual.
- Major updates to the Election and Referendum Policy and Procedure Manual.
- Complete transition to Ethical Investment Portfolio.
- Creation of the External Relations Fund Ad-hoc Committee.
- Council Decision to Refund the Total Amounts in Registration Fees for Conferences for Eligible Graduate Students.
- Council Decision Reapportion Part of the Conference Grant Budget for COVID Relief and Holiday Hampers.

Vice-President Academic – Rubel C Talukder

Committees

- UMGSA Council
- UMGSA Executive Committee
- UMGSA Awards and Academic Affairs Committee (Chairperson)
- UMSGA Services & Support Committee
- Student Senate Caucus
- UM Senate
- FGS Student Experience Committee
- FGS Executive Committee
- FGS Faculty Council
- Intimate relationship advisory committee
- Falconer emerging researcher award
- Academic integrity advisory committee
- Responsible conduct of research (RCR) committee
- Senate committee on Academic Dress etc.

2021-2022 Highlights

- **Accepting donation for holiday hamper through UM:** Currently, we can't accept donation for holiday hamper and provide tax receipt for it. We aren't setup this way. Therefore, I have raised the proposal to UM administration that we might accept the donation through UM since UM gets a lot of donations for various purposes every year. Gladly UM agreed to do that and currently we are in the process of finishing the work with Jane Lastra, Director of FAA.
- **Holiday Hamper 2021:** There are far more applications (~16 times) in this year's holiday hamper compared to previous years. Despite this, I convinced my fellow UMGSA executives to increase the hamper from 100 to 250 dollars for every student. Moreover, I have managed to convince UM administration to help contribute to our holiday hamper.
- **Awards Committee:** The result of the UMGSA Student and Teaching Award has been published on time this year (by Summer 2021). All the selected the short-listed candidates for student and teaching award were approved by FGS.
- **Off-campus housing:** I am involved with UM Administration along with Silvia to explore the possibility of helping new grad students with guarantor forms for their off-campus housing. We found out that the ARC building near chancellor Matheson waives the requirement of guarantor form if students can show proof of income letter like scholarship letter.

Vice-President Services and Support – Golnaz Shirzadi

Committees

- UMGSA Council
- UMGSA Executive Committee
- UMGSA Events Committee (Chairperson)
- UMGSA Services & Support Committee (Chairperson)
- UMGSA Finance Committee
- UMSU Board of Directors
- FGS Faculty Council
- Champions for Mental Health Group
- Sexual Violence Steering Committee (SVSC)
- Sexual Violence Communications Sub-committee
- Meetings with the president of the university every two month

Report

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the events committee has been busy trying to come up with new ways we can engage students virtually. This committee has been meeting every month since May 2021, and below are some of the highlights:

- Mental health survey (we added strike related questions too)/ should be repeated by next VP during Oct. 2022/ We shared the results with different offices at the university, also reported the results in a meeting with Dr. Benarroch.
- Providing support for Grad students during the strike and taking care of their post-strike needs.
- Christmas postcard making workshop.
- ELC survey, and informal interviews to measure the satisfaction of those who attended using the provided subsidy. (Received really positive feedbacks.)
- Attending MHCC Mental Health Commission of Canada workshop series on National Standard. National Standard - Mental Health Commission of Canada
- Back to in person classes survey, to understand Grad students' feelings regarding coming back to the university in person in the middle of the winter term.
- Mental health morning and sustainability event (March) + a mindfulness session.
- Photo shooting project for the LinkedIn workshop.
- Collaborating with MHCC for a campaign on mental health.
- Doing the communication for the summer ELC subsidy.
- Recognition of University of Manitoba Iranian Students Association.
- Working on the idea of Covid-19 recovery fund (mentally, physically and socially)
- Sharing about the position and responsibilities with our new VP.

Senator 1 – AKM Monsurul Alam

As a UMGSA Senator, I attended all the senate and senate student caucus meetings. I carefully reviewed the senate meeting agendas and minutes and identified the best discussions related to graduate studies and presented them in UMGSA council meetings. I also participated all FGS council meetings and served many FGS committees. I regularly attended HSGSA council meetings where I presented senate report and provided updates on UMGSA activities. Furthermore, I participated in COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee (CRSC) meetings. I was so active in students concerns on new academic schedule and smooth transition on back to normal campus activities. I worked in new health and safety protocols for in person activities through covid operation committee meetings. Also, I update students on university new health and safety protocols.

Summary of Activities:

- Attended all senate and senate caucus meetings, UMGSA and HSGA council meetings.
- Reviewed Senate meeting agendas and minutes and, identify the important discussions that are beneficial for graduate student.
- Prepared senate report and presented to UMGSA executive, UMGSA council and HSGSA council meetings, also distributed to graduate students upon request.
- Participated all FGS council meetings and served in many FGS committees.
- As a Member of COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee (CRSC), I participated in discussion on implementing policies regarding health safety and protocols. I addressed issues that graduate students are currently facing in terms of accessing research facilities and advocates them in CRSC meetings.

List of served committees:

- Senate Planning and Priority Committee (SPPC)
- Senate Committee on Academic Computing (SCAC)
- Senate Committee on Academic Review (SCAR)
- Senate Committee Instruction and Evaluation
- FGS Faculty Council
- FGS Student Experience
- FGS Appeal Committee
- COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee (CRSC)

Senator 2 – William Dowie
Yet to be received.