

# Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting Minutes



University of Saskatchewan  
Graduate Students' Association

September 26, 5:00 P.M -7:00 P.M  
GSA Commons

Present: Xuo Yao, Ehimai Ohiozebau, Mohamed Hamid Mohamed, Ranjan Data, Rebecca Major, Sunisha Neupane.

Regrets: Steve Jumbo.

Call to order @ 5:00 PM

## **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: BIRT agenda for September 26, 2011 GSA executive meeting be adopted. Motion moved by Mohamed and seconded by Rebecca. All supported, non opposed and no absentia.

## **September, 13 Executive minutes**

Motion: BIRT minutes for September 13, 2011 GSA executive meeting be adopted. Motion moved by Ehimai and seconded by Ranjan. All supported, non opposed and no absentia.

## **Immigration Presentation**

The executives discussed the need to have an immigration forum which will serve as an interactive session for graduate students to ask questions relating to immigration policies in Canada. Whereas it was noted that this forum will be largely beneficial to international students but it was however agreed that the announcement be made to all graduate students. The GSA is to partner with some government agencies in organizing this event and in the provision of refreshment during the session. The President was advised to present this to Course Councillors for information purpose and for further communication

to their respective associations. Sunisha volunteered to coordinate the organization of this event. She is to liaise with Sarah in organizing it and report her progress to the executives. October or November was suggested as the ideal time for this event.

### **Enhancing Graduate students Carrier Opportunities**

The president informed the executives of the need for the GSA to organize a career fair for graduate students. She informed the house that though the university organizes annual career fair, such is mainly focused on recruiting undergraduates. It was agreed the GSA should refer the matter to the CGSR and discuss the possibility of having a graduate student focused career fair. The president agreed to discussed the matter with CGSR and get back to the house.

### **Annual GSA Conference**

The VP Academics (Ranjan) informed the house that he will be organizing a conference in February 2012. The house encouraged Ranjan to organize the conference during the university's scheduled reading week in February. However, not to leave the remaining part of this term empty without an event, Ranjan promised to organized a workshop for resume writing sometime in November. This will only be a day session and student who wish to have a one-on-one session will be advised to go to the career center.

### **Newsletter**

The present newsletter is released by-weekly and the content has been less engaging. It was agreed that the GSA newsletter be released monthly but if within a month, there are more and urgent information, we can release a special edition. It was also agreed that we maximize the GSA website and PAWS in passing information to members and that Course Councillors be encouraged to make use of the newsletter.

Furthermore, it was agreed that other graduate students can send in articles for publishing and there will be need to hire an editor. The house resolved to make a request to CGSR for an editorial position for the GSA newsletter.

### **Presentation Paper to CGSR/Meeting with Dean Martz**

The VP Operation requested the executives to review the executive position paper on the proposal for the renumeration of GSA executives by the CGSR. The executives commended the initiative and promised to send their reviews within 24-hours.

The executives were also reminded that whereas we work together as a team for the common good of the association, they are autonomous in their positions and should be free to make independent decision(s) within the jurisdiction of the GSA constitution and policy documents. Issues that all/each executive(s) care for are free to be independently discussed with the CGSR. However, it was also noted that each executive is expected to

brief the president on their activities from time to time and present matters that need collective decision to executive meeting and or Course Council.

### **GSA Photocopier**

It was agreed that the Office Manager (Sarah) go ahead and find the best way to fix the second desktop computer in executive office. Mohamed suggested we look for a computer science student to fix it at little or no cost. Without that, Sarah should inquire the cost of repair and let us know appropriately. The other point that was agreed on was to remove the present photocopier from the GSA Commons to the storage. Finally, it was recommended that Sarah inquire the possibility of getting one of the school managed photocopier for the GSA Commons. If that is possible, then graduate students will have to pay from their student account when making photocopy.

### **Adjournment**

7:05pm

Mohamed/Ranjan

Carried unanimously