

Mohammad Mansouri
President
Pres.gsa@ucalgary.ca
March 23-April 20, 2020

Strategic Plan Goals

As President, I am committed to ensure that all aspects of my portfolio are in alignment with the GSA's Strategic Plan. The GSA's 3-year strategic plan 2019-2022 can be found [here](#).

Improving Advocacy

Advocate to secure graduate scholarships (2019-20 Goal)

- Gather the scholarship data (values, sources) from the University administration
- Prepare an advocacy policy
- Set up meetings with government

Update:

- Received a verbal confirmation of graduate Scholarships

Improving Service Delivery

Establish a Professional Development (PD) program for GSA committees (2019-20 Goal)

- Increase efficiency
- Increase the involvements of committee members
- Increase collaboration between GSA committees
- Increase collaboration between GSA committees and external committees

Update:

- N/A

Quality Money

- Preparing the report for the current fiscal year
- I finished the negotiation and made a presentation to the Board of Governors on March 27.
- The Board of Governors approved the new contract of the quality money ending April 2024.
- GSA will receive a 4.8% increase in the base of next year's Quality Money which is a great achievement.

Monitor the H&D plan transition (2019-20 Goal)

- Monitoring the changes, which applied in the new contract

Update:

- Keep monitoring the changes

Improving Communication

Annual Survey:

- The annual survey was conducted.
- 1070 Graduate Students participated in the annual survey.
- We had around a 100% increase in the number of participants, which is a great achievement
- Thanks to everyone who participated in the survey

Improving Organization Sustainability

Develop a plan to increase other revenues (2019-20 Goal)

- Review investment performance in GSA
- Perform a Request for Proposal (RFP) for current GSA investment
- Update the investment policy based on the result of this project in collaboration with VPFS

Update:

- RFP was sent out.

Other Accomplishments

Collective Agreement

- As President, I usually receive some questions regarding the collective agreement. I try to do my best to answer these questions.
- We finish our bargaining meeting, and we agreed on the principles.
- We are finalizing the paperwork.
- It will be finished by the end of April.

Provincial budget

- We have started our advocacy effort for the next year's budget.
- The advocacy policy and strategy for the next fiscal year are ready.
- As announced by the Minister of Advanced Education, 15% of the Alberta campus grant will be performance-based in next year's budget. Although we have concerns that the new model could lead to more cuts in post-secondary education, we are advocating to make sure that the best interests of graduate students will be considered in the budget.
- UCalgary's Campus Alberta Grant will be reduced by \$26.7 million this year to \$419.9 million.
- UCalgary IMP funding for 2020-21: \$22.45 million.
- Funding for MacKimmie Complex redevelopment is continued as per current cash flows.
- Mental health funding reduced by \$75,000.

Emergency Bursary

- The GSA board reviewed more than 24 Emergency Bursary applications.
- I finished my negotiation for the Emergency Bursary annual budget.
- Provost committed to an annual \$500,000 budget for Emergency Bursary while the last contract was \$100,000.
- As you can see, the new annual budget is five times more than the previous year, which is a great achievement.
- The duration of the new contract will be three years while the last one was two years.

ab-GPAC

- The Transition for the new board of directors held on April 17-18.
- The new Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasury, secretary, and committees' chair were elected.
- I am glad to announce the Christine, the incoming VP external of GSA, was elected as Vice-Chair.
- Jacob, the third director of GSA, also elected as secretary and chair of Governance Committee

COVID-19 Update-internal:

- The GSA office has been closed since March 17, 2020 until further notice as the GSA staff are working remotely to limit the potential spread of COVID-19. The GSA staff will be available via e-mail during our service hours (9:30 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday) to answer questions. All GSA communication channels are being updated as usual with information about our service offerings. Many GSA services will remain accessible, but please note that there have been changes to how we deliver our programs and services due to remote work. Therefore, please be patient while we work on these alternative delivery methods.
- IF YOU HAVE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:
 - For general GSA and Health and Dental Plan questions, please email askgsa@ucalgary.ca or call 403.220.5997
 - For events and discounted tickets questions, please email events.gsa@ucalgary.ca
 - For Quality Money, Bursaries, and DGAs/GSGs questions, please email governance.gsa@ucalgary.ca
 - For Communications questions, please email gsaco@ucalgary.ca
- What about GSA events?
 - At this point, all GSA in-person events are cancelled indefinitely. All paid tickets to our cancelled events will be refunded to your credit card within five to ten business days. The GSA is looking for creative ways to deliver some of our events to keep our members safe and healthy while maintaining social distancing. Stay tuned!
- The LDL will be closed effective March 17, 2020 until further notice.

- Stay engaged by regularly checking our social media channels!
- The GSA board committed 50K extra budget to next GSA bursary intake

COVID-19 Update-External:

- What we did: Social Insurance Number renewal process update inquiry given longer processing timelines, as this might impact international students
 - The response: If your SIN number will be expiring soon and you need to apply for a renewal, please note that the Federal government is still accepting SIN applications but will no longer be accepting them at our in person Service Canada Centres. The government requests that people refrain from applying for a SIN at this time, if non-urgent. If your request is urgent, you can submit an application online effective April 15. Consult the online application guide.
 - UCalgary's response: UCalgary administration is aware of this situation, and has committed to taking in consideration additional SIN renewal delays related to COVID-19. Resolution for any situations that arise related to a delayed SIN should first be sought from the faculty level.
- What we are doing: Advocating for greater income support for students – If you lost your job or possibility for employment due to COVID-19, and you're not eligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), know that we are advocating for expanded CERB eligibility for students. In the meantime, you can apply for the GSA Emergency Bursary. The GSA accepts Emergency Bursary applications year-round for temporary, emergent, and unforeseen situations. Please review the Terms of Reference for details. Find out more about the GSA Emergency Bursary and other supports available to you on the GSA website.
- **Access to technology** – if you need help with accessing technology, please contact Bill Rosehart, Dean of Schulich School of Engineering, to help you follow up on lending a computer. Alternatively, you can apply for the GSA Emergency Bursary. Please review the Terms of Reference before applying.
- Remote working is highly recommended to prevent the spread of the virus
- The university committed to free parking for students.
- The university committed to up to \$500,000 financial support to support the graduate students who have to spend extra hours for their TA positions due to online delivery.
- The federal government committed to a six-month, interest-free, moratorium on Canada Student Loan payments for all individuals who are in the process of repaying these loans.
- Advanced Education is pausing all repayments of Alberta Student Loans for six months beginning March 30, 2020. Interest will not accrue during this period.
- The federal government has clarified that international students with a valid student permit are exempt from the travel restriction.
- We are waiting for an update from the tri-council chair.

FYI & Highlights

Total Hours

Meeting: 80 hours

Others: 56 hours

Total: 136 hours

Average per week: 34 hours

Notes:

Meetings Attended

Meeting name	Day of the Week	Date
Board meeting	Monday	March 23
Mental Health support	Monday	March 23
One-on-one meeting with incoming GSA president	Monday	March 23
Coffee meeting	Monday	March 23
One-on-one meeting with UCalgary's President	Tuesday	March 24
ab-GPAC	Tuesday	March 24
LRC Meeting	Tuesday	March 24
Advocacy meeting	Tuesday	March 24
Labour Relations committee	Wednesday	March 25
Coffee meeting	Wednesday	March 25
West Campus Development Truist	Thursday	March 26
One-on-one meeting with incoming GSA president	Thursday	March 26
Board of Governor meeting	Friday	March 27
CA Bargaining meeting	Friday	March 27
Board meeting	Monday	March 30
APPC meeting	Monday	March 30
One-on-one meeting with Danielle	Monday	March 30
ab-GPAC- Governance Committee	Monday	March 30
Coffee meeting	Monday	March 30
CASA E-Plenary	Tuesday	March 31
Advocacy meeting	Tuesday	March 31
GRC meeting	Tuesday	March 31
One-on-one meeting with incoming GSA president	Wednesday	April 1
ab-GPAC- Board of Director	Wednesday	April 1
Transition-Advocacy	Wednesday	April 1

FGS Council	Thursday	April 2
Coffee meeting	Thursday	April 2
Transition meeting with Tanille	Friday	April 3
Advocacy meeting	Friday	April 3
Board meeting	Monday	April 6
Advocacy meeting	Monday	April 6
Transition meeting with incoming president and VPEX	Monday	April 6
APPC meeting	Monday	April 6
WCDG	Tuesday	April 7
Transition meeting with Tanille	Tuesday	April 7
FGS ii' taa'poh'to'p working group	Tuesday	April 7
GR training	Wednesday	April 8
One-on-one meeting with UCalgary' President	Wednesday	April 8
Meeting with Minister of Advanced Education	Thursday	April 9
General Faculties Council	Thursday	April 9
ab-GPAC meeting	Tuesday	April 14
Advocacy meeting	Tuesday	April 14
Board meeting	Tuesday	April 14
CASA Meeting	Wednesday	April 15
One-on-one meeting with Provost	Wednesday	April 15
One-on-one meeting with Robin	Wednesday	April 15
TFCC meeting	Wednesday	April 15
FGSC Executive meeting	Thursday	April 16
Transition meeting discussion	Friday	April 17
Empower me discussion	Friday	April 17
ab-GPAC Transition	Friday	April 17
ab-GPAC Transition	Saturday	April 18

Mohamed Abdelsamie
Vice President Academic
vpa.gsa@ucalgary.ca
March 25 to April 20, 2019

Strategic Plan Pillars

As Vice President Academic, I am committed to ensuring that all aspects of my portfolio are in alignment with the GSA's strategic plan. The GSA's 3-year strategic plan (2019-2022) can be found [here](#).

Advocacy

Advocate to secure graduate scholarships

- AGES regulations

I have been working all year with FGS on the UCalgary regulations regarding the AGES awards. The discussion is coming to a close with the 2020 awards intake.

- FGS Minimum Funding Policy discussions

Discussions with FGS are still ongoing. Progress was hindered due to the COVID-19.

Represent Graduate Students at University Initiatives

- USRI revisions

I am a member of the working group concerned with updating the current USRI forms according to the latest research findings. We have been working all year on this project. An online survey was supposed to be sent out to students about their experience with USRI forms, but that was delayed due to COVID-19.

- Learning technology

We have been working on optimizing the use of technology for learning on campus, and looking for potential better alternatives to increase accessibility and minimize technical difficulties to students and instructors.

- Graduate programs

Throughout the year, I was involved in many changes to the Graduate Calendar, current program descriptions, development of new programs and changes to exam regulations. I ensured that the perspective of graduate students is considered in the decision making.

- Policy development

I have been involved in the changes made to the Graduate Supervision Policy and the discussions leading to the potential changes to the Minimum Funding Policy.

Service Delivery

GSA Awards

- GSA Graduate Citizenship Award

We received 49 applications, 43 applications were complete, 20 applications were funded with a total amount of \$40,000.

- Professional Development Grant

We received 219 applications, 180 applications were complete, 100 applications were funded with a total amount of \$69,442.21.

- GSA Bursary

We received 108 applications, 77 applications were complete, 65 applications were funded with a total amount of \$78,671.66.

- Leadership and Emerging Leadership awards

We received 33 applications for both awards.

- Excellence Awards under review

We received 13 applications/nominations for excellence awards. We did not receive any applications in the Support Staff, Senior Administration and Senior Research Affiliates categories. Please consider nominating the outstanding staff members and researchers around you to so that they could be recognized for their great work.

- GRCI Award under review

We received 7 applications for this award.

Online Awards Applications Platform

- Funds are secured through Quality Money
- The detailed specifications of the website are defined
- The next stage is to start the web-design process with IT

4th Annual Graduate Research Symposium

- The symposium was extended to 3 days
- There were a total of 45 presentations of different formats
- Guest speakers included the President, Associate VP Research, Associate VP Innovation, Dean of FGS, and Associate Director of Innovate Calgary
- Collaborated with Innovate Calgary and the Hunter Hub for the first Graduate Innovation Day
- Awards were given to first, second and third places in each of the presentation categories

FYI & Highlights

Total Hours

Meeting: 31 hours
Event: 0 hours
Others: 17 hours
Total: 48 hours
Average per week: 12

Meetings Attended

Meeting name	Day	Date
GFC Executive Committee	Wednesday	March 25
Board of Directors Meeting	Monday	March 30
1:1 meeting with VP TL	Monday	March 30
Meeting with GSA Board	Tuesday	March 31
Transition Meeting	Tuesday	March 31
GRC Meeting	Tuesday	March 31
FGS Council	Thursday	April 2
USRI Working Group	Friday	April 3
Transition Meeting	Friday	April 3
Board of Directors Meeting	Monday	April 06
Academic Search Committee	Monday	April 06
GFC	Thursday	April 09
Emergency Bursary Review	Tuesday	April 14
Learning Technology Advisory Committee	Friday	April 17
Meeting with Student 15	Friday	April 17
Board of Directors Meeting	Monday	April 20

Marcela Lopes
Vice President External
vpext.gsa@ucalgary.ca
March 24th, 2020 – April 20th, 2020

Strategic Plan Pillars

As Vice President External, I am committed to ensuring that all aspects of my portfolio are in alignment with the GSA's strategic plan. The GSA's 3-year strategic plan (2019-2022) can be found [here](#).

At the beginning of the year the GSA board established our goals. My goals and accomplishments are listed below.

Advocacy

Decrease number of complaints after university decisions

For the past few weeks, the GSA has been working on answering students' questions on COVID19 and redirecting them to the appropriate departments. We have been updating our social media and website with measures that impact students, from the University, and Provincial and Federal government.

The GSA has reached out to entities in the Federal and Provincial governments with students' inquiries. They include questions related to tri-council scholarships, immigration, eligibility to emergency funds, loans concerns. We are sharing the information as we receive in our communication channels.

- Develop framework to consult students affected by decisions
 - *A draft of a framework was developed based on what we learned from the experiences this year with the tuition and last year with residence fees.*
- Introduce a new residence consultation committee for both Varsity Courts and Crowsnest Hall to consult prior to university decisions related to residence
 - *Even though last year we didn't have enough students to run the committee, moving forward we will keep the call open for students to join the consultation committee.*
 - *The GSA will keep its strategy on benchmarking housing fees and comparing to residence fees, as well as parking. We will keep advocating on this front regardless.*

Have advocacy policies adopted by all levels of government and university

This year the GSA was involved in developing policies and researching on multiple topics, such as housing costs, parking, graduate tuition, scholarships, professional development funding, international student permanent residence regulations, mental health, minimum funding and performance-based funding models. In partnership with CASA and ab-GPAC we also advocated for loans, student representation at tri-council boards, indigenous student rights, and international student co-op and internship.

- Develop Advocacy policies and research to be adopted by stakeholders:
 - *From all we advocated for this year, the following were taken into account by our stakeholders:*
 - *Tuition: Instead of just applying 7% increases across the board, UCalgary examined other options for current students. Even though the 5% is quite impactful to students we secured: \$1.5M of need-based funds among all UCalgary students and extra funding for international PhD students pre-candidacy (the ones who faced increases over \$600/year).*
 - *Loans: during CASA advocacy week the Federal Government committed to the following:*
 - *Increase loan repayment interest free grace period from 6 to 24 months.*
 - *Add an interest free grace period for new parents.*
 - *Increase Canada student grant from \$3,000 to \$4,200 for low and mid-income students.*
 - *Scholarships: the provincial government committed to maintaining the level of scholarship funding for one more year.*
 - *Performance-based funding model: The provincial government postponed the signing the three-year contract with post-secondary institutions.*
 - *Permanent residency for international students: The provincial government has introduced a new immigration strategy that includes graduates from post-secondary institutions. There is still work to be done regarding criteria and eligibility.*
 - *Mental Health: the provincial government announced that the Mental Health grant was renewed for one more year.*

Increase number of invitations to university and external events each year

This year we maintained our connections with the University – we were invited to the events organized by the University, Alumni Association, and Senate. We also attended some external events with stakeholders and government representatives, and exposed ourselves.

Increase number of politicians and university administrators knowing executive and staff on a first name basis

As part of our advocacy strategy, this year was the first were the GSA secured meetings with MLAs and ministers across the province. Even during the COVID-19 crises, we have been able to meet ministers. The number of politicians and staff that know us increased – we can ensure that many know our names and who we are. Regarding university administrators, we have maintained the relationships we had in the past.

Service Delivery

Have 100% of survey respondents indicate awareness of GSA and its services

Have survey respondents rate service satisfaction at moderately satisfied or higher

- *Implement Canadian Alliance of Students Associations campaigns to enhance advocacy efforts*
- *This year the GSA ran the Get Out the Vote campaign, in which we collected over 900 pledges from students*

Communication

None this time.

Organizational Sustainability

None this time.

Committees and activities 2019/2020

- Chair of ab-GPAC
- University of Calgary Senate
 - Senate Engagement committee
 - Senate Mentorship subcommittee
 - Lecture of a Lifetime subcommittee
 - Strategic Plan Working Group
- Faculty of Graduate Studies Council
 - Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Policy committee
- Tuition and Fees Consultation Committee
- Graduate College Oversight committee
- Calgary Student Alliance
- ab-GPAC
 - Board of Directors
 - Executive officers
- CASA
 - CASA Governance Internal Review Committee
 - CASA Graduate Advisory Group
- President's transition implementation working group
- Get out the vote Federal Election Campaign
- Task Force on Relationships
- Free Expression Committee
- Vice President Research Search committee
- Residence Students' association consultation
- Let's talk about Canadian Elections (College partnership)

Total Hours

Meetings: 58 hours

Other: 41 hours (Including Travel and Events)

Total: 99 hours

Average per week: 24.75 hours

Meetings Attended

Meeting name	Day of the Week	Date
transition meeting with incoming VP External	Monday	March 23
ab-GAC Covid19 connect with GSAs	Tuesday	March 24

Advocacy connect with Nancy and Mohammad	Tuesday	March 24
Mentorship link	Wednesday	March 25
Call ab-GPAC and CAUS	Wednesday	March 25
ab-GPAC Meeting with Chris and Marc	Wednesday	March 25
GRC online tools with Leanne and Crystal	Thursday	March 26
board meetings	Monday	March 30
one-on-one with Nancy	Monday	March 30
one-on-one with candidate for ab-GPAC 3rd member	Monday	March 30
board meeting in camera	Tuesday	March 31
CASA e-plenary	Tuesday	March 31
Advocacy connect with Nancy and Mohammad	Tuesday	March 31
ab-GPAC meeting with Chris and Marc	Tuesday	March 31
Graduate Representative Council	Tuesday	March 31
ab-GPAC Board Meeting	Wednesday	April 1
Transition meeting GSA advocacy - President+VP Ext	Wednesday	April 1
Faculty of Graduate Studies Council	Thursday	April 2
ab-GPAC CAUS ASEC Covid-19 updates meeting	Friday	April 3
ab-GPAC one-on-one w/ Chris	Friday	April 3
Advocacy connect with Nancy and Mohammad	Friday	April 3
board meetings	Monday	April 6
CASA GIRC committee	Monday	April 6
Advocacy connect with Nancy and Mohammad	Monday	April 6
Transition meeting with Tanille and Christine	Monday	April 6
ab-GPAC meeting with Chris	Monday	April 6
ab-GPAC COVID 19 updates	Tuesday	April 7
ab-GPAC chair / vice-chair / ED touchbase	Tuesday	April 7
ab-GPAC GR Training	Wednesday	April 8
Transition meeting with Christine and Nancy	Thursday	April 9
Meeting with Minister Nicolaides COVID-19 and pbf	Thursday	April 9
ab-GPAC meeting with a chair candidate	Thursday	April 9
ab-GPAC COVID 19 updates	Tuesday	April 14
Advocacy connect with Nancy and Mohammad	Tuesday	April 14
board meetings	Tuesday	April 14
ab-GPAC meeting with Chris and Marc	Tuesday	April 14
CASA webinar COVID 19	Wednesday	April 15
tuition and fees consultation committee	Wednesday	April 15
Mentorlink - Danielle + Carol (Alumni Association)	Wednesday	April 15

Meeting with John Alho	Thursday	April 16
ab-GPAC transition	Friday	April 17
ab-GPAC transition	Saturday	April 18
board meetings	Monday	April 20

Basem Halawa
Vice President Student Life
vpsl.gsa@ucalgary.ca
23rd of March, 2020 to 20th of April, 2020

Strategic Plan Goals

As Vice President Student Life, I am committed to ensuring that all aspects of my portfolio are in alignment with the GSA's Strategic Plan. The GSA's 3-year strategic plan 2019-2022 can be found [here](#).

Improving Advocacy

- We met Wellness center and Student Care to discuss how to improve Empower Me advertisement and rate of use. We are currently planning a new Empower Me campaign focusing on less stigmatized services.

Improving Service Delivery

Increased the diversity in the discounted tickets program: added 2 new options and looking to add more

- We added a new discounted Cineplex movie codes (only 2 dollars)

Introduce a new service to graduate students to be responsive to student's needs.

- We set a timeline for finalizing on the documentation needed for our sponsorship program. This initiation stage should be done by the end of June.

Improving Communication

Establish Building Bridges as a core GSA program to increase awareness about GSA activities and increase the diversity of the students attending GSA events: Reaching 700 students through our booths by the end of winter 2020

- Student Experience and Events committee will have enough budget to cover most of Building Bridges budget for next year.

Improving Organization Sustainability

- Yoga and Dance Crew weekly events are continuing in the online format.
- We are starting weekly Strength training and Book Club weekly events online.
- Due to the huge on Instagram's Trivia Time, it is now done twice a week.

- We are continuing our Peer support group using video chat as well.
- Currently, I am working on organizing all the files and documents for transition.

Other Accomplishments

- We organized the first online Easter Egg Hunt and more than 800 students accessed the GSA websites to participate.
- We organized 2 online movie viewing, and we did an online craft night.
- We finished the VPSL, Student Experience and Events committee and subcommittees and the events coordinator annual reports.

FYI & Highlights

- Please follow our social media channels, we are experimenting with many new online events with different formats so your input is necessary.
- Please contact me if you are suffering anyhow because of the Covid-19 situation. I would gladly chat and direct you to the available resources.
- We still have Cineplex discounted codes for only 2 dollars.

Total Hours

Meeting: 21

Others: 33

Total: 54

Average per week: 13.5

Meetings Attended

Meeting name	Day of the Week	Date
Board meeting	Monday	March 23 rd
Weekly – Events coordinator	Monday	March 23 rd
GSA – Wellness Center	Monday	March 23 rd
Weekly – Events coordinator	Monday	March 30 th
GRC	Tuesday	March 31 st
Board meeting	Monday	April 6 th
Weekly – Events coordinator	Monday	April 6 th
Meeting with a member for MHWS chair	Wednesday	April 8 th
Incoming VPSL transition	Wednesday	April 8 th
GFC	Thursday	April 9 th
Online Movie viewing	Saturday	April 11 th
Emergency bursary review	Tuesday	April 14 th

Weekly – Events coordinator	Tuesday	April 14 th
Sponsorship package discussion	Thursday	April 16 th
Empower me discussion	Friday	April 17 th
Board meeting	Monday	April 20 th
Weekly – Events coordinator	Monday	April 20 th

Mina Iskander
Vice President Finance & Services
vpfs.gsa@ucalgary.ca
March 24, 2020 to April 20, 2020

Strategic Plan Pillars

As Vice President Finance & Services, I am committed to ensuring that all aspects of my portfolio are in alignment with the GSA's strategic plan. The GSA's 3-year strategic plan (2019-2022) can be found [here](#).

Advocacy

The GSA executive team has been working on numerous channels to ensure that our voice as graduate students as heard by every possible channel regarding tuition increases and tightening budgets. For more details, please read VP External's report and the President's report.

We are part of so many committees on campus and we make sure that our voice is heard on all the decision making ones.

Despite the unprecedented circumstances, we are still here for you and representing you on and off campus.

Service Delivery

Decrease number of Health & Dental complaints elevated to StudentCare. by 30th Apr 2022

- This year, in collaboration with the GSA president, I will create a mechanism to monitor the effectiveness of the new health and dental plan. Using the data obtained from this mechanism we will be able to address issues as they arise and this will help with minimizing the complaints elevated to StudentCare.

Update:

- Monitoring mechanism has been on hold for the last few months as the whole Board got busier with the ongoing circumstances in terms of budget and financial difficulties.
- I have been working with every individual who has a problem to find the best solution that fits their specific concern
- Please if you have any problems regarding the health and dental plan reach out to me

Communication

Have 100% of survey respondents indicate awareness of the GSA and its services: 87% to 100% by 30th Apr 2022

- I have an action plan under this goal, which is to implement financial literacy workshops to support students in new ways. I will be communicating with financial institutions on campus to have two workshops by the end of this calendar year. Please stay tuned.

Update:

- We had a few workshops in the fall semester hosted by Moneysmart for graduate students specifically. Please keep an eye on this semester for workshops.

Organizational Sustainability

Increase operating revenues from sources other than student fees: 5% by 30th Apr 2022

- I will be working with the president of the GSA and the Executive Director on reviewing the current investment policy in collaboration with the Finance Standing Committee. Please if you have thoughts and ideas about other sources of revenue talk to me.'

Update:

- We have been working on an RFP (request for proposals) process for our investments just to see what's out there and if we can get better revenue on our investments.
- RFP documents have been reviewed by me and the GSA president. At this stage, they will be forwarded to our lawyer for final review.
- Document for potential sponsorship has been reviewed by the Board in the efforts of securing multiple sources of revenue.
- RFP for investment was end of February of this year but we will be extending the deadline for submissions and the form of submission to online (as per the COVID-19 work from home restrictions)
- RFP submissions were finalized on April 2020. Decision to come in the next few weeks.

FYI & Highlights

- Budgets were approved in March GRC.
- If you have an event funded by QM and you need accommodation due to COVID-19, please get in touch with our governance & services coordinator (governance.gsa@ucalgary.ca)
- Emergency bursary application process will see a big change in the near future (next VPFS will comment on details); it will be more efficient and more focused on providing the help for those who need it as quick as possible with minimum bureaucracy.

Total Hours

Meetings: 24

Events: 0

Other: 17

Total: 41

Meetings Attended

Meeting name	Day of the Week	Date
Phone Call with Chair of Finance Standing Committee	Friday	March 27
Board meeting	Monday	March 30
Empower me meeting with StudentCare	Wednesday	April 1
Finance Standing Committee monthly meeting	Thursday	April 2
FGS council meeting	Thursday	April 2
Board meeting	Monday	April 5
General Faculties Council	Thursday	April 9
Emergency Bursaries meeting	Tuesday	April 14
Sponsorship discussion with ED and VPSL	Thursday	April 16
Meeting with Studentcare and the wellness centre regarding Empower me	Friday	April 17
Board Meeting	Monday	April 20