

Tanille Shandro
President
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May 1st – 15th, 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

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Increase Minimum Funding Policy with Faculty of Graduate Studies**

Explanation: Continue to advocate to increase the minimum funding given to thesis-based graduate students to account for cost of living

Improving Service Delivery

Objective: Have survey respondents rate service satisfaction at moderately satisfied or higher.: 84% to 100% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Expand Service Delivery to Select Groups Using Results of GSA Annual Survey**

Explanation: Use the annual survey feedback to provide services to the groups across our campus community that feel like they are not currently satisfied by our services including students with dependents, distant learners, LGTBQQA2S+ and working students.

Improving Communication

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

Goal: **Clearly Communicate Advocacy Accomplishments with GSA Members**

Explanation: The GSA Executive team works hard to advocate for graduate students at institutional, municipal, provincial and federal levels. I would like to use the social media and communication channels already established by the GSA in order to communicate more clearly with students what we are advocating for and what we have accomplished through our advocacy efforts.

Improving Organization Sustainability

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

Goal: **Diversify GSA Revenue sources**

Explanation: To improve organizational sustainability, we need to rely less on student funding as it is subject to change due to enrollment numbers and other aspects out of our control. To diversify revenue sources, I will work with the Vice-President Student Life on the sponsorship packages started by our predecessors, review the investment performance in GSA, complete the request for proposal process started by our predecessors and update the investment policy based on the result of this project in collaboration with the Vice President Finances and Services

Total Hours

Meeting: 46 hours

Others: 18 hours

Total: 64 hours

Average per week: 32 hours

Meetings

Meeting name	Day	Date
GSA Transition		4/30 – 5/08
FGS ii'taa'poh'to'p Working Group	Monday	05/04
APPC	Monday	05/04
WCDT Board Meeting	Tuesday	05/05
FGS Council Meeting	Thursday	05/07
Collective Agreement Ratification Plan	Friday	05/08
Ab-GPAC onboarding	Monday	05/11
GSA Emergency Bursary Review	Monday	05/11
Board of Governors Member Orientation	Tuesday	05/12
Student Leader Meeting with AE Minister	Wednesday	05/13
COVID19 Impacts discussion with Athabasca University SU	Wednesday	05/13
One on One with Frank Finley (SU President)	Wednesday	05/13
One on One with Ed McCauley	Thursday	05/14
Visiting Student Health and Dental Plan Enrollment	Thursday	05/14
Emergency APPC Meeting	Thursday	05/14

General Faculties Council

Thursday

05/14

Alex Paquette
Vice President Academic
vpa.gsa@ucalgary.ca
May 1st – 15th, 2020

Strategic Plan Goals

As Vice President Academic, 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

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Increase Minimum Funding Policy with Faculty of Graduate Studies**

Explanation: Continue discussions with the Faculty of Graduate Studies to increase the minimum funding policy for thesis based graduate students.

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Establish an Award for Graduate Students with Disabilities**

Explanation: Currently, University of Calgary has no award for students with disabilities. I would like to create an award for all students with any disability that can be applied for through the Graduate Awards Competition. Two awards would be given out each year. I plan to apply for Quality Money to fund this award.

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Advocate for Graduate Students in all Aspects of COVID-19 Related Situations**

Explanation: Continue to advocate for graduate students on all issues that come up with the current pandemic situation. It is my top priority to make sure that proper safety measures are put in place for when graduate students return to campus and get the funding, they need to help them during these tough times.

Improving Service Delivery

Objective: Have survey respondents rate service satisfaction at moderately satisfied or higher.: 84% to 100% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Improve the Process of Applying for GSA Awards**

Explanation: Some award application forms are too long, and/or difficult to understand the instructions/questions. I would like to make it easier for graduate students to apply for GSA awards this year. Also, last year some awards had no applications so I will increase awareness on all awards that are offered by the GSA.

Objective: Have survey respondents rate service satisfaction at moderately satisfied or higher.: 84% to 100% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Create an Online Awards Platform for GSA Awards**

Explanation: The previous VP Academic was able to obtain money to create an online awards platform for the GSA awards. My goal is to connect with IT to start this process and by the end of my term have a fully functional online awards platform that is like the Graduate Awards Competition run by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Objective: Have survey respondents rate service satisfaction at moderately satisfied or higher.: 84% to 100% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Improve the Peer Beyond Symposium**

Explanation: One of my top priorities is to improve the Peer Beyond Symposium. I plan to increase the number presenters and attendees at the event. I would also like to bring in a guest speaker to address a broader audience. If it is possible, I would also like to increase the number presenter categories and awards that can be won.

Total Hours

Meeting: 31 hours

Others: 13 hours

Total: 44 hours

Average per week: 22 hours

Meetings

Meeting name	Day	Date
GSA Transition		April 30 – May 8
Faculty Graduate Studies Council	Thursday	May 7th
Emergency Bursary Meeting	Monday	May 11 th
GFC	Thursday	May 14th
Board of Directors Meeting	Friday	May 15th

Christine Cao
Vice President External
vpext.gsa@ucalgary.ca
May 1st – 15th, 2020

Strategic Plan Goals

As Vice President External, 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

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Engage in meaningful consultations with all key stakeholders and GSA membership.**

Explanation: Ensure the GSA have a voice at the table with the Federal / Provincial / Municipal governments, student advocacy groups, external stakeholders, and university stakeholders. In addition, create a portal to gather student feedback on topical advocacy issues, to increase the number of students consulted in ongoing advocacy efforts.

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): Account for how diverse groups are affected by advocacy priorities and asks.**

Explanation: Ensure representation of these groups by building relationships with diverse external groups and connect these diverse voices to existing stakeholders, allowing them to consult and inform policy-making.

Objective: Have advocacy policies adopted by all levels of government: 30% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Adopt a flexible and resilient approach to provide advocacy inputs during decision-making at all levels of the government, and assert GSA advocacy priorities, in order to expand the GSA's external collaborative network.**

Explanation: Provide well-researched advocacy priorities and inputs that reflects the diverse graduate student voices to decision-makers at all levels of the government, by attending at least 10 advocacy-focused meetings and provide at least 1 meaningful input per meeting.

Improving Communication

- Objective:** Have 100% of survey respondents indicate awareness of the GSA and its services: 87% to 100% by 30th Apr 2022
- Goal:** **Adopt a CASA campaign and showcase ab-GPAC work to the GSA membership**
- Explanation:** Adopt a Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) campaign, as well as showcase Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) work through regular ab-GPAC achievement updates and invited presentations by Executive Director Chris Bell.

Total Hours

Meeting: 39 hours
Others: 10 hours
Total: 49 hours
Average per week: 24.5 hours

Meetings

Meeting name	Day	Date
GSA Transition		4/30 – 5/08
Organize Bank Transition	Monday	May 4
Grad Summer Employment (FGS)	Monday	May 4
Weekly COVID-19 Update	Tuesday	May 5
Weekly Executive Committee	Tuesday	May 5
Chair/VC Transition 1/3	Wednesday	May 6
Chair/VC Transition 2/3	Thursday	May 7
FGS Meeting	Thursday	May 7
Advocacy connect	Friday	May 8
Chair/VC Transition 3/3	Friday	May 8
Goodbye Party for Outgoing Execs	Friday	May 8
One-on-one with Evan	Monday	May 11
Emergency Bursary Meeting	Monday	May 11
Weekly COVID-19 Update	Tuesday	May 12
Weekly Executive Committee	Tuesday	May 12
Weekly Advocacy Connect	Tuesday	May 12
Student Leader Meeting with AE Minister	Wednesday	May 13
Debrief about AE Minister meeting	Wednesday	May 13
Meet AUSU (Natasha and Stacey)	Wednesday	May 13
New Senators Meet and Greet	Thursday	May 14
Weekly BoD Meeting	Friday	May 15

Mary Zhang
Vice President Student Life
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May 1st – May 15th, 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

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: Increase participation rate of Empower Me program to 100 people by a renewed campaign through different communication channels.

Explanation: Empower Me grants graduate students' access to professional and confidential support in managing their mental health. By collaborating with VPFS to increase the awareness of Empower Me services, we will strive to decrease the number of complaints about mental health services.

Improving Service Delivery

Objective: Have survey respondents rate service satisfaction at moderately satisfied or higher.: 84% to 100% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: Secure Room Booking and Event Insurance Agreements by September 2020.

Explanation: GSA will improve DGA and GSG events by covering room booking fees and event insurance. This will allow event organizers to save funding and ultimately, produce higher quality events for their group members.

Improving Communication

Objective: Increase total social media engagement year over year.: 150% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: Sustain popular online events after COVID-19

Explanation: Use the online events to engage distance learners and graduate students at the Foothills, Downtown, Edmonton, and Main campuses. Some future online events will be planned based on the students' response to social media prompts.

Improving Organization Sustainability

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

Goal: **Contact potential sponsors and initiate Sponsorship Program**

Explanation: GSA is planning to arrange mutually beneficial agreements with commercial sponsors which will result in diversifying funding sources for GSA. This will allow the GSA to continually improve services without incurring additional fees on graduate students.

FYI & Highlights

- I am currently experiencing some technological issues with my GSA email account. The profile picture may show the previous VPSL, however I do have access to the email account.
- Please feel free to check out GSA's online events and provide us with feedback. If you have any questions for me, please don't hesitate to email me.

Total Hours

Meeting: 33.5 hours

Others: 15.0 hours

Total: 48.5 hours

Average per week: 24.25 hours

Meetings Attended

Meeting name	Day of the Week	Date
GSA Transition		4/30 – 5/08
FGS Council Meeting	Thursday	5/07
International Students Support Network Committee Meeting	Friday	5/08
GSA Emergency Bursary Review	Monday	5/11
Slack Training	Thursday	5/14

Event Planning Meeting	Thursday	5/14
General Faculties Council	Thursday	5/14
GSA Board Meeting	Friday	5/15

Kabita Baral
Vice President Finance & Services
vpfs.gsa@ucalgary.ca
April 29 – May 15, 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](#).

Improving Advocacy

Objective: Decrease number of complaints after university decisions: 10 to 1 by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Increase Awareness of Empower Me Resource Among Wellness Center Counselor**

Explanation: Empower Me is an online mental health support system that addresses student needs that are not met by the wellness center such as time flexibility (available 24/7) and is available in multiple language. However, the service has not been used much despite meeting students' requirements. I will collaborate with VPSL to increase number of Empower me service usage from 20 students to 100 students by March 2021.

Improving Service Delivery

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

Goal: **Collaborate with StudentCare to understand students' needs and concerns related to COVID-19 and effectively communicate the insurer's COVID-19 response to students.**

Explanation: With increasing concerns arising from students related to the Health and Dental plan and COVID-19, I will work closely with StudentCare to communicate the concerns that are being brought up by students. When a response plan is developed, I will use the GSA's communication channels to clearly communicate any updates or changes to students.

Improving Communication

Objective: Increase comments from LDL customers: 20% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Increase number of participants in LDL customer satisfaction surveys.**

Explanation: Include questionnaire on what services the customer does/does not want in LDL and get more detailed feedback on LDL services from customers.

Objective: Increase communication about GSA Finances in GRC meetings: twice a year

Goal: **Increase transparency in GSA budget handling by presenting to GRC members**

Explanation: Present GSA budget and where GSA stands pertinent to yearly budget at least once every six months. In addition, provide students with ideas on how GSA finance is being handled to ensure transparency.

Improving Organization Sustainability

Objective: Improve LDL sustainability audits year over year: 25% by 30th Apr 2022

Goal: **Develop an LDL reopening strategy in preparation for a safe, measured, and compliant reopening in the coming months, which minimizes losses within the budget**

Explanation: Due to COVID-19 situation, LDL has remained closed and as the situation starts getting back to “normal”, the GSA will develop strategies to ensure that students’ safety is a priority when LDL reopens, in addition to providing excellent dining experience and minimizing loss within the budget.

Total Hours:

Meeting: 33.5 hours

Event: 0

Others: 8

Total: 41.5 hours

Average hours a week: 20.75 hours

Meetings Attended

Meeting name	Day	Date
GSA Transition		April 29 – May 8th
FGS Council	Thursday	May 7
Emergency Bursary Meeting	Monday	May 11
Visiting Students Health and Dental Plan review	Thursday	May 14