



**GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, April 24, 2018, 6:00 PM
SA 104**

Attendees:

Brit Paris, President
Negar Mohammadi, VP Academic
Willem Klumpenhower, VP External
Taha Afyouni, VP Student Life
Christiana Manzocco, VPFS
Kyle McCallum, Speaker
Haley Vecchiarelli, Clerk

GRC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Began 18:04

Roll Call 18:04

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology DGA
Biological Sciences Graduate Students' Association

Jeremy Morris
Claudia Ladisa
Andrew Thompson
Miriam Nightingale

Biomedical Engineering GSA
Biomedical Technology Graduate Students Association
Cardiovascular Respiratory Students Association
Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Graduate Students'
Association
Chemistry Graduate Student Association

Dominic Omusi
Natasha Garner
Alejandra Enriquez Garcia
Thomas Welsh
Lauretta Pearse
Hiva Jalilzadeh
Dinu Attalage
Brittany Demone

Civil Engineering Graduate Society

Classics and Religion DGA
Communication Media and Film
Community Health Sciences Student Executive

Rebecca Lang
Bria Mele
Yangyang Fang
Mike Mieku
Alya Heirali
Alyson House
Steven Granger
Abraham Saucedo Cepada
Ghazaleh Maleki Tabrizi
Mohammad Mansouri
Edmond Chih
Paul Meunier

Computer Science Graduate Society
Council of Foothills
Doctoral Association for Students of Haskayne (DASH)

Economics Graduate Association

Electrical and Computer Engineering GSA

English Graduate Student Association

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|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Environmental Design Student Association | Joy Olagoke |
| Gastrointestinal Sciences Graduate Program | Nicole Mancini |
| Geography Graduate Students' Association | Kristina Miller |
| | Kyle Plotsky |
| | Ilyar Asl Sabbaghian |
| Geomatics Graduate Group | Hokmabadi |
| Graduate Anthropology & Archaeology Student Association | Tatyanna Gwald |
| | Kelsey Pennanen |
| Graduate Association of Geology and Geophysics Students | |
| Graduate Engineering Students Consortium | Madelyn Worth |
| Graduate Programs in Education Students Association | Rachel Hardeman |
| Graduate University of Calgary Mathematics Society (GUMS) | Nuiok Dicaire |
| | Allison Bailey |
| History Graduate Students Union | Rory Woroniuk |
| | Rachel Kratofil |
| Immunology Graduate Association | Simon Barrick |
| Kinesiology Graduate Students Association | Lindsay Hracs |
| Linguistics Graduate Students' Association | |
| Masters of Public Policy Student Association | Ania Karzynska |
| MBA Society (Haskayne) | Annamaris Olmo-Velazquez |
| Mechanical Engineering Graduate Students' Association | Alexandra Bohm |
| Medical Science Graduate Student Association | Myra Chen |
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| Microbiology & Infections Diseases GSA | |
| Neuroscience Hotchkiss Brain Institute Trainee Organization | Kyle Mayr |
| | Chris Duszynski |
| Nursing GSA | Sarah Dewell |
| Philosophy GSA | Eric Bohner |
| | Ananya Chattoraj |
| Physics & Astronomy Grad Students' Association | Svetlana Kuznetsova |
| | Taylor Cameron |
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| Political Science Graduate Student Association | Devon Currie |
| Psychology Graduate Students Association | Sarah Simmons |
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| School of Creative and Performing Arts | |
| Sociology Graduate Students' Caucus | |
| Strategic Studies Students' Consortium | Keith Hickerson |
| Sustainable Energy Development Society | |
| Veterinary Medicine Grad Students Association | Aruna Amarasinghe |
| | Diego Nobrega |
| Vox Condiscipulum (French, Italian, Spanish) | Alfred Mulinda |

Approval of Agenda 18:08

Motioned/seconded
 Opposed:0
 Abstained:0
 CARRIED

Approval of March GRC Minutes 18:09

Motioned/seconded

Opposed:0

Abstained:1

CARRIED

[UCalgary Academic and Research Plans \(Dr. Dru Marshall, Provost and VP \(Academic\) and Dr. Ed McCauley, VP \(Research\) 18:10](#)

Energized Eyes High strategy launched in February and is currently in the implementation phase.

- Strategic Plan—Drives what we do as an organization
 - Originally Eyes High (2012-2017)
 - Goal was to become a Top 5 research institution in Canada
 - Energized Eyes High
 - In 2017, we were in Top 5 of 25/34 metrics
 - Therefore, know we are in the Top 5, now how to get recognized as such
 - Role of Graduate Students
 - Play a major part in strategic plans
 - Graduate students are the lifeblood of the university, push professors and institute to do things in a different way and think creatively to help maintain edge.
 - Pillars of Eyes High
 - Three Foundational Commitments
 1. Sharpen Focus on Research and Scholarship
 2. Enrich the Quality and Breadth of Learning
 3. Integrate the University with the Community
 - Two Horizontal Themes
 1. Student Experience
 2. Campus Culture
 - Consultations told us that student experience was implicit in previous version and going forward needed to be explicitly mentioned, both for undergraduate and graduate students. Feedback was that there needed to be explicit mention of campus culture.
 - Together these drive academic and research plans
 - Process (April 2017-January 2018)
 - Phase 1—Celebration
 - Phase 2—Literature Review
 - Phase 3—Survey Development
 - Phase 4—Analysis
 - Phase 5—Drafting

- Phase 6—Consultation
- Phase 7—Formal Approval
- [Integrated Model](#)
 - Centers on value proposition for the institution (i.e. student experience and impact)
 - Last time, two separate plans, but now, while there are two plans, recognize that these are not separate domains but are interconnected
 - Unique across country, as plans were developed together
- [Academic Plan](#)
 - 3 Priorities (7 in 2012)
 - Prioritizing People (2018)
 - Talent Attraction, Development and Retention (2012)
 - Leadership (2012)
 1. Recruit and retain talented people from a diversity of backgrounds
 - Infusing resources (e.g. grad student funding)
 2. Enhance and support a campus learning culture
 - Place to learn, freedom to make mistakes
 3. Recognize and reward people
 - Valuing the people on campus
 4. Encourage and develop leaders
 - Connecting Communities (2018)
 - Internationalization (2012)
 - Connection with Community (2012)
 1. Connect and collaborate with local, regional, national, global and all communities
 - Renewal of international strategy, will be announced with new president
 - Driving Innovation (2018)
 - Interdisciplinary (2012)
 - Teaching and Research Integration (2012)
 - Sustainability (2012)
 1. Facilitate inderdisciplinarity
 2. Encourage pedagogical innovation
 - Micro-credentials, certificates, value-added
 - Signature pedagogies
 3. Enable the expression of entrepreneurial and critical thinking across all of our endeavors
 - Hunter Hub
 4. Develop and operationalize academic platforms

4. Create pathways and support mechanisms for knowledge translation and commercialization, and lead discussions about diversity of approaches that reflect the comprehensive nature of our scholarship
 5. Transform the university into an 'early adopter' and 'test bed' for research ideas and technologies
- Kick-Off Investments
 - People
 - Double PURE Awards
 - Increase Graduate Student Scholarships
 - Round 4 Eyes High Postdoctoral Fellowships
 - University Professor Program (retain mid-career faculty)
 - Strategies
 - Indigenous Strategy
 - Mental Health Strategy
 - Teaching and Learning

Please come out and be part of the discussion! Challenge the University to think about taking on important problems; early adopt ideas; less risk adverse.

Q: Grad Scholarship details?

A: Eyes High doctoral studentships, domestic and international.

Q: Focus groups and discussions happen, when would these happen?

A (Ed): Some starting in May, but most in the Fall. We will make sure that the GSA has this information to pass along to you all. These discussions are really interesting.

Q: Mental Health Strategy, at Foothills, it is a challenge to come over here, more implementation on other campuses?

A (Dru): Counseling center is on main campus and mental health hub on main campus, but we are looking at setting up satellite sites soon on other campuses.

Elections 18:50

Speaker

Nominations: Kyle McCallum

Opposed: 0

Abstention:2

Kyle approved

Clerk

Nominations: Haley Vecchiarelli

Opposed:1

Abstention: 2

Haley approved

Chair, FSC

Nominations Annie Hoang, Haley Glass

Abstention: 5
Annie elected

CRO

Nominations: Somshukla Chaudhuri (Rai)

Opposed: 0

Abstention: 2

Rai approved

Swearing in of New Executive Officers 19:00

Brit Paris—President

Elena Favaro—Vice President, Academic

Mohammad Mansouri—Vice President, Finance and Services

Pledge:

I do solemnly swear that, to the best of my abilities, I will:

- Uphold the GSA's Objects and Bylaws;
- Utilize my position to advocate on behalf of all graduate students at the University of Calgary;
- Utilize the Association's fiscal resources responsibly;
- And strive to represent the Association and all of its members with integrity and mindfulness in the University and at local, provincial and national levels.

President's Report (Brit Paris) (see PowerPoint presentation) 19:01

- Year in Review
 - DGA Bylaw Template
 - GSG
 - Cross-Association Relations
 - Collective Agreement Awareness
- Next Year
 - Establish labour relations committee
 - Review and reinvigorate QM program
 - Improving Governance

Vice-President (Academic) Report (Negar Mohammadi) (see PowerPoint presentation) 19:04

- Year in Review
 - Peer Beyond Graduate Research Symposium
 - Pitch Competition
 - Awards Timeline
 - Awards Gala

Vice-President (External) Report (Willem Klumpenhouwer) (see PowerPoint presentation) 19:05

- Year in Review
 - Advocacy
 - Tuition freeze
 - Mayoral Forum
 - Secondary Suites
 - Open Letter
 - Ward Sutherland Political Leadership award revocation
 - ab-GPAC
 - Bylaw reviews

Vice-President (Student Life) Report (Taha Afyouni) (see PowerPoint presentation) 19:06

- Year in Review
 - So many events!

Vice-President (Finance & Services) Report (Christiana Manzocco) (see PowerPoint presentation) 19:07

- Year in Review
 - Sustainability
 - Health and Dental Plan
 - Finances
 - LDL sustainability
- LDL Finances
 - Come so far, over past couple years we have cut this down very significantly
 - This year we only lost 25k
 - A lot of concerted effort into cost management (e.g. living wage but trimming hours of operation, discounts, food waste, etc)

Question Period 19:11

Q: Operational bursary increasing?

A (Brit): No one has asked, but we will now take this into consideration. GSG are also eligible for operation bursaries. We should look at how much is being accessed.

DGA Period 19:12

Other Business 19:12

- [Cumming School of Medicine Symposium \(Friday, May 25\)](#)
- [Facebook Group](#)

- May GRC
 - Thank you to those of you who served this year, we hope you come back!
 - Shawna Cunningham will be here to discuss Indigenous Strategy

Adjournment of Open Session 19:14

Moved/seconded
Opposed:0
Abstained:0
CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 19:14