GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC)
Report to GSA Council for the 15 October 2018 Meeting

To: GSA Council
From: Radim Barta
Date: 12 October 2018

Dear GSA Council Colleagues,

The report from the GSA NoC this month is a summary of discussions/decisions the committee has made since its last report, together with a list of all vacancies filled and those which will be filled shortly.

GSA Policy governing the GSA NoC is located in GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating. As provided for in its Terms of Reference, the GSA NoC has been conducting business via e-mail.

Sincerely,
Radim Barta, Chair of the GSA NoC

Early Call for Talent and Training

GSA Bylaw and Policy states that “GSA NoC will be proactive in seeking out potential candidates for all Directly-Elected Officer (DEO) and Council-Elected Officer positions” (Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, Nominating, Section E.POL.1.5). It also states that:

“The GSA NoC leads an annual initiative each October called the Early Call for Talent and Training. During Early Call, graduate students interested in running for elected office are invited to a get-to-know event and are encouraged to participate in a series of training sessions on such topics as University governance, GSA 101, budget and audit basics, collective bargaining, major GSA services, and more. Information is provided about the DEO portfolios and the time commitments involved. These sessions provide a basic set of information that the GSA sees as essential for the effective leadership of the GSA as a corporate entity and for the carrying out of fiduciary duties.” (Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, Nominating, Section E.POL.7.7)

The 2018 GSA Early Call for Talent and Training is now in progress, after the initial advertisement went out through the GSA newsletter on 12 October 2018. The Get-to-Know Dinner, which is scheduled for 25 October 2018, gives graduate students the chance to get acquainted and have informal discussions with current Directly-Elected Officers and it is a great opportunity for GSA Council members and graduate students at large who are considering getting more involved in student governance at the GSA. Training sessions on a variety of topics will begin on 29 October 2018 and graduate students are invited to attend those as well. As GSA Council members are aware, engagement from graduate students is key to the success of the GSA, and so I encourage all members of GSA Council to share this information with their colleagues and constituents and to please contact gsa.nomcomm@ualberta.ca if you are interested in attending the Get-to-Know Dinner. Please also note that hard copies of our Early Call poster will be made available at the 15 October 2018 meeting of GSA Council.

Council-Elected Officers

1) **GSA Deputy Speaker (One (1) Graduate Student Position)**

As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, “[the GSA NoC] will open nominations for Speaker, Deputy Speaker, CRO, and DRO on or about May 1 of every year by email to every graduate student” and “nominations [...] will be submitted in writing to the GSA NoC by May 30 or the next following working day” (Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Bylaw, GSA Officers, Council-Elected Officers, Sections D.BYL.3.1.b and D.BYL.3.1.c). This position was first filled following the June 2018 meeting of GSA Council, but was then vacated as of July 2018. Information regarding this position was circulated in the GSA newsletters of 28 September and 4 October 2018 with a nomination deadline of 10 October 2018. Two (2) nominations were received. There will be a paper ballot vote. **See Item xx – Nominee for GSA Deputy Speaker.**
GSA Standing Committees

1) **GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) (One (1) Departmental Councillor Position)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) Departmental Councillor was circulated on two (2) instances via email to GSA Council with a deadline of 9 October 2018. One (1) nomination was received. The nominee was then interviewed by GSA NoC Vice-Chair Kenzie Gordon and GSA NoC member Dylan Ashley, both of whom have been trained in procedural fairness by the GSA and have a record of demonstrating impartiality through their work on the GSA NoC. GSA Associate Director Julie Tanguay was also present for the interview. During the interview, the nominee was asked a series of questions aimed at assessing their awareness of the basic tenets of procedural fairness and their ability to adjudicate potential cases in accord with those tenets (note as well that all individuals elected to the GSA ACB receive training in procedural fairness). There will be a paper ballot vote. See Item xx – Nominee for GSA Appeals and Complaints Board.

2) **GSA Awards Selection Committee (GSA ASC) (Two (2) Graduate Student Positions)**

Information regarding the positions for two (2) graduate students was circulated on two (2) instances in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 10 October 2018. Four (4) nominations were received. There will be a paper ballot vote. See Item xx – Nominees for GSA Awards Selection Committee.

3) **GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) (One (1) Graduate Student Positions)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) graduate student was circulated on two (2) instances in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 10 October 2018. Three (3) nominations were received. There will be a paper ballot vote. See Item xx – Nominees for GSA Elections and Referenda Committee.

4) **GSA Budget and Finance Committee (GSA BFC) (One (1) GSA Council Member Position)**

Information regarding the position for one (1) GSA Council member was circulated on two (2) instances via email to GSA Council with a deadline of 10 October 2018. No nominations were received, so this vacancy will be advertised again.

5) **GSA Labour Relations Committee (GSA LRC) (Seven to Nine (7-9) Academically-Employed Graduate Student Positions)**

Information regarding the seven to nine (7-9) positions available positions was circulated via email on two (2) instances to Academically-Employed Graduate Students with a deadline of 10 October 2018. Seven (7) nominations were received. The nominees will be elected by fellow academically-employed graduate students and the names reported at the 19 November 2018 meeting of GSA Council.

External Committees

1) **Arts Faculty Council and Associated Committees (Eleven (11) Faculty of Arts Graduate Student Positions)**

Information regarding the positions for eleven (11) Faculty of Arts graduate students was circulated to graduate students in the Faculty of Arts via email on two (2) instances with a nomination deadline of 19 September 2018. Four (4) nominations were received for the five (5) positions on the Arts Faculty Council. Amanda Daignault (English), Zhuoran "Joanne" Li (East Asian Studies), Kenzie Gordon (Modern Languages and Cultural Studies), and Miraaj Yousif (Women’s and Gender Studies) were elected to serve on the Arts Faculty Council. Two (2) nominations were received for the one (1) position for a graduate student in a humanities discipline on the Arts Faculty Academic Affairs Committee. Kaitlyn Skinner (History and Classics) was elected to serve on the Arts Faculty Academic Affairs Committee. The remaining vacancies will be advertised again.

2) **Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) Council (Eleven (11) Graduate Student Positions)**

Information regarding the remaining vacant positions for six (6) graduate students to serve as Councillors and five (5) graduate students to serve as Alternates was circulated on two (2) instances in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 12 September 2018. Five (5) nominations were received for the Councillor positions. Thomas Cam (Electrical Engineering), Saima Rajabali (Medicine), David Tandio (Pharmacology), Martha Ruiz (Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging), and Mukt Patel (Surgery) were elected to serve on the FGSR Council as Councillors. No nominations were received for the position of Alternate.
Information regarding the remaining vacancies for one (1) graduate student to serve as a Councillor and five (5) graduate students to serve as Alternates on the FGSR Council was then circulated on two (2) instances via the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 2 October 2018. One (1) nomination was received for the position of Councillor, and Zoë Dworsky-Fried (Pharmacology) was elected to serve on the FGSR Council as a Councillor. One (1) nomination was received for the position of Alternate. Mayank Sabharwal (Mechanical Engineering) was elected to serve on the FGSR Council as an Alternate. The remaining vacancies will be advertised again.

3) Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Policy Review Committee (FGSR PRC) and Academic Appeals Committee (FGSR AAC) (One (1) and Four (4) FGSR Councillor or Alternate Positions Respectively)
Information regarding these vacancies was circulated to FGSR Councillors and Alternates on two (2) instances with a nomination deadline of 9 October 2018. One (1) nomination was received for the position on the FGSR PRC, and two (2) nominations were received for the positions on the FGSR AAC. The names of the elected students will be reported at the 19 November 2018 meeting of GSA Council.

4) General Faculties Council (GFC) (One (1) Graduate Student Position)
Information regarding the position for one (1) graduate student on GFC was circulated on two (2) instances in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 19 September 2018. Two (2) nominations were received. Meijun Chen (Music) was elected to serve on GFC.

5) Science Faculty Council (Two (2) Faculty of Science Graduate Student Positions)
Information regarding the positions for two (2) Faculty of Science graduate students was circulated to graduate students in the Faculty of Science via email on two (2) instances with a nomination deadline of 17 September 2018. Four (4) nominations were received. Brooke Biddlecombe (Biological Sciences) and Kyle Shanebeck (Biological Sciences) were elected to serve on the Science Faculty Council.

6) Student Library Advisory Council (SLAC) (One (1) Graduate Student Position)
Information regarding the position for one (1) graduate student was circulated on two (2) instances in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 2 October 2018. One (1) nomination was received. Shveta Rai (Internetworking) was elected to serve on the SLAC.

7) Shell Enhanced Learning Fund (SELF) Selection Committee (One (1) Faculty of Science, Faculty of Arts, or School of Business Graduate Student Position)
Information regarding the position for one (1) graduate student was circulated on two (2) instances in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 2 October 2018. Three (3) nominations were received. Maryam Akbari (Mechanical Engineering) was elected to serve on the SELF Selection Committee.

8) Museum Policy and Planning Committee (One (1) Graduate Student Position)
Information regarding the position for one (1) graduate student was circulated on two (2) instances in the GSA newsletter with a deadline of 2 October 2018. Six (6) nominations were received. Claudia Lonkin (History and Classics) was elected to serve on the Museum Policy and Planning Committee.