



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

CALL TO ORDER : 6:05pm

We, the members of GSA-Carleton are committed to following Indigenous legal traditions of acknowledging the sovereign waters, lands, and the Algonquin Anishinaabeg Nation in the territory of the Kitchissippi watershed, which includes the City of Ottawa. In doing so, we are also acknowledging the illegalities of our presence under Indigenous legal traditions, and acknowledging the ongoing and violent methods of settler colonialism. This acknowledgment is but a first step in accepting our responsibility to correct these injustices through action and furthering the education of ourselves and others.

ATTENDEES:

Chair:	Bilan Arte
Execs:	Faith Achile (VPO), Hande Uz Ozcan (VPA), Milan Sanghani (Pres), Evans Boadi (VPF)
Staff:	Benjamin Segobaetso, Celia Armitage
Councilors:	Kavita Mistry (History), Apoorva Sanagavarapu (English), Shannon Wong (History), Martina Boddy (Earth Sciences), Amanda Chafee (Math/Stat), Aseel Qazzaz (Communication & Media Studies), Anna Stone, Gary, Deanna Bogaski (Soc & Anthro), Robert Nelson (SPPA), Molly MCGovern, Kahlea Wells (SPPA), Erin Kinzie, Brendan Conway-Smith, Bronte Wells
GFB, Board, Senate:	Mason Rodney, Hayat El Fazani, Reza Sohrabi, Apoorva Sanagavarapu
Others:	Anastazia Lettieri (CUSA), Neeni (USC), Liam Callaghan (USC)



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

1. INTRODUCTION OF CHAIR

- a. Announcement of Proxies

Anna Stone is present for Kimia Fardfini, co-president from the department of Psychology.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved: Hayat

Seconded: Hande

No discussion.

Agenda is approved.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. The minutes of the September Council meeting have been shared to councillors.

Moved: Hande

Seconded: Hayat

Discussions held concerning presentation of minutes

No opposition to adopting the minutes.

Minutes adopted.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Graduate Academic Caucus Meetings commence on October 28th. Please send an email to Hande via vpa@gsacarleton.ca if you would like to be a part of it .

ORDER OF THE DAY:

5. NEW BUSINESS (Details on motions can be found subsequently in appendix

- a. CUSA x GSA Agreement - CUSA Unified Support Centre (USC) presentation, Council Deliberation

Presentation from CUSA regarding the Food Center:

Neeni, USC: I'm the USC administrator. I will be presenting with Liam Callahan, the operations Coordinator and Anastasia is also here as CUSA representation. Perfect,



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

so I'm just gonna quickly go over our agenda for the day. We are going to be discussing the Unified Support Center (USC) as a whole, just the services that we offer and what our team looks like. And then the majority of the presentation is going to be focusing on the Emergency Essentials Assistance Program. So we're gonna go over the statistics and the cost breakdown to offer the service. Then we'll go over the funding requirements and open up for questions towards the end. Just to give you an overview of what the USC team looks like, we are comprised of 3 staff members, so myself, I am the full time administrator. Liam is the operations Coordinator, part time. And we have a part time volunteer coordinator as well, and then we have 3 volunteer leaders and 40 plus volunteers. The USC operates from 2pm- 2am from Monday to Friday, and 6pm-2am on the weekends. The USC is an amalgamation of two service centers previously known as the CUSA Food Center and CUSA foot patrol. In September of 2021, we started our first months of operation as the USC where we offered both CUSA Food Center and Foot Patrol services. Under the USC Foot Patrol, we offer the Safe All program, the Walking and Talk program, the Borrow a First Aid Kit program and the Guardian program. For more information, you can just read the slide, or you can head over to our website. Anastasia also shared additional documents on our behalf on Friday, so you should also have access to that. The majority of this presentation is going to be focused on the CUSA Food Center side of things, so our Emergency Essentials Assistance Program. Currently any student that is part of the Carleton community can request two hampers a month. The hampers are filled with food and other essentials. Students requiring additional support beyond the 2 hampers a month can fill out the enhanced assistance form found either on the link tree on our web or on our website, and then following the application process, they are referred to eligible supports. They receive personalized items if required, and they may receive up to four hampers a month. Inside each food hamper we have four categories that we distribute products from. So the first one is perishable and non-perishable food items. The majority of our perishables and non-perishables come in through three main sources, the first one being the Ottawa Food Bank donations. This is just donations from the Ottawa Food Bank, so this is free, there's no charge to the USC. The second is a weekly subscription to the Good Food box, where they offer fresh fruits and vegetables to the USC and we do pay this on a monthly basis. And then we also purchase bulk orders from Costco to close the gap between essentials paid for by the USC. We also offer personal hybrid products and feminine hygiene products. So those two are also purchased by the USC in bulk when on sale at the Costco business center. Then we also offer sexual health products provided to us by Ottawa Public Health. Currently, as it stands, the Ottawa Food Bank only provides sufficient enough food for around 100-150 hampers per month. The remaining food and all personal essentials are purchased by us through our funds.

Liam, USC: I'm the USC Operations Coordinator. So I'll be walking you through the progression of our statistics, starting from pre-pandemic data all the way to what it looks like right now during September and October of 2022. So the pre-pandemic data we have, so that's 2019 and earlier, indicates an average of around 88 hampers



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

per month. When COVID-19 hit in March, the Food Center and Foot Patrol had to adjust how we offered our services. On the Food Center side, once campus closed, they weren't able to offer their services at all because their previous service model was letting students pick up hampers of food and essentials. November 2020 Foot Patrol partnered with the Food Center to resume delivering food and essentials through a delivery service. So the Food center would prepare the hampers, and then foot patrol volunteers, who didn't have the opportunity to offer Safe Walks at the time either, jumped in to take care of the actual delivery. Once we started our partnership, and re-started offering hampers, within 4 months, hamper volumes had exceeded pre-pandemic averages. As you can see, the monthly average for the hampers that were delivered, so that was the only way of getting a hamper, was 127 in winter 2021. So in Fall 2021 at the start of the semester, we resumed in person pick-ups as well. Demand grew compared to fall 2020. Fall 2021 and winter 2020 demand grew significantly, and then, between fall 2021 and winter 2022, demand grew by 63 percent. In fall 2021 it was 600 for a semester, and by the time winter 2022 hit it was over 1000. With the merger into the unified support center, which happened in August 2021, we started tracking more statistics as well, and there was a consistent pattern of over 80% of service users being graduate students. This stayed consistent even as our hamper usage grew. It's always stayed in the 82% range over the course of the entire year when averaged by semester. So over the last 2 months since the September of this semester we've seen demand yet again rise. Compared to the winter 2022 semester, average demand increased another 65% to where we're now distributing over 400 hampers a month. We have seen that the average graduate student usage has continued to remain over 80%, so that means more than 80% of hampers that are distributed from the Unified Support Center go to graduate students in need. Where we used to distribute over 1000 hampers per semester, as I mentioned in winter 2022, now we're projecting just the distribution of over 1,750 hampers in this semester alone. That when you put all the numbers together, and you put the timeline together from when we started at 88 hampers average per month in pre-pandemic times, is a 508% increase in service usage. This is quite frankly unsustainable without adequate resources. We've all been doing a lot of overtime and a lot of extra to keep things going, but we need your help. So in an effort to be able to put a number to the cost for each hamper, so each hamper that's distributed to a student, regardless of whether they're graduate or undergraduate student, we developed a costing formula to incorporate all aspects of our costs that go into that specific hamper. So when I mean that go into that specific hamper I mean, it does not include the costs here do not include staffing costs. They don't include costs for capital assets, new equipment we need to buy, like shelves. It does not include the cost to rent our space or anything like that. This is just the money that goes into each hamper that we distribute. So our basic formula is, we take the food cost per hamper, the personal hygiene item cost per hamper. And to calculate the personal hygiene item costs we take the item cost and we multiply it by the percentage of students that are requesting each item. And then we incorporate hamper packing costs. So we use ziplocks, and we will soon be using compostable versions of zipper lock bags to portion massive bags of rice and pasta, and feminine



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

hygiene products and a variety of other supplies. And then the hamper packaging costs, also incorporates the bags used to distribute the hamper. We incorporated the transportation fee by calculating the cost of transporting the hamper and multiplying it by the percentage of graduate students that request the delivery option. We incorporate some costs for our volunteers, and what it takes to onboard, train, and oversee them, and that gives us the base hamper cost. Through our Emergency Essentials Assistance program we also support folks with dependents, so folks that take care of other people. And here, if someone tells us they have 1-2 dependents, we'll give them 1.5 times the amount approximately, and if someone indicates that they have 3 plus dependents we'll give them 2 times the amount approximately, in their hamper. Ideally, we'd like it to be 3, but we just don't have the resources for that. To add that to the base formula, we multiply it for 1-2 dependence by a 1.5, and for three plus dependence by 2, and then we multiply that amount again by the amount of hamper requests for the individual that indicated they had more than one dependent. The final cost for hampers is then taken by adding all of the totals and dividing it by the total amount of service users. This formula was calculated for last academic year. So that's September 2021 to August, 2022 and it focuses on establishing the graduate cost per hamper. It leaves us with a total of \$30.64 per hamper. So then to get a baseline of what it costs to operate the unified support centers Emergency Essentials Assistance program for graduate students we just need to take the number of graduate hampers, multiply by the cost per hamper, and that gives us our final number. So for September 2021 to August, 2022, we have a total cost of \$71,555.56 and we have a projected cost for this year if hamper requests continue and stabilize at the the current levels, we're still seeing an increase, but we're hoping that they stabilize around 450 for the rest of the year. Using that math we have a total cost to the USC of \$138,799.20. So CUSA has already supported us in managing the sheer volume of service increase that we've seen over the last year and a bit. In August of this year CUSA provided us with \$64,000.00 in additional funding beyond what we usually request and what we had agreed upon when the USC was created as an interim funding package to sustain current volumes. CUSA also very recently in October approved our move to a larger office in UC 132, or what I used to be INS and that is proceeding over the next few months. The space will also support the USC's continued growth and expansion. However, the sheer cost per hamper, and the overall cost of supporting graduate students, again it's 80 plus percent of our current usage, is unsustainable for CUSA and for the USC long-term. Right now, undergraduate student fees, through CUSA's supplementary funding, are funding graduate hampers, and that can't continue, that's not sustainable. To continue serving graduate students, we require a \$110,000.00 indexed to inflation annually to fund the cost of supporting graduate hampers. We'll close the projected gap in funding between 110 and 138 using other funding sources like grants, feature fundraising, and additional support if needed. And if, though we don't really see this happening, if if usage should decrease slightly below the \$110,000.00 costs annually to provide graduate students with hampers, then we would use whatever percentage of that funding to support a second full time staff member at the USC because, Neeni can attest to this, it's been a lot over



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

the last few months. Along with that, if you were to agree, the USC would provide a semesterly report detailing graduate student rates for the USC. In the package that we sent, we sent a dashboard where the first first page provided some overall details of usage of over the 2021 and 2022 year, and we'd be happy to generate something similar to that, including the current cost per hamper formula and what we're spending on graduate students every semester. In exchange for the above and \$20,000 to financially aid clubs and societies CUSA is willing to provide access to CUSA clubs and societies, all of their other service centers at no additional cost, and other graduate student employment opportunities that are not currently offered by CUSA under the current arrangement. For these specific items if you have questions I'd ask you to direct them to Anastasia, and we'd be happy to answer anything USC-related.

Neeni: Moving forward, if the GSA does not approve our request for funding the USC will have no choice but to end all Emergency Essentials Assistance program support to graduate students. As a reminder, that is, 80% of our service users. If that is the case, graduate students who approach CUSA or the USC for emergency support shall be directed to the GSA. And additionally, CUSA will cease to provide graduate students access to CUSA clubs, other CUSA service centers, as well as employing graduate students for CUSA service centers. Lastly, they will remove all GSA related branding from CUSA service centers promotional materials. We understand that our ask is huge, and it is probably a lot to take in in this one short presentation but I hope you understand that 765 users just last year, last academic year were graduate students using our support. Just in September of last month, so September of 2022, we had 258 graduate students, unique graduate students user support through the Emergency Essentials Assistance program. That's just unique individuals. That does not reflect how many times each individual has used services. I can't delve into details on certain scenarios, in certain situations over service users, however, we can say that the pressures resulting from COVID-19, inflation, and international tuition increasing has drastically increased graduate students' demand for our services specifically. If we're forced to refuse services to graduate student populations, hundreds of marginalized and racialized students are likely going to be unable to afford the basic necessities. With that, I urge you to support us. CUSA has done its part to support our efforts to offer direct timely and substantive support to the crowds and community and now we're asking for your support. Please help us in continuing to support graduate students because the last thing we want to do is restrict our basic necessities to students. We'd be happy to answer any questions.

Chair: Thank you both for that presentation. So before we get into discussion, I just wanted to draw folks' attention to our agenda in appendix B:

Currently, CUSA is proposing that GSA pay \$130, 000 for the CUSA-GSA Agreement. GSA **Finance** has advised that this amount will have to come from our savings account since GSA's operations budget does not have enough finances to handle that. GSA would like to be part of this program; however, the amount



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

requested to sustain the program is beyond GSA's **annual operating budget** affordability.

An affordable figure for GSA will be around \$70, 000. GSA can also collect food items from the community and donate those to the Unified Services Center. We could also offer other non-monetary values such as food storage rooms for the Unified Services Center to use to offset rental costs and other expenses.

Question and Answer Session:

Hayat, BOG: It was a great presentation, very detailed. I was one of the team from the GSA that was looking for information in order to approve the money that you requested. So I'd like to say thanks, and I think from what I see, I see how much pressure you are having to provide this huge amount of students with the service and for me, it's really surprising that it's above 80% of the usage for the service from grad students. So I don't have any other questions and thank you for breaking down the formula, it was a great presentation.

Reza, BOG: Thank you for the presentation. I have a couple of questions. How do you estimate that the hampers for this year is double? So it was 2,300, now you estimate 4,500. So how do you estimate that? is there any double increase of graduate students in a way, for example, or any kind of solid thing that we can understand why. Of course, there was a pandemic, but 2021 was the peak of the pandemic, but now it's post-pandemic and we're getting stabilized. And I think the estimation is not stable.

Liam, Presenter: I'd be happy to answer that. If that's okay. So when we calculated that number to the number of users to get to that total, it was done with current user data. So we took the total for September 2022, the total amount of graduate students that requested the service then. Then we took what we had until October 20th. Then we projected the rest of the month of October, October was pretty easy. You divide by 2, you multiply by 3, and then you have for that month. Then we multiplied that total by 6 to project for the rest of the full year. So that calculation is all based on the numbers we have so far based on the volume increases we're seeing. When we did that math, we assumed that the increase would stop. So an increase that we're currently seeing would level out, and that we'd be at around 450 hampers per month for the rest of the academic year.

Reza, BOG: still it's not clear because you say it's like based on the previous month but it cannot be doubled. So it should increase, for example, because the total graduate students is around 4,000-4,500 students at Carleton. Also some of them are not located in town, for example. So this is not realistic in a way and I assume, because the estimation that you are providing is not connected. There is inflation all around the world, also here; everything is connected. But saying that something is



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

double is not realistic.

Liam, USC: So that 4,000 number that you're quoting is the amount of hampers that are being requested. So one graduate student can request up to 2 hampers a month or up to 4 if they're on enhanced assistance. And when we said that between the winter semester, so winter 2022 to now, to fall 2022 semesters, there was over 60% increase in requests. That's requests for hampers, and that is, in addition to a previous around 60-ish percent increase from the fall. So when we did that math, when we did the total math for last academic year, and this academic year, it was taking the average hampers or the total hampers requested, over the past 12 months and there's been increases since and then it's taking the the total hampers requested for September, and projected until August 2023. So it's like a continuous trend upwards that we've seen over time. But when you average that trend over the last 12 months for the last year, and then you average next year's or this year's trend is projected until August of next year, even if the number stabilized now, it is double, or almost double I should say from last year.

Reza, BOG: So these numbers should be based on the previous record. So 2021, 2020 was the pandemic. People lost their jobs, inflation. But now that things are getting stabilized, people are living their social life. So this ambitious number, I think, is not based on the current economic system, although, of course. This kind of double jump is not something that can validate the request.

Neeni, USC: Sorry if I may. I'm gonna jump in here and say that from fall 2021 to summer of 2022, so the end of August 2022, in total it was not just 2,000 it was 2,826 hampers that is almost 3,000. So what we're predicting is another 1,000 hampers, essentially 1,000 and a bit, hampers to increase from now until the end of August 2023. I also understand what you're saying. As in the economy's opening up, and everything like that, however, it has been gradually opening since COVID, since essentially Carleton opened up and we've just seen a number increasing, and increasing. We hope that the numbers reduce and decrease. However, the trends, especially from August to September, just the jump between the summer months have increased by almost 100 hampers.

Mason, BOG: I just had a quick question about what the USC pays for weekly Good Food boxes. Are those delivery boxes that you usually order like Hello Fresh?

Neeni, USC: No. So Good Food is Ottawa-specific. They're actually called Good Food On the Move. They provide us with fresh produce. So fruits and vegetables. In total, we pay on a weekly basis \$150.00 to get the amount of items that we get. And then Good Food actually donates another \$50.00 worth of food to us.

Robert Nelson, SPPA: the recommendation that's coming from appendix B. I was primarily curious how the determination was made that the request from the service



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

center is not possible within the current budget, and I will fully admit I intended to review the budgets prior to this. The GSA website, I don't know if it's just me or something else, but it's not loading on my computer so I can't find our budget so I was looking for more clarity there on how the determination of unaffordability was reached, and also whether any thought had been given to whether it might be an option to or at least a willingness to explore an imposition of a food bank specific fee, or something to that effect, because this is clearly an incredibly valuable service and I know we're not necessarily looking at this as a pure up or down vote right now but in my experience, these kinds of services A) very viable, B) very sustainable when when the cost burden is spread out over an entire student population

Faith, VPO: I could just attempt to give more like a generalized response. So, with regard to the GSA or how we came about this current situation that we are in. We actually consulted with our finance team, we've been looking into it for months before we took it to the board and the board took it to the council. So this figure, like the \$130,000.00 that we're supposed to give, is currently above 10% of the GSA's annual operating budget and if we're going to afford it this year, it means we're gonna have to take it out of our savings to be able to afford it, and in the long term that's not sustainable, because we just keep draining the savings, and then everything goes out, and when it's out, what do we do next? So that's basically how we came about the figure. We've been in deep consultation with our finance team. We also explored the option of trying to use the accessibility fund but we're told by the school that the GSA accessibility fund cannot be used for this purpose. I think someone asked about whether there's a fee assigned for this. So if you look at the breakdown of your student fees on Carleton Central you see that there's a fee for the support center, and that's the fee that is solely dedicated for this purpose, which realistically doesn't amount to this. I think the school also deducts some of it from the university center fees. So what we're paying for support center fees right now is about \$1.94 per student, and we're just about 4,000 graduate students, approximately. So they take that and then they also take from university center fees. Those fees are also used to settle our rent and other things. So there are many other operational costs that are involved in that. And if we just take one \$130,000 out, so many other things would not be able to work operationally within the GSA at a sustainable rate.

Anastasia, CUSA: I can provide some additional information as well if possible. During our negotiations that we've been having with the executive over the past few months, the university sort of made it clear to us that that university fee that you collect is, you know, it's intentionally collected for service centers that serve graduate students. And since CUSA is the association that runs those service centers, that fee is actually designated for service centers, so would fall under this agreement. And in addition you know, like the GSA asked for statistics to provide some clarity around the funding around our service centers, and what that cost looks like for graduate students, and upon collecting those statistics and putting together this presentation, it has been determined that that university fee is is not actually a number that



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

supports the resources that our service centers provide or that the USC specifically provides to graduate students, which is why that number has increased. And I know during our conversations we also spoke about the GSA potentially in future years holding a referendum to help meet that number.

Amanda, Councilor: So my questions back to your prediction about the number of grad students that will be accessing this in the future. I don't think that the number is going to increase nearly as much as you think it has, because the number of grad students we have at Carleton is not an infinite number and it changes every year. The students who are already accessing it are probably the ones who need it right now, and I don't think that number is going to increase nearly as much as you think based on people already accessing it. Students who are still not accessing it probably won't, because that gap hasn't changed, and it's not going to be changing as much anymore. It's sort of stabilizing out. I just don't think that number is a reasonable prediction.

Liam, USC: The prediction for this year moving forward. So if we ignore last year's increases, the prediction just for this year from September 2022 moving forward assumes that it does stabilize, assuming that we only get 450 ish hampers a month for the rest of the academic year and then the summer as well. Right now we are still seeing an increase between September and projected October totals, and there was a huge increase between August and September. So, I hope you're right in that it stabilizes. That projection assumes we stabilize and assumes we remain at the 450 hampers per month.

Reza, BOG: Regarding Amanda's point, just a comment that it is totally right because people who are needing and demanding the food, they already registered in the portal, they already applied, especially in 2021 that it was a peak of inflation and peak of needs for food banks and hampers. So this is not a realistic estimation. Based on your estimation, you predict that the cost of the hampers, if your projection is right, will be \$138,000 but the thing is you are requesting less than that to the GSA. And the thing is, you have many other services that you are providing to graduate students, so they are free? If they are not free, why are you not involving them in this. And also another thing, if, for example, this is the cost of the hampers or not all, but if it's all this is also kind of not a clear connection between that. So it's like the hamper is kind of hostage here for the other services, because the price that you are saying is less than the hampers, and if it is only for hampers because you so, other services, that you are providing to graduate students, what will happen to that? So if it's free, it can continue to be.

Liam, USC: So the Foot Patrol service cluster, the other services that we mentioned, if we aren't able to continue offering grad students hampers, we will continue offering the foot patrol service cluster services. The GSA does have a small levy specifically for foot patrol. It's less than the undergraduate levy. But some funds that are paid into the services, and we're happy to eat that cost, or or sustain that cost, regardless



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

of what happens to the Emergency Essentials Assistance program. On the Emergency Essential Assistance program side, the the reason we're only asking for \$111 (thousand) when it the the estimate is \$138 (thousand) is because we know that that ask is already a lot and we we did our best to to be as conservative as possible with all of our estimates, and now we're doing our best to ask for something that we hope might be possible, because the last thing we want to do is have to cut folks off. We talk to these people everyday, folks that use our services and we're just trying to find a solution that works for everyone.

Robert, Councilor: I have another question. But before that, just to give, like a brief, follow up comment to my prior questions. The reason why I had been asking that was basically going down the thought pattern of if the way the GSA finances currently are makes the request unsustainable, but the service is clearly I mean, as has been laid out, so valuable to graduate students, I do think again in the absence of other information and I'm willing to be informed, but like basically information, I have, I'd certainly be willing to explore in the future a potential referendum, or otherwise, effort to bring about a specific fee on GSA members in order to directly support the service. That's something I would put forward as a potential avenue to explore in the future, recognizing that it's not possible to just snap the fingers and implement right now. My question is I know Appendix B is laid out in the agenda as the position that I believe the executive has put forward in consultation with GSA's finance staff based on what is seen to be feasible and there's clearly a difference there in monetary value between what is being proposed in Appendix B and was being requested here. And so my question is, what happens if we pass the recommendation in Appendix B? In other words, would grad school be cut off from the services? Does appendix B go far enough?

Liam, USC: on our end we we need to get the the funds to cover the amount that we're providing to graduate students from somewhere and and if we don't get the \$110,000 from the GSA, that'd be something that we we need to go to CUSA to ask for, and then from from there essentially undergraduate student fees would be paying for graduate hampers to to cover the balance. And I'm not sure the feasibility of that. I mean we already had some funds provided to us this year to do exactly that, but I don't think there is a long term feasibility for that for us to get that support and even if we're able to provide services for another few months or another half a year, we'll get to the same point where the money is gone and we need to make a choice about what to do with the last bit left.

Anastasia, CUSA: I can provide some clarity there, just to speak on the agreement a little bit. If the GSA can't fund the USC, we would have to stop serving or that service would no longer be used for graduate students? And you know, in addition, the Ottawa Food Bank only supports, and I believe Neeni could talk on this more, only supports one food center on a campus. So you would not be able to open an additional food hamper service, and so graduate students would just not have access to food hamper services. So essentially your graduate students who are



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

facing, you know, increasing food insecurity would not have access to these resources, and in addition, all of our other service centers which we would be providing for free to the graduate students you know as a sort of in good faith for this agreement would also no longer be provided to graduate students. And part of the fee of this service agreement includes clubs, so graduate students would also not be able to benefit from clubs either

Hayat, BOG: I have a question here. If someone applies, or maybe requests a hamper, there are 3 categories: undergraduate student, grad student and others. Can you define others? Are they maybe staff or can you please give us a definition and if you have a statistical number for how many those others use.

Neeni, USC: So the “others” was actually kept from what was CUSA Food Center. Previously the Food Center used to provide services to everyone, including staff and anyone who maybe just worked here or was an alumni. We kept the others, we've just not removed it so far, but I can tell you, while I was calculating all the statistics for the last 2 years that we've been operational, there has not been any one else that selects “others”. So if someone say graduated in the middle of December, we don't want them to be cut off immediately in December. They can then select “others”, and we can reach out to them and refer them off to other food banks in the area.

Amanda, Councilor: So even looking at the stats for the two years, it's just a surprise to me that council is just hearing about this for the first time if it's been a known issue. So why is it such a rush all of a sudden, and why are we just hearing about this need to have a decision by the first?

Anastasia, CUSA: I can speak on that. So this agreement has been sort of on the table for almost one year after the agreement expired, and we're currently providing the service to graduate students in good faith out of pocket since the GSA has not yet funded us this year or ever since their agreement expired, and it has taken months to connect with your executive team to start these negotiations and so that's why a decision is needed urgently, because we are funding graduate students right now out of pocket, because we we have received the funding that we typically receive from the GSA yearly because of the agreement has expired and it's taken months to negotiate over on the CUSA side, our board actually sort of designates staff to handle the negotiations, and then sort of sends the final negotiation to the board for approval and here I'm not sure really how this has happened but it's come to council and the board instead of designating staff to work out the particulars of the agreement.

Mason, BOG: My question is about information surrounding how many graduate students use the CUSA clubs and societies. I didn't see that on the screen. I'm not sure if I missed it.



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

Neeni, USC: So Liam and I are from the unified support center. We don't work fairly closely with clubs and societies.

Anastasia, CUSA: I don't see any here, and I'm not sure if that's something that we've been asked for in the past, but I can see if I can get some of those for you.

Mason, BOG: That would be great thanks, cause it says I noticed in one of the documents that I received there's kind of a breakdown of how much we would be providing CUSA if we were to approve this. So it was \$75,000 to the support center, \$20,000 to CUSA offices and other centers, and \$35,000 to other clubs and societies.

Anastasia, CUSA: Essentially, it's basically year to year, unlimited graduate students from access or club services and be part of club clubs, an unlimited number of graduate students, so I don't have like the exact numbers for this year or anything in front of me. But there's no restrictions on how many students can access the clubs and services, so that's really a very conservative number.

Mason, BOG: It would certainly be easier to know. I'm not sure if our executives have that information about like, maybe just sent in the past.

Bilan, Chair: This is really just asking for anybody who has a question that they would like to ask directly before going into a deliberation around next steps.

Amanda, Councilor: So this is sort of a response to the access to CUSA clubs stuff. I know in the past that clubs have been able to have bank accounts like graduate societies have been able to have bank accounts, but I've been running into a bunch of roadblocks between the GSA and CUSA about being able to have a bank account for our society. So we don't have full access to CUSA stuff as graduate students.

Anastasia, CUSA: Right and that's because in the past years we asked for additional funding for clubs, because you know, that costs extra money for CUSA, especially in terms of and administrating that and and things like that, and that's not something that the GSA has agreed to. We'd have to increase the clubs fee in order to support fully giving all access. But I meant unlimited in terms of unlimited amount of students being allowed in CUSA clubs and things like that.

Reza, BOG: I want to echo Mason that without that data we cannot move forward. And still regarding Liam's answer, in the Powerpoint, it shows that the estimated cost will be \$138,000. But the money that you are asking for is \$110,000. So this is just for the food and regardless of the other services and centers that you are providing for graduate students. So there is a very huge gap and contradiction here, and without solving these and without realistic numbers, I think that's a problem.



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

Anastasia, CUSA: So I just received information that every single CUSA club has 1-5 graduate students as members in those clubs, and even more for participating and engaging in their events. We just don't have the statistics for the events specifically because we don't have access to that data from the club leaders.

Amanda, Councilor: I wanted to ask, has anyone from the GSA been part of these projection numbers or do they have access to the real data to confirm and discuss with you?

Neeni, USC: The GSA does not have access to our raw data, as in the number of people using our services, because a lot of personal information is stored in our database including name number, emails phone numbers, student numbers, and stuff. We the USC and CUSA as a whole are very big on privacy. Food insecurity is not something that we feel comfortable sharing, or folks facing food and insecurity, they should not have to share their information with external parties, especially when it's not net necessary.

Liam, USC: I just had a quick thought. If there is a strong desire from the GSA council and the GSA executive to validate our numbers and double check all of the math, there might be a potential for someone like the ombudsperson, to do that in a neutral setting, where we could still ensure private data is kept confidential. But that's the only potential compromise I could see on that end. That's just the first thing that came to my mind.

Anastasia, CUSA: In addition, some of these concerns were brought forward during our you know, initial negotiations, and we are, you know, 100% open to sharing, you know, monthly reports and updates things like that. It's just never been asked from us before. We're able to provide sort of those updates monthly or however often the GSA would require those. Other things that we spoke about were providing updates on, you know, graduate students that we're staffing in our businesses like those kinds of numbers as well, and things like that. So providing those types of numbers is something that we would be able to do. Just I see a comment in the chat, and it seems like maybe the question didn't involve anything about personal information. So yes, this information has been shared has already been shared with the GSA executives that we've been negotiating with, as well as the university and we just have we've shared this since the start of our negotiations, and so your executive and board would have had access to this for a while now, throughout the summer.

Bilan, Chair: Okay, so there's a desire to have your discussion amongst GSA members around the proposal, and next steps. But before we do that, Anastasia, we wanted to invite you if you wanted to provide your CUSA report now and then you ask you and Neeni and Liam to leave the meeting afterwards so that folks can have a discussion and let you know about next steps.



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

Discussions were held amongst GSA councillors concerning the service centers

b. Motion 25.11.2022 - 01: Motion to Nominate - GSA Board of Directors member

Appendix A: Whereas one of the Gsa board of directors resigned from her position on September the 22nd, be it resolved that council nominate, and appoint one GSA member as the board of director member for the rest of 2022-2023 academic year.

Moved: Hande

Secunder: Mason

Bilan: Are there any nominations for this role? I'm also not sure if somebody would like to explain a little bit more about what their responsibilities might be to be a board of directors member.

Benjamin: Basically the board of directors, we currently should have four members and one of our board of directors resigned because she got a part time job with the GSA. So we normally meet with the board of directors on a monthly basis, but recently there has been other activities that have been occupying them. We were needing them more with the things like theCUSA-GSA agreement that we were discussing today. Under normal circumstances you'll be meeting on a monthly basis, or when we really need the board, we'll just call them to come and approve certain items that fall under capital funding. It has, like a honorarium, which is \$200 for a full year. So we're looking at maybe increasing that to incentivize folks to to be a part of the activities of the board.

Nominations:

Robert Nelson, nominated by Kahlea Wells (SPPA)

Bilan: Since there is only one nomination, it is acclaimed.

Resolution: Be it resolved that council and nominate and appoint Robert Nelson as the board of director member for the rest of the 2022-2023 academic year. The resolution has already been moved and seconded.

No opposition. Resolution carried.

6. EXECUTIVE REPORT

a. Presentation of reports

Milan Sanghani, President: October starts with community engagement. I attended the tabling at UC atrium for community engagement, prepared by SP4CE. Also to support the cultural event and collaborated with the Indian



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

cultural event, and I, with the executive director, attended that cultural event on October ninth. We also distributed free tickets for that cultural event among our graduate students. I'm also working with Mike's Place manager to set up the workplace, and we are hoping to open soon in November. I also attended the multiple meetings with CUSA, with regards to the CUSA-GSA agreement. Also I participated in the GSA Paul Menton Center committee for the dedicated access fund to work on accessibility. Also last, but not the least, our vice president operations and I are attending the tenth annual conference of the Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Administrators, that is CAPA in Montreal on October 31st-November 4th to represent the GSA.

Evans Boadi, VP Finance: Thank you everyone for your participation and support with the GSA. Whether it's being dialed through or directly. And also with regards to this CUSA-GSA agreement, and for all your comments today. So this October has also been one of our busy times. And then I just want to report that we requested funding from the FGPA to support graduate students, and the good news is they approved us for about \$40,000 to support graduate grants, and awards. We also have the implementation of our online application and this month we have received an application. So, I would like to let you all know, and then inform your students in your departments that grants are available, and they can apply at any time on the GSA website. We're also in the process of getting Mike's Place open and we're also hiring the staff that are required to work there.

Faith Achile, VP Operations: October has been quite busy from the operations and which is my end I've been involved in a few things on behalf of the GSA, and the first I would like to mention is the student government lunch which execs attend monthly with the students with Carleton leadership to sort of advocate for student needs and also listen to where university is at with different things with regard to what we have spoken to them about. Some of the things that were spoken about in the student government launch, were the Panda updates where we actually highlighted that the GSA wasn't made aware of the Panda Games early enough to be able to give graduate students ample access to this, and the school promised that they will keep us in the loop for future athletic events so that the graduate students can actually also have a chance to access it. We also spoke about where are at with the GSA currently and also spoke towards Iranian student supports for international students and many other things, including job opportunities for graduate students that are looking to work on campus for which the registrar let us know that the school is working on more on-campus employment opportunities to be open to all students inclusive, of graduate students. So we're looking forward to more information, and that's in the coming days. University has also directed outreach for Russian and Ukrainian students, and also students from areas of conflict in the form of funding which we shared on our stories on Instagram stories recently and we will also be sharing the link via newsletter to any of our students that may be affected, so that they can also access this funding that university has provided. Another thing I was involved in is



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

the Campus Master Plan committee, which we had a steering meeting this month, and an update from that committee is that the committee has consulted various stakeholders for the campus master plan. The Brook Mccoy team shared updates based on the consultations that have been had up until today, and the feedback centered around flexible learning and working spaces, health and wellness, a multimodal campus, cultural and Indigenous place-making, safe accessible, and legible campus, and many other things. Though the framework isn't finalized yet, the committee encouraged us to let our student members know that it's a very much open for feedback from the student community. So please, if you're here and you haven't given feedback on the Campus Master Plan, please look into that, and take advantage of giving your feedback so that it can be considered in the themes for the framework that is going to be settled. I also attended the student mental health engagement committee meeting where there was a review of the draft mental health framework, and what's part of the meeting, I ensured to speak to the person in charge who is Mikayla, the person in charge of the mental health programming for the school about possible mental health programming initiatives specifically targeted to graduate students, and I was happy to see that it has now been included in the framework. I'm looking forward to more consultations on this to be able to ensure that graduate students' needs are adequately represented in the compass mental health plan. Then there was also the Sexual Violence Prevention Engagement Committee. We were scheduled to meet earlier last week, but were unable to meet. So by the next council meeting, I'll be able to give you a detailed review from that meeting. When we got to the graduate residence caucus, because it hasn't met historically for the past 2 years, it seems like the graduate student caucus hasn't been really active for the GSA. So I'm in contact with Geremy and Laura, who is the contact person for this purpose with regard to residence, in order to resuscitate the graduate residents caucus. So currently we're in the process of trying to start the elections for the graduate residence caucus, so that graduate students living in residence would have access to funding provided by the GSA to be able to have activities and events in residence for graduate students. So we're looking to start and complete the GRC elections in November. For Mike's Place, the manager has been working on reopening, replacing items, cleaning, repairs, and also little forms of awareness to students that Mike's Place is re-opening. There's also the GSA-CUSA Agreement deliberation and many other things which I would probably cut short for now, because I've been talking for a bit.

Hande Uz Ozcan, VP Academic: As vice president academic of the GSA, I'm responsible for the academic advocacy and in the September meeting I announced this good announcement, but I want to mention it again and give updates about it again because there are new counselors right now, so welcome everybody. For the international PhD students, if they are in their sixth year, their International Doctoral Tuition Support (IDTS), which is basically they are paying domestic fees rather than international fees, are cut because the university only gives 5 years of this IDTS. But during the summer, some PhD students reached



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

out to me saying that they wouldn't be able to finish their PhD in 5 years, because of COVID, and, for example, their labs were closed, so they have to extend their PhD to their sixth year. And right now they have to pay international fees again because of their international doctoral tuition support has ended, and throughout the discussions with the graduate faculty board and with the questions that GSA asked at the senate, the provost of the university and the FGPA dean announced to us that they are gonna give international doctoral tuition support to the students in their sixth year of their PhD. And they told us that it will not only be limited right now because in the upcoming year there will be another PhD student who couldn't finish their PhD in 5 years because of COVID, so it will be an ongoing process. So I can say that this is a win for international graduate students. So I'm happy to announce that. And the dean of the FGPA also again said to us that they are working on it, and they are gonna issue this hopefully soon. So this is the good news, and again, there is a graduate academic caucus that I am responsible to chair, and the graduate academic caucus meets every 2 months in a term. So the first meeting will be happening this week. If you are interested to be in the graduate academic caucus and talk about the educational injustices that are happening, you're very welcome. You can send an email to me, and other than that, I would like to also mention that I am a senator because I am VPA here, and I am representing the GSA at the senate, and asking related questions for the senate to consider about the injustices and advocacy happening for the grad students. And I am also attending Campus United meetings and CUPE 4600 meetings because most of the graduate students are also related with Campus United, and we are trying to work together. I would like to say that this is a bargaining year for CUPE 4600, and they wanted me to mention this so we can support each other. Carleton has an integral strategic plan for community engagement, and this week we will have another meeting with the possibilities of community engagement and I will also present on the GSA there. There is this particular advocacy committee, a political advocacy committee of the GSA. Most of the members are graduated, so it is a little bit left out right now, but as the liaison of the political advocacy committee, if you are interested in this committee could you please send me an email and we can start working on it.

Navya, VP External: I am pleased to report on my work during the month of October. It has been particularly busy with the student leaders' meetings, Mike's place work, and wrapping up some key priorities in our grants committee work plan along with my colleagues. We also organized tabling for student community building and also for CFS elections on campus. During the emergency Ontario executive meetings, we discussed the ongoing issues pertaining to student safety and different types of campaigns that needs to be undergone efficiently. How to use the goodies as a medium for Promoting the services was also highlighted. That concludes my monthly report. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Please reach out to me at vpx@gsacareilton.ca. [Report read out by Faith Achile on behalf of VPX]



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

**Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**

b. Questions: None.

7. OTHER REPORTS

a. **Senate & Senate Committees:** No report.

b. **Graduate Residence Caucus (GRC): Faith, VPO-** We're trying to start the process for the elections for the graduate residence caucus to enable students leaving on residents in Leads on the fifth and sixth floor, that's our graduate students, to be able to have access to the funding that's available for them, for events and initiatives in residence. I am now in contact with the person that would be able to link me with the students living on residence and we're hoping to start and conclude that in the month of November and hopefully by the next council meeting we should have the president of the graduate residents caucus already elected and here at a council meeting.

c. **Graduate Faculty Board (GFB): Hayat El Fazani-** I'm still working with graduate students, especially, I'm feeling I'm focusing more on PhD students, not by purpose, but because I see more issues. And I'm in touch with Hande as you can see, Hande keeps sending me the students who approach her about completing their Phd.

d. **Canadian Union of Public Employees 4600 (CUPE 4600): Hande, VPA-** They are not here, but they just sent me an email regarding that again emphasizing this is their year of bargaining, and most of the CUPE 4600 members are also GSA members, graduate students. So they just want us to support this process of bargaining.

e. **Board of Governors (BOG) :** No report.

f. **Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA): Anastasia-** To provide some updates on our various service centers as well, which are part of the agreement and are accessible to graduate students. Our GSRC had their first queer and disabled discussion group. They also hosted a pumpkin carving event and a beyond resilience event for Pop the Stigma. The Wellness center hosted a pumpkin paint night, therapy dog event, self care workshop, and planner workshop. The Women's Center also hosted a pumpkin paint night and hosted a flow yoga event as well. CDAC hosted an entrepreneur workshop, a queer and disabled discussion group with the GSRC, as well as a CDAC information session and a discussion group. And then R.I.S.E. hosted the Rise and Shine Pop the Stigma event, all available to graduate students. In terms of things going on at CUSA, most recently we've been handling the USC expansion, as you know, we've already touched on that, the USC has been approved to move to our, to the first floor space in the UC. So, and this is because the initiative was approved by our CUSA board in the hopes of assisting with those operational expansion that operational expansion businesses. So just to let you know, a few of our businesses are still hiring for cooking staff, including Oli's and Roosters, and we



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

have clarified that graduate students can and are being hired. Actually some were just hired recently. So this is something that you can circulate with your students as you see fit. We're also working on a permanent and a larger multi-phase space proposal. So we're drafting this in consultation with various faith-based clubs on campus, including the MSA, to present to the University and and we hosted a town hall for additional student consultation which had great engagement and participation and if anybody from the GSA or any other graduate students have an interest in this proposal, definitely reach out with your consultation and your feedback. We successfully advocated for an every child matters flag to fly on September thirtieth. That was True and Reconciliation Day. Our Vice President of community engagement, and site coordinator also marked this day with a flag raising ceremony and we're currently working on drafting amendments to the university's flag policy and lobbying for a permanent Algonquin Nation and Pride flags to fly on campus permanently. This is an important step towards creating true representation and community safety on campus. In addition, we are also working on repainting the rainbow crosswalk. So our GSRC and our Vice President of Student Issues have worked hard on a proposal to update this crosswalk to the 2021, version which includes intersex people who have historically been discriminated against, similar to to the progress pride flag, but a little bit more updated. Pop the Sigma, we just finished running our mental health awareness advocacy campaign, which you know, we were tabling in the UC for the week, and all those various events that I mentioned from our service centers, all of which were available to graduate students.

g. Questions: None.

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. **Mike's Place Ad-Hoc Financial Review Committee: Amanda-** We haven't met since the last meeting. With no head of the committee, we haven't had any meetings. I believe that the Mike's Place Committee should be an ongoing committee, instead of an AD hoc committee so that we can support Mike's place and keep a history to help avoid any repeat of previous problems in the history, and to keep advocating for a better space for Mike's Place to move to that has access to its own kitchen and potentially a more welcoming environment.

b. **Political Advocacy Committee:** brief report to be found in Hande's executive report.

c. **Accessibility Committee: Hande-** I mentioned before about this PMC survey and providing some gifts to the students that filled that survey. Right now we are budgeting and buying the gifts.

d. **Organizational Review Committee: Faith-** We haven't been able to set up any



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

meeting because we are not at a number where we need quorum according to the policy manual and the policy for operations for the organizational review committee. I checked and we have just one member, and we need at least 2 members on the committee, in addition to me being the exec on the committee for the ORC to be able to stand and run. So this is just another call, if anyone is interested in serving as a part of the organizational review committee, you can actually just send me a chat right now, and you know I would get to you on it. But we can't operate with just one member, basically, according to the policy manual.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- Department of English Language and Literature: Apoorva Sanagavarapu...: Nothing to report

- Department of French: No report.

- Department of Geography and Environmental Studies: No report.

- Department of History: No report.

- Department of Psychology: Anna Stone, nothing to report.

- Department of Sociology and Anthropology: Deanna, nothing to report.

- Institute for Comparative Studies in Literature, Art and Culture: No report.

- Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies: No report.

- Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies: No report.

- School for Studies in Art and Culture: No report.

- School of Linguistics and Language Studies: No report.

- School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies: No report.

- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering: No report.

- Department of Electronics: No report.

- Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering: No report.

- Department of Systems and Computer Engineering: No report.



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

- Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism: No report.
- Industrial Design: No report.
- Information Technology: No report.
- Sustainable and Renewable Energy Engineering: No report.
- Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs: No report.
- Department of Economics: No report.
- Department of Law and Legal Studies: No report.
- Department of Political Science: Bronte Wells: We just had our own elections recently so we have a new president, a new MA rep, a new PhD rep, pretty much everybody except for one person who moved from social to treasury.
- Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies: No report.
- Institute of Political Economy: No report.
- Norman Paterson School of International Affairs: No report.
- School of Journalism and Communication: No report.
- School of Public Policy and Administration: Robert- So we conducted our student societies during committee elections at the end of September, which resulted in me and Kalia Wells taking up positions as GSA councillors. Also elected student representatives, masters of sustainable energy reps, and diversity and inclusion rep. For our steering committee for a student society, and I believe, as of just approximately concurrent with this meeting, passed our society budget for the year.
- School of Social Work: Molly Mcgovern: Nothing to report.
- Department of Biology: No report.
- Department of Chemistry: No report.
- Department of Earth Sciences: No report.
- Department of Health Sciences: No report.



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

- Department of Neuroscience: No report.
- Department of Cognitive Science: No report.
- Department of Physics: No report.
- School of Computer Science: No report.
- School of Mathematics and Statistics: Amanda Chafee- What we have to report is, we're trying to put together a clothing sale for our graduate students, however, we're running into problems because we need to collect funds from people before we can do the sale, and we need somewhere secure to keep the funds. In that case, having to go through the school has been proven problematic. So we're trying to get a bank account setup, and we're running into roadblocks with trying to set up an account that won't charge essentially taxes on everything that goes into the account so just a regular account it's been problematic that's what we're dealing with.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Councillor Nomination: Faith, VPO- I wanted to just chip in something before we proceed to further discussions. So more like an announcement that from the next council meeting, we would only be using the the councilor list based on the councilors that have filled out the councilor nomination form and this is just to solidify our processes and so that we can be able to take attendance appropriately, and know who exactly is the counselor for what department. So please, if you haven't filled out that form yet, please do, or have your departmental executives do so on your behalf. Two or one counselor per department. Just putting it out there because I want it to be recorded in the minutes also. So please take note that from the next council meeting it's not just going to be the same old council list, it's going to be people that have filled out the form.
- b. CUSA-GSA agreement:
Be it resolved that:
 - Carleton GSA administration develop a report explaining the flow-through of every GSA fee, for presentation to Council no later than November 30, 2022.
 - The Carleton GSA enter into an agreement with CUSA to fund the USC based on their outlined requests from November 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023, and pay any retroactive amount that Carleton GSA is owing, on the condition



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

that CUSA provide Carleton GSA with any data requested about services graduate students use.

- GSA administration and Executive thoroughly explore options for alternative delivery of food bank and emergency supply services, and report back to Council no later than January 31, 2023.
- GSA administration and Executive prepare a referendum question for the express purpose of funding the USC, to request a fee of no more than \$25 per year per graduate student, to be presented to Council no later than January 31, 2023.

Robert: Basically, I put forward this four-prong motion in response to how the discussion has gone today and based in my motivation, it's essentially that obviously we do not want to take any action that cuts our graduate students off from access to the food bank and the services connected to the USC but there have also been very reasonable concerns raised with regard to access to data, and just broadly, I think council as a whole wants to have a better base of knowledge around this. We want to know more like value for money we're putting into this, the possibilities for alternative service delivery, and so on. so the intent of this motion is to allow service, delivery to basically go on as it has been for the next 4 months, while our executive and administrative staff look into potential options for either shifting to alternative service delivery through the GSA itself or alternatively something to the effect of implementing a different fee, or or something else that would allow the GSA to continue to fund these services that our graduate students are clearly utilizing to a good extent.

Moved: Robert

Seconded: Mason

Discussions around the proposed resolution were held

No opposition.

Resolution adopted as presented.

- c. Amanda: I just wanted to put forward, moving the ad hoc Mike's Place Committee to becoming a permanent committee to keep record and history.

Mason: Can this committee be moved into an existing committee?



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

Amanda: I don't think an existing committee could fully address the commitment required to address the business needs of Mike's Place.

Faith, VPO: For a committee to be set up permanently, there needs to be proper documentation and terms of references. That is supposed to come before making it permanent. This is necessary to know how many members are needed and a terms of reference is required for the committee to be added to the policy manual.

Amanda: I can do that.

Resolution tabled for consideration at the next council meeting

11. ADJOURNMENT

At: 8:38PM



GSA COUNCIL – MINUTES

***Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa,
Ontario On Zoom - 6:00 pm – Tuesday, October 25th, 2022***

APPENDIX A: List of Motions

Motion 25.11.2022 - 01: Motion to Nominate - GSA Board of Directors member Whereas

one of the GSA Board of Directors (Cassandra Szabo) has resigned from her position on September 22nd, 2022.

BIRT that Council nominate and appoint 1 GSA member as the BOD member for the rest of the 22/23 academic year.

APPENDIX B: CUSA x GSA Agreement - Suggestion from GSA

GSA Alternative Option to what CUSA is Proposing

Currently, CUSA is proposing that GSA pay \$130, 000 for the CUSA-GSA Agreement. GSA **Finance** has advised that this amount will have to come from our savings account since GSA's operations budget does not have enough finances to handle that. GSA would like to be part of this program; however, the amount requested to sustain the program is beyond GSA's **annual operating budget** affordability.

An affordable figure for GSA will be around \$70, 000. GSA can also collect food items from the community and donate those to the Unified Services Center. We could also offer other non-monetary values such as food storage rooms for the Unified Services Center to use to offset rental costs and other expenses.

APPENDIX C: Resolution regarding GSA X CUSA Agreement

Be it resolved that:

- Carleton GSA administration develop a report explaining the flow-through of every GSA fee, for presentation to Council no later than November 30, 2022.
- The Carleton GSA enter into an agreement with CUSA to fund the USC based on their outlined requests from November 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023, and pay any retroactive amount that Carleton GSA is owing, on the condition that CUSA provide Carleton GSA with any data requested about services graduate students use.
- GSA administration and Executive thoroughly explore options for alternative delivery of food bank and emergency supply services, and report back to Council no later than January 31, 2023.
- GSA administration and Executive prepare a referendum question for the express purpose of funding the USC, to request a fee of no more than \$25 per year per graduate student, to be presented to Council no later than January 31, 2023.