



ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

President's Report

October 2019

AUGSA Meetings

- October 1: Executive Meeting
- October 8: Council Meeting
 - Guest Speak: Neil Fassina
- October 10: Executive Director regular check-in meeting

Athabasca University - Internal Committee Work

- October 3: FGS Faculty Council meeting
- October 9: Student Consultation meeting with Provost Office
 - Follow-up with supporting statistics from graduate survey, supporting advocacy agenda items (ie. Career services, professional services, representing graduate students)
- October 17: Meeting with Pamela Hawranik, Associate VP of Research

Graduate Student Research Conference

- October 9: Steering Committee meeting (absent as I was double booked)
- October 16: Steering Committee meeting
- Spoke to Ministers office and secured commentary for GSRC. Sent thank-you note.
- October 17: Met up with Shauna in Calgary to drop off swag for GSRC

abGPAC and CASA

- October 1: abGPAC check-in with member President's with abGPAC Chair
- October 2: abGPAC Board meeting
- October 11: abGPAC Governance Planning meeting
- Ongoing: Confirmation of association fees to abGPAC investigating and asking for clarity.
- October 3 & 17: CASA National Advocacy Committee meeting
- October 14: CASA check-in with member President, with Priya at CASA Home Office

General/Other

- Speech preparation for GSRC closing comments
- Overseeing AUGSA activities and responding to inquiries and support
- Review of agendas and supporting documentation
- Presidents Message/Newsletter/Creation of AUGSA Agendas
- Approval of Expenses

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- Student Inquiries
- Monitoring and Responding to Email/Text/Phone Communications
- Administrative/Miscellaneous

The big deliverable this month is the Graduate Student Research Conference, which takes a full 3 days of on-the-ground collaboration and work. While I was not in attendance (due to my MBA international in-residence), the event has been well planned to be successful and the feedback received has been positive.

Time Tracking

October 2019: 60 hours +/-

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VP External's Report

October 2019

AUGSA Executive/Council Meetings

- October 1: Executive Meeting
- October 4: Engagement Committee Meeting
- October 8: Council Meeting
- October 22: Hiring Committee meeting – finalizing job description and work plan
- October 25th – Meeting with Dr. Thompson – canceled.

Graduate Student Research Conference

- October 15th: IT meeting
- October 16th: Steering Committee Meeting
- October 25th-27th – Conference – incl running the online meeting space.
- October 28th – Wrap up meeting

Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (abGPAC)

- October 17th – Board Meeting
- Press release collaboration, indigenous survey review.
- Ongoing technical issues with google groups.

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations

- October 3: Member Relations Committee Meeting
- October 18th: Member Relations Committee Meeting
- GoTV Assessment

Other Meetings/Events

- October 18th - FHSS FACutly meeting – 9:30-12:00
- October 24th – Advanced Education Minister budget announcement

General/Other

- Ongoing social media content and ensuring other stakeholders are advertising GRC and AUGSA services
- Finalized draft of Communications Coordinator job description and hiring plan
- Collaboration with ab-GPAC budget press release

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- Approval of Expenses
- Responding to Email/Text/Phone Communications
- Administrative/Miscellaneous

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ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Vice President Academic

October 2019

Meetings

- AUGSA Executive Meeting (1)
- FGS Faculty Council (3)
- AUGSA Council Meeting (8)
- MSCHE Meeting (9)
- GFC Executive (10)
- General Faculty Council (17)
- Student Academic Appeals (17)
- GFC Student Awards Committee – Vanier (22)
- AUGSA Awards Committee (22)
- MSCHE Meeting (23)
- Intro to Dr. Veronica Thompson (24)
- 2019 Graduate Student Research Conference (25-27)
- Dean FGS Advisory Committee (30, 31 x 2)

Actions delegated from Meetings

- **Awards Committee**
 - Reviewed 17 applications for Outstanding Distinction Award
 - Anticipating AUGSA Bursaries deadline of November 1st
 - Final two “President’s List” items, process steps and Matrix evaluations to be discussed before end of 2019 – next steps include assembling all recommendations into one document and determining what items can be decided at council and which need to wait for the AGM.
- **MSCHE Criteria IV**
 - Should be wrapping up the final document by first week of November. Though the work itself has been rewarding, it has been the collaboration across faculties that I have enjoyed the most.

General/Other

- Security breach that happened this month served as a good reminder for everyone to be careful when sharing sensitive information online as well as AUGSA protocol that is in place to deal with such breaches.
- Working with Philip on AUGSA presentation to his faculty for November 5.

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- Entertaining ideas from others (ie: Kalista) around enhancements to our financial Aid program. It is encouraging to hear feedback from everyone around the importance of Financial Aid and some suggestions on how to augment on current program further.
- **2019 GSRC** – it was a pleasure to attend the conference. I helped with event photography while taking in as many of the presentations as possible. An excellent recruiting opportunity for future members of AUGSA Council. It was great to meet the FGS staff (Vicky, Shawna, Shawn, Corinne, and Krystal). It was also nice to meet Mary Anne and Margaret in person. It is important to take advantage of opportunities like this to interact with students face-to-face as it really enhances the overall learning experience. A big congratulations to this year's Steering Committee for a job well done!
- **Dean FGS Advisory Committee** – it is an honor to be asked to serve on this committee. There are 10 meetings scheduled for the next 7 days before the actual search starts. We will be reviewing resumes in Q1 of 2020.

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Association**

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AUGSA August Meeting Minutes

Date: November 12, 2019 6:00 pm

Place: Web conference

Attendance :

Executive Committee: Heather DeBoer (VP Operations & Finance), David Thomson (VP Academic)

Faculty of Business Representatives: Judd Asoyuf, Margaret Clappison, David Newman

Faculty of Health Disciplines Representatives: Nicole Klix, Christopher Rudan, Lindsay McNena

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative: David Cloutier, Linda Perschonke, Kelli Buckreus,

Faculty of Science and Technology: Liliana Quyen Tang, Philip Kirkbride

Staff:

Kallista Chayil (Speaker), Ross Tyson (Executive Director)

Regrets: Meaghan Sullivan, Mary-Anne Parker,

Absent: Ashley Ravenscroft,

		Presenter	ACTION	TIME
1.0	Call to Order	Speaker	The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm MST.	6:04

2.0	Approval of Agenda		<p>Motion 2.0 To approve the agenda as distributed. Moved: David Cloutier Seconded: Nicole Klix Motion carried without opposition.</p>	6:04
3.0	Approval of Previous Minutes		<p>Motion 3.0: To approve the minutes of October 8 Council meeting. Moved: Margaret Clappison Seconded: Lindsay McNena Carried without opposition</p>	
4.0	Reports and Presentations			6:09
	4.1 Executive Reports		<p>Ross presented the President report. Heather reported that she was unable to print the financials because of new credit card problems.</p> <p>David reported that awards committee had a busy month with Outstanding Distinction and AUGSA bursaries. We had seventeen applications for OD this year. We had five bursaries given out to end the money available in this calendar year. Lindsay questioned the decision to only give out four OD awards when we had five to present. David explained that the committee read the information and concluded that the Faculty award constituted one of the awards leaving four for students.</p> <p>Lindsay reported on CASA's work this last month. A search for a new Executive Director is almost complete. Lindsay and Mary-Anne will be attending the next meetings. Reports attached.</p>	6:35
	4.2 Financial Report		<p>There were no financial prepared for this meeting. Heather said that she would send them out to Council members shortly.</p>	
5.0	Communications Coordinator		<p>Ross reported that he only had one application to date, and that the committee had been hoping for more applications from students. We may have to open the competition to external sources.</p>	6:10

6.0	Graduate Student Research Conference		Ross congratulated the exec team for their work at the Conference and especially Mary-Anne for her representation of AUGSA speaking for the President.	
7.0	New Business			
7.1	Elections 2020		Ross reported that the election cycle would be starting up after the new year and for members of Council to consider running again next year or seeking executive positions.	
8.0	Committee Updates			
	8.1 Labour Relations Committee		Ashley was absent, so no official report was considered. David C reported that the committee was still in data collection mode and was hoping for more input from current and past Executive members.	
	8.2 Hiring Committee		See Communications Coordinator	
	8.3 Budget Committee		Heather went through the draft presented to Council. The budget will be brought to the December Council meeting for approval.	
	8.5 Faculty Reps – Working Committees		No reports.	
9.0	Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (abGPAC)		Lindsay reported that the advocacy meetings have been set up along with a half day Government training day. Two full days at the Legislature. The GOA budget announcement was followed up by a meeting with Graduate Student Council Presidents.	
10.0	Old Business			
11.0	Other Business		Nicole Klix mentioned that Dr. Fassina mentioned in a letter to students that AUGSA would be brought into a meeting prior to changes being made in tuition ,etc. For example, originally our tuition was based on price per program, and now looks like price per course. Lindsay reminded everyone that if they are looking for online mental health counselling it is Homeward Health that is offering the help, not	

			AU counselling. Ross will send out this information in newsletter monthly.	
12.0	Adjournment		Motion 14.0: To adjourn the meeting. Moved: Lindsay McNena Seconded: Margaret Clappison Carried without opposition.	7:05
13.0	In-Camera			

Meaghan Sullivan, President

Ross Tyson, Executive Director

Date of Approval

VPOF

October 2019

AUGSA Executive/Council Meetings

- Executive Meeting
- Council meeting

Committee Meetings

- Budget committee

General

- Graduate Student Conference
- Emails (Budget Edits)
- Bookkeeping
- Payrolls and Awards, Graduate Student Conference Coordinator direct deposits
- Expense audits
- Cheque Signing
- Expense reimbursements