



Graduate Students Association of McMaster University
Graduate Student Services Review Committee (GSSRC) Meeting



Thursday, October 28th, 2015
GSA Office, East Tower Refectory
1:00 p.m.

Minutes

In Attendance: Talena Rambarran, Natalie D’Silva, Naby Nikookaran, Pouya Taatizadeh, Anita Acai, Andrew Kloiber, Rodrigo Narro Perez, Salim El Bouzidi, Sarah Nangle-Smith

Regrets: Manraj Kaur, Sarah Lade

1.0 Call to Order 1:09 pm

2.0 Acceptance of the Agenda

Motion to accept the Agenda by Andrew: 2nd Salim, unanimous

3.0 Approval of minutes

Motion to accept the Minutes by Naby: 2nd Andrew, unanimous

4.0 Discuss our options regarding proposed CAFs

Graduate Student Services Committee - Summary of Service/Fee Options

All options entail:

- equal access to SWC and A&R for graduate and undergraduate students.
- grad student representation on the McMaster's Student Services Committee (SSC) and subcommittees.
- phase in over a three year period - between Fall 2016 and Fall 2018.

Any charges recovered by SWC through the GSA Health Plan will be used to offset fees in the following year (rough est. \$50K/year).

Please see "Provincial overview" worksheet for a comparison of graduate student services fees.

Option A - Base Level

No additions to mental health services for graduate students; no School of Graduate Studies career services fee

Per term fee*

	FT	PT
SWC**	50	10
A&R	34.12	8.53
Total	84.12	18.53

*The current graduate student services fee (excluding DBAC fee) is \$39.89 (full-time, per term)

and \$19.94 (part-time, per term)

**There were 6779 visits to SWC by 1510 graduate students last year.

Option B - Base Level + Career Services

Add SGS Career Services fee to option A

Per term fee

	FT	PT
SWC	50	10
A&R	34.12	8.53
SGS	17.5	8.75
Total	101.62	27.28

The SGS career services fee would enable SGS to make the Career Strategist position permanent and would enable SGS to hire another position specializing in Career Services for graduate students.

Option C - Career Services + additional mental health support

Additional mental health support entails a dedicated graduate student counsellor who would improve continuity of care through summer months, and access to counsellors for partners of graduate students.

Per term fee

	FT	PT
SWC	61.92	12.38
A&R	34.12	8.53
SGS	17.5	8.75
Total	113.54	29.66

Fees for Option C are what was proposed in March 2015 at the GSA AGM.

Option D* – Base level + additional mental health = 113.54 – 17.5 = \$96**

Additional mental health support entails a dedicated graduate student counsellor who would improve continuity of health care through summer months, and access to counsellors for partners of graduate students.

Per term fee

	FT	PT
SWC	61.92	12.38
A&R	34.12	8.53
Total	96.04	20.91

***Option D was added to the list of options during the meeting, and was approved by Sean Van Koughnett.

Immediate impacts if vote no- mental health services

Motion to move forward with these four options and bring it forward to the student body, by Naby, 2nd Rodrigo; unanimous

5.0 Decide on a strategy moving forward

- First blast of info will come from the GSA.
- The GSSRC will hold 2 workshops to discuss the proposed options with the grad populace.
- The GSA Website will have all the information available, including an infographic/presentation.
- Voting will occur in 2 stages
 1. Vote yes or no to the increase
 2. Vote for A/B/C/D
- Information will be displayed on the MSU TVs, which Sean Van Koughnett will get us access to.

6.0 Next Meeting – November 4th 2015, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

7.0 Meeting Adjourned at 2:23pm