

## **McMaster GSA VP Internal Updates, May to September 2020**

As VP Internal for the GSA this past summer, much of my role has included planning different academic workshops for you, coordinating with faculty representatives and faculty associations, and planning Welcome Week 2020. See below for detailed activities in the past months.

### **May 2020**

- I learned about the VP Internal role and set goals for the upcoming year.
- Attended GSA meetings
- Coordinated with Engineering Faculty Representative to the Council (FRC) to begin collaborating with Waterloo's Graduate Students Association on workshops for students from both campuses.
- Coordinated with Health Sciences Graduate Student Federation (HSGSF) to create a Science Communication workshop series (SPICES-funded)

### **June 2020**

- Attended GSA meetings
- Worked on proposals for academic workshops (including leadership workshop series, mental health workshops, and more!)
- Assisted Engineering Graduate Society in their LaTeX workshop
- Held a meeting for all FRC's to learn about their roles
- Held Academic Affairs Committee Meeting

### **July 2020**

- Coordinated with Engineering FRC to begin collaborating with Western's Society of Graduate Students (SOGS) on workshops for students from both campuses
  - Western held a Student/Supervisor Relationship workshop open to students from McMaster, Waterloo, and Western
- Assisted Health Sciences Graduate Student Federation to get Association status under the GSA
- Attended GSA meetings
- Began planning Welcome Week 2020

### **August 2020**

- Attended GSA meetings
- Assisted new FRC's to learn about their roles and how to represent their Faculties
- Assisted in writing GSA Value Proposition & Welcome Week Video
- Planning Welcome Week 2020
  - Planning & drafting Q&A presentation
  - Planning & coordinating online tour of grad student spaces
  - Planning online Resource Fair & Clubs Fest (with over 30 booths)
  - Reached out the various local vendors to get coupons and discounts for students
  - Coordinated with Faculty Associations (EGS, HSGSF, SciGSA, iGSA) to advertise their Welcome Week events
- Conducted outreach & survey to determine what academic workshops students are interested in

- Reaching out to lecturers to hold online academic workshops
  - Data Sciences
  - Academic writing (collaborating with Student Success Centre)
  - Programming (collaborating with EGS)

### **September 2020**

- Running Welcome Week events & advertising. Created the posters.
  - Welcome Week Yoga, Mon., Sept. 7, 2020, 4:30-5:30 PM
    - Other McMaster Pulse workshops/classes are being advertised for students
  - Welcome Week Q&A, Tues., Sept. 15, 2020, 2-4 PM
  - Welcome Week Grad Tour, Thurs., Sept. 17, 2020, 10-11 AM
- Coordinating online workshops
  - Following up on EGS, Student Success Centre, and other groups to set up workshops for the year

See below for an approximate summary of the events & activities under my portfolio this year:

	Activities	Cost
May 2020	Learning about the role & planning future events Liaised with VP Services & External to run short video competition	
June 2020	LaTeX workshop – 100 attendees – Gerhard Trippen ( <a href="https://gsauw.ca/workshops/">https://gsauw.ca/workshops/</a> ) Mental Health Seminar – Ita Tobis ( <a href="https://gsauw.ca/workshops/">https://gsauw.ca/workshops/</a> )	\$200 \$300
July 2020	Academic Affairs Committee Meeting #1 Worked to get HSGSF Association status with the GSA Recruited new Faculty Representative for Business Student-Supervisor Relationship Foundations Workshop (Western/Waterloo collab) Navigating Racial and Cultural Considerations Workshop (Western/Waterloo collab) Professional Development Workshop (Western/Waterloo collab)	\$0
August 2020	LaTeX workshop (Western/Waterloo collab) Planning Welcome Week & future workshops International Graduate Student Advisory Group – representing GSA	
September 2020	HSGSF – Scientific Communication Workshop #1 Cate Hammond Leadership Workshop #1	\$800
October 2020	Adjudicating GSA Awards MC award ceremony in October HSGSF – Scientific Communication Workshop #2 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting #2 Cate Hammond Leadership Workshop #2	\$800
November 2020	HSGSF – Scientific Communication Workshop #3 Cate Hammond Leadership Workshop #3	\$800
December 2020		
January 2021	HSGSF – Scientific Communication Workshop #4 Cate Hammond Leadership Workshop #4	\$800
February 2021	HSGSF – Scientific Communication Workshop #5 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting #3 Cate Hammond Leadership Workshop #5	\$800
March 2021	HSGSF – Scientific Communication Workshop #6	
April 2021	HSGSF – Scientific Communication Symposium	

Budget Items that I will draw from:

- FRC/FA Funding:
  - o \$1500 for FRC's and faculty associations; mainly workshops
- Welcome Week:
  - o \$5000; mainly for the Phoenix BBQ
    - \$1000 of this may be allocated to yoga instructor, projector rental for outdoor movies in September.
- Community Initiatives:
  - o \$1000
    - To be allocated as needed to community projects
- SGS/GSA Joint Contribution:
  - o \$10,000 towards workshops to benefit students
    - These workshops are still being planned & coordinated
    - They include the Engineering Graduate Society technical workshops & the Cate Hammond Leadership workshops
- International Student Welcome Committee:
  - o \$11,000