**McMaster GSA VP Internal Updates, May 2020 to March 2021**

As VP Internal for the GSA this past year, 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. In addition to the duties listed below, I coordinate and work with students individually that reach out to me at [gsavpint@mcmaster.ca](mailto:gsavpint@mcmaster.ca).

**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

**October 2020**

* Attending and participating in GSA Council Meetings and Committee Meetings (Finance).
* Running McMaster Graduate Resource Fair & Clubs Fest- October 1, 2020
* Attended Graduate Council Meeting: October 20, 2020
* Preparing for GSA Special General Meeting: October 15, 2020
* Participated in International Graduate Students Advisory Group (IGSAG): October 26, 2020
* Coordinated with Faculty Representatives to the Council to run a Fitness Class on October 27, 2020
* Coordinating online workshops:
  + Cultivating Resilience workshop (Cate Walker Hammond): October 7, 2020
  + HSGSF Science Communication workshop (SPICES): October 21, 2020
  + Data Science workshop #1: October 28, 2020

**November 2020**

* Attending and participating in GSA Council Meetings, Board Meetings, and Committee Meetings (Finance).
* Attended Graduate Council Meeting: November 17, 2020
* Participated in Admin-Student Consultation on November 19, 2020
* Running the Academic Affairs committee meeting on November 19, 2020
* Assessed and evaluated GSA Awards
* Coordinating online workshops:
  + Writing workshop with Student Success Centre on November 12, 2020
  + Use your strengths to flourish workshop (Cate Walker Hammond): November 18, 2020
  + Data Science workshop #2: November 18, 2020
  + Technical writing workshop (with SciGSA and EGS) on November 24, 2020

**December 2020**

* Attending and participating in GSA Council Meetings, Board Meetings, and Committee Meetings (Finance).
* Attended Graduate Council Meeting: December 8, 2020
* Coordinated with GSA Faculty Representatives from Social Sciences to plan their events for the year
* Coordinating online workshops:
  + Managing difficult conversations (Cate Walker Hammond): December 9, 2020
  + Data Science workshop #3: December 16, 2020

*Note: During January and February 2021, I was taking my comprehensive exams and had reduced GSA activity during this time.*

**January 2021**

* Participated in Microcredentials Committee Meeting with university administration.
* Coordinating events for GSA Winter Welcome Week:
  + GSA Virtual Tour on January 12, 2021
* Coordinating online workshops:
  + Data Science workshop #4: January 6, 2021
  + Take Charge of your life (Cate Walker Hammond) on January 13, 2021

**February 2021**

* Coordinating online workshops:
  + Data Science workshop #5: February 3, 2021
  + Boost your creative problem solving (Cate Walker Hammond) on February 10, 2021
  + Science Communication workshop #3: Learn to virtually communicate your research on February 17, 2021
  + Student/Supervisory Relationship Workshop on February 18, 2021
* Attended GSA Council Meeting on February 26, 2021
* Attended Microcredential Committee meeting on February 26, 2021
* Attended International Graduate Student Advisory Group (IGSAG) meeting on February 26, 2021

**March 2021**

* Attended Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience Committee Meeting with university administration.
* Online workshops:
  + Data Science workshop #6: March 3, 2021