

## President's Report

It's my pleasure to serve as the President of Graduate Students' Association (GSA) for the year 2017-18 with wonderful team of executives and directors. Our goals are to structure the GSA and re-build the trust together in the hearts of our fellow graduate students of Concordia and to make unforgettable achievements. Following sections summarize 2017-18 team accomplishments:

### Office-related projects:

1. *GSA Agenda*  
The GSA agenda books are made available to all graduate students in the GSA house since September and distributed during Fall orientation events. Feel free to pick up yours if you haven't already got one.
2. *Office restructuring*  
Organizing and cleaning the GSA house with the help of executives and staff. Restructuring of GSA lounge is in progress where students can feel it as their home.
3. *Office Inventory*  
Office inventory has been completed with computerized name tags on GSA assets.
4. *Collective agreement negotiations*  
The goal of these negotiations is establishing a solid agreement that guarantees the continuity of the GSA as a professional association that delivers appropriate services to its' members. As previous CA expired, we are following up with union to have new agreement, but union is not coming forward.

### GSA Services:

1. *French classes*  
GSA offers French classes for different levels with low prices. Our team is working and enhanced the quality and could get highest number of registrations in the history of GSA
2. *Free GSA Lounge booking*  
GSA offers free booking for its lounge for studying/meetings/events.
3. *Subsidized Printing and Copying*  
GSA continues to offer subsidized printing and copying project with an objective of minimizing the graduate student printing/copying expenses.
4. *Ikea Toolbox Rental*  
GSA offers free IKEA toolbox rental for all the graduate students.
5. *PS4*  
GSA lounge is equipped with PS4. Don't lose the opportunity and give it a try, especially given the fact that winter is coming.

### Academic-related projects:

1. *Conference Subsidy Program*  
The conference subsidy program opts at subsidizing numerous students for presenting in world-wide conferences. GSA has allocated \$20,000 budget for subsidizing as much students as it could throughout the whole academic year.
2. *Academic Project Funding*  
The academic projects' funding is intended to help members and departmental or faculty student associations in a specific project or event related to their area of studies. GSA has allocated \$7,500 for academic projects to encourage graduates to carry out special projects/events of academic nature.

3. Special Project Funding

The Special project funding goal is to help members and departmental or faculty student associations in a specific project or event designed to contribute to the quality of life, environmental or social or cultural awareness of members of the GSA. GSA has allocated \$7,500 for special projects to encourage graduates to carry out special projects/events that directly contributes to the quality of life, environmental or social or cultural awareness.

4. Revising the Clubs Policy

Clubs policy is being reviewed for better access to our students.

**Events and Fall Orientation:**

1. GSA Iftar Party

The team has executed Iftar dinner for the graduate students in the month of June. Had great response from students

2. GSA Aqua park

The team has organized an Super Aqua park event for graduates in July

3. Fall Orientation

The team, both executives and directors, have been altogether working to maintain successful fall orientation events for welcoming the new students and providing them with all the necessary information about the university and the GSA. This year, 12 events have been carried out to cover all faculties and university campuses/buildings; where diversity and teamwork are considered to be the unique success qualities of this team.

4. Apple picking event

Organized apple picking trip to Domaine de Dunham Orchard

5. Halloween

Halloween pumpkin carving and usual clubbing event was organized

**Advocacy Centre:**

The advocacy center is committed to the promotion and preservation of graduate students' rights at Concordia University through helping students in difficult situations by accurately identifying their needs and determining and executing the necessary course of action. We have our advocacy centre in the basement of GSA house to solve student problems. We have one advocacy manager post vacant and we are looking into the candidates' CVs to hire for that graduate advocacy manager post. We made sure that our graduate student's queries will never be left unanswered.

**Remarks in the end:**

GSA 2017-18 team is wishing you all the best of luck throughout your studies. We are looking forward to cooperatively experiencing a successful academic year full of achievements. If you have any issues/suggestions, please feel free to stop by the GSA house or directly contact me via email at [president@gsaconcordia.ca](mailto:president@gsaconcordia.ca).