April 23, 2021 – (St. Catharines, ON)

GSA Executive Team Ready to Start the 2021-2022 Year

After a year of consultation and with a new structure in place, the GSA opened electoral nominations for the 2021-2022 year. The election resulted in three of the five positions (President, VP External Affairs and VP Equity and Inclusion) being filled. The remaining two positions (VP Student Engagement and VP Communications and Advancement) remained vacant after two calls for nominations, consequently moving forward with recruitment to ensure a full complement ahead of the May 1st transition of executive teams.

"In line with the GSA's procedures, we undertook a comprehensive recruitment process," shares president-elect and recruitment lead Christopher Yendt. "This process included posting a call for applications, submission reviews, shortlisting, and interviews. We received a number of experienced applicants and our members can be confident that the most qualified candidate was recommended for each position."

In a year unlike most, the selection process in its entirety was held in online spaces due to current restrictions in place for COVID-19. The recruitment team's candidate recommendations for each position were presented to the Board of Directors, providing the opportunity to ask additional questions about the recruitment process and of the nominees to fill the vacancies. The Board unanimously supported the appointment of the following candidates:

- Vice President, Communication and Advancement Haley Myatt
- Vice President, Student Engagement Amanda (Nicol-) Macdonald

"We are delighted at the opportunity to work with these two incredible student leaders, who have demonstrated clear passion for student governance," shares Yendt. "As we continue to move forward with our annual executive transition, I am confident that is group will be prepared for the work ahead and dedicated to addressing needs of the graduate student population."

Over the next month, the incoming executive team will be developing an annual plan in line with and in support of the GSA's inaugural Strategic Plan and will present that information to the Board of Directors and is excited to soon share the news with all GSA members.

The term of office for the new executive team begins May 1st, 2021, with both vacancies filled the full GSA Executive team for 2021-2022 will be:

President - Christopher Yendt Vice President, Communication

Vice President, Communication and Advancement – Haley Myatt

Vice President, Equity and Inclusion – Ash Grover

Vice President, External Affairs - Nawal Syed

 $\label{lem:vice President} Vice\ President,\ Student\ Engagement-Amanda\ (Nicol-)Macdonald$

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