

GSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE
GSA APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS BOARD (Renewal of Two (2) GSA Member Positions)

As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, terms of office for the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB) may run for a one (1) or two (2) year term and members may stand for re-election (Section H.POL.7.4). Accordingly, as the terms of office for two (2) members of the GSA ACB has expired or is about to expire, those members were contacted to inquire if they wished to stand for re-election. Both members indicated they wished to extend their service. Additionally, these members have been previously interviewed by GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) members who have been trained in procedural fairness by the GSA and have a record of demonstrating impartiality through their work on the GSA NoC (a member of GSA management was also present for said interviews) and have themselves, following their initial election to the GSA ACB, received training in the basic tenets of procedural fairness.

There will be a paper ballot vote held at the 20 November 2023 GSA Council meeting.

If you and your alternate are unable to attend the Monday 20 November 2023 meeting of GSA Council and would like to cast an electronic vote for this position, you must contact the GSA Elections Coordinator (gsanomco@ualberta.ca) BEFORE 3:00 PM on Monday 20 November 2023 in order to cast your vote in advance of the GSA Council meeting.

Nominees for this position are listed in alphabetical order by last name. ‘None of the Candidates’ will also be considered a nominee.

- 1. Kenzie Gordon (Media Studies & the Digital Humanities – PhD)**
- 2. Sameera Gumma (Public Health)**

Current GSA ACB membership can be found [here](#).

Jurisdiction:

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Sections H.POL.7.1 and H.POL.7.2

“Eight (8) GSA members elected by GSA Council as voting members [and] four (4) Departmental Councillors (including the Indigenous Graduate Students’ Association (IGSA) Councillor), alternates, or recent former Departmental Councillors, elected by GSA Council as voting members.”

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section H.POL.7.4

“Terms of office may run for a one (1) or two (2) year term as recommended by the GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC).”

GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section H.POL.8.1

“The GSA NoC will interview all nominees to the GSA ACB and forward selected nominees to GSA Council.”

The biographies and brief resumes received for the two (2) nominees is BELOW on pages 12.1 – 12.2. The biographies and brief resumes are presented as received (i.e. not edited).

**NOMINATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A GSA ACB POSITION
(TWO (2) POSITION RENEWALS FOR TWO (2) GSA MEMBERS)
Two (2) Nominee for GSA Members**

1. Kenzie Gordon

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	MLCS Departmental Council
Statement of Interest	
<p>I would like to continue with another term on ACB to continue to support the important governance work of the GSA. Although rarely called to duty, I think the ACB fills a critical role in maintaining accountability and fairness throughout the operations of the GSA and the elections process, and it's important to me to support that mission. As someone who has previously been extensively involved with the GSA through council, GSAB, NoC, and other ad hoc work, I believe I bring some experience in understanding the operations and regulations surrounding the GSA's function which is beneficial for ACB. I hope that this will allow me to ensure that fairness and transparency remain part of how the GSA supports grad students on campus.</p>	
Bio	
<p>I am a PhD Candidate in Media Studies & the Digital Humanities, as well as a social worker in my pre-grad school life. My research examines issues of gender-based violence in video games, and I have also worked extensively on research projects examining equity issues in game education and the industry in North American contexts. I have previously completed a BA in History & African Studies and an MA in Digital Humanities at the U of A (as well as a BSW at the University of Calgary), making this my 10th (non-consecutive) year as a student at the U of A. In that time, I have served in roles on the Students' Union council, GSA council, GSAB, GSA Nominating Committee, Arts Faculty Council, the University's Sexual Violence Prevention working group, and MLCS departmental council, as well as a dozen+ student groups. I believe I have a strong understanding of the different governance procedures of the university and the relationships between them, which I would bring to my renewed role on ACB. I have also volunteered with numerous organizations in the city, including the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Catholic Social Services, Edmonton Immigrant Services Association, John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights, and Water Warriors. As a social worker and social justice advocate, I believe strongly in the value of fair processes that take into consideration things like accessibility and language, which are key values for the work of ACB.</p>	

2. Sameera Gumma

Other governance bodies you currently serve on (whether GSA or UAlberta)	School of Public Health Student Association
Statement of Interest	
<p>I have always been interested in giving back to my community in a positive way, as demonstrated by my extensive volunteer experience during my undergraduate degree at UBC Vancouver. Furthermore, I would love the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals from various disciplines at the university and expand my network. Lastly, I would love the opportunity to be a representative of the School of Public Health on the GSA ACB and maintain the standard of fairness and equality of the GSA. I have already served in this position last year and would like to re-extend my position. I look forward to the opportunity of working with the ACB again.</p>	
Bio	

During my undergraduate experience, I have been on various executive boards holding positions such as Vice President Internal/External, Director of Internal Communications, Director of Alumni Relations, and Standards Board member, among others. As a Standards Board member, my responsibility was to work with my team to hear any complaints and help resolve any issues members of the organization had, in an impartial and confidential manner. For example, issues have ranged from help with declining academics, issues between any members of the 100+ member organization, or any assault on a member.

During my time as the Director of Internal Communications, I acted as a liaison between the 800+ members of the organization, UBC staff and the executive board, which required extensive knowledge on the relevant policies and excellent communication skills. Additionally, as a Health Policy and Management student, we receive training on leadership, independent thinking and neutrality, which are skills I would love to showcase in a role such as this one. I believe that I have the skills and the attitude necessary to thrive in this position. I look forward to hearing back from you.