

Graduate Student Association

University of Waterloo

2021 - 2022 Overview



Presented By: Glaucia Melo, Interim President
April 2022

Political Positions



**Ensuring ethical academic,
employment, and social policies
for UWaterloo Graduate Students**



**Mitigating barriers to pursuing
graduate education in Ontario**



**Encouraging the University of
Waterloo and wider Region of
Waterloo community to be leaders in
sustainability**



Supporting student mental wellness

SERVICES OFFERED BY GSA-UW



POLITICAL REPRESENTATION
ON & OFF CAMPUS



GRT & ION
TRANSIT UPASS



LEGAL & TAX AID



SLC GRAD LOUNGE



STUDENT ADVISING &
ADVOCACY



HEALTH & DENTAL PLANS
(INCLUDING MENTAL
HEALTH)



GRADUATE HOUSE &
EVENTS

Overview



Members
(>5,500)



President



Vice-Presidents
of Admin &
Comms



Board of
Directors
(12 members)



Council
(~50 members)



Management
staff

GSA Portfolios

Internal organization and
staff distribution of
responsibilities and
initiatives

Wellness

Equity

Student Engagement

Labor

Elections

Residence/Housing

International Students

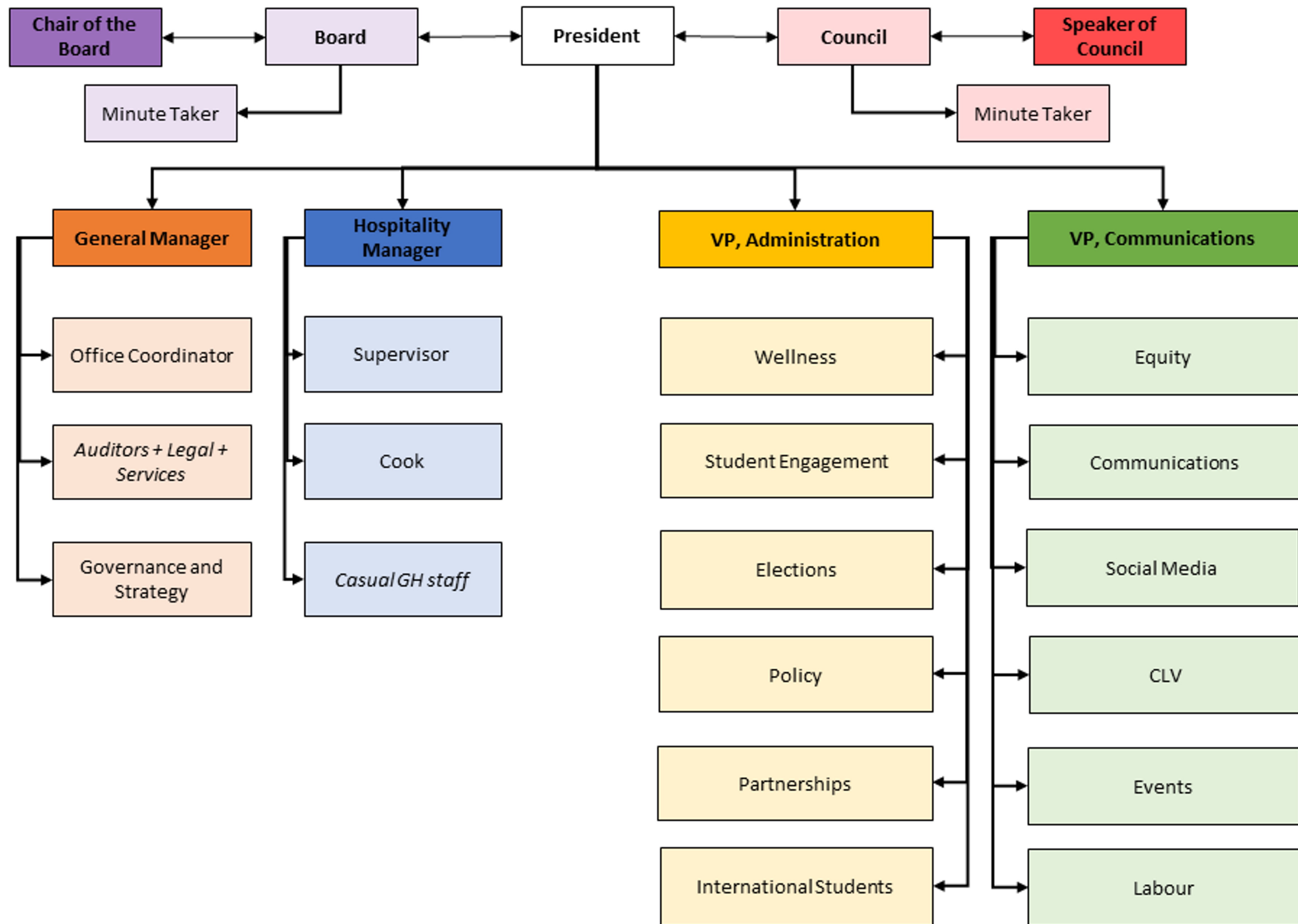
Community Partnerships

Policy

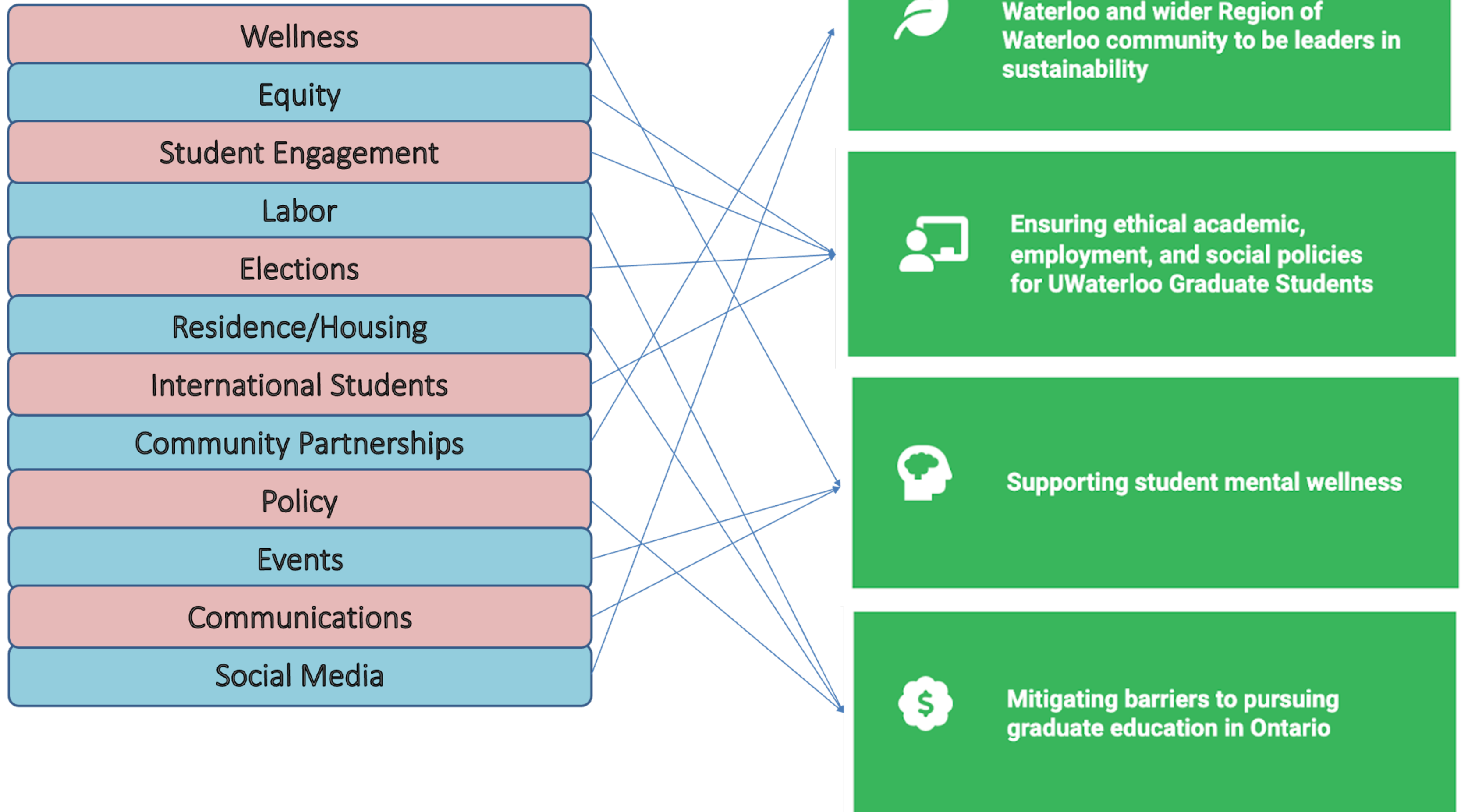
Events

Communications

Social Media



Portfolios -> Positions



Recent Past

- **Internal Changes:**
 - Transitions: Management, Executive, Board, Coordination
 - Growth from 4 -> 25 staff members in the last few years
 - Adoption of Equity Policy
- Policy 30 edits
- TA cap increase from 10 -> 20 hours/week
- Edits to Graduate Supervisory Text in GSAC
- Negotiating Funding Increase of 2.02% (primarily proposed as 1.7%)

<https://gsauw.ca/news/kips/>

Current Initiatives

- Internal Operations Manual Draft
- [Workshops and Events](#)
- [UW Committees' participation](#)
- [GSA Philanthropy Fund](#)
- [BIPOC Collective](#)
- International Student [Discord](#) and [Blog](#)
- [SLC Office and Lounge Operation](#)
- [Graduate House Operation](#)
- [Research](#)

Advocacy



Ombuds Office



Equity



Labor



Housing



Food Security



**Counselling
Services**



**Minimum
funding
increase**

<https://gsauw.ca/research/advocacy-initiatives/>

Partnerships

- GSPA - Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs
 - Hired a Strategic Programming Researcher
- WUSA
- Writing and Communications Centre
- Alumni Office
- City of Waterloo
- StudentCare
- Grand River Transit
- Organize UW

Updates

- Spring 2022: UPass Refund Program Continues
- Fall 2022: UPass Refund Program Updates
- GRT Bus Pass fee updates (\$105.50 -> \$107,61)
- New GSA President Hiring and Onboarding
- Coordinator and VPs Hiring Season Starting in April, continuing through Spring Term, for Fall Onboarding

Future Initiatives

- ❑ Develop equity-focused scholarship
- ❑ Expand Health Care Coverage
- ❑ Graduate House infrastructure improvements and shift hours increase
- ❑ Strengthen Advocacy Initiatives
- ❑ Draft new policies: RAs and Sessional version of Employment Policy 30
- ❑ Working with GradReady to include GSA-UW
- ❑ Development of new Strategic Plan 2023-2026

Stay Connected!



Follow the GSA on social media:

Instagram: @gsa.uwaterloo

Facebook: @gsauw

Twitter: @GSA_UWaterloo

YouTube: GSA-UW

LinkedIn: Graduate Student

Association-University of Waterloo

Follow the Graduate House on social media:

Instagram: @the_graduate_house

Facebook: @uwgradhouse

Twitter: @UWGraduateHouse

