Job Title: Vice President of Advocacy

Organization: Graduate Student Association – University of Waterloo

Reports To: GSA President

Salary Grade: $33 per hour (12 hours per week)

Vacation Entitlement: 4% vacation pay

Effective Date: August 28, 2023

End Date: September 8, 2024 (renewable with satisfactory performance)

Primary Purpose

The Vice President of Advocacy will support the President in providing leadership for the Graduate Student Association-University of Waterloo (GSA-UW), both internally and externally, and accomplishing the ends of the GSA-UW.

The primary purpose of this position is to — under the oversight of the President and guided by our Political Positions — lead and manage the GSA-UW’s advocacy initiatives, including developing advocacy strategies and planning long-term initiatives to support graduate students at the University of Waterloo, on- and off-campus.

The Vice President of Advocacy will lead and support the advancement of the GSA mission of enhancing graduate students' experience by promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion. This position oversees the programs and initiatives dedicated to the GSA's various advocacy portfolios, including (but not limited to) Advising, Equity, Labour, and Housing.

Additional responsibilities pertaining to the GSA's operations may be set by the President on an ongoing basis.

Key Responsibilities

- Uphold the GSA-UW mission, vision, and values of the Association.
- Represent the interests of and advocate for graduate students on University of Waterloo (UW) committees and to external bodies.
- Supervise the GSA Advocacy team, comprising several members of the GSA.
- Develop and coordinate processes to gather input from graduate students and other stakeholders about issues affecting the lives of graduate students.
- Develop and maintain effective working relationships and communication with the university and city-wide committees and chapters.
Employment Opportunity
Graduate Student Association - University of Waterloo

Required Qualifications

- Full- or part-time graduate student at the University of Waterloo.
- Minimum of 1 year of professional experience with a proven track record of community engagement and advocacy efforts.
- Experience working with student-led or non-profit organizations.
- Skill to advocate strongly and professionally on behalf of graduate students in conflictual situations and to work resourcefully and independently to identify and seek out needed information and resolutions.
- Demonstrate working knowledge of equity and anti-oppression practices.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively and independently.

DIVERSITY AND EQUITY:

The GSA is involved in significant conversations and decisions directly related to student life at UW, and this dialogue is strengthened when the GSA staff team is composed of students with diverse backgrounds, identities, challenges, and experiences. The GSA welcomes and encourages applications from qualified individuals who are Black persons, Indigenous persons, and persons of colour, persons with disabilities and/or accessibility needs, all religions and ethnicities, and all gender identities, gender expressions and sexual orientations.