



**GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
AGENDA
Wednesday, September 28, 2022
1:15 pm – 3:15 pm / ZOOM**

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Students' Union Report
3. Report from Senate
4. Preferred location for future meetings
5. Okanagan Ombuds Advisory Committee's (OOAC) Graduate Student member (attachment)
6. Creating focused resources to support grad students who are writing their thesis in English as their second or third language (Manish)
7. Other Business

Dear Dr. Shipley,

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration with the Ombuds Office. As requested, we provide below an overview of the role of the Ombuds Advisory Committee and the nomination process for the seat designated for a graduate student.

The Okanagan Ombuds Advisory Committee (OOAC) was established for the Okanagan campus during the winter of 2019 and its members first convened in January 2020. The Vancouver campus has had its own OAC since the Ombuds Office's inception in 2010; however, with the ups and downs of the Okanagan Ombuds Office, it was felt that we should create a separate advisory group, rather than adding Okanagan representatives to the existing Vancouver committee. This was also a recommendation made during the Review of the Office of the Ombudsperson for Students, conducted during the 2018/2019 academic year. Here you can find Paul Harrison's [Report of the Review of the Ombuds Office](#), as well as the [Ombuds Office's Response](#) to the report. The OOAC includes representation from faculty and staff across campus to explore, identify and advise the Ombuds Office in its day-to-day work, priority-setting and systemic and strategic initiatives.

On the OOAC, there are two designated seats for students – one for an undergraduate student nominated by the UBC Student's Union Okanagan (UBCSUO) and the other for a graduate student nominated by the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC). Since January 2020, Sarah Lawrason has sat on the OOAC as the GSAC designate and we have appreciated her participating to lend her insights and perspectives about the graduate student experience at UBCO.

Many thanks for your assistance in this matter. Please do let us know if any further information is required.