

Since December 2020, I have been an executive member and was re-elected as the co-director of graduate student workers (Unit #1) in April 2022. I have been working closely with the new executive members, including the new co-director for postdocs and the chief steward, since April. In the initial weeks, I held orientation meetings to explain the roles, provide required documentation and contacts to the new executives.

As co-director, I have been organizing monthly executive meetings, communicating with union members, PSAC, and UNB through emails, and signing documents related to union business. The other executive members have also been incredibly helpful in communicating with union members and PSAC, making decisions about issues affecting our members, and signing banking account documents.

One of the major responsibilities in my role was leading the bargaining group, aiming to improve collective agreements for graduate student workers and postdoc fellows. I am also a member of the bargaining team for TA/RA students, and we have had several meetings with the team and UNB. Negotiations are ongoing, with the next round scheduled for January 2023.

Another significant responsibility was managing the annual hardship funding to our members. This year, we decided to have the hardship funding twice and worked with other executives to assess applications. The team did an excellent job evaluating the applicants, and we plan to revise the hardship funding policy in the coming months.

We also handled grievances, trying to hear our members' voices and taking action accordingly. The chief steward played a crucial role in organizing meetings and handling the issues.

Other executive members, including Sarah and Quinn, have been active and supportive, reviewing all contracts, following up with late payments, and attending orientation meetings.

Recently, we held meetings with executive members to propose a budget for the fiscal year. Since starting as treasurer in December 2020, the union's account balance has increased from \$26,000 to over \$70,000, and we have cut unnecessary expenses while increasing funds for member engagement, bargaining, and hardship funding.

We held orientation meetings in several departments in September, most of which were in person, and had an in-person orientation meeting for all members on September 29th in Fredericton campus. Regular office hours were held, with Mehdi, Mona, and I in Fredericton campus and Quinn, Mia, and Sarah in Saint John campus presenting the office and assisting members with membership cards and discussing the union.

I want to thank all the executive members for their constructive roles in UGSW and Genevieve and Raphaelle for their valuable help and support.