

## Co-President

Hi! Our names are Jamie Mustian (lab of Dr. Anne McKinney) and Adithi Sundarakrishnan (lab of Dr. Paul Clarke), and we are your GAPTS Co-Presidents for this year! Our goal for this upcoming year is to continue to foster a sense of community and support amongst our fellow graduate students. We will serve as the voice for GAPTS during faculty meetings to allow an outlet for students' desires and concerns to be heard. Lastly, we are eager to take on this position to roll out fun, fresh ideas to build upon the foundation our previous GAPTS leaders and members established. Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything we and/or the council can do for you as members of GAPTS 😊

## VP Finance

Hello everyone! My name is Jacob, I am a Ph.D. student in Terry Hebert and Jason Tanny's labs, and I will be your VP Finance for next year! This past year I served on GAPTS as the VP finance, and returning to this portfolio for next year, I will continue building on the work we were able to accomplish last year! Last year, I implemented new record keeping systems for the financial portfolio and worked with the other VPs to assist them in their initiatives, from a financial perspective. I am looking forward to continuing this inter-portfolio collaboration to help push forward GAPTS broader goals this year. Last year, the council worked closely with other PGSAs to reduce event costs and bring larger events and initiatives to our student body, something I will aim to continue this year. Other goals I have this year are to seek more fundraising opportunities from PGSS and the McGill community/alumni to be able to provide more resources and events to the student body. Further, I will work with the department to plan collaborative budgets for future years to complete our transition back to pre-covid operations, and to ensure that all funds are re-used for initiatives that will enhance our academic successes.

## VP Communication

Hello everyone! My name is Natali Joma, and I am a MSc student in Dr. Maysinger's lab. I am excited to be your VP communications for this academic year! My responsibility is to create an engaging social media campaign and newsletter that fosters a positive and inclusive community for our Pharmacology graduate students. My role is to ensure timely and relevant updates to keep our members well-informed and engaged. You can expect to receive emails, social media announcements, and posters from me to stay up to date with the latest events. Feel free to reach out anytime with your suggestions/ideas!

## VP Academic

Hey! My name is Simran and I am a Master's student at the Ribeiro-da-Silva Lab. As VP of Academics for the year, I look forward to collaborating with you all and seeing how we can creatively overcome the academic hurdles of graduate life! Specifically, I hope to strengthen interdepartmental connections, make academic resources more accessible, and facilitate professional networking. When I am not on the 12th floor trying to figure out the mechanisms

behind chronic pain, I am usually recharging at the botanical gardens, volunteering at a local festival or stuffing my face with food so feel free to ask me for any food/activity recommendations around the city!

#### VP Social

Hey !! My name is Jérôme Bédard-Matteau, I am a master's student in the lab of Dr. Simon Rousseau at the MUHC ! I am your VP Social this year !

My goal this year is really to create a sense of community within our department as well as making connections with other graduate students from other programs. Look forward for a variety of events that will be appealing for everybody and be ready to make meet new fun people ! Do not hesitate to reach out to any GAPTS committee members. See you soon !

#### VP Health and Wellness

Hi, I am Reilly! I'm a PhD student in the Castagner lab and I'll be your VP Health & Wellness for this upcoming year. Graduate school is hard enough, so I'll be organizing events and workshops for GAPTS members to de-stress and not think about their research for a bit. Most events will be art therapy nights (painting, movies, video games) or athletic activities (running club, hikes, volleyball). These activities are a great way to disconnect from the lab and socialize with your peers while having some fun! I know it can be difficult to ask for help, particularly from strangers, so I'm hoping to become a point of contact between students in the Department and the Wellness Hub. Whether it's related to navigating the challenges of balancing coursework and research or dealing with a personal issue, I'll make myself available to talk and refer to experts if necessary. Feel free to email me anytime at [reilly.pidgeon@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:reilly.pidgeon@mail.mcgill.ca).

#### Graduate Student Representative

Hi everyone! My name is Olivia, and I am a PhD student in Maureen McKeague's lab. I'll be your Graduate Student Representative (GSR) this year. My main role is to support graduate students and actively voice the needs of our graduate student population to the graduate training committee. I plan to improve our training experience by working with the department to provide more resources to (1) stay on-track with our milestones, (2) clarify grad school expectations/responsibilities, and (3) plan out your graduate school timeline. I am your "go-to" person to answer any questions that you may have related to grad school or the department. Please feel free to come by room 1317 if you ever want to chat or email me at [olivia.kovecses@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:olivia.kovecses@mail.mcgill.ca). I look forward to serving as GSR for the 2023-2024 academic year. :)