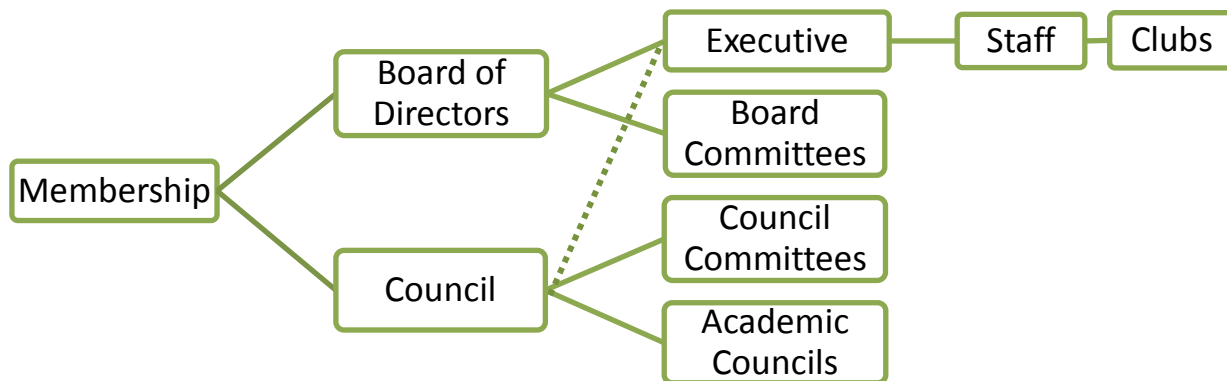


## GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION – U of S Proposed Constitution and By-law Changes

At the 7 February Town Hall meeting, GSA members will be asked to provide input on the proposed changes outlined below. The Governance Committee will take this feedback and draft final recommendations for the Special General Meeting in March. These changes will be a starting point for an ongoing strategic planning exercise throughout 2017, which will likely include further changes. The proposed changes here are contemplated to take effect as of 1 May, 2017.

The major changes that are proposed are to separate the Board of Directors (corporate, finance) functions from the Council (policy and advocacy) functions, to merge the VP Finance and VP Operations portfolios into a new VP Operations and Finance, to absorb the duties of the VP Academic into the VP Student Affairs portfolio (another merger), and some general best-practice and housekeeping initiatives for the by-laws. Some duties which have been part of some executive duties thus far, like bookkeeping and event planning, are contemplated to be done by hired expert staff and student coordinators rather than executive.

### Overall Structure



### Board of Directors (11, normally meet 6x/yr)

Board Chair*	Two members of Council, appointed by Council
GSA President	Five graduate students, elected by graduate students
GSA VP Operations & Finance	Two U of S graduate alumni, appointed at the AGM
	GSA Recording Secretary, appointed by the Board (non-voting)

\*Chair elected from among the members of the board.

#### Committees:

Finance and Audit	Governance
Long-range Planning	

#### Rationale:

- To facilitate continuity of knowledge and experience, there will be staggered two-year terms.
- Board is accountable to membership via elections.
- Committees would include Councillors as members.

**Council** (40+, normally meets monthly)

No changes proposed at this time, except to include members of the Board as *ex officio* (voting) members of Council, and to include the following committees as part of Council.

Committees:

Policy and Student Affairs*	Health & Dental Plan and UPASS Steering Committee
Bursary Selection	GSA Events
External Affairs	*Subcommittees: Health & Wellness, Sustainability
GSA Awards	

**Executive** (5)

President	VP Student Affairs
VP Operations & Finance	VP External
Indigenous Affairs Officer	

Rationale:

- Merge VP Operations and VP Finance (hiring bookkeeper, see below)
- Merge VP Student Affairs and VP Academic (hiring event coordinators, see below)
- Rename Aboriginal Liaison to Indigenous Affairs Officer

**Staff**

Office Manager**	Event Coordinators**
	Office Staff*
	Bookkeeper (contracted)*

\*normally accountable to Office Manager, hired as needed

\*\*normally accountable to an executive

Rationale:

- Event coordinators will be expected to take on some work currently done by executive.