



University of Saskatchewan – Graduate Students’ Association
Governance Committee Meeting
February 9th, 2022 – Online Meeting via Zoom

Attendees:

Rifat Zahan (President),
Hema Sandeep Navara (Council Chair & Chief Electoral Officer)
Elyse Proulx-Cullen (Councillor),
Nabeela Kanwal (Regular/General Member),
Ankita Srivastava (Regular/General Member)
Eronmwon Joyce Iroque (Regular/General Member)

Absentees:

None.

Regrets:

Mostofa Kamal (VP Academic and Student Affairs),

Guests:

None.

Chair:

Elyse Proulx-Cullen (Councillor)

Recording Secretary:

Ankita Srivastava (Regular/General Member)

Meeting Minutes Compilation:

Rifat Zahan (President)

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:35 PM and welcomes members of the Governance Committee.

2. Motion to nominate Ankita Srivastava as the Recording Secretary

*Moved by Rifat Zahan
Seconded by Nabeela Kanwal*

3. Approval of the February 1st meeting minutes

*Moved by Ankita Srivastava
Seconded by Nabeela Kanwal*

4. Approval of Agenda for this meeting

*Moved by Ankita Srivastava
Seconded by Hema Sandeep Navara*

5. Proposed amendments to the GSA By-Laws:

Section of the By-Laws	Amendments
Council Chair	Added 1.14 Suspension or Removal of the Chair 1.14.1 A Chair may be suspended or removed from GSA, as the case may be, by a two-thirds (2/3, 67%) majority vote of Council or by a supermajority vote of Regular Members at a General Meeting, normally on a majority recommendation from the Executive or the Code of Ethics and Discipline Committee. 1.14.2 The maximum time period of a suspension shall be one (1) month. 1.14.3 A suspended Chair shall forfeit their fee for the term of the suspension. 1.14.4 In the event of the removal of a Chair, the President will follow the Bylaw to fill the vacant Chair position, holding the selection process as soon as possible. A call for nominations for Council Chair must be sent to Regular Members at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Council Meeting in which the Council Chair will be elected. 1.14.5 Following the removal of the Council Chair the Vice-Chair will act as the Council Chair until a new Chair has been selected by the Council.
Vice-Chair	Added 1.15 Suspension or Removal of the Vice-Chair 1.15.1 The Vice Chair may be suspended or removed from GSA, as the case may be, by a two-third (2/3, 67%) majority vote of Council or by a supermajority vote of Regular Members at a General meeting, normally on a majority recommendation from the Executive or the Code of Ethics and Discipline Committee.

	<p>1.15.2 The maximum time period of a suspension shall be one (1) month.</p> <p>1.15.3 In the removal of a Vice-Chair, the President will follow the Bylaw to fill the vacant Vice-Chair position, holding the selection process as soon as possible, but within no more than forty (40) days of the removal.</p>
<p>Elections and By-Elections</p>	<p>Added</p> <p>4.13.2.4.5 President Nominee must have past professional experience as either GSA Council Chair, GSA Vice-Chair, GSA Executive, GSA Councillor, GSA Recording Secretary, member of GSA standing committee, member of University of Saskatchewan search committee, Executive member of Academic Council unit or GSA Ratified Social Group, executive experience at any University of Saskatchewan undergraduate student society or union.</p> <p>4.13.2.4.6 Executive nominee is preferred to have associative experience as described in the bylaw 4.13.3.4.5 or significant volunteer experience pertaining to the University of Saskatchewan community, or any other educational institute, or local/provincial/federal level experience.</p> <p>4.13.2.4.7 If the campus remains open and the GSA Commons is open, the Executive must be able to serve in GSA Commons in person following the discussion with the Executives.</p> <p>Added</p> <p>4.13.3.11 The Nominee must provide consent to conduct general background check by the Elections and Referenda Committee.</p> <p>Added</p> <p>4.13.6.1.2 The Nominee has met all the requirements to as outlined in the Bylaws 4.13.3.4.5 – 4.13.3.4.7</p> <p>4.13.6.1.3 The Nominee’s general background check did not exhibit any concerning matters that are objectionable to the Elections and Referenda Committee.</p>

6. Other Business

- Suggestions were put forward to the GSA Chair to send follow-up emails to the members of Council who are not attending meetings regularly. Some discussions also took place on how to enforce attendance especially to critical meetings following the bylaws.
- Governance Committee members discussed on GSA Council meeting participation and meeting formats as sanitary measures change and the University of Saskatchewan in fully open. Discussion was surrounded around hybrid formatting (online and in-person) of the meeting, how to engage graduate students registered in online/remote/distance-based education program, etc.
- Add a similar point in the Councilor section -of what is on 3.15.3.
- If time permits during the tenure of this Committee: Refer policy documents, number of councilor
- Chair asks if there is any new order of business. There was none.

7. Adjournment of the Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM

Moved by Hema Sandeep Navara

Seconded by Ankita Srivastava