

**Graduate Students' Association
Special General Meeting Minutes**



University of Saskatchewan
Tuesday, May 19th, 2015
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
GSA Commons

Meeting called to order at 5:24pm with quorum.

1 Approval of Chair

- 1.1 Motion (David Bennett), seconded by Ashton Reimer
- 1.2 BE IT RESOLVED THAT Jesse Leontowicz be approved as
Chair of this meeting
Opposed: 0; Abstain: 1
Motion passed.

2 Approval of Agenda

- 2.1 Motion (Samer Assaf), seconded by David Bennett
 - 2.1.1 BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 4.1 Approval of
2015/16 GSA Budget be moved ahead of Section 3.1
Against: 0; Abstain: 1
Motion passed
- 2.2 Motion to amend agenda (Rajat Chakravarty), seconded by
Ashton Reimer
 - 2.2.1 WHEREAS the GSA executive conducted a by-
election for Vice-President Operations and
Communications
 - 2.2.2 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the winner of the by-
election be appointed as the VP Operations and
Communications
Motion passed and moved to Section 4.5
- 2.3 Agenda is approved.

3 Old Business

3.1 Approval of Minutes from January 12th 2015 Special General Meeting

3.1.1 Mover: Rajat Chakravarty, Seconder: David Bennett

- Opposed: 0; Abstain: 6
- Motion passed.

3.2 Ratification of new Academic Representatives

3.3 Executive Annual Reports

Motion (Hardi Shahadu), seconded by Rajat Chakravarty

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Section 3.3 is moved to later

- Opposed: 0; Abstain: 2
- Motion passed.

5.54pm Quorum check is called; quorum is lost. Is at 36.

- Chair rules that meeting can continue.

3.4 Introduction of New Executives

4. New Business

4.2 Motion: Adopt proposed Constitution and Policy (Rahwa Osman/Ashton Reimer)

WHEREAS the Constitutional Review Committee has prepared and approved edits to the GSA Constitution and prepared and approved a new set of GSA Bylaws to replace some of the current GSA Policies, and

WHEREAS the proposed documents have been circulated with sufficient notice, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the proposed modified GSA Constitution (attached) and the new GSA Bylaws (attached) be adopted,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Policies 1 Executive Duties, 2 Elections and Referenda, 5 Meetings, and 8 Finances be redacted since they are replaced by bylaws in the new GSA Bylaws.

Links – [Proposed Constitution](#) | [Proposed By-Laws](#)

4.2.1 Motion moved by Ashton Reimer, seconded by Rajat Chakravarty

4.2.2 Isaac Pratt moved to make an amendment, seconded by Rajat Chakravarty:

4.1 Motion: Approval of 2015/16 GSA budget (Andrew Frank-Wilson/Rajat Chakravarty)

4.1.1 WHEREAS the GSA Budget Committee has worked with together with the interim VP Finance and the rest of the Executive team to craft a budget for the 2015-16 GSA fiscal year;

WHEREAS the GSA Council has to approve the budget;

WHEREAS the budget must be passed at the upcoming Annual General Meeting, scheduled for April 28th;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GSA Council approve the 2015-2016 budget as recommended by the Budget Committee and VP Finance.

4.1.2 Motion moved by David Bennett, seconded by Rajat Chakravarty

4.1.3 Josie Steeves moved to amend the motion, seconded by Samer Assaf:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the current motion be changed to "Approval of 2015/16 Amended Budget".

- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 1
- Motion passed.

4.1.4 Motion to approve:

- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 3
- Motion passed.

4.1.5 Motion (Samer Assaf), seconded by Rajat Chakravarty

WHEREAS there is no public record of this amended budget

BE IT RESOLVED THAT there is a copy of this amended budget signed by the executive Vice President Finance, current chair, and minute taker

Opposed: 0
Abstain: 1
Motion passed

4.2.2.1 Motion to amend the proposed GSA Constitution and Bylaws

WHEREAS the Constitutional Review Committee posted the proposed Committee and Bylaw documents online and held a town hall meeting on April 21st, 2015 to solicit student feedback and comments.

WHEREAS the Committee has finished the Academic Council Bylaw since the agenda was sent out.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the proposed Association Bylaws be amended such that:

- “1.7.1 The Council Chair must be a Member of the Association.” be removed
- “1.2.2 Each academic unit may have only one Academic Council” be removed
- 1.8.2.1 - “Budget Planning” be changed to “Finance and Audit”
- 1.8.2.4 - “Constitution and Policy Review” be changed to “Governance”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the new Academic Council Bylaw be added to the proposed Bylaw document as section 6.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the final style and formatting of the proposed Constitution and Bylaw documents shall be set by the Constitution and Policy Review Committee by July 1st. This shall not include any changes to the content of the documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all currently ratified Academic Councils and Councillors be given registered status until August 31st, 2015.

- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 4
- Motion passed.

4.2.3 Motion (Samer Assaf), seconded by Maaya Kuri Hitomi

4.2.3.1 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the discussion of 4.2 is moved to the next Annual/Special General Meeting.

- For: 8
- Opposed: 16
- Abstain: 6
- Motion has been defeated.

4.2.4 Back to approval of amended motion:

- For: 21
- Opposed: 3
- Abstain: 6
- Motion passed.

4.2.4 Motion (Ashton Reimer), seconded by Andrew Frank-Wilson

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the GSA advertise quorum was lost, but proceeded with the vote by Section 9.1.9 of the Constitution

- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 3
- Motion passed.

4.3 Discussion: Legal Invoices

- Councillor Ranjan wanted it to be noted in the minutes that the Executives have not received any information on services provided by the law firms with respect to the invoices that have been received.
- Chair has decided to end discussion and move on.

Motion (Ashton Reimer), seconded by David Bennett

- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be extended by half an hour from 6:47pm.
- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 3
- Motion passed.

4.4 Motion: Legal Payments (Reanne Ridsdale/Josie Steeves)

WHEREAS Andrew Frank-Wilson was nominated by the 2014-15 GSA Executive and appointed by the GSA Council as Interim VP Finance; WHEREAS Former Interim VP Finance Andrew Frank-Wilson was repeatedly denied access to the GSA e-mail, office, financial records, and banking without justification;

WHEREAS Former Interim VP Finance Andrew Frank-Wilson sought legal council (under recommendation from Royal Bank of Canada);

WHEREAS Nicole Payne of Scott Phelps & Mason Barristers and Solicitors was hired by Mr. Frank-Wilson to represent him in his capacity as Interim VP Finance of the Graduate Students' Association;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Students' Association offers to pay Mr. Frank-Wilson's legal invoice from Scott Phelps & Mason for the full amount of \$1427.60.

4.4.1 Motion moved by Josie Steeves, seconded by Isaac Pratt

4.4.2 Motion to amend (Andrew Frank-Wilson)

4.5.2.1 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Students' Association offers to pay Scott Phelps & Mason for the full amount of \$1427.60 for the former interim VP Finances' legal services.

- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 2
- Motion passed.

4.4.3 Vote on Motion:

- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 10
- Motion passed.

4.5 Motion to amend by Rajat, Seconded by Ashton Reimer.

4.5.1 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GSA executive conducted a by election for Vice President Operations and Communications and that the winner of the by-election be appointed as the VP Operations and Communications.

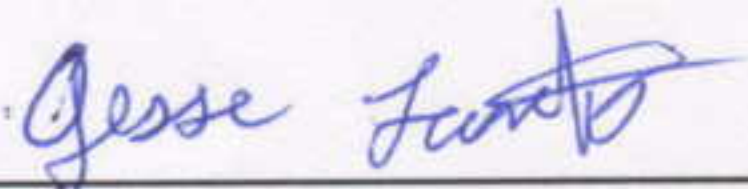
4.5.2 Ziad Gaith was elected as the new VP Operations and Communications

4.5.2.1 Ratifying results of by- election:

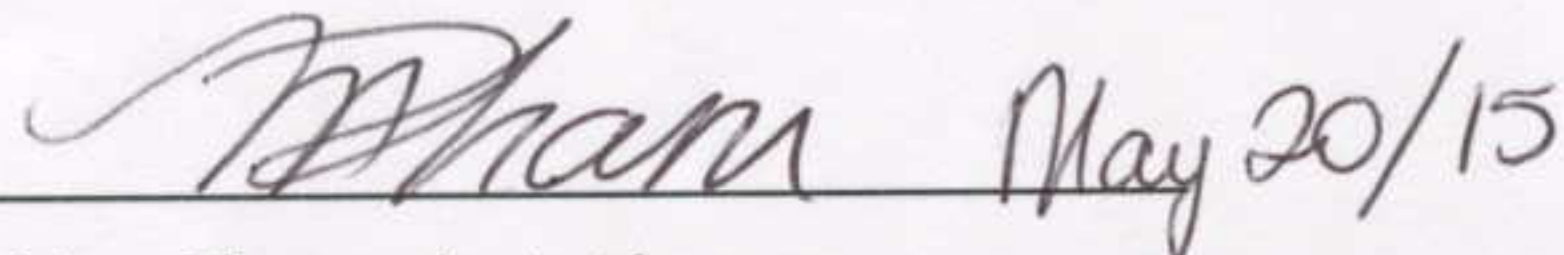
- Opposed: 0
- Abstain: 3.
- Noted absentions: Josie Steeves and Seth Dueck
- Motion carried.

5 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.



Jesse Leontowicz, meeting Chair



Mylyne Tham, minute taker