

5.3 Motion to add new Executive positions, modify Executive Committee Quorum, and modify Roles and Responsibilities of the Executive under Articles IX and X

Current GSA by-laws	Proposed amendments, additions and omissions April 2013 (with justifications)
<p>Article IX – Roles and Responsibilities of the Executive</p> <p>1. The President shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Be the Chair of the Executive Committee and of General Assemblies. b) Be the official spokesperson for the G.S.A. c) Oversee the day-to-day management of the G.S.A. d) Direct the implementation of Council resolutions. e) Be responsible for relations with other student communities, student governments, the university administration, and the general public. f) Prepare monthly reports which shall be made available online to members, these reports will include a report on any Board of Governors activity along with a report on any meeting related to university wide committees and senior administration. g) Publish an annual G.S.A report summarizing the G.S.A. achievements during his or her term as well as outlining tasks resolved by Council. h) Call at minimum bi-weekly Executive Committee meetings. i) Call bi-weekly staff meetings. j) Produce monthly newsletter. k) Perform duties as outlined in the G.S.A. By-Laws and Special By-Laws. l) Manage internal communications of the G.S.A. m) Oversee all managers 	<p><i>Proposed omissions:</i></p> <p>- Delete “and of General Assemblies” (highlighted in grey on the left) from point a) JUSTIFICATION: There is no need to require the President to be the Chair of General Assemblies. The appointment of the chair can be more flexible, to allow for cases in which it would be easier or more appropriate for someone other than the president to chair the General Assembly or to be the representative on the Board of Governors.</p>
<p>2. The Vice-President Internal shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Assume responsibilities of President in the absence of the President. b) Oversee and supervise the work and tasks of the Finance Manager. c) Oversee the production of the student hand book. d) Recruit, interview, and recommend to the Council the candidates for Graduate Student Representation on the University’s academic and administrative organs. 	<p><i>Proposed omissions:</i></p> <p>- Delete c) (highlighted in grey on the left) JUSTIFICATION: the student handbook does not need to be in the bylaws.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) Oversee responses to individual members queries. f) Oversee Graduate Student Advocacy Initiatives. g) Carry out any other duties pertinent to Vice-President Internal. h) Perform duties as outlined in the G.S.A. By-Laws and Special By-Laws. i) Provide monthly written reports to the Council and discuss the reports at the monthly meeting j) Help to oversee internal managerial positions 	<p>- Delete: d), e), f) (highlighted in grey on the left)</p> <p>JUSTIFICATION: these tasks could be better suited as the responsibility of the VP-Academic/Advocacy.</p>
<p>3. The Vice-President External shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Be responsible for representing the G.S.A., through regular attendance at meetings, on external bodies, including both student and nonstudent organizations. b) Monitor socio-political and economic developments that may effect Graduate Students at Concordia. c) Monitor the activities of non-Concordia student associations and universities. d) Liaise with external service providers to G.S.A. membership. e) Provide monthly reports on activities of external organization GSA holds membership within. f) Locate new opportunities, and build on existing relationships, with student unions and organizations. g) Identify issues pertinent to G.S.A. members and organize information and action campaigns with a special focus on improving the quality and accessibility of education. h) Locate and oversee collaborative opportunities and initiatives. i) Promote activities that provide opportunities for intellectual and social benefit of the members. j) Coordinate G.S.A. media relations in consultation with the President. k) Carry out any other duty pertinent to the External Affairs function. l) Perform duties as outlined in By-Laws and Special By-Laws. m) Provide monthly written reports to the Council and discuss the reports at the monthly meeting. n) Act as liaison with the university's Graduate Academic Departments, Programs and Faculty, Departmental or Program Associations o) Help to oversee External Managerial Positions 	<p>Proposed omissions:</p> <p>- Delete point i) (highlighted in grey on the left) to instead add it to tasks of VP-internal.</p> <p>JUSTIFICATION: this fits more within the mandate of VP-internal.</p>

Current GSA by-laws	Proposed amendments, additions and omissions April 2013 (<i>with justifications</i>)
<p>Article IX – Roles and Responsibilities of the Executive</p> <p>(See above for the descriptions of President, VP-Internal and VP-External)</p>	<p>Proposed additions: In addition to the President, VP-Internal and VP-External, the following <u>four positions</u> would be added:</p> <p>4. The <i>Vice-President Mobilization</i> shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Oversee all mobilization work related to the GSA, including but not limited to postering, flyering, recruiting volunteers, coordinating classroom visits, for all GSA activities and campaigns, and including Loyola campus. b) Oversee relevant GSA (campaigns, international student, BDS, mobilization, etc.) committees. c) Together with the VP-External, oversee the work of the Campaigns Advocate and of any hired outreach staff positions. d) Carry out any other duties pertinent to Vice-President Mobilization. <p>JUSTIFICATION: Mobilization is an essential part of any active organization, especially when it comes to events that are not social or cultural. Without an executive focusing specifically on mobilization, it often gets forgotten or is inadequately done, or the executives take on mobilization but then are too overwhelmed with too many tasks, or neglect the other tasks in their description.</p> <p>5. The <i>Vice-President Academic/Advocacy</i> shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Sit on the University Senate. b) Chair, and be a voting member on, an Appointments Committee of councillors who interview and consider applicants for university bodies, excluding the Senate and Board of Governors, and present recommendations for approval by Council. Council will appoint four councillors, one per faculty, to the Appointments Committee, at the beginning of their term. c) Represent the GSA at university meetings and committees if seats cannot be filled by graduate students. d) Coordinate an academic graduate caucus composed of graduate students who have a seat on academic committees, including the Board of Governors representative. e) Search for feedback from students on academic conditions in departments and faculties and ensure that feedback is communicated to the appropriate university bodies and committees. f) Address academic issues related to Concordia’s graduate programs and inform students about academic resources.

	<p>g) Oversee Graduate Student Advocacy Initiatives and the advocacy manager position. h) Meet with and lobby university officials to ensure students' rights are upheld on campus.</p> <p>JUSTIFICATION: Finding students who are motivated and qualified to participate on university bodies is a long job, and the President and VP-Internal already have too much on their plates to be able to take on this job adequately. Furthermore, with three executives this past year it was difficult to find the time to form a graduate caucus of students on these bodies, which is essential to share information and follow-up on necessary actions needed to be taken on the part of the graduate student body. Finally, there is much advocacy and lobbying that can be done on campus on a regular basis (greater student access to poster space for example, or with regards to various university decisions made in university committee meetings), which are beyond the scope of the VP-External's duties and can involve specific academic issues that could best be taken care of by a VP-Academic. Many student associations (e.g. CSU, AFESH) have an executive position specifically for Academic and Advocacy issues.</p>
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Current GSA by-laws	Proposed amendments and additions and omissions April 2013 (<i>with justifications</i>)
<p>Article X – Executive Committee</p> <p>1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following three members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The President, who shall be Chair of the Executive Committee. b) The Vice-President Internal. c) The Vice-President External. 	<p>Proposed amendment: Replace the left column with the following:</p> <p>1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following five members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The President, who shall be Chair of the Executive Committee. b) The Vice-President Internal. c) The Vice-President External. d) VP Mobilization. e) VP Academic/Advocacy
<p>3. Quorum shall consist of all three (3) members of the Executive Committee.</p>	<p>Proposed amendment: Replace the left column with the following:</p> <p>3. Quorum shall consist of four (4) members of the Executive Committee.</p> <p>JUSTIFICATION: If there is a greater number of executive positions, the quorum should also be raised.</p>