



Minutes

GSA Regular Council Meeting

15 April 2013, 1 pm – 4 pm

GSA Lounge, 2030 Mackay, Montreal

Attendance

Chair: Gretchen King

Secretary: Golam M M Aurup

Voting Directors: Kavian Abhari (ENCS), Ahmed Atia (ENCS), Tareq Shawan (ENCS), Hasanain Al-rubaye (ENCS), Faisal Al-Saqqar (ENCS), Simon Vickers (Arts and Science), Audrey Dahl (Arts and Science), Katherine Rossy (Arts and Science), Poya Saffari (Arts and Science), Mahmood Salehi (JMSB), Erik Chevrier (Independent / interdisciplinary Studies)

Non-Voting Directors: Daria Saryan (President), Nadia Hausfather (Vice-President External), Roya Azarm (Vice-President Internal)

Observers: Roddy Doucet (Advocacy and Finance Manager), Jamie Goodman (Finance Manager), Elizabeth Colford (Services Manager), David Clos-Sasseville (Department and Campaigns Advocate)

Absent: Gul Pervez (ENCS), Rachel Banton (JMSB), Tara Walker (JMSB), Nirajan Bhakare (JMSB), Patrick Leonard (Fine Arts), Zouhair Briqech (ENCS), Syed Abis Hassan Zaidi (ENCS),

Documents

CD 130415-1 Agenda

CD 130415-2 Report of President

CD 130415-3 Report of VP Internal

CD 130415-4 Report of VP External

CD 130415-5 Report of Finance Manager

CD 130415-6 Report of Advocacy Manager

CD 130415-7 Report of Services Manager

CD 130415-8 Proposals for GSA by-law changes April 2013- FINAL

CD 130415-9 Motion by Tareq regarding Election 2013

CD 130415-10 Agenda for General Assembly on 30 April

CD 130415-11 Report of President

CD 130415-12 Report of Campaigns and Department Advocate

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:20 pm

Gretchen suggested that, as a means to improve efficiency of this meeting, priority would be given to (in an order) voting directors, non-voting directors and GSA staff speakers. She mentioned that staff or non-voting directors would be able to answer direct questions (if there is any) without delay.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Tareq wanted to add new election business to 7.1



Be It Resolved That the agenda is approved with suggested addition by Tareq. Moved by Tareq and seconded by Hasanain, this was resolved unanimously.

3. Council Business

3.1 Chair Report & Circulation of Attendance Sheet

Tabled

3.2 Appointment of Secretary

This item was suggested to be removed as council has a permanent secretary for this term.

4. Approval of Minutes

It was suggested to add David's name in the minutes as an observer.

Be It Resolved That the GSA approves the minutes with the suggestion. This was resolved in a vote. Ahmed abstained in vote.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Calls for resignation

Gretchen informed that, as directed by March meeting, she was in touch with Patrick and Rachel regarding their absence in meetings and received a resignation from Patrick. Daria informed that other councillors were not considered for resignation (as they did not have three unaccounted absences).

Be It Resolved that the Council removes Rachel from the Council and accepts the resignation of Patrick. Moved by Daria and seconded by Audrey, the motion was resolved unanimously.

5.2 Bylaw Motion

Nadia presented the by-law change suggestions. See document 'Proposals for GSA by-law changes April 2013- FINAL' for details

Erik informed that some approved amendments to the by-laws (by previous general assemblies) are not present in the present by-laws. For example, Article IX 1 (h) President will be GSA representative to Board of governors was changed some time ago in a GA. Aurup was requested to look into the issue.

Be It Resolved That the motions are split and decided upon separately. Moved by Erik and seconded by Faisal it was resolved in a vote. Seven voted for, three voted against, and one abstained in vote.

5.2.1 Motion to amend article XXI regarding procedures for bylaw amendments.

There was a long discussion regarding item 5.1 in the document. The following motion was proposed to replace the one in the document.

Be It Resolved That any proposed by-law change must be submitted by a committee made by council for that purpose or by any GSA member, and must have 25 signatures supporting the



proposal (excluding mover and seconder). Also, signatures should come from at least two faculties with no faculty representing more than 70% of the signatures. Moved by Hasanain and seconded by Kavian, it was resolved in a vote. Ahmed abstained.

5.2.2 Motion to amend article XIV regarding election procedures

Be It Resolved That the amendment suggested in this item are adopted. Moved by Nadia and seconded by Audrey, it was resolved in a vote.

5.2.3 Motion to add new executive positions, modify executive committee quorum, and modify roles and responsibilities if executives under article IX and X.

Be It Resolved that VP Mobilization and VP Academic and Advocacy positions are added to GSA structure, and proposal to change by-laws regarding this goes to GA. Moved by Erik and seconded by Daria this was resolved in a vote. 7 directors voted for the motion, 2 voted against, and one abstained.

It was decided that suggestions for other executive positions will not be pursued.

5.2.4 Motion to add new GSA Managers under article XI

Be It Resolved That the GSA Council approves addition of the positions of Manager Campaigns and Manager Department/Faculty Student Association to GSA By-laws. Moved by Nadia and seconded by Erik, it was resolved in a vote. Ahmed abstained in voting.

5.2.5 Motion to amend article XIX regarding general meetings:

Be It Resolved That Council approves that at least two General Assemblies per semester (excluding the summer) shall be held.

Be It Further Resolved That three graduate student Senators and one graduate student representative for the Board of Governors representative shall be elected at a General Assembly at latest in the first week of September. If a General Assembly does not meet quorum before the first week of September, these positions will be referred to the Appointments Committee.

Moved by Nadia and seconded by Erik, the above motions were resolved in a vote. Ahmed abstained from voting.

5.2.6 Motion to amend Article V regarding Council being ultimate decision-making body

Be It Resolved That Article V in GSA Bylaws is amended accordingly. Moved by Nadia and seconded by Erik it was unanimously resolved.

There was a discussion regarding approval of the changes to bylaws in GA.

Be It Resolved that all the resolved motions are to be placed in the general assembly for approval. Moved by Nadia and seconded by Poya, this was unanimously resolved.

6. Reports

Be It Resolved That all reports are considered tabled. Moved by Hasanain and seconded by Ahmad, this was resolved unanimously.



7. Motions

7.1.0 Motion by Tareq Regarding Election

Be It Resolved That this session goes in camera. Moved by Tareq, it was resolved in a vote. Five voted for the motion. Erik, Catherine, and Ahmed voted against the motion. Poya, Kavian, and Mahmood abstained. Though the motion passed, Tareq dropped the motion.

See document CD 130415-9 Motion by Tareq Regarding Election 2013. Tareq pointed out breaches of the GSA bylaws (according to his findings) in election and wanted results revoked.

Erik Chevrier expressed discomfort discussing the motion as he ran in the election, and suggested this issue to be brought to judicial committee as per GSA bylaws. He left the meeting afterwards.

There was a discussion regarding this issue and Tareq presented his case. Roddy as CRO for the elections answered to the questions.

Katherine mentioned that election code of conduct is missing in election bylaws.

Be It Resolved That GSA council includes Ahmed, Katherine, and Faisal to judicial committee. Moved by Daria and Seconded by Poya, it was resolved in a vote. 7 for, 1 abstain.

Be It Further Resolved That an independent observer be added to judicial committee. Moved by Katherine and Seconded by Audrey, it was resolved in a vote. 6 for, 2 against.

Be It Further Resolved That election CRO Roddy be given responsibility to find the observer. Moved by Ahmed and Seconded by Kavian, it was resolved in a vote.

Regarding GSA advocacy fee levy referendum, Audrey suggested to include the issue of fee increase in coming General Assembly or council meeting as it was not decided in the last meeting.

7.1 Approval of agenda for general assembly on April

See document CD 130415-10 Agenda for General Assembly on 30 April

Be It Resolved That council approves agenda with provisions for changes (by executive committee) based on council business today. Moved by Simon and Seconded by Daria, it was resolved in a vote. Ahmed abstained.

7.2 ASEQ health plan fee

Tabled

7.3 Exec Expenditure Motion

Tabled



7.4 May 1st Motion

Tabled

7.5 Elections Motion

Tabled

7.6 Morocco Motion

Tabled

7.7 Motion about April 22 P-6 GSA contingent

Tabled

8. GSA Committee Appointments

Tabled

9. Other Business

Tabled

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm