

**Council Meeting October 9th 2014 minutes  
(CO-20141009)**

**Meeting Facilitator:** Gretchen King  
**Minutes Taker:** David Clos-Sasseville

**Final Agenda :**

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Council Business
  - 3.1 Chair's report
  - 3.2 Proof of absence
  - 3.3 Task list and action items
  - 3.4 Recording Votes
4. Approval of Minutes from Sept 11 Council meeting
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
  - 5.1 General Assembly Agenda
  - 5.2 Accreditation Update (report coming)
  - 5.3 Executive Bursary Policy
6. New Business
  - 6.1 Increased representation for marginalized groups
  - 6.2 Bylaw change
  - 6.3 Connecting with Faculties
  - 6.4 Announcement of committee meetings
  - 6.5 Department of Education move to the Faubourg
  - 6.6 GradPro Skills
  - 6.7 Golden Key International Honour Society
  - 6.8 Board of Governors - Call for Resignation
  - 6.9 GSA Twitter
  - 6.10 CCR proposal
7. Reports
  - 7.1 Campaigns/Departments Advocate
  - 7.2 Advocacy Manager
  - 7.3 Finance Manager
  - 7.4 VP-Mobilization
  - 7.5 VP-External
  - 7.6 VP Internal
  - 7.7 Academic and Advocacy Affairs
  - 7.8 Bylaw committee update
  - 7.9 Approval of the budget.
  - 7.10 Budget Committee
8. GSA Committee Appointments
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting is called to order at 5:00pm

## 2. Adoption of the Agenda

*Motion CO-20141009-01*

Be It Resolved That The following agenda be adopted for todays Council meeting:

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of the Agenda
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  - 3.1 Chair's report
4. Approval of Minutes from Sept 11 Council meeting
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
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  - 5.2 Accreditation Update (report coming)
6. New Business
  - 6.1 Increased representation for marginalized groups
  - 6.2 Bylaw change: Composition of the Council of Directors
  - 6.3 Connecting with Faculties
  - 6.4 Announcement of committee meetings
  - 6.5 Department of Education move to the Faubourg
  - 6.6 GradPro Skills
  - 6.7 Executive Bursary Policy
  - 6.8 Golden Key International Honour Society
  - 6.9 Board of Governors - Call for Resignation
  - 6.10 GSA Twitter
  - 6.11 Recording Votes
  - 6.12 BYLAW CHANGE: BoG reporting
  - 6.13 CCR proposal
7. Reports
  - 7.1 Campaigns/Departments Advocate
  - 7.2 Advocacy Manager
  - 7.3 Finance Manager
  - 7.4 VP-Mobilization
  - 7.5 VP-External
  - 7.6 VP Internal
  - 7.7 Academic and Advocacy Affairs
  - 7.8 Bylaw committee update
  - 7.9 Budget Committee
8. GSA Committee Appointments
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Eftakhairul

*Amendment-01*

Add 3.2 Proof of absence

**Moved by:** Eftakhairul

*Amendment-02*

Add 3.3 Task list and action items

**Moved by:** Keroles

*Amendment-03*

Change 6.7 to 5.3

**Moved by:** Vivek

*Amendment-04*

6.12 join 6.2

**Moved by:** Keroles

*Amendment-05*

Add 7.9 Approval of the budget.

**Moved by:** Eftakhairul

*Amendment-06*

*6.11 becomes 3.4*

**Moved by:** Keroles

*Include all the amendment in the vote*

Motion (CO-20141009-01) as Amended

Be It Resolved That The following agenda be adopted for todays Council meeting:

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9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Eftakhairul  
**Unanimous**

### **3. Council Business**

#### **3.1 Chair's report**

*Motion CO-20141009-02*

Partial attendance to a council retreat results in receiving a partial honorarium.

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Eftakhairul  
**Motion fails**

### 3.2 Proof of absence

*Motion CO-20141009-03*

If a councillor misses more than two meetings they must provide proof of their excuses for any additional absences.

**Moved by:** Eftakhairul  
**Seconded by:** Jonathan

*Amendment*

Add: "that results in not meeting quorum"

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Korosh  
**Adopted**

*Motion (CO-20141009-03) as Amended*

If a councillor misses more than two meetings they must provide proof of their excuses for any additional absences that results in not meeting quorum.

**Moved by:** Eftakhairul  
**Seconded by:** Jonathan  
**Adopted**

### 3.3 Task list and action items

*Motion CO-20141009-04*

That an action item list be created from council minutes and followed up on under council business at each meeting.

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Jonathan  
**Adopted**

*Action Item:* Gretchen will implement the action list.

### 3.4 Recording Votes

*Motion CO-20141009-05*

Be It Resolved That minority votes on council motions are to be recoded in council minutes all the time and not just when the councillor asks for it to be recorded.

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Sean  
**Fails**

**4. Approval of Minutes from Sept 11 Council meeting**

*Motion CO-20141009-06*

Be It Resolved that both September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes be approved.

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Harkirat  
**Adopted**

--- The 5.2 Item has been moved to be dealt now ----

**5.2 Accreditation Update**

--- Back to the agenda---

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**5.1 General Assembly Agenda**

*Motion CO-20141009-07*

Be It Resolved That the agenda for next GA be:

1. Call to Order
2. Appointment of Chair and Secretary
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the past GA minutes
5. Reports
  - 5.1 President
  - 5.2 Finances
    - 5.2.1 Executive Bursary
  - 5.3 Accreditation
6. Motions
  - 6.1 By-law Modifications
  - 6.2 Quebec Austerity
7. Elections

- 7.1 VPs
- 7.2 Senators
- 7.3 Councillors
- 8. Other Business
- 9. Adjournment

**Moved by the GA Committee**

*Amendment-01*

Be It Resolved That an Item 5.2.2 Council Honorarium be added.

BIFRT Sean will provide motions.

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Jonathan  
**Abstention noted:** Keroles  
**Adopted**

*Amendment-02*

Be It Resolved That an Item 8.1 Discussion on the IP policy be added

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Korosh  
**Withdrawn by the mover and the seconder**

*Amendment-03*

Be It Resolved That an Item 6.3 Endorsing the Student Against the Pipelines (ECO) be added.

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Korosh  
**Adopted Unanimously**

Motion (CO-20141009-07) as Amended

Be It Resolved That the agenda for next GA be:

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Appointment of Chair and Secretary
- 3. Approval of the Agenda
- 4. Approval of the past GA minutes
- 5. Reports
  - 5.1 President
  - 5.2 Finances
    - 5.2.1 Executive Bursary
    - 5.2.2 Council Honorarium be added
  - 5.3 Accreditation

6. Motions
  - 6.1 By-law Modifications
  - 6.2 Quebec Austerity
  - 6.3 Endorsing the Student Against the Pipelines (ECO)
7. Elections
  - 7.1 VPs
  - 7.2 Senators
  - 7.3 Councillors
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

**Moved by the GA Committee**

*Motion to table motion CO-20141009-07*

To table the agenda and go straight to 6.8

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Sindhura

--- The 6.8 Item has been moved to be dealt now ---

**6.8 Board of Governors - Call for Resignation**

*Motion CO-20141009-08*

Whereas the Concordia Board of Governors Graduate student representative is an integral position that allows the organization to participate in the highest decision-making body at the University;

Whereas the acclaimed candidate from the 2014 General Elections, Firas Al Hammoud, has been erratic in attendance of Board of Governors meetings. He also has not communicated with the Executive or Council and has steadfastly refused to respond to repeated requests to inform members on matters relevant to their academic progress, including pending budget cuts.

Be It Resolved That the Council formally asks for the resignation of Firas Al Hammoud who is not fulfilling his obligation to represent and inform graduate students. Mr Al Hammoud shall have five business days to respond to this resignation, if there is no communication at this point the position shall be considered vacant and elections shall proceed forthwith with candidates to present themselves at the October 23 2014 General Assembly and members to select a new representative.

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Laura

*Amendment-01*

Remove the following:



“who is not fulfilling his obligation to represent and inform graduate students. Mr Al Hammoud shall have five business days to respond to this resignation, if there is no communication at this point the position shall be considered vacant and elections shall proceed forthwith with candidates to present themselves at the October 23 2014 General Assembly and members to select a new representative.”

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Sean  
**For: 2, Against 0, Abstention 5**  
**Approval noted:** Keroles  
**Abstention noted:** Jonathan  
**Adopted**

Motion (*CO-20141009-08*) as Amended

Whereas the Concordia Board of Governors Graduate student representative is an integral position that allows the organization to participate in the highest decision-making body at the University;

Whereas the acclaimed candidate from the 2014 General Elections, Firas Al Hammoud, has been erratic in attendance of Board of Governors meetings. He also has not communicated with the Executive or Council and has steadfastly refused to respond to repeated requests to inform members on matters relevant to their academic progress, including pending budget cuts.

Be It Resolved That the Council formally asks for the resignation of Firas Al Hammoud.

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Laura

**Roll Call is asked - Approved**

**For:** Keroles, Sean  
**Against:** Harkirat, Korosh, Vivek  
**Abstention:** Jonathan, Laura  
**Motion Fails**

Motion *CO-20141009-09*

Be It Resolved That the Council censure Firas Al Hammoud for failing to report to GSA Executive.

**Moved by:** Korosh  
**Seconded by:** Jonathan  
**Roll Call is asked – Failed**  
**Abstention noted:** Keroles  
**Motion Adopted**

*Motion CO-20141009-10*

Be It Resolved That the Council commit to the By-law committee the question of the independence of the BOG representative and who should fulfill this role to.

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Sean  
**Adopted Unanimously**

--- Back to 5.1 ---

Motion (*CO-20141009-07*) as Amended

Be It Resolved That the agenda for next GA be:

1. Call to Order
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5. Reports
  - 5.1 President
  - 5.2 Finances
    - 5.2.1 Executive Bursary
    - 5.2.2 Council Honorarium be added
  - 5.3 Accreditation
6. Motions
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  - 7.3 Councillors
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

**Moved by the GA Committee**  
**Adopted Unanimously**

*Motion CO-20141009-11*

Be It Resolved That the Council approve the date of October 23<sup>rd</sup> for the next GA.

**Moved by:** Laura  
**Seconded by:** Harkirat  
**Abstention noted:** Jonathan, Keroles, Korosh  
**Adopted**

---5.2 Accreditation Update, dealt after Item 4 ---

**5.3 Executive Bursary Policy**

*Motion CO-20141009-12*

Be It Resolved That the Council reconsider the question of the raise of the executive Bursary that was sent to the GA.

**Moved by:** Keroles

**Seconded by:** Vivek

**Adopted by a two-third majority**

*Motion CO-20141009-13*

Whereas the executives cannot commit to the other jobs they face monetary problems for their survival;

Whereas as per the hierarchy of GSA, the council is mandated to do the needful changes in the bursary of executives as it can be seen in the history of GSA;

Whereas no increment or inflation adjustments have been made to the money allotted to executive in the last five years;

Whereas Projected salaries approved by previous Council and GA including two new position was **\$58500** annually, the new accepted Policy suggests to call payments as bursary (i.e. Direct payment through checks not from university pay roll);

Whereas for year 2014-2015 the new **actual** Executive proposal as bursary (i.e. considering payments for VP-Academic, VP-Mobilization for 8 months and others for 12 months) the annual sum of salaries of all executives will be **\$57200** which is less than the budget approved last year i.e. **\$58500**;

Whereas for future years if the new Executive proposal as bursary is accepted the sum of annual salaries of all executives will be **\$66000**. Therefore a raise of **\$7500** will be done in total i.e. (**\$66000-\$58500**). This raise will not impact a lot on the budget in the coming years;

Be It Resolved That the bursary for executives be set at \$1100 per month

Be It Further Resolved That the 'Executive Bursary Policy' be adjusted accordingly by changing article 4B for the following:

1. The bursaries are to be allocated by semester. The amounts for each semester represent an amount of 1100\$ per month which goes as follows:

Summer Semester (June to August): 3300\$

Fall Semester (September to December): 4400\$

Winter Semester (January to May): 5500\$

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Vivek  
**Abstention noted:** Jonathan, Korosh  
**Adopted**

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Increased representation for marginalized groups**

Note: Council will wait for Marilou to be present to address this question.

**--- The 7.7 Item has been moved to be dealt now---**

### **7.7 Academic and Advocacy Affairs**

**--- Back on 6.2---**

### **6.2 Bylaw change**

#### *Motion CO-20141009-14*

Whereas the GSA acknowledges that the Council of Directors is subordinate to the General Assembly;

Whereas the GSA recognizes that the composition of the Council of Directors must reflect that of its membership, but that larger faculties should be prevented from dominating the Council and that smaller faculties should be afforded a greater voice, in order to encourage the participation of members from those faculties;

Whereas the GSA, recently and in the past, has had some difficulty filling all the seats on its Council of Directors and achieving quorum at Council meetings, which reflects poorly on the association and hinders its ability to serve its members;

Whereas a smaller Council will run more effectively and efficiently, and be able to provide a closer oversight of the work of the Executives and Staff, although there must remain enough Directors to adequately represent the GSA membership;

Whereas the number of students in each faculty has shifted in the past few years, while the number of Council seats designated for each faculty has remained the same;

Be It Resolved That Article V, Section 5 of the Bylaws be amended prior to the 2015 general election to state that –

The allotted seats shall be distributed on a basis of proportional representation according to the following formula:

1-500 students, 1 Director;

501-1200 students, 2 Directors;

1201-2100 students, 3 Directors;  
2101-4200 students, 4 Directors;  
and so on (where currently it says “set at one (1) Director for every 300 students”);

Be It Further Resolved That all clauses in the Bylaws that require four (4) Directors from different faculties be amended to three (3) Directors from different faculties, considering the smaller overall number of Directors;

Be It Further Resolved That the 2015 GSA Council of Directors respect this new formula and be composed of 4 ENCS Directors, 3 Arts & Science Directors, 2 JMSB Directors, 2 Fine Arts Directors, and 1 SIP/Interdisciplinary Director (for a total of 12 Directors).

**Moved by:** Jonathan  
**Seconded by:** Korosh

*Motion CO-20141009-15*

Be It Resolved That the motion be committed to the by-law Committee

**Moved by:** Korosh  
**Seconded by:** Harkirat  
**Failed**

*Motion CO-20141009-16*

Be It Resolved That the motion *Motion CO-20141009-14* be tabled.

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Sean  
**Adopted**

*Motion CO-20141009-17*

Be It Resolved That the BoG by-law change be tabled.

**Moved by:** Harkirat  
**Seconded by:** Keroles  
**Adopted**

### 6.3 Connecting with Faculties

*Motion CO-20141009-18*

Be It Resolved That 6.3 Connecting with Faculty be tabled.

**Moved by:** Jonathan  
**Seconded by:** Korosh  
**Adopted**

### 6.4 Announcement of committee meetings

*Motion CO-20141009-19*

Whereas it is necessary to encourage and facilitate participation in committee meetings;

Be It Resolved That the chair of each committee announce to committee members the date and time of each meeting at least 3 days in advance;

Be It Further Resolved That committee meetings be rescheduled when requested by a majority of the committee members;

Be It Further Resolved That committee meetings that are open to the GSA membership at large be announced publicly by the Communications Director, where possible, through Facebook, the website, and the newsletter.

**Moved by:** Jonathan  
**Seconded by:** Keroles

*Amendment*

To add:

“Be It Further Resolved That council mandates all the committees, on having a meeting, to submit there meeting minutes as soon as possible.

Be It Further Resolved That A common Google drive account be made and shared among all the council members, to have access to all the ongoing committee endeavors as well as previous meeting minutes”

Be It Further Resolved That that the third clause includes Twitter.

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Laura  
**Adopted**

Motion (*CO-20141009-19*) as Amended

Whereas it is necessary to encourage and facilitate participation in committee meetings;

Be It Resolved That the chair of each committee announce to committee members the date and time of each meeting at least 3 days in advance;

Be It Further Resolved That committee meetings be rescheduled when requested by a majority of the committee members;

Be It Further Resolved That committee meetings that are open to the GSA membership at large be announced publicly by the Communications Director, where possible, through Facebook, the website, Twitter, and the newsletter.

Be It Further Resolved That council mandates all the committees, on having a meeting, to submit there meeting minutes as soon as possible.

Be It Further Resolved That A common Google drive account be made and shared among all the council members, to have access to all the ongoing committee endeavors as well as previous meeting minutes

**Moved by:** Jonathan  
**Seconded by:** Keroles  
**Adopted**

## **6.5 Department of Education move to the Faubourg**

### *Motion CO-20141009-20*

Whereas the university administration and Department of Education have announced their intention to move the department, one of the university's largest, to the Faubourg building in the spring of 2015, without consulting students;

Whereas the Department of Education Interdisciplinary Graduate Students' Association (DOEIGSA) has passed a motion opposing the move, as well as conducting a survey revealing that a majority of students feel they have not been adequately informed;

Whereas renovating the Faubourg to accommodate the Department of Education will require a significant amount of money and effort, and will impact the university experience of students for many years to come;

Whereas students have been systematically excluded from all aspects of the decision-making process regarding the move;

Be It Resolved That the GSA support DOEIGSA's demand to be given an equal voice in the decision-making process regarding the Department of Education's move to the Faubourg building, including full participation in the DESC Space Committee;

Be It Further Resolved That the Department Manager and GSA President monitor the situation and ensure that the Faubourg building is renovated to meet students' needs

(including appropriate space for student association offices, graduate research labs, and the Friedman Resource Centre).

**Moved by:** Jonathan  
**Seconded by:** Sean  
**Adopted**

## 6.6 GradPro Skills

### *Motion CO-20140911-21*

Be It Resolved That the GSA Council approve paying \$500 for the guest speaker for Workshop #2-4: All-day training/meeting for 'Active Associations' on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Keroles

### Amendment

Be It Resolved That Replace "approve" by "negotiate" and add "and the cost for French classes".

Be It Further Resolved That remove "#2-4: All-day training/meeting for 'Active Associations' on October 31<sup>st</sup>."

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Laura  
**Adopted**

### Motion (CO-20140911-21) as Amended

Be It Resolved That the GSA Council approve paying \$500 for the guest speaker and the cost for French classes for Workshop.

**Moved by:** Sean  
**Seconded by:** Keroles  
**Failed**

## 6.7 Golden Key International Honour Society

### *Motion CO-20141009-22*

Be It Resolved That 6.7 be tabled.

**Moved by:** Korosh  
**Seconded by:** Keroles  
**Adopted**

**---6.8 Board of Governors - Call for Resignation has been dealt after---**



## 6.9 GSA Twitter

*Motion CO-20141009-23*

Be It Resolved That 6.9 be tabled.

**Moved by:** Sean

**Seconded by:** Vivek

**Opposition noted:** Keroles

**Adopted**

## 6.10 CCR proposal

*Motion CO-20141009-24*

Whereas the council has expressed support to the CCR initiative and has been given a sufficient period to provide feedback;

Whereas SGS feedback was fairly positive as well as the dean of students?;

Whereas to ensure that things continue moving and ensure that the coding requirement is a priority particularly given the opportunity of the fact that the university is implementing a new information system.

Be It Resolved That council approves the attached CCR proposal and commits to its funding policy implications should a collaboration between the different parties is established;

Be It Further Resolved That communication manager reviews the attached memo of support for errors and ensures that all relevant parties are cc-ed;

Be It Further Resolved That council mandates the GSA president to issue the attached memo of support and send it to the mentioned relevant parties.

**Moved by:** Keroles

**Seconded by:** Korosh

**Adopted Unanimously**

## 7. Reports

*Motion CO-20141009-25*

To mandate the Chair to follow up with Roxanna on presenting updates to council on the requests made at the retreat.

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Sean  
**Adopted Unanimously**

*Motion CO-20141009-26*

That all the reports be adopted together, with the exception of the budget committee reported.

The bursary be allocated to all the execs.

**Moved by:** Jonathan  
**Seconded by:** Laura  
**Adopted Unanimously**

## **7.1 Campaigns/Departments Advocate**

## **7.2 Advocacy Manager**

## **7.3 Finance Manager**

## **7.4 VP-Mobilization**

## **7.5 VP-External**

## **7.6 VP Internal**

## **---7.7 Academic and Advocacy Affairs ---**

## **7.8 Bylaw committee update**

## **7.09 Budget Committee**

*Motion CO-20141009-27*

Be It Resolved That Item 7.09 be tabled

**Moved by:** Korosh  
**Seconded by:** Laura  
**Adopted Unanimously**

## **8. GSA Committee Appointments**

## **9. Other Business**

Next meeting in October before the GA. Gretchen will make a doodle.

## **10. Adjournment**

*Motion CO-20141009-28*  
Adjournment at 8:56

**Moved by:** Keroles  
**Seconded by:** Laura  
**Adopted Unanimously**