



## **Minutes**

GSA Regular Council Meeting

20 August 2013, 3 pm – 6 pm

2149 Mackay, Montreal

## **Attendance**

*Chair:* Gretchen King

*Secretary:* Golam M M Aurup

*Voting Directors:* Poya Saffari (Arts and Science), Audrey Dahl (Arts and Science), Sara Breitreutz (Arts and Science Karthikeya Nadendla (ENCS), Nishant Walia (ENCS), Paramveer Singh Mann (ENCS), Tariqul Amin (ENCS), Arundeeep Malapati (ENCS), Vinoth Kumar Ramaiah (ENCS), Claude Fachkha (ENCS), Genevieve Moisan (Fine Arts), Elliott Rajnovic (Fine Arts), Biagina-Carla Farnesi (Humanities), Monique Boudreau (JMSB), Vivek Wadhvana (JMSB), Niranjana Bhakare (JMSB)

*Non-Voting Directors:* Mohit Kumar (President), Vignesh Shankar (Vice-President External), Nasim Changizi (Vice-President Internal)

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

Md. Shohel Reza Amin, Shahin Vakilima, Desiree De Jesus, Erika Ashley Couto, Brigitte Desharnais, Firas Al Hammoud

*Absent:* Holly Nazar (Arts and Science), Stavros Athanasoulis (JMSB), Trevor James Smith (Arts and Science), Mohammad Jannatul Ferdous Rupom (ENCS),

## **Documents**

GSA Council Meeting 20 August 2013 Agenda

Draft Minutes of council meeting on July 12, 2013

### *Appendix I: Reports*

President Report

VP Internal Report

VP External Report

Finance Manager Report

Advocacy Manager Report

Department and Campaigns Advocacy Report

Service Manager Report

### *Appendix III*

*Motions:*

*Others:*

GSA University Bodies Appointments summary



Election report 2013

Lawyer Response on proposed bylaw changes

Funding Request from Cricket Club

Chart of GSA Committee structures

Chart of GSA representative positions to University bodies

GSA salary breakdown report

Document on BDS:

Jake Lynch's report on academic boycott of Israel

Structures of Oppression: Why McGill and Concordia Universities must sever their links with the Technion University

Example of similar stance at Cornell University

## **1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 3:06 pm.

## **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

Audrey requested to add General assembly to 7.8. Mohit requested to add Introduction of appointed GSA members to university committee to 5.1. Poya requested to add leave of absence on other business. Roddy requested to add appraisal committee.

**Be It Resolved That** the GSA Council approves agenda for the meeting with suggested modifications. Moved by Audrey and seconded by Claude, the motion was unanimously resolved. **Motion Passed.**

## **3. Council Business**

### *3.1 Chair Report & Circulation of Attendance Sheet*

Two attendance sheets were circulated- one for council directors, and the other for external observers.

Gretchen informed that a summary for the evolution of bylaws is being prepared. It would be forwarded to council members shortly.

## **4. Approval of Minutes**

Sara informed that the format to write motion should be standard. Audrey informed that her name is missing in the minute.

**Be It Resolved That** the GSA Council approves minutes for the July Council meeting with suggested modification. Moved by Vivek and seconded by Tariqul, the motion was unanimously resolved. **Motion Passed.**

## **5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

### *5.1 Introduction of appointed members to university bodies*

Newly appointed members introduced themselves to the council. The members are Shohel (senate research committee), Shahin (advisory search committee), Desiree (council of faculty of



fine arts), Erika (academic planning and priorities committee), Brigitte, Firas (advisory search committee), Claude (special graduation committee), Jamie (senate finance committee), Carla (senate research committee), and Audrey (academic programs committee).

### *5.2 Report on structure*

Roddy explained the draft structure detailing the various positions and committees of GSA. There were some suggestions made to him regarding direction and placement of arrows and positions. He agreed to revise the chart.

### *5.3 Discussion on BDS committee & Divestment from Technion*

Vignesh informed the council about the confusion regarding functioning of GSA BDS committee as a separate body from GSA. There was a discussion regarding approval of that committee at a general assembly (23 January 2013) and formation (probably) at a council meeting.

Claude asked why there are no current council members in the committee. An observer Firas opined that a university body like GSA should not be supporting an academic boycott. Other similar BDS examples were given by council members.

**Be it resolved that** the GSA council requests bylaw committee to look into the issue of relationship between the GSA and the BDS committee. Moved by Vignesh and seconded by Niranjana, it was resolved in a vote. 1 voted against the motion, 2 abstained. **Motion Passed.**

**Be it further resolved that** the GSA invites BDS committee to the next council meeting to discuss different issues regarding the GSA-BDS committee relationships. Moved by Niranjana and seconded by Roddy, the motion was resolved in a vote. 2 voted against. **Motion passed.**

### *5.4 Motion to renew committees*

Moved by Vignesh and seconded by Claude, the following motions were resolved unanimously in a vote. **Motions passed.**

BIRT the clauses below 1,2,3,4 are applied to all the committees of GSA:

1) **BIRT** the term of a member of the Committee shall be coterminous with their term as a member of the Council of Directors.

2) a) **BIRT** the term of the non-council members in the committee shall end every year and is renewed by executive in-charge of that committee or appointed by council .

**WHEREAS** there are certain interested members who could give important suggestions and guide the committees.

b) **BIRT** to be a voting member in a committee the non-council member has to be appointed by the council.

3) **BIRT** that annually the GSA council or executive committee will appoint its elected members to all committees.

**WHEREAS** the council will be able to identify new potential, recheck the member's previous contributions and will be able to guide the committees.

**WHEREAS** the budget committee and student life or COI committee has to be formed early in the beginning of the mandate.

4. **BIRT** the committees of GSA shall function even if not all the positions are filled up.



5) **BIRT** The campaigns committee and student life committee will be open committees.

## **6. Reports**

### *6.1 President*

Audrey requested the president to follow the format and include number of work hours also. Sara requested all executives and managers to include an introductory sentence to their reports.

#### a. GSA University Bodies Appointments - 2013-14

**BIRT** the GSA Council ratifies all appointment decisions regarding university bodies. Moved by Poya and seconded by Sara, this was unanimously resolved. **Motion passed.**

### *6.2 VP Internal*

Presented.

### *6.3 VP External*

Presented.

### *6.4 Finance Manager*

Presented.

### *6.5 Advocacy Manager*

**BIRT** the GSA Council strikes a committee to reflect on advocacy duties of GSA advocacy manager and sets up guidelines for advocacy services for the future. Also, the council requested Roddy not to work more than 36 hours a week. Moved by Audrey and seconded by Roddy, the motion was unanimously resolved. **Motion passed.**

### *6.6 Service Manager*

Presented.

### *6.7 Campaigns/Departments Advocate*

Presented.

### *6.8 Other Reports (BoG, Senate, Academic Planning Committee)*

*BoG report tabled to next meeting.*

#### *a. By-law Committee*

By law committee suggestion are discussed in section 7.2, 7.3, 7.4

#### *b. Election Committee Report*



**Be it resolved that** a committee is formed chaired by Sara to look at the report, form policies for future elections, and report back to the council. Moved by Audrey and seconded by Poya, the motion was resolved unanimously. **Motion passed.**

Roddy wish to be part of the committee.

## **7. Motions**

### *7.1 Call for GA*

**Be it resolved that** a General Assembly (GA) is called on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, Monday, at 6:00 pm. Moved by Roddy and seconded by Tariqul, it was unanimously resolved. **Motion passed.**

### *7.2 Changing procedures for bylaw amendments (By-law Committee)*

**Be it resolved that** this motion is postponed until next council meeting. Moved by Audrey and seconded by Roddy, this motion was resolved in a vote. 1 abstained in vote. **Motion passed.**

### *7.3 Removal of two new VP positions*

**Be it resolved that** the issue of 'removal of the two new VP positions' be placed in the agenda for the general assembly. This item will come before the item 'election of the two new VP positions'. Moved by Vignesh and seconded by Roddy, this was resolved in a vote. 10 voted for, 1 voted against and 1 abstained in the vote. **Motion passed.**

### *7.4 Amend Articles regarding General Assembly*

Tabled.

### *7.5 Funding request by Concordia Cricket Club*

Vivek presented the request for funding for Concordia cricket club.

**Be it resolved that** the GSA council approves a sponsorship of \$1500 for Concordia Cricket Club, given that the club registers with the GSA. If there is a limit on the maximum for such applications (and that is below \$1500), the maximum possible amount should be allocated to the club. Moved by Vivek and seconded by Genevieve, this was unanimously resolved. **Motion passed.**

### *7.6 Schedule for Fall & Winter council meetings*

Tabled

### *7.6 Expenditure of council members per meeting*

Tabled

### *7.7 Council Retreat (VP Internal)*

Tabled



## **8. GSA Committee Appointments**

### *8.1 Funds and subsidies committee appointment (VP Internal)*

**Be it resolved that** Arun, Genevieve, Vivek, and Poya are appointed members to the GSA funds and subsidies committee. Moved by Vignesh and seconded by Mohit, this was unanimously resolved. **Motion passed.**

### *8.2 General Assembly committee appointment (President)*

**Be it resolved that** Genevieve, Sara, Nishant, and Niranjana be members of the GA committee. Moved by Vignesh and seconded by Sara, this was unanimously resolved. **Motion passed.**

## **9. Other Business**

### *9.1 Leave of absence*

Poya requested a leave of absence from September to December 2013 for personal reasons. Council chair informed that there should be a policy regarding this issue. Council agreed with this request on principal.

## **10. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.