

Document 080A  
Issue Bylaw Regarding Student-Supervisor Relationships

Name

1. This Document shall be known as the "Issue Bylaw Regarding Student-Supervisor Relationships"

Jurisdiction

2. The Graduate Students' Association, in accordance with Document 010A – Legislation of the Graduate Students' Association Bylaw, may enact legislation known as "Issue Bylaws", which shall:
  - a. Be the responsibility of the Executive Committee, who may create, uphold and pursue them but Council/Board reserves the authority to review and advise on all Issues Bylaws,
  - b. Provide a statement or stance relating to an issue that affects graduate students, that is requires a more comprehensive approach then a motion by either the executive committee or the board of directors,
  - c. Act as statement or stance held by the GSA on any issue that falls within its mandate, as outlined in the constitution,
  - d. Be reviewed on an ongoing basis, but remain in effect until they are amended or redacted by Council/Board, and,
  - e. Automatically expire three (3) years after initial approval.

Statement

3. According to the Graduate Student Rights stated in the Graduate Calendar, students have;
  - a. "the right to participate, learn, and work in an environment that promotes equal opportunities and prohibits all forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying",
  - b. "the right to be provided with constructive and regular mentoring and supervision and appropriate guidance and feedback from advisors, including fair, unbiased and timely evaluations of progress toward degrees", and
  - c. "the right to expect a professional relationship with advisors, supervisors, and committee members, including an expectation of a reasonable degree of confidentiality and privacy".
4. The Graduate Students' Association believes that these rights are being infringed when student-supervisor romantic and sexual relationships are tolerated. Therefore, the Graduate Students' Association strongly supports the development of a Brock University policy that would prohibit romantic and sexual relationships between graduate students and anyone in a supervisory position, including, but not limited to; direct supervisors, committee members, and professors in the same faculty.