



MINUTES

Graduate Students' Association

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, December 3, 2020

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Online Meeting

Attendees – Executive Team:

Melanie Extance – Deputy President, Senate Representative

Daislyn Vidal – VP, International

Marina Casavecchia – VP, Communications

Mohammad Moinul Hassan – VP, Equity & External Affairs

Siddharth Pathak – VP, Finance

Hannah Young – VP, Internal

Barb Daly – Executive Director

Mary Tibollo – Office and Health Plan Administrator

Attendees – Board Faculty Representatives:

Haley Myatt

Felisia Milana

Ash Grover

Jensen Murphy

Amanda Williams

Nawal Syed

Linshan Hou

Attendees:

Anita Twele

Andreanne Hébert-Haché

Appiah Bonsu

Eric O'Neill

Hannah Charnock

Kelly McCowell

Kerendu Waboso

Lyllian Corbin

Md. Maruf Hasan

Melanie Denomme

Mitch Goldsmith

Niluja Muralitharan

Phil Wallace

Prakhar Gupta
Leah De Felice Renton
Gavin Esdale
Robert Allie
Zain Abdeen
Favour Nwogu

Regrets:

Christopher Yendt – President
Melissa Van der Wal

1. Meeting called to order at 2:07 p.m. by GSA Deputy President presiding

- A. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions**
- B. Conflict of Interest – None**
- C. Land Acknowledgement**
- D. Establishment of Quorum at 2:07 pm**

2. Items for Approval

- A. Agenda of the Annual General Meeting, December 3, 2020**
Moved by Hannah, Seconded by Marina, All in favour
- B. Minutes of the Special General Meeting - January 23rd, 2020**
Moved by Haley, Seconded by Moinul, All in favour

3. Items for Consideration

A. Document 001D – GSA Constitution and Pursuant Articles

- Information:
 - Removal of gendered language
 - Removed requirements of in-person meetings
 - Changed the Chair of the board to no longer be the President or member of the executive team
 - Compliance with the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) due to be proclaimed in 2021.
 - Change in name of the document and definitions of by-law, constitution and policy
 - Restructuring of the Executive Team to ensure executives are paid and the allocation of workload hours are equitable
 - The GSA's structure has had limited change over its lifespan, it is normal for organizations to review their roles on average every 5-8 years
 - Some positions required over 20 hours or more a week while others may have required less than five hours per month
 - The responsibilities of the executive roles were reorganized based on logical location and balance across positions, which led to the elimination of one VP Position

- The GSA was one of the only GSA's in Ontario that did not pay all its executive, and instead, disproportionately, exploited their labour
 - Financially, the GSA can afford a 20 hrs per week, which correspond to four standard TA contracts, for a 12-month period
 - Discussion:
 - Robert Allie
 - Concerned by the large amount of document changes to be presented in one approval, which questioned its democratic practice
 - The past 24 months has seen 3 changes which he insisted is too frequent for a constitution
 - Approved of the changes made to align to comply with ONCA
 - Considers the appointment of Faculty Representatives, rather than the election to be undemocratic
 - Felt that the low amounts of applicants or lack of information of faculty designation/contact information is not a valid rationale to forgo an election process
 - Under ONCA members of an organization may appoint or elect their directors
 - This will be putting Sid out of a job
 - Sid's term comes to an end prior to proposed dissolution to the VP Finance position and does not currently hold his position as a "job" but as a volunteer position
 - Andréanne Hébert-Haché
 - Concerned with the limited amount of time allocated (2 days) to review the document prior to voting

Motion to move a vote by Marina, Seconded by Jensen, Vote not taken
 Motion to table the discussion to a later point moved by Hannah and seconded by Haley

B. Approval of the Slate of Directors for 2020-2021

Not discussed due to lack of time.

C. Declaration to Wave Audit – Fiscal 2019-2020

Not discussed due to lack of time.

4. Conclusion

A. Next Meeting

- SGM to be possibly held in January 2021
- April 22nd, 2021 – 2pm-4pm

5. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 3:01 pm