Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa, Ontario Senate Chamber Robertson Hall - 6:00 pm - Friday, January 27, 2017

# CALL TO ORDER - 6:00pm, Friday, January 27, 2017

The GSA recognizes and acknowledges that the lands on which we live, work, and study belong to the Algonquin nation.

The Algonquin nation, whose territories comprise the entire Kichi Sibi (Ottawa River) watershed and include the city of Ottawa, never ceded or surrendered its territories to Canada. The Canadian state laid claim to these territories through violent systems of colonization that resulted and continue to result in the dispossession, marginalization, and impoverishment of Algonquin people and the overexploitation of land and waters within their territory.

The GSA commits to fully supporting Algonquin struggles and Algonquin assertions of self-determination and nationhood. We are not innocent in the ongoing colonization of these lands and we resolve to challenge the presence of colonialism in our words, actions, and communities. We extend our ongoing solidarity to the Algonquin nation with our words, actions, time, skills, and resources.

#### **Attendance**

- Alexa Dodge (Legal Studies)
- Bonnie Bates (History)
- Charles Ozzoudo (HTSP)
- Chloe Pedneault (Psychology)
- Codie Fortin-Lalonde (ALDS)
- Danielle Taylor (English)
- David Thibodeau (GRC)
- Emily Sandham (NPSIA)
- Faun Leslie (Political Science)
- Jay Ramasubramanyam (Legal Studies)
- Jenna Smith (Sociology)
- Jessie Gamarra (Art History)
- Jordan Boswell (Political Management)
- Kristen Zintel (Health STP)
- Martin Martinov (Physics)
- Melissa Pulara (English)
- Michael Bueckhart (Soc/Anth)
- Miles Krauter (CUPE 4600)
- Ryan Barlow (NPSIA)

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- Ryan Paterson (Earth Science)
- Sadie Harrison (MPPA)
- Sarah Beaulands (Health STP)
- Scott Mitchell (Communications)
- Simon Vodrey (Communications)
- Stephanie White (GRC)
- Warren Trottier (SPPA)

### 1. INTRODUCTION OF CHAIR

a. Announcement of ProxiesScott Mitchell for Anna Hoque (Communications – 1 vote); Victor Malkov for Matt Dunford (2 votes – Physics)

### b. Overview of Roberts Rules of Order

Minutes: Loriann Garden

Chair: Rick Telfer Motion to accept chair

Mover: Bonnie Bates (History)

Seconded: Codie Fortin-Lalonde (ALDS)

Motion passes

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Moved:** Simon Vodrey (Communications)

**Seconded:** Bonnie Bates (History)

Motion passes

### 3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

a. E-minutes from Dec. 9, 2016

**Moved:** Eric Hitsman (VP Operations) **Seconded:** Bonnie Bates (History)

**Motion approves** 

b. Minutes from Dec. 9, 2016

**Moved:** Codie Fortin-Lalonde (ALDS) **Seconded:** Sarah Beaulands (Health STP)

**Motion passes** 

### 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Taylor Howarth: we have an awards committee, sign-up in September. Require committee but nobody has signed up, circulating again, need at least 3 people. For work, when an award comes up, having a one hour meeting to go over applicants and then we decide. This happens when awards come up, maybe 2-3x a year.

### 5. ORDER OF THE DAY

a. Update on Neuroscience Grads

Natalie: more unknowns than knowns, some moving to uOttawa, some to Royal and Civic hospitals, some may stay on campus. Campus all over. Damper on inter-lab collaborations. Told us to help move and would get paid but no details. After pressure from administration, took over a month to organize, process about how to apply for compensation, would not commit on statement of principles for compensation but can apply for emergency relief. People have had to quit their jobs to deal with this. MOU is almost complete. Filing grievances. Concern is no word about our freezers, we have 40 with millions of dollars of sample but no confirm location. Met with Dean of Science and gave list of questions, nothing back from him yet. Emailed two weeks ago but nothing. Our concerns for compensation, no clear information or transportation, big one for us. Some people will spend more than 3 hours/day commuting. Not sure if will get study space, lockers at U of O, get access to network. We want microscopes here on campus but apparently no fund has been designated for them. Not sure where they are going. Chemical disposal is a big issue, need to identify this. Need to clean things but not sure how. Don't know what to do about professors and their office space neither at U of O. Supposed to be out in 4 weeks, more unknowns than answers about what is going on other than moving animals very shortly. No contract signed with U of O is very disturbing, not sure how we can move in. lab manager can't pack anything or know what to pack because don't know space we'll have and what's there. Not sure how we're going to move out by March 1 with so many unknowns. Will need to wait and see what happens with compensation, not outside of the realm to try and get more later on but have administration supporting us. Faculty is behind us, filing their own grievances, not a lot can be done through 4600, nothing in contract (unless not get paid for travelling or fairly compensated). Not packing until we know what's going on.

Martin Martinov: senate meeting, gave a report on this. Peter Ricketts said, the department is now fully collaborating with admin in this whole move. They've assigned 4 project managers to help give foresight on how to move everything. They've managed acquire animal care access for those who need it and found space for everyone who needs it. No specifics given. They've allocated wet lab time, no access but time slot, no details really

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given. Said they've strong-armed professors to outsource research into other labs instead of Carleton and U of O. looking to identify students that have longitudinal studies that are affected and could potentially compensate them. Are we ready for another year to compensate? They seemed confident that people could finish work in the summer. Butler said meeting with 4 projects managers and kept open dialogue with department members and open door to meetings that people want.

Natalie: hope door is open

Taylor Howarth: Peter?

Victor: VP of Academic, Provost

Natalie: not sure where project managers are, know 2 and seen 1. Seems overwhelmed.

Need to ask about it. Said allocated wet lab time

Victor: not sure

Alexa Dodge: student who asked question, if a student is delayed and has to do full eyar would they pay the tuition and he said, that could maybe be a thing that happens but don't think it will. He thinks that students and their research, almost everyone at this point is done the research, just writing... maybe go in the summer.

Natalie: that would be undergrad, what about grads

Victor: Made no mention

William Felepchuk: provost comments are another example, administration always thinks about undergrad students and not grad students.. must think about them even if they are in the minority. A lot of the hands on research are grad students, not one term projects

Taylor: every month there is a lunch that is for student leaders, went to one on the 17th.

Rickets was there, Blanchard was there, just after told students would be compensated no matter. We asked for something in writing in this room, and the answer was walked back, case by case basis. Again talked about undergraduate students, completely avoided and barely brought up graduate students. Feel like they don't care about, it's happening everywhere. As executives, we meet with FGPA, they visit us and meeting them lunchtime next Wednesday and will bring this up.

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Michael Bueckhart: BoG is meeting next Thursday so hope you'll be in attendance, can't speak but if there are any questions that would want from the board that would be a good place to do it, strategic.

b. Update on CUPE 4600 Negotiations for Teaching Assistants and Contract Instructors

Miles Krauter: saw the results, strong mandate, 84% said yes on TA side and 91% for contract instructors. What does that mean? Strike vote doesn't initiate a strike but what it does mean is that we have the option on the table as a bargaining chip. Will give us leverage, hopefully get serious offers. As of right now, no to everything we want and a pay cut. Actually, an email recently to state of negotiations, and it's kind of and hearing what I'm saying might be at odds which they are. They're lying. One quote, it's on Facebook, have to actively get other side of the story, claim made that Carleton has tabled language about tuition increase (ITA) and protecting eligible TAs from increases in their program. But really they've eliminated most TA's, have to be in third year for this. Not more to say aside from the fact that we are moving ahead, meeting with bargaining team soon. Have a facilitator, employer has filed for facilitator, at this point, either side can file for no board. That would mean, either side indicating that not going to come to agreement which causes timeline, than afterwards in a legal strike/lockout position. The earliest we go on strike if go with facilitator and file no board right after, it would be close to end of February. Questions? What does striking mean?

Chloe: What do we do on strike?

Miles: asking people to sign up for strike duties, we hope everyone does. They're paid duties, for most unions, people take a pay cut and get paid a set amount but it will probably be a raise for a lot of people. Basic is walking the picket line and doing shifts. There are other options especially for accessibility reasons, can go to HQ and do phonebacking. Facilitating a workshop talking to members of Carleton, outreach stuff. Assigning cheques, lots of options for those who are unable to walk the line.

Natalie: is there a minimum number of hours to be eligible for strike pay?

Miles: there's a maximum, can show up all the time but there's a cap, believe 20 hours/week.

Charles Ozzoudo: Administration redefined TAs?

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Miles: TIA rebate, as tuition increases, the university agreed to help members with their rising costs, rebate for the difference between, before a set year, lost strike vote and then changed it to tie it to your first year. Then got that, what tuition was in first year and second year, difference would be rebated, with new language, go about changing tuition structure so that everybody pays more in first year, front loaded so could turn around and say that tuition hasn't gone up. Now at bargaining table, they're offering, not sure what the mechanics, limited it so now only in third year, not sure wording but that's it. Of course, not sure about frontloading already but de facto most TAs would not be benefiting.

William: how can we support bargaining team before strike? In case of strike, is scabbing illegal in this case? Is the university not obligated to pay anybody

Miles: in some areas, laws against scabbing but nothing here. Scabbing is doing the work of a union member, can be a member of it, but doing it while it's on strike, result is that if enough people union loses its power and destroyed. Show support, feel the solidarity and tell people about it. Talk to people and let them know what the situation is and the inequalities. Ask about how much you think CIs are paid? \$30,000/year, at max \$40,000/year. How much does president make? Plus \$400K, housing, car. Spread the word, a lot of people don't realize this. Need to reapply for CIs, TAs look like they made money but not really. A lot of international students don't make any extra money. CI demand would see inequality between them and people at U of O. another way to support, a lot of us are union members so get involved, show up at committee. Strike committee, really prepared, have a HQ picked out, bookings for trailer to be set up, signs made. Would be unprecedented if this happens but want to prepare

Martin Martinov: voter turn out numbers?

Miles: don't have them, hear nominally that best we've ever had

Jessie Gamarra: strike training?

Miles: not sure about general training, I guess so but right now doing picket captain training. Not sure about broader strike training, maybe

Simon Vodrey: if strike, and turns out to be prolonged, what about ramifications about CIs? And students?

Miles: depends on the administration, they have the power. We can derail the whole semester but don't think it's likely, strike would be unprecedented but if there is one, if

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they let it into spring when Carleton faculty is negotiating, might have faculty saying that they're going to walk to. Nobody is happy, won't let it go that far. Students won't get grades from CI

Bonnie Bates: are Monday nights at mikes for union for information

Miles: ongoing, getting bigger

#### 6. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- a. President (Debbie Owusu Akyeeah)
- b. VP Finance (Taylor Howarth)
- c. VP Operations (Eric Hitsman)
- d. VP Academic (William Felepchuk)
- e. VP External (Jenna Amirault)
- f. Questions

Chloe Pedneault: for Eric, mentioned the credits, can't remember rules about things. Our committee is having a pub night off campus and buying alcohol, can we claim it? Eric Hitsman: you can, just need to provide us with receipts

Chloe: some people thought we weren't

Alexa: we were told no when we asked by you. Might want ot make it standardized, halfway through last year

Vincent St. Martin: the policy for student organization grant explicitly excludes credits, councillor credit has no mention of it, discretion to VP finance in each year, so it depends

Taylor: if we would like to drink then that's okay

Warren Trottier: Jenna, for protests, longer term strategy to for example change structural policy processes if the fact that voices are not being addressed? What is the point?

Jenna Armstrong: not sure about protests, know it is a long one. As far as I remember, people can correct me, people used to be able to sit in at BoG but that was changed, students want that ability again. Think that a number of student groups are getting frustrated and now working together to try and make it more democratic. Not sure how

Codie: for Taylor, the meditation series, when?

Jenna Armstrong: that was in Debbie's, will have to ask, I'm sure she would know. Might not have one yet, same with other events that I didn't give date/times, still working with the groups

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Bonnie: any news on tuition fee issue that was raised before? About student credits? William: graduate registrar is looking into it before the holidays and haven't heard since then but I assume that I'm going to. Still waiting on a few things from FGPA that was told recently would be coming to me shortly

Vincent: to add, graduate registrar will be at meeting next week with dean of grad studies

Warren: Debbie, what were the main concerns regarding women's gym hours? What does being uncomfortable mean?

Jenna Armstrong: faculty members are okay going forward as a business opportunity, other gyms do this. But not comfortable with is admitting that Carleton may have a problem with the treatment of Muslim women at the gym. Trying to protect the santity that this uncomfortableness occurs, don't want it framed in a way that makes Carleton seem like an unsafe space.

William: there's also amongst some faculty from both left and right, about secularism, things shouldn't be done to accommodate religious choices and making that as a guiding principle. It's a matter of accommodation for a whole range of groups for a variety of reasons, MSA is just a partner. But also non-binary people, non-Muslim women

Kirsten: for women's only gym hours, do they have a plan for how to identify? Can you be femme but also based on gender on ID?

Taylor: judging by folks doing this, would be very inclusive

### 7. OTHER REPORTS

#### a. Senate & Senate Committees

Alexa: so main things we talked about and only other thing, there was a discussion of Carleton's computer systems being held by ransom. It was 1700 work stations, trying to do things to help that but basically telling students to leave external hard drives plugged in cause they could get your computer system. A lot of telling students what to do, put more password changes.

Martin: head of IT security, seemed kind of dumbed down but not sure if it was him not having the clearest understanding.

- a. Graduate Residence Caucus (GRC)
   David Thibodeau: 6<sup>th</sup> floor of Leeds residence, held a few events last semester.
   Watched one of the debates, Halloween movies. Have a few events coming up, next one will be Superbowl
- b. Graduate Faculty Board (GFB)

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Charles: meetings held once every month, hasn't been one set up this month. Hopefully set it up soon.

- c. Canadian Union of Public Employees 4600 (CUPE 4600) Spoke already
- d. Rideau River Residence Association (RRRA) No report
- e. Board of Governors (BOG)

Michael Bueckhart: will be elections soon, two grad student positions. Going to start early Feb, Feb 7 is when first call goes out. Whole long process with elections taking place on March 13-14. Time to think about it, encourage you to do it. Positive policy changes in that we put forward comprehensive proposals for elections, rejected a lot but included appeal process in case someone is disqualified. Other thing, going to allow students to campaign on student issues. Next meeting is this Thursday, few items brought up including plan to authorize maximizing tuition for two academic years. Usually every year we approve tuition for next year, going to increase tuition for two years in a row at this meeting, going to be 5% and international 8-10%. Brought up some stuff about neuroscience.

Jenna Smith: is tuition thing next board meeting?

Michael: yes, next meeting, usually look at tuition and give small presentation, give percentages which are misleading. Don't know what is going to happen, if final vote or initial. Worried that it will be the vote.

Warren: what's the reasoning for increase in tuition?

Michael: no specific thing, usually blame is on salaries, liabilities. Huge surplus every year but want more. Allowed to go up so don't want to be in worst position.

Charles: next year not going up?

Michael: instead of voting this year and next year for each following year, will vote for both now. Not going to vote on this the following year, not sure, haven't done it before.

Miles: are they able to do it? With provincial things going on? Seems odd to me, not sure about ability to do this

Michael: authorizing the university to maximize tuition, province was supposed to come up with new tuition framework, not sure what's going to happen. Rolling over current system for another 2 years, same legal maximum.

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Justine: did try this at U of O a few years ago for three years, and students were sufficiently organized and shut it down to a one year increase.

- f. Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA) No report
- g. Other No other
- h. Questions

#### 8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Bonnie Bates (History): announce event history for black history month, popular resistance in Africa. University of Ghana professor coming, Feb 18 in Richcraft building, free but register for food and drink. Hosted by someone from CBC.

Jenna Smithi: where would one register?

Bonnie: can give information to Eric, an Eventbrite registration

#### 9. NEW BUSINESS

# a. Motion 27.01.2017 – 01: Motion to Establish Voting Dates for the 2017 GSA General Elections

Moved By: Eric Hitsman (VP Operations) Seconded By: Danielle Taylor (English)

Motion passes

Eric: mention that, elect people every year, point was because if strike happens, if effects vote going to vote on these days but might be effected.

Whereas the GSA normally holds its elections in March of each year and voting takes place for two consecutive days; and

Whereas the Electoral Board is being struck and the process for selecting a Chief Electoral Officer(s) has been initiated; therefore:

Be it resolved that the Graduate Students' Association Council set March 21, 22, and 23, 2017 as the dates for the 2017 General Elections.

# b. Nominations and elections for two (2) GSA Electoral Board positions

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Codie: what is being part of the electoral board?

Vincent: meet a few times before elections, couple of hour meetings. First to be conduct interviews for CEO and get someone hired, can still apply until end of next week. Will also approve the operating rules, won't do anything after election unless there are appeals.

Charles: is there any payment?

Vincent: nope, can't run for a position when on it either.

Martin Martinov: can I set in on it as a Senate representative?

Vincent: yep

Martin Martinov (Physics) has nominated himself Victor Malkov (Physics) has nominated himself

# c. Motion 27.01.2017 - 02: Motion to Appoint GSA Councilors to the Electoral Board

Moved By: Eric Hitsman (VP Operations)
Seconded By: Codie Fortin-Lalonde (ALDS)

Motion passes

Whereas GSA By-Law #10, Section 2, states that the Electoral Board will include two members of GSA Council who are elected by Council, therefore;

Be it resolved that Martin Martinov and Victor Malkov be appointed to the GSA Electoral Board for the 2017 General Elections.

c. Nomination and election for one (1) Graduate Faculty Board Representative Jay Ramasubramanyam (Legal Studies) nominated by Alexa Dodge (Legal Studies)

# e. Motion 27.01.2017 - 03: Motion to Appoint Graduate Faculty Board Representative

Moved: William Felepchuk (VP Academic) Seconded: Martin Martinov (Physics)

Motion passes

William: the Board is the governing body of FGPA, presided over by the Dean of FGPA. A lot of the specifics of graduate student life is discussed at admin life, BoG and Senate doesn't really look at us. Our closest ally in the administration. Meets once a month and can also attend graduate academic caucus, voting member of that, meeting a month plus 2-3 meetings.

Taylor: also, running and being nominated doesn't preclude you from being an executive.

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Vincent: term is until June

Whereas one graduate student representative at the doctoral level has resigned from the Graduate Faculty Board, and;

Whereas Article 8.3.3 of the GSA Constitution states:

Representatives to the Graduate Faculty Board will normally consist of at least two doctoral students and at least three master's students, and at least four of whom shall be registered full-time.

Whereas there are currently three masters and one doctoral representative on the Graduate Faculty Board, therefore;

BIRT the Council of the GSA appoint Jay Ramasubramanyam to the Graduate Faculty Board.

### **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

Vincent: take the spare pizza

Charles: event, really cool, called shut up and just right, whole bunch of graduate/PhD students, semi informal event, gather and write for about 2 hours, 5 minute break every hour. Would be cool if GSA organized something like that. Can get difficult to write, GSA used to do this

Codie: there is a PhD writing session weekly, might be through FGPA. Doesn't include graduate students

William: VP Academic, would be in my realm, you can email me with that. Master students can participate in those writing groups. My colleagues in Indigenous studies but a lot of them are organizing the circle conference, Carleton's student led conference in March. It is on a Saturday

### 11. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved:** Taylor Howarth (VP Finance) **Seconded:** Codie Fortin-Lalonde (ALDS)

Motion passes