

***GSA COUNCIL – E-Minutes
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm - Friday, April 7, 2017***

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00pm, Friday, April 7, 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

- Steven Wright (Public Policy)
- Anna Hogue (Communications)
- Alexandra Skutonich (Psychology)
- David Thibodeau (Graduate Residence Caucus)
- Michael Bueckert (Sociology/Anthropology)
- Matt Dunford (Physics)
- Emily Sandham (NPSIA)
- Fawn Leslie (Political Science)
- Ryan Barlow (NPSIA)
- Jay Ramasubramanyam (Law and Legal Studies)
- Jenna Smith (Sociology)
- Karan Goyal (Engineering)
- Simon Vodrey (Communications)
- Martin Martinov (Physics)
- Victory Malkov (Physics)
- Melissa Pullara (English)
- Kristen Zintel (Health STP)
- Alexa Dodge (Law and Legal Studies)
- Miles Krauter (CUPE 4600)
- Sarah Beaulands (Health STP)
- Charles Ozzoude (Health STP)
- Codie Fortin Lalonde (ALDS)
- Kirsten Paula (ALDS)
- Warren Trottier (Public Policy)
- Debbie Owusu Akyeeah (President)
- Eric Hitsman (VP-Operations)
- Taylor Howarth (VP-Finance)
- Jenna Amirault (VP-External)

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- Phil Robinson (Executive Coordinator)
- Vincent St-Martin (Office and Communications Coordinator)

Meeting called to order at 6:06pm.

1. INTRODUCTION OF CHAIR

- a. Announcement of Proxies
 - Stacy Cook for Michael Bueckert (Sociology & Anthropology) (1 vote)
 - Steven Wright for Sadie Harrison (SPPA) (1 vote)

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mover: Jay Ramasubramanyam (Law & Legal Studies)

Seconded: Codie Fortin Lalonde (ALDS)

Motion carries.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. E-minutes from March 17, 2017
 - Moved:** Warren Trottier (SPPA)
 - Seconded:** Fawn Leslie (Political Science)
 - Motion carries.**
- b. Minutes from March 17, 2017
 - Moved:** Debbie Owusu Akyeeah (President)
 - Seconded:** Warren Trottier (SPPA)
 - Motion carries.**

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. ORDER OF THE DAY: Presentation of the 2017 Report on the GSA General Elections and Referendum

- David Thibodeau (GSA Chief Electoral Officer) presents the written report and answers questions regarding GSA election process

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

7. OTHER REPORTS

- a. Senate & Senate Committees
- b. Graduate Residence Caucus (GRC)
- c. Graduate Faculty Board (GFB)

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Nothing to report.

- d. Canadian Union of Public Employees 4600 (CUPE 4600)
- e. Carleton Post-doctoral Association (CUPA)
No report.
- f. Board of Governors (BOG)
Nothing to report.
- g. Carleton University Students’ Association (CUSA)
No report.
- h. Carleton Athletics Board

Questions:

None.

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Motion 07.04.2017- 01: Motion to Adopt GSA Election Results**
Moved: Martin Martinov (Electoral Board and Senate)
Seconded: Warren Trottier (SPPA)

Whereas GSA Council has been presented with the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer for the GSA General Elections; therefore

BIRT Council adopt the Elections 2017 report of the Chief Electoral Officers (CEO); and

BIFRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of Eric Hitsman to the position of President; and

BIFRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of Jenna Amirault to the position of Vice-President (External); and

BIFRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of Debbie Owusu Akyeeah to the position of Vice-President (Operations); and

BIFRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of Taylor Howarth to the position of Vice-President (Finance); and

BIFRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of Jay Ramasubramanyam to the position of Vice-President (Academic); and

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BIFRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of Alexa Dodge, Asia Barclay, and Ahmed Hassan as the graduate representatives to the Carleton University Senate; and

BIFRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of William Felepchuk as a Graduate Students’ Association representative to the Carleton University Graduate Faculty Board; and

BIFRT Council ratify the results of the 2017 referendum on the graduate student health, dental, and accident plan.

Motion carries.

b) Nomination and Selection of four GSA Members (4) to the Carleton University Graduate Faculty Board

- Codie Fortin Lalonde nominated.
- Anna Hoque nominated.
- Stacey Cook nominated (Sociology & Anthropology)
- Karan Goyal nominated (Engineering)

c) Motion 07.04.2017 - 02: Motion to Elect four GSA Members (4) to the Carleton University Graduate Faculty Board

Moved: Sarah (HSTP)

Seconded: Simon (Communication)

Whereas there are four4 vacant seats for GSA members on the Carleton University Graduate Faculty Board; and

Whereas normally the four remaining seats would be filled by one doctoral student and three masters students; therefore

BIRT GSA Council approve the election of Codie Fortin Lalonde, Anna Hoque, Stacey Cook, and Karan Goyal as representatives to the Carleton University Graduate Faculty Board.

Motion carries.

d) Motion 07.04.2017 – 03: Motion to Draft an Open Letter to Carleton University Senior Administration Regarding Possible Censure by the Canadian Association of University Teachers

Mover: Codie Fortin Lalonde (ALDS)

Seconded: Eric Hitsman (VP Operations)

Whereas the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) is a national body representing 70,000 teachers, librarians, researchers, general staff and other academic professionals, and of which the Carleton University Academic Staff Association (CUASA) is a member; and

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Whereas in March 2016, the Carleton Board of Governors adopted a stringent *Code of Conduct* for Board members which prohibits members from discussing Board matters, including issues discussed in open sessions, with the Carleton community, an unprecedented level of censorship; and

Whereas the By-Law changes made in March 2016 also centralize more power in the hands of the already powerful Executive Committee which does not include student or faculty representatives; and

Whereas in April 2016, GSA Council unanimously passed a motion of non-confidence in Carleton University senior administration as a result of the Board’s *Code of Conduct*, and its effect as a “gag order” on members; and

Whereas the Carleton University Academic Staff Association and CUPE Local 2424, representing administrative staff at Carleton University, also passed motions of non-confidence; and

Whereas after refusing to sign the *Code of Conduct* upon seeking re-election as a Faculty representative, Professor Root Gorelick was “invalidated” as a Board member in July 2016; and

Whereas Gorelick and CUASA contend that the *Code of Conduct* contravenes the union’s collective agreement which protects academic freedom from institutional interference; and

Whereas in December, the CAUT gave notice to the Carleton University administration that unless it resolved the issues associated with the Board of Governors *Code of Conduct*, it would seek a motion to censure Carleton University at its National Congress, May 4-7, 2017; and

Whereas a censure is an extremely important sanction with significant impacts which include asking CAUT members “not to accept appointments at a censured institution; not to accept invitations to speak or participate in academic conferences there; not to accept any distinction or honour that may be offered by that institution”; and

Whereas in the event of a censure the CAUT will “refuse to accept advertisements for positions vacant at an institution under censure in the CAUT Bulletin or on the CAUT website [something required in the CUASA collective agreement]; widely publicize the dispute in the media and in the CAUT Bulletin and other publications; bring the censure to the attention of associations of academic staff in other countries, request that they publish an account of the dispute in their journals and ask their members to respect the censure; bring the censure motion to the attention of post-secondary student organizations, the Canadian Labour Congress, and other appropriate groups; encourage academic disciplinary associations to refuse to carry advertisements for or hold events at censured institutions”; and

Whereas a censure would have direct and immediate impacts on GSA members, including their ability to hold conferences and the general devaluing of their education at Carleton;

Be it resolved that the GSA release an Open Letter to Carleton University urging them to amend or repeal the Board of Governors *Code of Conduct* such that it no longer “threatens academic freedom and tenure, undermines collegial governance, [and] disregards negotiated agreements

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[...]” and thereby avoid the impending censure by the Canadian Association of University Teachers.

Motion carries unanimously.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

10. ADJOURN TO GSA CARLETON INC. MEETING

Moved by: Debbie

Seconded by: Jay

Carried.