

**GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes**  
**Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario**  
**Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018**

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**CALL TO ORDER – 6:14pm, Thursday, September 27, 2018**

*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**

Annika Mazzarella (Art History)  
Raza Samanfar (Computer Science)  
Carmen Warner (Communication)  
Alexa Dodge (legal studies)  
Codie Fortinlalonde (Applied Linguistics)  
Itai Gibci (NPSIA)  
Rob Currie-wood (Political Science)  
Lauren Thompson (Psychology)  
Hope Tohme (English)  
Kendra Landry (English)  
Leigh Dunn (Biology)  
Abigail Curlew (Sociology)  
Jacky Tran (Public Policy and Admin)  
Clare Glassco (Social Work)  
Hemant Crupta (Computer Science)  
Miles Krauter (CUPE 4600)  
Farima Afar (SPPA / MPPA)  
Taryn Hepburn (Law & Legal Studies)  
Jay Ramasubramanyam (President)  
Miranda Leibel (VP-Operations)  
Ashley Courchene (VP-Finance)  
Trycia Bazinet (VP-Academic)  
Phil Robinson (Executive Coordinator)  
Mohammad Akbar (Office Communications Coordinator)

**1. INTRODUCTION OF CHAIR**

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

- a. Announcement of Proxies
  - Simon Vodrey appointed Carmen Warner

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Moved:** Miranda Leibel  
**Seconded:** Jay Ramasubramanyam  
Carried

**3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a. Minutes from August 1, 2018  
**Moved:** Hemant (Computer Science)  
**Seconded:** Taryn Hepburn (Legal Studies)  
Carried

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Council Meeting Dates – Mark Your Calendars:
  - Tuesday, October 30, 6 PM
  - Wednesday, November 21, 6 PM
  - Monday, December 3, 6 PM
- b. Mike’s Place Social after Council – Free Drink Tickets!

**5. ORDER OF THE DAY: Councilor Orientation and Review of Robert’s Rules of Order**

**6. EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

- a. President (Jay Ramasubramanyam)

**International Graduate Student Working Group**

The International Graduate Student Working Group is meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October to discuss more issues surrounding international grad students. One of our major victories in the last few months was our consistent lobbying for reduction of international student fees for doctoral students and we have now managed to achieve that to a large extent. As of September 2018, at least a good percentage of international doctoral students are paying domestic tuition fees.

**Psychology Mental Health Day**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of October the Department of Psychology is holding a Mental Health Day. As a part of our campaign we wanted to promote more events of this sort on campus, and this event is a great step in the right direction. If representatives from Psychology are here, I would let them speak to that more!

**Transit events**

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October, we have a transit forum event planned in the Tory-UC Atrium from 12 to 2. David Chernushenko, Shawn Menard, and Clive Doucet (Jim Watson is yet to confirm) will be speaking about transit in the city of Ottawa with specific focus on students’ needs. There will be pizza and lots of opportunities to ask them questions.

**Racialized Action Committee**

The Racialized Action Committee had its first meeting on Tuesday. It was unfortunately not very well-attended, but we are really hoping to have a few more people attend. If you know colleagues or friends who would like to attend these meetings please let them know. It is about trying to create a safe space for racialized students to discuss issues that they may face on campus and in the community, and also host events/movie nights that involve similar themes.

**Senate positions**

We have a range of Senate positions that have been advertised... We need a representative or two for each of these committees. If you would like to get involved please let me know ([pres@gsacarleton.ca](mailto:pres@gsacarleton.ca)). I have some sheets listing the name of the committee along with the meeting materials.

**Provost Search Committee**

Finally, we have a Search Committee that has convened to identify a new Provost, as Jerry Tomberlin’s term has come to an end. I am currently in the committee, but the President’s office has insisted that one more grad student be a part of this committee.

- b. VP Finance (Ashley Courchene)

**Grants, Grants, Grants**

The health leave grant policy is the last grant out of many grants that we established this year in our commitment to increase the number of scholarships and grants for Grad students. The Health Leave Grant will be for any grad student who requires financial support for mental or physical health reasons. This motion will be discussed later tonight.

Also, as a friendly reminder, please let your constituents know about our grants and scholarships if you have not already. There are a number of needs based and academic grants available including:

- Family Leave,
- Dental,
- Childcare,
- Health leave,
- Travel,
- Emergency, and;

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

- Student Organization

There are also a number of scholarships available for:

- Full-time and part-time academic excellent,
- International and Indigenous students,
- Student-Parents,
- Very Excellent TAs,
- Those who are just kick-ass at school, and;
- Open-access publishing

Please let everyone you can know about these opportunities for them.

### **Mike’s Place Revitalization**

Staff and Management are slowly getting used of the new POS system we installed.

Last month, I stated we are looking into new art and a television set for Mike’s. We are still looking, but made headway in the art aspect of the revitalization. We are reaching out to a number of local artists to see if they would be willing to do showcase events at Mike’s where we can hang up their art for a bit. The TV will be coming within the next two months so we can do bigger sporting and political events as well.

### **Racialized and Indigenous Student Experience Summit:**

We met with uOttawa to discuss the Racialized and Indigenous Student Experience (RISE) Summit. A tentative agenda was set up for the weekend-long conference taking place on November 23-25. Topics include decolonization, fighting anti-black and anti-native sentiments, diaspora and migration issues, and building solidarity between racialized communities as well. It will be a conference closed to racialized folks. Promotional materials will be coming soon so we will be asking you to share the word about this city-wide conference.

### **ReconciliACTION**

A new provincial campaign called ReconciliACTION is set to be launched in early October. The purpose of ReconciliACTION is to strengthen Indigenous language education on our campuses across Ontario. Students and faculty have met twice now and we will be publishing a position paper outlining what we wish to see at Carleton and in every post-secondary institution in this Province. The ReconciliAction working group was established by the GSA, the CUSA Mawandoseg Centre, and members of the First Peoples’ Council.

If you would like to join this Working Group (you don’t need to be native, but want to show your support), please let me know after tonight’s meeting and I will let you know about our next meeting.

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

- c. VP Operations (Miranda Leibel)

### **Welcome Weeks**

Our Welcome Weeks events were very well attended and we have received a lot of positive feedback from new and returning graduate students. Some of the highlights were our trip to Gatineau Park, with approximately 80 students, a Sexy Trivia night that saw Mike’s Place at capacity with standing room only! Many students have also asked for similar programming to continue to be run throughout the year.

I’d like to thank all of the executives, staff, and volunteers that made this year’s Welcome Weeks a success.

### **Peer Support Programming**

With the support of the Office of the Vice President Students and Enrollment, the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs, and Counselling and Clinical Services, we will be piloting a Graduate Student Mental Health Peer Support program throughout the 2018-19 academic year.

We have hired the peer support program coordinator, who will spend the Fall term recruiting and training volunteers, as well as offering group-oriented mental health workshops for graduate students on an ongoing basis. In Winter semester, we hope to see the whole program rolled out, with volunteers trained to do one-on-one peer support for graduate students.

If you are interested in becoming a peer support volunteer with this program, please email me at [vpo@gsacarleton.ca](mailto:vpo@gsacarleton.ca)

### **Sexual Assault Outreach Coordinator Hiring**

We are currently in the process of hiring our second Sexual Assault Outreach Coordinator. We will have more information on the hiring process at our October council meeting.

### **Graduate Student Mental Health**

In addition to the peer support programming, aimed to support graduate students’ mental health, Carleton’s Health and Counselling Services is hiring two additional counsellors for the 2018-19 academic year. One of these counsellors will be tasked with supervising the graduate student peer support program, and, as an extension, will have set hours to work with graduate students (approximately two days a week) in either the Graduate Students’ Association space, or in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs.

We will provide more information once the staff has been hired.

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

**Student Mental Health Engagement Committee**

Carleton’s Student Mental Health Engagement Committee is seeking a graduate student member at large to represent graduate students at these meetings.

The Student Mental Health Engagement Committee plans events and outreach events aimed to support student mental health on campus. If you are interested in participating as a graduate student representative on this committee, please contact me at [vpo@gsacarleton.ca](mailto:vpo@gsacarleton.ca)

**Carleton Sexual Violence Policy**

Carleton has now opened up its sexual violence policy for consultations. A draft of the consultation schedule is available online.

For graduate students who are interested in being involved in the GSA’s consultations, we have organized the Consent Culture Committee meetings around the consultation process and timelines. If you are interested in participating in this committee, please email me at [vpo@gsacarleton.ca](mailto:vpo@gsacarleton.ca)

Students are also encouraged to participate in the consultation process independently of the GSA. Some consultations will be accessible online. Others will be in-person with staff from Equity Services and the Office of the Vice President Students and Enrollment. There will be several in-person consultation sessions specifically for graduate students. When we have these dates, we will make them available on our social media and through our Grad bulletin so that members can prepare to attend.

Bailey Reid from Equity Services will present at our October Council to offer additional information regarding the consultations. She will also be available for questions regarding the consultation process or the review procedures.

**Consent Culture Committee**

As I mentioned, we have opened our Consent Culture Committee to focus on drafting a GSA response to the Sexual Violence Policy throughout these review processes.

The committee has met twice already, and both meetings were exceptionally well attended.

**Library Collaborations**

Myself and Trycia (VP Academic) are working with two subject librarians at Carleton to host events that feature diverse collections in the hopes of inspiring students to make the most of on-campus library resources. We are currently working on hosting two retro-game nights in the Fall

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

Semester with the library staff. One will take place after the Fall reading week, and the second will take place during the exam period. We hope to see lots of you there!

This will be the first of what we hope to develop as a series of collaborations with the library. We are also working on hosting an accessible board games night, featuring the library’s accessible board games collections, as well as robotics and other technology focused workshop that highlight the diverse services, collections, and opportunities available at the McOdrum Library.

### **Sexual Assault Awareness Week**

The GSA is working with CUSA (Carleton Undergraduate Students’ Association), Equity Services, and other campus partners to host the 2019 Sexual Assault Awareness week at Carleton. We are hoping to bring Tarana Burke, founder of the #MeToo Movement to Carleton as our keynote speaker for this year’s events.

- d. VP Academic (Trycia Bazinet)

### **Student Supervisor Relationship**

This is a document that Jay and I have been working on over the summer, along with the Faculty of Graduate and Post-Doctoral Affairs. At the last Graduate Faculty Board meeting, which is attended by professors and several graduate students, the document was presented to the Faculty. We heard some concerns from some faculty, insinuating that this might be an attempt to silence them or to overburden them with more responsibilities. However, we stand by our version of the student supervisor relationship document, which is meant to stand as a guideline document of what student-supervisor relationships should look like. We are concerned about ensuring that the student receives feedback within an acceptable time frame, that students do not get penalized in case the time frame is not respected by the supervisor, and about the repercussions that grad students may face if faculties speak about them in a unprofessional manner. There are other issues but we invite people to join the graduate academic caucus (above) to continue discussing these matters or to email [vpa@gsacarleton.ca](mailto:vpa@gsacarleton.ca) for any input.

### **Graduate academic caucus**

The call for Graduate Academic Caucus Representatives is now out. The Graduate Academic Caucus (GAC) is a standing committee of the Graduate Students’ Association. Representatives serve as direct links between students, departments and the GSA, while also ensuring that the academic needs of graduate students are represented and conveyed to Carleton's Senate and university administration. The time commitment is around = 2-3 hours every 1-2 months and it can go on your CV!

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

You can join the Graduate Academic Caucus by contacting [vpa@gsacarleton.ca](mailto:vpa@gsacarleton.ca) and letting them know that you want to sit on GAC. Note that if you sit on your faculty board, you already have a seat at GAC but still have to contact [vpa@gsacarleton.ca](mailto:vpa@gsacarleton.ca).

Each department gets two seats on GAC. The first GAC meeting will take place on **October 16th, 3pm, in the Senate Room** and will address different issues, such including upper year graduate students, supervision policies and more. GAC Representatives are encouraged to bring their own issues or concerns to the table.

### **Grade Appeal: Oral Presentations**

I would like to flag an issue that I have encountered while doing academic advocacy for one GSA member. In the appeal policy, it is stated that non-written works will not be considered for appeal, and the example provided is participation grades. However, oral presentations that are worth a significant chunk of a students’ percentage, or that involve written work like slides presentations and written parts of the presentation, we think that these grades should be considered for appeal if requested. Until we ask for clarification on this policy, we recommend students to keep the written or recorded part of their oral presentations and to take this information into consideration when appealing a grade at the FGPA.

### **Upper Year Graduate Students**

Earlier in the year, I mentioned that we were going to launch a survey which would assess the issues that upper year graduate students are facing. Based on early feedback we received, we decided to reassess our strategy. The issue remains the same though, which are that renewed milestones and completion timeline are being applied retrospectively, that upper year graduate students find themselves with no support and are sometimes required to withdraw in good standing until they are ready to defend, and that the process of request for extensions does not suit many students. We would like to pursue the conversation to get a sense of what other students are facing, and what alternatives or solutions they instead require. If you face problems with this issue, we encourage you to come discuss them with us at the next Graduate Academic Caucus on October 16th (see above).

### **Endorsed Event: Odinewin Camps Fundraiser, October 12**

Indigenous and non-Indigenous students are welcome to join a community fundraiser which will take place on October 12th, Bronson Centre Mac Hall. The event is in support of an Algonquin resurgence camp called Odinewin Camp. The evening will feature silent auctions, artistic performances and teachings by those who run the camp. This event is endorsed by the GSA, as part of ongoing efforts in actualizing its land acknowledgement principles. The GSA donated 150\$ to this event. Indigenous youth from Carleton and elsewhere are especially encouraged to attend if they would like to join the language and cultural camp in the future.

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

**Library Relations**

I have tried to follow up on the scanner that the library promised to us. This scanner would be free to use, and be right beside the reserve counter on the first floor. This would counter the inconvenient reserve time allocated for some of the books that we need, some of them which can only be taken out for 2 or 4 hours. On another note, if you have had any issues with using library space, we also want to hear about this. As suggested by other execs, we are now asking the library to consider an agreement with the GSA which would stipulate that graduate students who do not have office space assigned by their department would be prioritize by the library when the assign their study spaces.

Otherwise, we collaborated with the library for the first time in a really long time, for a Welcome Weeks event in which graduate students were invited to come meet their subject librarians and this event was a success.

**Harm Reduction Statement of Principles**

A statement of principle on harm reduction is still being discussed between GSA execs and full-time staff at the moment.

- e. VP External (Helia Doutaghi)

**Hoda Katebi**

Hoda Katebi will be speaking at Carleton on October 4th at Senate room at 6:00. Check out our Social media for more info. Please let your folks at your department know.

**Meeting with Carleton University President**

We have met with the new President and his team. In our meeting we have expressed our concerns about a number of issues including on the recent Provincial Government’s freedom of speech policy. The University will be discussing the policy at Senate and we will have more information once that happens.

Furthermore, we have, for the second time (after being denied once in the last month), expressed our deep concerns regarding not having access to our membership information which greatly hinders our ability to build a community for and with you on campus. We are still awaiting a written response.

**Political Action Committee**

Political Action Committee will be meeting for the first time this term on October 10th. If you are interested in getting involved with this year’s campaigns including but not limited to Anti-war, Anti-islamophobia, and mental health, please consider joining and let everyone know at your department.

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

**Anti-War and Anti-Islamophobia Campaigns**

The National Council of Canadian Muslims held an Anti-islamophobia workshop during Welcome Weeks as part of our Anti-islamophobia campaign. We hope to continue collaboration with them and other bodies in and outside campus for future work on this campaign.

The GSA participated and spoke in an Anti-war rally this month against Canada’s weapon sale to Saudi Arabia.

**Canadian Federation of Students**

The Canadian Federation of Students’ National meeting will take place in November. I will have more information and updates next month on the GSA activities in the upcoming meeting.

**Racialized and Indigenous Student Dinner**

After a successful traditional food night with racialized and Indigenous students, we decided to have more of these events through RAC this year. Please share your ideas!

f. Questions

- Taryn: Do you have deadlines for the scholarships and grants?
- Ashley: Yes, both scholarships and grants have specific deadlines; I don’t have them with me right now but they are towards the end of each term.

**7. OTHER REPORTS**

a. Senate & Senate Committees

- Nothing to Report

b. Graduate Residence Caucus (GRC)

- Nothing to Report

c. Graduate Faculty Board (GFB)

- Nothing to Report

d. Canadian Union of Public Employees 4600 (CUPE 4600)

Miles Krauter: Thank you for the GSA during the orientation week. We have a general meeting coming up, Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, room 158 Southam. It is an opportunity for everyone to vote, so please come and vote. For those who do not know

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

what CUPE 4600 does, it represents TAs and RAs. We will be electing 4 positions this time. You can also be involved in this by becoming a Stewart of your department and becoming a member of the Stewart council. Bargain research committee is the first place where you can go, to know what the demands are on the table and the direction of the campaign.

e. Board of Governors (BOG)

President Bacon’s focus seems to revolve around three main points: research, academic excellence and student experience. I’m not sure if this is any different to the former president, but Benoit seems particularly keen on understanding how students experience Carleton. He emphasized many times that student experience is key to Carleton’s success. This may be tied to the fact that enrolment is down by 3.8% 2018 from 2017. According to the president and Suzanne Blanchard, this is mostly due to the labour strike since local recruitment was happening at the time. The aim for 2019 is to reverse this figure, another reason why student experience and enrolment will be the focus for 2019.

I have not met with President Bacon personally yet, but I’m hoping to do so soon, in particular, to talk to him about access to gender-neutral bathrooms across campus. Not much progress has been made since last year. On that note, I’m also on the nomination committee and building program committee. The focus for the building committee is the new Sprott Business School (Nicol) building. There is a separate meeting happening in October with the building crew that I’m planning to attend. Mostly I would like to provide input on how they plan to integrate gender-neutral bathrooms in the building since this is apparently, and I know nothing about building regulations or architecture, not a building code requirement.

I’ve also had a quick discussion and email exchange with the new AVP of Facilities Management and Planning regarding access to gender-neutral bathrooms on campus. He told me that the info I have about how these things get decided, i.e. by department, is not accurate. I wasn’t able to speak to him in detail because I briefly met him at a board meeting, but I suggested we meet to discuss this further. He seemed very receptive to my suggestions and told me that at the last university he was at (Willard Laurier) he made sure that each building had gender-inclusive bathrooms. I’m planning to meet with him soon to discuss things further. Two other points of interest that might be important for GSA to know is that the president is focused on engaging the community in a broad process to revitalize indigenous visibility, support, impact and prioritize initiatives that enhance employability, accessibility & mental health for students.

f. Carleton University Students’ Association (CUSA)

- Nothing to Report

g. Questions

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

- Nothing to report

## **8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

- Nothing to report

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a) Motion 09.27.2018—01: Motion to Adopt Policy for Health Leave Grant**

Moved: Ashley Courchene (VP Finance)

Seconded: Miranda Leibel (VP Operations)

Whereas mental health is a primary concern that the GSA wishes to address on an ongoing basis, and;

Whereas a motion was passed through the GSA Council in August 2018 that established the Health Leave Grant;

Be It Resolved that the GSA adopt the Health Leave Grant Policy, which is as follows:

Preamble:

The GSA Health Leave Grant is designed to provide financial support for full-time or part-time Masters and PhD students who require academic leave for mental or physical health reasons. Only those students that were granted academic leave for mental or physical health issues are eligible to apply for the Health Leave Grant. To be considered for the grant, applicants must demonstrate financial need.

The GSA Health Leave Grant is for a one-time amount of \$1500.00.

Applicants will not be processed until all required documentation has been received.

Photocopies and scans are acceptable.

Applicants must provide the following documentation:

- 3.1. A completed and signed copy of the GSA Health Leave Grant application form;
- 3.2. Written confirmation from the FGPA that they require a leave of absence for health reasons;
- 3.3. Proof of registration for two terms prior to the start of the leave;
- 3.4. Any relevant documentation pertaining to the request for health leave.

The GSA Health Leave Grant application form shall contain the following information:

- 4.1. Identification information, including proof of status as a graduate student;
- 4.2. Estimated expenses for the semester;
- 4.3. Estimated revenue for the semester;
- 4.4. Partner/spousal income, if applicable;

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

4.5. Proposed use of the Health Leave Grant

Applicants will be deemed ineligible if:

- 5.1. The applicant cannot provide the documentation listed in section 3 of this policy.
- 5.2 The applicant cannot provide the information listed in section 4 of this policy.

Applications shall be administered by the Vice-President Finance, and shall be approved by the Vice-President Finance and one other executive member.

The total amount of Health Leave Grant monies shall not exceed the amount allocated in the GSA Budget for any given year.

Members may appeal the results of their application to the GSA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will hear said request in a timely fashion. The decision by the Board of Directors shall be final.

*Carried.*

**b) Motion 27.09.2018 - 02: Motion to Call for an In-Council Election for VP-Academic under Section 9.2 of the Constitution**

Moved: Miranda Leibel (VP Operations)

Seconded: Ashley Courchene (VP Finance)

Whereas Trycia Bazinet has formally asked to resign from the position of Vice-President Academic of the GSA effective October 19th, 2018, and;

Whereas Article 9.2 of the GSA Constitution states:

9.2 If an Executive member is unable to complete their term of office, or should no candidate come forward to run for an Executive position, or should members vote against electing an unopposed candidate, Council may, at its discretion, appoint a replacement officer for the duration of the term of office, or hold a by-election. Council may choose to appoint an interim officer to hold the position until a permanent replacement is made.

Whereas Article 9.2 provides the option of having Council appoint a replacement officer for the duration of the term of office (April 30, 2019), therefore;

Be It Resolved that GSA Council accept the resignation of Trycia Bazinet effective October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Be It Further Resolved that GSA Council thank Trycia Bazinet for her hard and dedicated work on behalf of graduate students at Carleton University.

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

Be It Further Resolved that GSA Council elect a new Vice-President Academic at its October 2018 meeting.

Be It Further Resolved that those interested send their nominations to Miranda Leibel at vpo@gsacarleton.ca by Wednesday, October 17, 2018.

*Carried.*

**c) Motion 09.27.2018-03: Motion to Commit to Ongoing Advocacy for the Graduate Students’ Association Membership Information**

Moved: Ashley Courchene (VP-Finance)

Seconded: Codie Fortinlalonde (Applied Linguistics)

Whereas Carleton University withholds membership information from the Graduate Students’ Association as directed by previous senior administrators, and;

Whereas the GSA has been asking the University for its membership information for years, and;

Whereas there is a new Carleton University President, and;

Whereas the GSA has drafted a privacy agreement that is compliant with all applicable privacy legislation and regulations, and;

Whereas having access to membership information is an essential tool for the GSA to provide services and advocacy to graduate students, and;

Whereas the GSA aims to build a community for all graduate students to provide support and alleviate isolation;

Be it resolved that the GSA council reaffirm its request for the membership information from Carleton University.

Be it further resolved the GSA executive continue lobbying Carleton university for the membership information.

*Carried.*

- Miles: We have all the information as CUPE 4600. What is the GSA considering, a mock referendum maybe?
- Ashley: What we will be doing is to start slow and then escalate and then run a campaign about it; from there we will try to apply more pressure.
- Alexa: What does CUSA have? CUSA does not have the private email of each student because of privacy, but they have one email or link that includes all students and this is how they are able to communicate with them.

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

---

*Carried.*

**d) Motion 27.09.2018 – 04: Motion to Receive the Annual Graduate Recreational Softball League Report**

Moved: Jay Ramasubramanyam (President)

Seconded: Hemant (Computer Science)

Whereas the Co-Commissioners for the Graduate Recreational Softball League have tabled a report on the 2018 season, therefore;

Be It Resolved the report of the Graduate Recreational Softball League Co-Commissioners be received by Council.

*Carried.*

**Motion 27.09.2018-05: Motion to Accept a Collective Response to Ontario’s Announcement of a Campus Free Speech Policy**

**Moved:** Jay Ramasubramanyam (President)

**Seconded:** Codie Fortinlalonde (Applied Linguistics)

Whereas on August 30th, the Ontario Government released a statement calling on all publicly assisted Colleges and Universities to develop a policy on Freedom of Speech by January 1st, 2019, and;

Whereas the Province has indicated that operating grant funding will be affected depending on the severity of non-compliance, and suggests Universities and Colleges to police the speech of Students’ Unions, and;

Whereas the creation of such a policy has many dangerous implications on freedom of speech, open discussion, free inquiry and academic freedom, and;

Whereas this policy couches itself with language that presents itself as a policy that promotes free speech and expression, but in reality, represents a limitation on free speech;

Be It Resolved that GSA Council support efforts to resist the provincial government's 'free speech' policy, and encourage members to get involved.

Be It Further Resolved that we call on all students, staff, faculty, departments, unions, associations and societies on campus to join us in forming a united front despite the threats of funding removal from our institutions.

Be It Further Resolved that the GSA strongly encourages members to vocalize any and all opposition to the Government’s attempts to police students, staff and faculty on campuses.

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario  
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, September 27, 2018***

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- Alexa and Taryn commented on the language of this motion, specifically the word “resist,” they asked the executives to change it.

**Resolution to refer: To reword the motion for the to the next meeting.**

Moved: Carmen Warner (Communication)

Seconded: Taryn Hepburn (Law & Legal Studies)

Carried.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

- Miles: the municipal election is happening during reading week this time. There will be polls and everyone should vote.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by:** Abigail Curlew (Sociology)

**Seconded by:** Hemant (Computer Science)

Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.