

***GSA COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes
Carleton University Graduate Students’ Association, Ottawa, Ontario
Robertson Hall, Senate Chamber - 6:00 pm – Thursday, April 19, 2018***

CALL TO ORDER – 6:02pm, Thursday, April 18, 2019

We, the members of GSA-Carleton are committed to following Indigenous legal traditions of acknowledging the sovereign waters, lands, and the Algonquin Anishinaabeg Nation in the territory of the Kitchissippi watershed, which includes the City of Ottawa. In doing so, we are also acknowledging the illegalities of our presence under Indigenous legal traditions, and acknowledging the ongoing and violent methods of settler colonialism. This acknowledgement is but a first step in accepting our responsibility to correct these injustices through action and furthering the education of ourselves and others.

Attendance

Alexa Dodge (Legal Studies)
Cathy Agyemang (Cognitive Science)
Amy Burlock (ALDS)
Victoria Bond (Mike’s Place)
Katelyn Ventura (Mike’s Place)
Lauren Watts (DGES)
Leigh Dunn (Psychology)
Ryan Collins (Mike’s Place)
Kristen Webster (SPPA)
Itai Gibli (NPSIA)
Jason Barsill (MAAE Engineering)
Wesley Petite (CUPE 4600)
Alex Danvey Elwood
Melissa Conte (GSA Office Administrator)
Salmon Shaki (MAE Engineering)
Sriyanchita Srinivasan (CEO)
Taryn Hepburn (Legal Studies)
Michael Hoyik (MPPA)
Bridgette Desjardins (Law and Legal Studies)
Pansee Aloan El Atta (Curatorial Studies)
Carmen Warner (Communications)
Abigail Curlew (Sociology)
Hesam Farhani (ALDS)
Hemant Gupta (Computer Science)
Simon Vodrey (Communications)
Sidney Moran (SICS)
Codie Fortin Lalande (ALDS)
Ashley Courchene (VP Finance)
Helia Doutaghi (Vice President External)
Jay Ramasubramanyam (President)
Mohamad Zidan (MC)

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Mohammad Akbar (Office Communications Coordinator)
Celia Armitage (Finance Administrator)

1. INTRODUCTION OF CHAIR

- a. Announcement of Proxies
- Tariqa Tandon appointed Alex Danvey Elwood
 - James Patquin appointed Wesley Petite

Jane and Trina introduced themselves to support students and whoever may feel uncomfortable during the meeting.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved: Simon

Seconded: Sidney Moran

Amendment: To remove/strike 5.B (presentation), and to have instead a discussion on the emergency motion

Moved: Helia

Seconded: Jay

Carries.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. Minutes from March 20, 2019

Moved: Sidney

Seconded: Kirsten

Carries.

- Wesley: There was a ratification to the financial decisions about Mike’s Place, which is not in this agenda or it is missing in this agenda.
- Jay: There was no ratification of that sort.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Nothing to report.

5. ORDER OF THE DAY:

A. Presentation on Student Choice Initiative

Presentation was given by Zidan

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Alexa: I have been in the board of director for so many years and to come up with such crucial decisions, laying off 20 employees, is surprising because your presentation now is only presenting the justification of your already made decisions.

Five minutes Recess suggested by the chair

Moved: Taryn

Seconded: Sidney

B. Presentation of the Sexual Assault Outreach Coordinators Report

(changed to discussion about the emergency resolution)

The graduate student staff at Mike’s place and the Office Admin staff ask for support from the GSA council to keep Mike’s place open for the summer, and additionally take measures to prevent the layoff of 20 Mike's place staff and vulnerable OA positions.

Whereas the closure of Mike’s Place would result in the layoff of 17 graduate student staff and;

Whereas Mike’s Place is a graduate student hub and keystone of the graduate student and broader Carleton community and;

Whereas Mike’s Place is a safe space where graduate students, undergrads, staff and faculty can purchase affordable food with vegetarian, vegan, and halal options and;

Whereas Mike’s Place is a meeting space for graduate student groups, including trivia, softball, and community groups and;

Whereas those Mike’s Place and OA staff who have even small RA positions cannot receive Employment Insurance and;

Whereas Mike’s Place will be the only student run pub open during the summer,

Whereas a fiscally conservative outlook is counter to the political priorities of the GSA and does not aid in the fight back against Ford;

Whereas the graduate student community and GSA council were not notified or consulted about the closure of Mike’s Place;

Whereas plans to remove one of five executive positions to save money in light of the student choice initiative, saving the GSA approximately 21000\$, was abandoned;

Be it resolved that Mike’s Place stay open for the summer semester if only on a trial basis and/or with limited hours.

Carries.

Amendment: Request to modify the resolution and add: “Be it resolved that Mike’s Place stay open for the summer semester if only on a trial basis and/or with limited hours.”

Moved By: Codie

Seconded By: Abigail

Carries.

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C. Presentation of the Chief Electoral Officer and Deputy Electoral Officer Report

Presentation was given by Sriyanchita Srinivasan

- Before the presentation, Sriyanchita addressed the council members: In our last meeting you have cornered people with your questions, a practice which I find inappropriate. You can do better than this!
- Kristen: I was not provided the report. I was just told that there was a report and my question was why it was not taken into consideration, why the previous recommendation was not taken into account.

6. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

a. President (Jay Ramasubramanyam)

- Nothing to report

b. VP Finance (Ashley Courchene)

- Nothing to report

c. VP Academic (Farima Afaq)

- Nothing to report

d. VP External (Helia Doutaghi)

- Nothing to report

e. Questions

- Wesley: Are you going to look into the Community Garden this year?
- Ashley: We need to look into the viability (budget) first, if it seems viable, we will start with the application forms.

7. OTHER REPORTS

a. Senate & Senate Committees

- Nothing to report

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- 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)
 - Wesley: On march 10th, we elected our new president. We still have positions for the Contract Instructors Bargaining Team.
- f. Board of Governors (BOG)
 - Nothing to report
- g. Carleton University Students’ Association (CUSA)
 - Nothing to report
- i. Questions
 - Nothing to report

8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- Abigail: Proposed financial plans to support the softball team for this year.
- Carmen: Softball is one of things that we get all together; it generates momentum and communication with everyone on campus.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Motion 18.04.2019 – 01: Receipt of the Chief Electoral Officer and Deputy Electoral Officer Report

Moved By: Jay Ramasubramanyam

Seconded By: Kirsten

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

BIRT Council receive the Elections 2018 Report of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)

B. Motion 18.04.2019 – 02: Ratification of Election Results

Moved By: Jay Ramasubramanyam

Seconded By: Kirsten

BIRT Council ratify the election, in accordance with the GSA Constitution, of Ashley Courchene to the position of President; and

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

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

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

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

BIFRT Council order the destruction of the ballots.

Carries.

C. Nomination and Selection of GSA Members to the Graduate Faculty Board and Senate

Moved By: Ashley Courchene

Seconded By: Kirsten

D. Motion 18.04.2019 - 03: Election of Graduate Faculty Board & Senate positions

Moved By: Ashley Courchene

Seconded By: Kirsten

Whereas the 5 Graduate Faculty Board positions and the 3 Senate Positions were vacant after the general elections;

BIRT that **Sidney, Taryn, Sriyanchita, Abigail**, and **Pensi** be appointed as the GFB representatives for the upcoming academic year.

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BIFRT that **Sriyanchita, Sidney, and Carmen** be appointed at the Senate representatives for the upcoming academic year.

Moved: Ashley
Seconded: Hemant

Carries

1. OTHER BUSINESS

Bridgette: There is a current draft release about the Sexual Assault Policy, and the next step is to get this draft through the Board of Governor meeting, where this policy will be ratified. We would like people to come and support with a peaceful protest. It will take place around 2:15 pm next Thursday 25th April – location: River Building 2440R.

2. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Simon
Seconded by: Helia

Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 9:39 pm.

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