



GSA COUNCIL – Minutes

Carleton University Graduate Students' Association, Ottawa, Ontario

On Zoom - Thursday May 29th 2025 6pm

CALL TO ORDER

We, the members of GSA-Carleton are committed to following Indigenous legal traditions of acknowledging the sovereign waters, lands, and the Algonquin Anishinaabe 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 acknowledgment is but a first step in accepting our responsibility to correct these injustices through action and furthering the education of ourselves and others.

1. INTRODUCTION OF CHAIR

- a. Announcement of Proxies

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved: Bronwyn

Seconded: Sydney

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. The minutes from the [April council meeting](#) have been distributed to councilors.
- b. Moved by Jessica, seconded by Kate

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDER OF THE DAY:

5. NEW BUSINESS

Appendix A: By- Elections Ratification

By-Election was moved by Kate and seconded by Oladapo that VPO position is Fatemeh Mohammed Zamani.

Appendix B: ONCA

VPF speaks on the ONCA for the need to create a committee to work on the ONCA restructure for the by-laws and constitution.

Bronwyn suggested that the ONCA committee should include President, VPO, one member of the board and two members of the council.

Sydney added the need to have a graduate student for transparency. Bronwyn also mentioned that instead of one member of the student body, we need to have something like surveys, townhalls and proper inclusion. Kate agrees that community consultation is needed and we need to carry the graduate students along in some sort of public forum.

Bronwyn moved a motion

Motion: An Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporation Act Compliance Committee will be formed and empowered to work with GSA staff and legal counsel to engage with students and update the GSA's bylaws to be in compliance with the new act. The committee will be composed of the President, VP Operations, 2 members of council, and 1 member of the Board. The committee will provide a report at the September council meeting

Zeina and Sydney are concerned about the the the tight timeline

Seconded by Zeina

ONCA Council members: Rouf Chowdhury, moved by Kate, second by Bronwyn.



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Appendix C: Grants and Awards

Dapo moved the motion which includes increasing the emergency to \$750 and International Student Award to \$1000.

Seconded by Jessica and all in favour.

Appendix D: The GSA Board Report

The need to audit batch 161 due to some discrepancies in the selection process. Bronwyn suggested the need to have some kind of compensation for the committee. Focus on the issue around the batch, speak to people involved in the process, providing more detailed information to the auditors.

Sydney recommends some neutrality around the committee and anyone involved in batch 161 should not be part of the committee.

Conflict of interest if you applied for a grant in batch 161.

Bronwyn Move Motion: The GSA Council will compose an Ad-Hoc Audit Committee. The Committee will be empowered to investigate issues with the process of disbursing Batch 161.

This entails document review and questioning persons involved in the decision making process of Batch 161. The committee will also provide recommendations to improve the GSA's Grants and Awards process.

Seconded by Kate.

The committee will be composed of one externally hired auditor from the Graduate student body (the chair), 2 council members, and 1 member of the Board.

Motion is adopted.

Council Member: Sydney Weaver, Kate Ellis - moved by Bronwyn and seconded by Jessica to have these people as council representatives.

The GSA staff (ED and Finance Manager) is given capacity to hire the graduate student chair with board approval.

Certain numbers of hours, job descriptions and pay for the committee chair and compensation

Appendix E: Appointing additional board members

The need to have 4 new board members to the GSA board.

Rouf Chowdhury, Bronwyn moved and Jessica seconded. Council adopted.

6. EXECUTIVE REPORT

- a. President - Zeina
- b. VP Finance - Dapo
- c. VP Operations -
- d. VP Academic - Elen
- e. VP External - Hadi
- f. Issues surrounding the transfer of knowledge of old executives to new executives was discussed to ensure that the amount for honorarium was clearly identified and determined if needed.

7. OTHER REPORTS

- a) Senate & Senate Committees -
- b) Graduate Residence Caucus (GRC) -



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- c) Graduate Faculty Board (GFB) - Apoorva to send report

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Mike's Place Ad-Hoc Financial Review Committee Report
- b) Political Advocacy Committee
- c) Accessibility Committee
- d) Organizational Review Committee

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- Department of English Language and Literature
- Department of French
- Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
- Department of History
- Department of Psychology
- Department of Sociology and Anthropology
- Institute for Comparative Studies in Literature, Art and Culture
- Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies
- Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies
- School for Studies in Art and Culture
- School of Linguistics and Language Studies
- School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies
- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Department of Electronics
- Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
- Department of Systems and Computer Engineering
- Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism
- Industrial Design
- Information Technology
- Sustainable and Renewable Energy Engineering
- Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs
- Department of Economics
- Department of Law and Legal Studies
- Department of Political Science
- Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies
- Institute of Political Economy
- Norman Paterson School of International Affairs
- School of Journalism and Communication
- School of Public Policy and Administration
- School of Social Work
- Department of Biology
- Department of Chemistry
- Department of Earth Sciences
- Department of Health Sciences
- Department of Neuroscience



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- Department of Cognitive Science
- Department of Physics
- Department of Migration and Diaspora
- Department of Music & Culture, SSAC
- School of Computer Science
- School of Mathematics and Statistics - no report

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Board honorarium

Most board members whose term is ending or stepping down are provided an honoraria to say thank you for their time. Board honoraria to be presented as part of the budget in the June council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Appendix A: By- Elections Ratification

Appendix B: ONCA committee to be set up to help promote representation.

Appendix C: Grants and Awards

Appendix D: The GSA Board Report

Appendix E: Appointing new board member