

GSA Council Meeting February 5, 2010

Present – Mah, Svetla, Sussan, Nadia, Mat, Natheer, Zach, Al-Tayeb, Roddy

Approval of Agenda – Strike presentation by TRAC and CJLO as they will not be attending

Sussan moves to approve agenda, Zach seconds. Motion passes unanimously

Mat moves to approves previous meeting's minutes, Zach seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Mat moves that a fifty dollar compensation be provided to person writing minutes, if the VP Advocacy does not perform this duty, this shall be deducted from the VP Advocacy monthly stipend. Zach seconds.

Five for, 1 against, 2 abstentions

By-law discussion

Al-Tayeb raises several concerns –

1. Will manager positions be students?

Mat – we should strike “rounded up” from Article 5 as this will inflate numbers of directors needlessly.

Sussan – we could establish a maximum number of directors.

Svetla – this is a question of democracy

Roddy provides a short history of how the by-law committee decisions.

Svetla – We revised to page 4.5 within committee – so we should discuss points of contention and then Roddy will assemble document – with previous changes – then he will distribute to everyone for Saturday evening.

We will address each point within a 10 minute discussion and then a vote will be called on the point.

The 300 number for the proportional representation –so one person has the ability to speak to their constituents.

Mat – You are using the Fine Arts number to Trojan horse more people in – representation cannot be tied to the random number – we could be fine with one director for 600. There is a functionality issue, our room will only hold so many people.

Svetla – Space is not an issue, there is 6,000 graduate students so 20 seems a reasonable number – we will be moving from 15 to 20 people.

Mat – If we round down then we keep a manageable sized council.

Mat proposes that Article 5 section five read as ...round down...Natheer seconds.

Six for, three against motion passes

Al-Tayeb – I would like to discuss voting power of executives.

Mat – functionality versus democracy – executive will be more involved in more council meeting. Any potential imbalances would be better served by them attending.

Nadia – It is pretty standard that people who are paid do not vote.

Natheer – They are elected so they should have the right to vote.

Svetla – I support Nadia’s position, no voting power on board is standard in most organizations.

PeiPei – I don’t think people who are paid should have the vote, a small point on Article XII, point 3 should read to state “excluding executive salaries”

Svetla proposes that executives will not have voting privileges on council. PeiPei seconds.

Six for, three against motion passes.

Mat proposes that Article XI staff positions should all be amended to state these positions shall be held by members of the GSA. PeiPei seconds – unanimously approved.

Mat – Article XVII – Why are we placing restrictions only for attendance and not for any other conduct?

Roddy proposes article XVII change wording to can as opposed to shall. Svetla seconds.

Unanimous.

Mat proposes that by-laws be accepted, with discussed changes. PeiPei seconds.

Motion passes – 6 for – 1 against – Sussan abstains