

CD-0220

**GSA Regular Council Meeting – Sunday March 20th 2016, 6:00PM to 9:00PM,
Location: GSA House / **PLEASE PRINT YOUR OWN COPY****

DRAFT AGENDA

0. Attendance Sheet verification at 5:30pm
1. Call to Order
 - 1.1 Appointment of minute taker and chair
 - 1.2 Chair's remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Approval of March 6th 2016 meeting minutes
4. Business Arising from Minutes
 - 4.1 Possible suspension of president
 - 4.2 Elections
 - 4.3 Elections Judicial committee
 - 4.4 CFS vs RAE vs GSA (Closed session preferable)
 - 4.5 Petition to amend the bylaws
 - 4.6 Appointments committee recommendations
 - 4.7 Councillors accountability
 - 4.8 Length of candidates stay in office (from last meeting)
 - 4.9 Justification for closed sessions (Vinay)
5. New Business
 - 5.1 Adoption of agenda for upcoming GA (Bavreet)
 - 5.2 Fee levy adjustments
 - 5.3 Creation of GSA club "CORS/INFORMS Montreal Student Chapter" (Alex)
 - 5.4 Letter of Agreement for New staff positions (Alex)
 - 5.5 Upcoming Legal proceedings (Information)
6. Executive Reports
 - 6.1 President
 - 6.2 VP External
 - 6.3 VP Internal
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

**Council Meeting March 6th, 2016 MINUTES
CO-20160306**

Meeting Facilitator:

Minutes Taker:

Present

Councilors:

Executives:

Staff:

Observers:

Absent:

Councilors:

Executives:

1. Call to Order

Called to order at

1.1 Appointment of minute-taker and chair:

Chair:

Minute Taker:

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

1.2 Chair's remarks

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

3. Approval of March 6th Minutes

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Business Arising from Minutes

4.1 Possible suspension of president

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

4.2 Elections

BIRT the GSA elections be held on

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

4.3 Elections Judicial Committee

BIRT that a Judicial Committee be formed made up of

NOTE: individuals on the judicial committee cannot run for elections

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

4.4 CFS Vs RAE vs GSA (Might require closed session)

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

4.5 Petition to amend by-laws

BIRT the petition to amend the GSA by-laws be sent to the General Assembly for consideration.

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

4.6 Appointments committee recommendations

4.7 Councilors accountability

Whereas GSA executives are accountable to their members via reporting to council

Whereas

BIRT the councilors be mandated to submit a report to their respective faculty/department association at the end of each semester regarding their involvement in council

BIFRT that the report should include a confirmation of attendance of meetings

BIFRT that the VP Internal and/chair be cc'd in the email that the councilors will send to their respective association

BIFRT failure to submit the report will result in having their bursary being suspended up to the moment the report is submitted

BIFRT this motion be effective (council decides the date)

Explanation:

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

4.8 The following motion was brought up for discussion, it was decided that council would vote on it in the following meeting:

Whereas Article XVIII – Eligibility for Office states that “A person is eligible to sit on the G.S.A. Council or become a member of the Executive if she or he is a G.S.A. member in good standing (as per the criteria laid forth in Article III) for the full duration of her/his term in office.

Whereas the Election policy does not clearly specifies it and it has been observed that this issue needs to be addressed as it has been repeatedly observed people leaving in the half way of their current mandate.

BIRT Candidates should have minimum 16 credits left to complete in their respective program to be eligible to run for either director or executive in GSA.

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

4.9 Justification for closed sessions

Whereas the purpose of closed sessions are for receiving sensitive information, giving directions on and discuss sensitive matters.

Whereas GSA is an association and needs to be transparent to its members.

Whereas GSA representatives and employees feel uncomfortable when discussions are held about them in closed sessions where they are not present.

BIRT any motion to go into a closed session should include a statement on the justification for the closed session.

BIRT closed session should not be used a forum to talk about other GSA representatives.

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

New Business

5.1 Adoption of agenda for upcoming GA (Bavreet)

Proposed agenda:

GA Agenda

- *GA Business*
- *Call to Order*

- *Appointment of chair and Secretary(chair's report on procedure)*
 - *Approval of the Agenda*
 - *Approval of past GA minutes (Link to January 29th, 2016
<http://www.gsaconcordia.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Jan-29-2016-GA-Mintues.pdf>)*
 - *Business Arising*
 - *BYLAW CHANGE (20 mins)*
 - *BYLAW CHANGE: Clarifying Representation on Council*
 - *BYLAW CHANGE: Abolishing Advocacy Manager*
 - *President's Report (10 mins)*
 - *Financial Statement Update(20 mins)*
 - *Elections (30 mins)*
 - *New Business*
 - *3.1 President's Impeachment*
 - *Other Business*
- Adjournment*

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

5.2 Fee levy adjustments

Whereas the GSA wishes to put two referendum questions on the ballot for the next elections.

Whereas these services which would be beneficial to graduate students would be funded by fee levies.

Whereas the GSA does not want student to pay more than what they are paying.

BIRT question for the cancellation of the Fee levy for the Hive café be put as a referendum questions on the ballot for the next elections

BIRT question for the cancellation of the Fee levy for Le Frigo Vert be put as a referendum questions on the ballot for the next elections.

BIRT the question to allocate these fee levies to the CSU daycare and the CSU legal information clinic be put as a referendum questions on the ballot for the next elections.

Note: GSA voted in favor of supporting the CSU daycare in the referendum held during the 2015 elections.

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

5.3 Creation of GSA club "CORS/INFORMS Montreal Student Chapter"

Whereas Article 2.4. of the GSA bylaws states that any group of ten (10) or more members may be eligible to form a nonprofit club upon presenting a list of their members and a constitution to the Council of Directors.

Whereas the allocation of funds to GSA clubs can be decided by council on a case by case basis.

Whereas GSA wishes to encourage the formation of Graduate student clubs.

Whereas GSA has a budget line for GSA clubs.

BIRT the GSA approves the creation the "CORS/INFORMS Montreal Student Chapter" as a group under GSA.

BIRT that council allocates \$X amount to the "CORS/INFORMS Montreal Student Chapter"

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

5.4 Letter of Agreement for New staff positions

Whereas new staff positions were earlier created by council.

Whereas these positions require an letter of agreement with the union to update the collective agreement.

BIRT council approves the letter of agreement with the union for the Graduate student advocate position, the department/Faculty Manager position, the communications coordinator position, and the campaigns coordinator position.

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

5.5 Upcoming legal proceedings (information)

Moved:

Seconded:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

6. Executive Reports

March 2016 report - GSA President

This month we have had the GSA laser tag event, the Pompeii Exhibition with the GSA, and the GSA giveaway sale. We have other upcoming events this month such as the GSA Austerity series, the International Food fair, and the Persian New Year party.

This month we hired a new meeting facilitator, a new service manager, and a records and archives administrator. I spent some time preparing for the interviews. We still have some open positions to be filled. We have an urgent need to hire a CRO for the 2016 elections, and this is very time sensitive.

I experience psychological trauma after the last council meeting, because of the unwelcome accusations levelled against me, which greatly affected my performance, my health, and my life. I am hoping that the council takes steps to create a better working environment.

GSA Lounge Renovation – Complete

GSA Café – Suspended

New Filing System – In Progress

We hired a graduate student for the records & archives administrator position this month. The hiring process was not concluded early enough. We expect the project to be completed in the first summer term. We may have to hire another student to work on project if the need arises.

Internal Controls – In progress

This month I have spent some time responding the auditor queries and had correspondences with the university. I met with Revenue Quebec officials to obtain guidance on fulfilling our obligations.

March 10, 2016 – Meeting with Auditor, Finance Manager was in attendance.

March 15 and 17, 2016 – Revenu Quebec

GSA Advocacy Center – In progress

I had correspondence with the CUPE local 4512 president to finalize the draft agreement for the new positions. This will be presented in the council meeting. The call out for an advocate was

sent and we hope to commence the training as soon as someone is hired. We anticipate that there will be hearings in the spring and we would not want to our students to attend hearings or appeals without proper representation.

March 4, 2016 – Meeting with the coordinator CSU advocacy center.

GSA French classes – In Progress

The computers for the French classes, which I ordered arrived this month. I set-up the PC's with the assistance of the office manager. I helped prepare the work order for the projector screens which were installed. The classes are going well.

Printing and Copying Service – In Progress

The printing and copying service will started this month. I will meet with the Xerox representatives to try to improve the service.

GSA website – In progress

I sent more request for quotations for the GSA website upgrade. I met with the web designers and company representatives. I am currently negotiating sponsorship for the upgrade.

Second Winter General Assembly

The second GSA winter 2016 general assembly is being scheduled for early April. We expect the agenda to be approved in the next council meeting. I will oversee the logistics for the GA.

Academic Survey

I performed work on the academic survey. I am working towards having it completed this month.

GSA giveaway sale

I prepared items for the GSA giveaway sale with the help of the VP internal and the Office manager. The event was well attended and we gave away mostly old chairs which were taking up space at a nominal price.

Senate Meeting – March 11, 2016. All GSA senators were present. Some graduate curriculum changes were approved and the annual report from the Ombuds office was presented.

GSA council meeting – March 6, 2016 and March 20, 2016 (scheduled)

Executive committee meeting – March 2, 2016 and March 10, 2016 (Urgent Meeting)

GA committee meeting – March 4, and March 14 2016

Hiring Committee Meeting and Interviews – February 29, 2016 (Interviews), March 4, 2016 (Interviews), and March 11, 2016.

CRO Hiring Committee Meeting – March 16, 2016.

CFS vs RAE/GSA Appeal – I had correspondence with the RAE lawyer and other heads of RAE member associations on the appeal. I reviewed the court judgment and prepared a summary.

Other Activities:

Produced and distributed GSA newsletters for February 17, 2016 and March 3, 11, and 15.

Processed departmental allocations for 2015-2016.

March 3, 2016 – Meeting with Dean of Students office

March 3, 2016 – Briefing of new meeting facilitator.

March 17, 2016 – Coffee break with school of Graduate Studies.



Graduate Students' Association

Concordia University

VP EXTERNAL – Mohammad Jawad Khan
Report – March 2016 (Submitted on: March 17th)

February 17th (2 hours)	1. Meeting with Concordia against tribunals about the RAP battle Workshop.
February 19th (2 hours)	1. Executive meeting
February 20th (4 hours)	1. Council meeting
February 22nd (20 minutes)	1. Email coordination with McGill faculty of law about invigilation job postings.
February 25th (2 hours)	1. GA committee meeting
February 26th (2 hours)	1. Coordination with arcade centers for gaming event.
February 29th (3 hours)	1. Hiring Committee meeting.

March 2nd (6 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Executive meeting. 2. Networking event at FEACUM.
March 3rd (5 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council meeting minutes editing 2. Launch laser tag and Pompeii events on facebook.
March 4th (2 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rap battle against Austerity.
March 5th (2 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting and Confirmation with club lounge for Persian new year.
March 6th (4 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council meeting.
March 7th (2 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Launched poll about the fee levy groups.
March 8th (3 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting with QSU coordinator regarding International tuition fee de regulation.
March 9th (3 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting and Coordination with video editors about Austerity video.
March 11th (11 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hiring Committee meeting on skype. 2. Museum Visit to Pompeii 3. Laser Quest.
March 14th (2 hours)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting with insideout project. (InsideOut Quebec Ed. Is an art project aiming to bring light to the faces that are directly and indirectly affected by the rising cost of higher education.)



Graduate Students' Association

Concordia University

VP Mobilization: Bhavreet Gill

Report: March 2016

Working for February-March

25 th February	3:30-5:00 pm	GA Committee Meeting
29 th February	4:30-7 pm	Hiring committee meeting for Records & Archive administrator position and service manager
2 nd March	8:30 – 10 pm	Budget Committee meeting and Executive Committee Meeting
10 th March	4:00 – 5:30 pm	Urgent Executive meeting
11 th March	7:30-10:00 pm	Laser Tag Event along with VP External
14 th March	2:00-4:30 pm	Garage Sale & GA Committee meeting regarding the upcoming GA agenda
15 th March	All day around at different hours	Email follow up with different departments of the fine arts and Arts & Science faculty regarding the congress

We have an event on Friday March 18th, 2016 which is **Wine, cheese & Austerity**.

Tentative GA April 1st, 2016:

Space is booked, EV1.615

The meeting minutes for the GA committee are attached along:

GA Committee Meeting Minutes

Present: Alex, Stephi and Bhavreet

Call to order: 2:15pm

GA Agenda

1. GA Business
 - 1.1 Call to Order
 - 1.2 Appointment of chair and Secretary(chair's report on procedure)

- 1.3 Approval of the Agenda
- 1.4 Approval of past GA minutes (Link to January 29th, 2016
<http://www.gsaconcordia.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Jan-29-2016-GA-Mintues.pdf>)
2. Business Arising
 - 2.1 BYLAW CHANGE (20 mins)
 - a) BYLAW CHANGE: Clarifying Representation on Council
 - b) BYLAW CHANGE: Abolishing Advocacy Manager
 - 2.2 President's Report (10 mins)
 - 2.3 Financial Statement Update(20 mins)
 - 2.4 Elections (30 mins)
3. New Business
 - 3.1 President's Impeachment
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment

2.1 a) BYLAW CHANGE: Clarifying Representation on Council

Motion CO-20150926-06

*WHEREAS Bylaws article V-5 states "... Directors shall be elected **within their respective faculties**, namely John Molson School of Business, Arts & Science, Engineering & Computer Science, Fine Arts **and Interdisciplinary/SIP...** "so clearly stating that Interdisciplinary/SIP are treated in the GSA as its own different group.*

WHEREAS some committee compositions are phrased in the bylaws in a not so clear way that gives the illusion of being inconsistent with previously mentioned article and seem to only consider that there are only four groups as opposed to five.

Furthermore, while the intention of these compositions is to be inclusive and to ensure diverse representation they can also give the illusion to be exclusive. Those committees are: Budget committee (article XII-2.4) Appointments committee (ARTCILE IX-5.2), Hiring committee (article XI-3.2).

*Be It Resolved That article XII-2.4 of the bylaws to be changed to "at **least four current** council directors representing separate faculties and groups and appointed by Council".*

Be It Further Resolved That article XI-3.2 of the bylaws to be changed to "At least four members of Council comprised of one member from each faculty and group".

*Be It Further Resolved That article IX-5.2 of the bylaws to be changed to "Chair, and be a voting member on, an Appointments Committee of councillors who interview and consider applicants **for non-elected representation on university bodies (including sub senate committees), excluding the actual Senate and Board of Governors**, and present recommendations for approval by Council. Council will*

appoint **at least four councillors**, one per faculty and groups, to the Appointments Committee, at the beginning of their term".

Be It Further Resolved That the bylaws committee resumes its mandate from last year of completely rewriting the bylaws so as they become more cohesive and ensure an efficient and effective governance structure of the GSA" and have a draft ready for approval of council so that it can be presented to the first GA in the winter semester.

Moved by: Mathilde

Seconded by: Keroles

For: Keroles, Nirmal, Vivek, Carine, Sapandeeep, Aria, Pempho, Rahul, Stephi, Mathilde, Jasneet, Amandeep.

Against: --

Abstention: Ashley.

Adopted

2.1 b) BYLAW CHANGE: Abolishing Advocacy Manager

Motion CO-20150926-07a

WHEREAS Council motions (CO-20150913-10) and (CO-20150913-13) and discussions during council for these motions.

WHEREAS GSA is establishing an advocacy center eliminating the need for an advocacy manager.

WHEREAS most tasks associate with service manager are no longer required (such as maintaining computer labs) or can easily fall under the responsibility of VP internal.

WHEREAS Staff budget line is the biggest in the whole budget and that staff resources require significant restructuring so that they are optimally and efficiently used.

Be It Resolved That articles XI (6 (advocacy manager)) be stricken from the bylaws.

Be It Further Resolved That Conditioned on ratification of this bylaw change by a GA, the position should be abolished.

Moved by: Rahul

Seconded by: Stephi

For: Amandeep, Jasneet, Mathilde, Stephi, Rahul, Pempho, Ashley, Aria, Sapandeeep, Vivek, Carine, Nirmal, Keroles.

Against:

Abstention:

Adopted Unanimously

2.4 Elections: we have the following vacant positions which haven't been filled through a GA yet.

Director A&S: 2

Director INDI: 1

Director JMSB: 1

VP Academic & Advocacy

Votes:

For: Stephi, Jawad, Bhavreet

Against: Alex

Adopted