



COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Time: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Place: RCH – 307

1. Speaker's Welcome and opening remarks.

C. Van Bommel took the Chair. T. Beirness recorded minutes and noted that quorum is present. The meeting is called to order at 4:07 pm.

The speaker welcomed new members to council and introduced the new GSA staff; Tracey Beirness, Admin Assistant and Kevin McKay, Interim GM

A reminder was noted that only Council members have voting and speaking rights unless requested by speaker, all other guests are there to observe.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Reid/Dasilva

15-0-0

Carried and the agenda is adopted as written.

***Consent items (Executive Reports/Committee Reports) will be moved ahead of Motions due to N. Samuel having leave early.*

3. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest stated.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Approval of the minutes of the previous meetings are deferred to next meeting. August, September, October will be presented for approval.

5. Council Membership Report

Please see council membership report included with agenda package.

6. Consent Items

a. Executive Reports

- i. President's Report – Presidents report provided with Agenda Pkg. was read. Subsequent discussion ensued with regard to the suspension of the shuttle service and timing for satellite campuses. Also discussed questions from the Vital Signs survey. Questions will be provided if requested. Report has not been shared at this time.

b. Committee Reports

- i. Joint Policy Review Committee - no questions with information provided in agenda package

7. Motions

BIRT The GSA Council will have a regular meeting on December 5, 2018 from 4-6pm

Chung/Freure

11-3-1

Carried

b. Motion to amend CP-1 Executive Committee

WHEREAS the GSA-UW Board of Directors has not appointed a director to the Council Executive Committee, choosing to allow the Speaker to be the link between Board and CEC; and

WHEREAS the CEC recommends returning to a one year term for members of CEC to provide continuity; and

WHEREAS a Councilor's term does not necessarily align with the typical May-April cycle; therefore

BIRT CP-1 Executive Committee be amended as indicated in the agenda package.

Saks/Moraga

16-0-0

Carried

c. Motion to elect new members to the Council Executive Committee

BIRT the GSA-UW Council elect the following members of Council to the Council Executive Committee:

- **Arts: Lynne Sargent**

George/Freure

15-0-0

Carried

d. Motions to revise Council Procedures Policy

WHEREAS the GSA-UW Council does not have a formal policy regarding e-votes; and

WHEREAS for limited time-sensitive matters, an e-vote would allow Council to be efficiently consulted; therefore

BIRT the following item be appended to CP-2 Council Procedures:

2.04 E-votes

- a) For limited time-sensitive matters, notice of a special or emergency e-vote may be served under the same notice period as a special or emergency meeting, respectively.
- b) An e-vote will consist of:
 - i. A motion to allow the matter to be considered by e-vote, which requires a two-thirds majority of the votes cast; and
 - ii. Any subsequent motions pertaining to the matter at hand.
- c) Voting will be open for a twenty-four (24) hour period and shall include a business day.
- d) The result of the vote on each motion, including the number of votes cast, the number for, the number against, and the number of abstentions, will be communicated promptly at the close of voting.
- e) Quorum for an e-vote will be the same as quorum for a Council meeting.
- f) If the first motion fails, the ballots for all subsequent motions will be destroyed, and a subsequent emergency meeting will be called to allow discussion of the issues. Otherwise, any subsequent motions will pass or fail by simple majority of votes cast.

- g) Any motion passed as the result of an e-vote has the same force and effect as if it were passed during a special or emergency meeting.

DaSilva/Harber
16-0-0
Carried

Discussion: Concerns regarding secret ballots, timing of evotes and how requests for evote would be handled. All evotes would be managed by the speaker and only in emergency and time sensitive situations would this type of mechanism be utilized.

e. Motion to support recommended changes to GP-1

WHEREAS the GSA-UW Board of Directors has the responsibility to create and change policy; and

WHEREAS the GSA-UW Council should have the opportunity to comment on policy additions or amendments in which it has a material stake; and

WHEREAS the Joint Policy Review Committee has recommended changes to GP-1 Board Job Description to provide Council with such opportunities; therefore

BIRT the GSA-UW Council supports the recommendation that the GSA-UW Board of Directors implement the amendments to GP-1 found in the supporting documentation.

Reid/Saks
11-1-2
Carried

Discussion: Prior to approval Motion was made for council to support without language in D. i) (Reid/Moraga) however, through discussion and rationale being provided the question was called (Reid/DaSilva). The language of “whereas” becomes very important.

Motion for 15 minute recess at 5:15pm

Tadayon/Aravant
Carried by consent

f. Motion to support making the Graduate House fee non-refundable effective January 2019.

BIRT the GSA-UW Council supports making the Graduate House fee non-refundable effective January 2019.

Discussion: Background was provided to council with regard to the strong decline in the number of refund requests of late with a total of 160. A coupon program was implemented this past term for those not requesting refunds and it has been working successfully. The Consultant who did the review of the Grad House suggested that the fee be non-refundable.

Concerns were raised over the usage of the Grad House and if students should be forced to pay for something they aren't using. The rationale that we are attempting to create community among grad students was brought forward.

Concerns were raised that some were unaware of the refund availability and the possibility of discontinuing.

The concerns of satellite campus students will also have to be considered (i.e. Architecture/Stratford).

The possible improvement of the mechanism for providing refunds was also discussed.

After much discussion it was determined that this motion should be deferred to a future meeting after more information was gathered. Sales numbers, refund specifics and possible future events to create more interest will be discussed.

Motion to table this motion and defer to a future meeting

Reid/Saks
13-0-1
Carried

8. UPDATE from the Board

Alison Saks introduced them self to the group for new members and reported on the recent meetings of the board.

The report from the Consultant hired to perform an expert review of the Grad House was discussed at length. It was determined by the board that although the review was helpful that a Vision still needs to be created for the Grad House therefore the following resolution was passed:

BIRT the Board invite Council to participate in a joint workshop to develop a vision statement for the GH.

Management has been asked to organize a workshop, to be held after winter break.

With regard to Ends, there is not a feeling of consensus yet. It has been proposed by BEC that a training workshop be offered jointly to Council and Board. The Proposal will be brought forward to the full Board at a future meeting.

Referring to the Board Report included in the Agenda Package, the board has passed the following resolution with regard to Council Self Monitoring Policy:

WHEREAS it is important for Council to hold itself accountable to its own mandates,

BIRT the Board gives notice to Council that the Board intends to develop a Council self-monitoring policy. The Board invites Council to provide indicators or metrics for each of their five mandates (as outline in GP-8) as well as ways of managing expectations and performance for Council.

Questions arose with regard to the Council Self Monitoring policy and the rationale behind the policy. Is the Board going to create their own self monitoring policy? Alison responded that the Board is in the process of creating a policy as well. Council is responsible to hold itself accountable for its own mandates.

It was also mentioned that the GSA-UW is considering and researching a possible Service Level Agreement with University of Waterloo Human Resources thus possibly alleviating some of the restrictions that are placed on the organization due to adherence of policy 18. A committee has been formed to research/pursue a service level agreement with UW or alternatives.

9. Delegations, Discussions, Presentations & Other Business

- i. UW Strategic Plan: Bridge to 2020
- ii. Student Advocacy Office
- iii. Mental Wellness Initiatives
- iv. Ends & Political Positions
- v. Council Self-Monitoring
- vi. Standing Committees

Motion to move the items to the next meeting prior to member discussion due to time constraint.

Reid/Saks
10-3-0
Carried

10. New Business

Motion to Revise Council Procedures Policy

WHEREAS the GSA-UW Board and Council are refining the distinction between Ends and Political Positions; therefore

BIRT the following item be struck from CP-2 Council Procedures:

b) Every proposed political position shall have an associated proposed End.

See motion from item 9 (motion to move remaining items to next meeting)

11. Members' Discussion

Concerns were raised by J. Reid about Grad Students being paid late and is wondering if other departments are encountering the same issues.

Motion to send this topic to CEC to develop a political position. Grad Students have indicated that they are not paid in a timely manner and would like to develop a position regarding timing of payments.

Saks/Mistry
12-0-0
Carried

Concern was also raised with regard to Grad Students milestones not being recognized. J. Reid will speak with N. Samuel in more detail offline about this.

12. Motion to adjourn – 6:23pm

Tadayon/Mistry
Carried by consent