

## The Graduate Students Association of McMaster University Annual General Meeting 2019: Summary

Unfortunately, in the transition of portfolios and the change of setting, whereas, the GSA is now working remotely, the AGM Minutes not accessible. To capture the AGM meeting correctly, a high-level summary is being presented to our membership below.

In future, the GSA will circulate AGM Minutes to the membership no later than 1 month after the meeting and at the next AGM ratify those minutes.

Thank you for your patience during this transition and continued support for the GSA.

### Attendees:

Acai, Anita. Amaral, Nicole. Chowdhury, Mohammed. D'Souza, Alexandre. De Lange, Julie. De Rango, Danielle. deVet, Taylor. Forsythe, Adrian. Hercules, Shawn. Ho, Mei-Yi. Huang, Xiaomin. Jha, Dheeraj Kumar. Khabibrakhmanov, Ruslan. Kovalchuk, Alexander, Liut, Michael, Lobana, Jodie, Mahdi, Mohammed, Marzec, Sarah, Matharu, Pritpal. Murillo, Andrea. Naeini, Mina. Novak, Mark. Nowikow, Cameron. Oikawa, Sara. Ono-dit-Biot, Christopher. Patel, Heminesh. Pesevski, Maria. Peter, Samuel Quarshie, Anthony. Reale Hernandez, Cuauhtemoc. Ross, Mitchell. Shaw, Aakash. Silva Monterio, Nina Thais. Sokolovskii, Andrei. Sundaresan Ramesh, Praveen. Taylor, Larissa. Tsang, Kara. van Boxtel, Timothy. Villegas, Martin. Wilson, Debra. Wong, Connor. Younan, Simon. Zhao, Wei

		Presenter	ACTION
1.0	Call to Order	President	
2.0	Acceptance of the Agenda		<p><b>Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratification of the Agenda of 2019 AGM</li> <li>• Ratification of Minutes of 2019 AGM</li> <li>• GSA Year End Review – Report from the Executives</li> <li>• CRO Report on 2019 March Election (8 minutes)</li> <li>• Call for Nominations – Directors of the Association (5 minutes)</li> <li>• Ratification – Directors of the Association (5 minutes)</li> <li>• Audited Financial Statements 2018 – Review of statement – Reappointment of auditors (10 minutes)</li> <li>• Review of GSA - Phoenix Financial Statements 2018/2019 (10 minutes)</li> <li>• Approval of GSA - Phoenix Budget for 2019/2020 (10 minutes)</li> <li>• Approval of GSA Fees for 2019/2020 (15 minutes)</li> <li>• Nomination to GSA Committees (5 minutes)</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion: To accept the agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Graduate Students Association of McMaster University on March 21<sup>st</sup> 2019. Carried.</b></p> <p>Moved: Seconded:</p>
3.0	Ratification of the minutes of the 2018 AGM.		<p><b>Motion: To accept the minutes of the 2018 AGM. Carried.</b></p> <p>Moved: Seconded:</p>
4.0	Reports and Presentations		
	GSA Year in Review – CONSENT AGENDA: Reports from the Executive and Committees of Council.	President	<p><b>Motion: To accept the reports in the Consent Agenda. Carried.</b></p> <p>Moved: Seconded:</p>

	<p>New Bylaws- High level summary of new bylaws</p>		<p><b>Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easier to read, understand and sequenced logically</li> <li>• Membership can overturn Board of Director decisions (that does not jeopardize the financial and/or legal stability of the organization).</li> <li>• Change of Structure of the Board, whereas, not every executive position has to be filled. Therefore, the board shall consist of up to 13 members.</li> <li>• Board meetings will be held quarterly (or as required)</li> <li>• Implemented standard language for Referenda questions</li> <li>• Students did have concerns about not having a track changes version; however, as the document was reduced from 73 down to 32, so some parts were all red. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nevertheless, the GSA made a noted that all future changes should be accompanied with a list of changes along with a tracked document.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Motion: To accept the new bylaws of the GSA as presented at the AGM. Carried.</b></p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>
<p><b>5.0</b></p>	<p>CRO Report on 2019 March Election (8 minutes)</p>		<p><b>Election Report</b></p> <p><b>Summary:</b></p> <p><u>GSA Executive Positions</u></p> <p><b>President:</b> Shawn Hercules  <b>VP External:</b> Unnati Trivedi  <b>VP Internal:</b> Vacant  <b>VP Administration:</b> Vacant</p>

			<p>Motion: To ratify the election results of the GSA representation for. <i>Carried.</i></p> <p>Moved: Seconded:</p>
6.0			Directors of the Association, Executive Officers
7.0	Ratification – Directors of the Association		<p><b>Summary:</b>  Director of the Association  <u>Director within membership ( Internal Member)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jennifer Williams</li> <li>2. Vacant</li> <li>3. Vacant</li> </ol> <p><b>Motion: To appoint those that are nominated for the Board of Directors, Faculty Representatives and Executive Officers. Carried.</b></p>
8.0	<b>Audited Financial Statements</b>		<p><b>Summary:</b>  The GSA and the Phoenix are both in an excellent financial situation. The Phoenix is profitable, but still able to offer a fresh menu and Graduate Student Discount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of statements  <b>Motion: To approve the Auditors report for the 2018 fiscal year.</b></li> <li>• Reappointment of Auditor</li> </ul> <p><b>Summary:</b>  The membership was asked to approve KPMG as the auditors for 2019 fiscal year and to approve the auditors fees of the financial statements of the Graduate Students Association of McMaster University for the year ending May 31, 2019. The quote for the fee range up to \$14,500 (exclusive of HST and support chargers 5%), if applicable.</p> <p><b>Motion: To appoint KPMG as the Auditors for 2019 fiscal year and to approve the Auditors fees. Carried.</b></p>

	Review of Financial Statements 2019-2020		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Review of YTD income statements for the Phoenix and the GSA</li> <li>3. Review of the Balance Sheet for the Phoenix and the GSA</li> <li>4. Review of the Statement of Owners Equity for the Phoenix and the GSA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Phoenix has \$57,617.49 in equity</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
	5. Approval of Budget for 2019/2020 (10 minutes)		<p><b>Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSA Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The GSA has put more money into Travel Grants, welcome week, clubs, Bursaries and Emergency Fund.</li> <li>• The GSA budget projects a surplus of \$6752.00</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Phoenix Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Phoenix has again projected to make revenue (\$147 600.00) but continue to give Graduate Students a discount and be finically stable bar.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Motion: To accept the GSA and Phoenix budget for 2019-2020. Carried.</b></p>
	6. Approval of GSA Fees for 2019/2020 (15 minutes)		<p><b>Summary:</b></p> <p>The GSA is in unprecedented times as the Conservative Government has implemented the Student Choice Initiative. This Initiative asked student associations to break their fees into categories of either essential and or not essential.</p> <p><b>ESSENTIAL FEES (Mandatory)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial Aid Fee \$7.17</li> <li>• Academic Fee \$8.27</li> <li>• Capital Building \$32.55</li> <li>• Student Assistance Program - \$5.15</li> </ul> <p><b>NON-ESSENTIAL FEES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSA Awards \$0.37</li> <li>• GSA Club Funding \$1.37</li> <li>• GSA Community Enhancement \$3.56</li> <li>• GSA Events \$3.80</li> <li>• GSA Advocacy \$1.72</li> </ul> <p><b>SERVICE FEES UNDER GSA</b></p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hamilton Street Railway (bus pass) \$273.23</li> </ul> <p>Noting that the Board of Directors, by formal resolution, can adjust this fee in future by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).</p> <p>Students were concerned about SCI and how the GSA would demonstrate to the member their 'value proposition.' Plans were discussed for videos, posters, and an email campaign; however, further clarity is needed from the fees committee about what categories are being accepted by the institution as Mandatory or Non-Mandatory</p> <p><b>Motion: To make the Graduate Students Association Operating Fee redundant and implement the following fees for full-time students in accordance with the "Student Choice Initiative," that is mandated by the provincial government. Carried.</b></p> <p><b>Summary:</b> <b>Health and Dental Plan</b> As fees for Health and Dental are based on usage. This year the Fee is \$406.88 per annum. The rate increase was as a result of another increase in the Dental usage of the plan. But it is great to know students know about their plans and are using them!</p> <p><b>Motion to support the Graduate Students Association's Health and Dental Plan at a cost of \$406.88 per annum. Authorizing the GSA's Board of Directors, by formal resolution, to adjust this fee in future by no more than 10% per annum. Carried.</b></p>
	7. Nomination to GSA Committees		Students were asked to leave their information for any committee work that they were interested in.
	Adjournment		<b>Motion to adjourn the meeting. Carried.</b>