



Council

Notice of Meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 5th, 2019

Time: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Place: NH 3407

AGENDA

Time	Item	Action
4:00 pm	1. Speaker's Welcome and Opening Remarks	-
	2. Adoption of the Agenda (Changes will be noted with **)	For Approval
	3. Attendance	-
	4. Declarations of Interest	For Info
4:10 pm	5. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s) a. October 11, 2018 (Not Available) b. March 14, 2019 c. April 10, 2019 d. May 15, 2019	For Approval
n/a	6. Delegations	For Approval
4:15 pm	7. Reports a. Council Report 001-19: Proposed Council Governance Budget (Marsha Paley)	For Info
4:25 pm	8. Motions a. Motion to elect commissioners for Standing Advocacy Committees b. Motion to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Social and Environment Standing Advocacy Committee c. Motion to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Study, Teaching, and Research Standing Advocacy Committee d. Motion to elect Councilors to the Joint Policy Review Committee e. Motion to appoint a student to the Graduate Student Support Advisory Committee f. Motion to approve the recommendation(s) of Council Report 001-19 to the Joint Board Council Budget Committee	For Approval
4:55 pm	10. Report on Vice-Presidential Candidates *CLOSED SESSION*	For Info
5:05 pm	11. Advising the President	For Info

5:20 pm	11. New Business & Members' Discussion a. Graduate student research guide	For Info
5:45 pm	12. Update from the Board	For Info
5:55 pm	13. Outstanding Action Items	For Info
	14. Notices of Motion	-
6:00 pm	15. Adjournment	-

Marsha Paley
Speaker of the Council
GSA-UW

June 5, 2019

RESOLUTIONS

8a Motion to elect commissioners for Standing Advocacy Committees

BIRT the GSA-UW Council elect the following commissioners:

Finance & Economy:

Elections:

8b Motion to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Social and Environment Standing Advocacy Committee

BIRT the GSA-UW Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Social and Environment Standing Advocacy Committee.

8c Motion to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Study, Teaching, and Research Standing Advocacy Committee

BIRT the GSA-UW Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Study, Teaching, and Research Standing Advocacy Committee.

8d Motion to elect Councillors to the Joint Policy Review Committees

BIRT the GSA-UW Council elect the following two (2) members of Council to the Policy Review Committee for the 2019-2020 year:

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8e Motion to appoint a student to the Graduate Student Support Advisory Committee

BIRT the GSA-UW Council appoint the following graduate student to the GSSAC for the 2019-2020 year:

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8f Motion to approve the recommendation of Council Report 001-19 to the Joint Board Council Budget Committee

BIRT the GSA-UW Council approve the recommendation(s) of Council Report 001-19 to Joint Board Council Budget Committee

11a New Business & Members Discussion

[Graduate student research guide](#)



Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, June 5th, 2019

Time: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Place: NH 3407

Time	Item
4:12 pm	<p>1. Speaker's Welcome and Opening Remarks The Speaker took the Chair. Quorum was present (10/18).</p>
4:15 pm.	<p>2. Adoption of the Agenda (Changes will be noted with **) The agenda was adopted. Moved by Haque, seconded by van Bommel.</p> <p>**Paley's report was deferred to later in the meeting. Moved by Samuel, seconded by Robbins.</p>
	<p>3. Attendance Attendance was taken by the Deputy Speaker</p>
	<p>4. Declarations of Interest Robbins declared his position as Commissioner of the Social and Environment Standing Advocacy Committee (SAC)</p>
4:23 pm	<p>5. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. October 11, 2018 (Not Available) f. March 14, 2019: Approved g. April 10, 2019: Changes were accepted re: timing of the special order to commence the confidential session. h. May 15, 2019: Approved
n/a	<p>6. Delegations</p>
n/a	<p>7. Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Council Report 001-19: Proposed Council Governance Budget (Paley) Deferred

4:25-5:14 pm

8. Motions

- g. Motion to elect commissioners for Standing Advocacy Committees.
Carried.

Ashwin Annamalai was nominated as Commissioner of the Elections SAC. Council members asked the following questions:

- What will the composition of your committee look like?
- Who will be your main point of contact within the GSA?
- What is your opinion on the Green Party of Canada?
- Will you endorse any political parties as part of your position?
- Is advocating on behalf of students a part of your role?

The candidate responded that a couple graduate students will be needed prior to the federal elections, that he will be working with the president and vice president of the GSA, that he will focus on asking the right questions of whichever party is elected to federal government, and he will work on behalf of students according to the needs and interests of the council and report back to them.

Ashwin was elected to the commissionership by a majority vote.

- h. Motion to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Social and Environment Standing Advocacy Committee
Moved by van Bommel, seconded by Smith. **Carried.**
- i. Motion to adopt the Terms of Reference for the Study, Teaching, and Research Standing Advocacy Committee
Moved by Robinson-Enebeli, seconded by Haque. **Carried.**

A Councillor suggested that the section describing function is too broad and may lead to lack of clarity for incoming GSA members. The document was reviewed and no further amendments to the function section will be made at this time.

- j. Motion to elect Councillors to the Joint Policy Review Committee
Moved by Robbins, seconded by Da Silva. **Deferred.**

The President clarified that the purpose of the Committee is to review policies for the GSA and make recommendations to the Board. Two councillors and two board members are required to sit on this committee. No councillors nominated themselves at this time.

- k. Motion to recommend a student to the Graduate Student Support Advisory Committee
Moved by van Bommel, seconded by Samuel. **Carried.**

This committee meets monthly in fall and winter to analyze factors related

	<p>to student funding and to make recommendations to the Provost about funding levels. Two graduate students are involved, however, a third student is needed. Smith volunteered for the position and was retroactively sponsored by a Senator to speak. Regarding the proper procedure for nominating a graduate student, the President responded that she can make the appointment with Council's support. Samuel will follow up with Smith regarding the appointment.</p> <p>5-minute recess at 4:55 pm. Moved by Smith, seconded by Haque. Reconvened at 5:03pm.</p> <p>I. Motion to approve the recommendation(s) of Council Report 001-19 to the Joint Board Council Budget Committee. Carried with room for amendments and revisions.</p> <p>The Council submits this report to the Board prior to the budgetary review. It summarizes the annual budget cycle and the costs of running meetings, Town Halls, colloquiums, and honorariums. The following points were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colloquiums for the annual strategic retreat of Councillors and Board members. • Suggested honorariums could incentivize graduate students to participate in Council work. • Pay rates of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker.
5:14 pm-5:21pm	<p>10. Report on Vice-Presidential Candidates *CLOSED SESSION* Moved by Haque, seconded by van Bommel.</p> <p>Clarification about the Closed Session violating Bylaw 7.21, stating the voting rights include members of the Council as well as Board Members. The President answered that Bylaws can be overridden by Council policies. In this case, Directors are not voting members of the Council, which was a policy that was implemented in the previous year. This policy was confirmed by the Deputy Speaker. Bylaws and policies should be consolidated to avoid future misunderstandings.</p>
5:21 pm-5:31pm	<p>11. Advising the President Several projects have been started based on the concerns raised in Council. While progress has been achieved in these areas, ongoing support from Councillors and students is needed to thoroughly investigate these issues. Appointed seats for committees are confirmed by the President and can be filled by any graduate student. Regarding the SCI, a more thorough report will be presented in July after consulting with the Board.</p> <p>The following questions were asked of the President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A specific request for input that the President requires from the Council regarding offer letters and funding for new students.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is our estimate for the number of students who will be opting out of GSA fees as part of the student choice initiative? The President answered that for other institutions, it ranges between 30-60%. • In the worst-case scenario of a 60% opt-out rate, does the GSA have a contingency plan and will the annual budget cycle be altered? The President answered that a plan is being worked on for the student choice initiative in the case of a high opt-out rate.
5:31 pm-5:45pm	<p>11. New Business & Members' Discussion b. Graduate student research guide</p> <p>The Deputy Speaker clarified that this guide is meant to consolidate information for different actors at the university regarding their roles and responsibilities for supervising students. It will act as a “one-stop shop” for relevant policies.</p> <p>New Business There have been issues reported by international doctoral students in the Physics Department regarding the funding they were offered by UWaterloo, re: partial compensation by their Department and/or supervisor though actually this funding is being allocated through TA work. It may be that the Physics Department is in violation of policies surrounding funding offers. Councillor will provide further information to President. The President also raised this issue to the Graduate Student Relations Committee.</p> <p>Student unions are suing the provincial government over the student choice initiative. The question was posed about the GSA's plan for involvement and whose jurisdiction would a lawsuit fall under. The President advised that the Political Director is overseeing this issue.</p> <p>Regarding the GSA's role in advocating for fees, it was noted that these were voted on by students in previous referendums to ensure that health and dental plans and bus passes are accessible and affordable. Unless the GSA wants to put it to a referendum again, fees can be considered as representing student interests. Additionally, the GSA council is elected to make political positions on constituents' behalf and so explicit political statements may be made by the GSA regarding the student choice initiative.</p>
5:45 pm	<p>12. Update from the Board The Board Member stated that a Special Meeting was held regarding the student choice initiative. During the Regular Meeting, a CIBC representative came in to discuss mature investments of funds and other options. A dental fee increase was approved. There is currently one board vacancy – the description is posted on the GSA website; investment and accounting experience is required. The next Regular Meeting will involve the Digital Communication Committee and a discussion about e-votes.</p>

5:53 pm	13. Outstanding Action Items An email will be circulated regarding an event on Wednesday June 19 th from 4:30 pm-6:40pm at the Grad House.
n/a	14. Notices of Motion n/a
5:56 pm	15. Adjournment Moved by Haque, seconded by van Bommel.

