Lindsey Daniels took the Chair and Rose Vogt recorded the minutes. Vogt reported that quorum was present. Attendance List.

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

2. The agenda is adopted as circulated. (Daniels/Goyal)

3. Declaration of Interest. None

4. The minutes of the January 10, 2018 meeting are approved. (Spasov/Van Bommel)

Note that the At-large representative for IQC, is a guest.

5. Consent Items are approved and/or received for information. (Dasilva/Freure).
   a. Board Report
   b. Executive Reports
   c. Committee Reports

6. Council membership report is received for information.

7. UW Committee Membership Report is received for information.

8. Delegations
   a. Jeff Casello, Associate Vice-President, GSPA (C. Read was unable to attend the meeting.)

   Council heard that the GSPA and the AP Students are working to be more available to the community as a whole and make sure lines are open and transparent. They will be submitting a termly report outlining what they are doing beyond the core functions of their office to support grads.

   Their offices are working to ensure graduate students are able to reach their personal and professional objectives. Now one fifth of graduate students will end up in the academy and four fifths will work elsewhere. Improve the Waterloo graduate student experience by broadening the scope of the GSPA.

   • Policy development
     o To address the student experience with things outside of their core areas.
o To streamline the host of rules and regulations around comp. exams, that cause uncertainty for students and for faculty. Re-writing these to a university level policy and hold departments/faculty accountable to ensuring their departmental policies align with the UW policy.

o Policy 30 Review: Taken a very student focused approach. Being respectful of TA academic objectives and of that balance with personal objectives, and to make clear expectations between TA and instructor.

- Addressing “One-off” issues: For example, international students who may lose their home governmental funding due to changes in their home country political environment. Students may be left without living and tuition expenses. Offered financial support and defined the “guaranteed” financial support.
- Gradtalks provides honorariums for the student and the supervisor. Well attended event.
- Streamlined the IVGS program now with about 300 participating. Office is considering how to make the program equitable, for use of resource. UoT charges about $1400.

Discussion heard about improving transparency in communicating funding, addressing issues with the different funding timelines and challenges to living expenses. Understand that students should be better informed. Graduate Student Relations Committee is the place to provide feedback for policy development. Policy 30-TA policy is a Z policy, and under review. RA/sessional policy needs to be developed, due to nature of the work, it may not be a class Z policy. RA policy is important.

Low Income Cut Off (LICO) – can PhD minimum funding be determined so that no student is living below the minimum standard of living. Students can’t control the level of funding and ask that UW does have a choice and ask that student funding reflects (LICO).

UW is moving to a centralized format addressing accommodation needs. The AccessAbility office is working in a procedure specific to graduate students and their departments.

b. Council Reform working Group (CRWG), Dasilva and Goyal.

CRWG is presenting the positions for feedback. The positions are presented with the motions. Council discussed each section of the position and then voted on the amended motion.

The Chair adds a friendly amendment to agenda to allow/facilitate discussion on motion 10 d and 10 e is approved.

9. Update from the Board – deferred.
10. Motions
   a. **BIRT** the GSA-UW Council ratify the appointments as detailed in the report for item 7.  (Freure/Vam Bommel) **Carried.** Dasilva abstains.

   b. **BIRT** the GSA-UW Council approves the creation of an at-large seat for the Institute of Quantum Computing Graduate Student Association.  
      (Salman/Goyal) **Carried.**

   c. **BIRT** The GSA-UW Council approves of withdrawing from the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations. This withdrawal from the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations will take effect immediately.  
      (Bruce/Wass). **CARRIED**  
      Opposed: Samuel and Abstained: Salman, Mistry, Tannous, Hagedorn

   d. Motion to adopt GSA-UW reform positions  
      See attached for whole motion:

**BIRT Council approves the amended GSA-UW reforms positions:**

A) **Council:**
   1. Council is comprised of graduate student voting members representing graduate students at the department/program level.
   2. Council has autonomy over its policies, procedures, and processes, provided that they are consistent with the organization’s articles of incorporation and do not expose the organization to unreasonable risk.
   3. Council establishes a policy of regular meetings, and special meetings are the discretion of the Chair.
   4. Councilors receive training.

B) **The President:** Postponed and struck from the motion. Status quo remains.

C) **Ends:**
   1. Council develops the Ends of the GSA-UW.
   2. Council’s Ends are reported to the Board via the President, and provided that the proposed Ends are consistent with the organization’s articles of incorporation, are clearly written, and do not expose the organization to unreasonable risk, the Board approves said Ends.
   3. Struck from the motion and postponed.

D) **Fees:**
   1. By-Law 3 is preserved.

(Goyal/Kearney) **CARRIED**
Motion to extend meeting by half an hour is approved at 6:00 pm.  
(Kearney/Salman)

e. Motion to recommend delaying GSA-UW reforms  
See attached for whole motion:

Motion to postpone 10e to next meeting is Council. (Dasilva/Bruce).  
CARRIED

11. Members’ Discussion-deferred

12. Notices of Motion - deferred

13. Other Business - none

14. Meeting is adjourned at 6:24 pm.

LD:rv
10 d. Motion to adopt GSA-UW reform positions.

WHEREAS the GSA Board of Directors is in the process of adopting and adapting the Carver Policy Governance Model, in accordance with Policy 5.1; and

WHEREAS the Chair of the Board outlined the Board’s proposed reforms to Council in November; and

WHEREAS an online survey about areas of improvement in the organization was conducted in December; and

WHEREAS a Draft Policy Manual was circulated by the Chair of the Board in January; and
WHEREAS a World Cafe was held in January to discuss areas of improvement and potential solutions; and

WHEREAS a Council Reform Working Group (CRWG) was established at the January meeting of Council; and

WHEREAS the CRWG has reviewed all pertinent information on reforms, and

WHEREAS the CRWG feels it is important that Council have autonomy over its own governance; and

WHEREAS the desire for a student president as the political leader representing Council and independent of the Board has been expressed many times; and

WHEREAS the CRWG has presented its findings and recommendations to Council; therefore

BIRT GSA-UW reforms adhere to the following:

A) Council:
  1. Council is comprised of graduate student voting members representing graduate students at the department/program level.
  2. Council has autonomy over its policies, procedures, and processes, provided that they are consistent with the organization’s articles of incorporation and do not expose the organization to unreasonable risk.
  3. Council establishes a policy of regular meetings, and special meetings are the discretion of the Chair.
  4. Councilors receive training.

B) The President:
  1. The President is an elected student leader. The election procedures will be defined in a policy developed by Council.
2. The President will be a paid position at approximately 30 hours per week at the current TA rate.
3. The President represents and advocates on behalf of UW graduate students to all bodies, except for issues relating to staff and operations.
4. The President, upon election, shall be Chair of Council and may choose to appoint a Speaker to preside over meetings and/or have Council appoint a Speaker.
5. The President is monitored by Council, who authorizes the President to represent in good faith the wishes of members.
6. The President receives training.
7. The President has a standing invitation to the Board in order to report on Council activities.
8. Neither the Board nor the CEO/COO/ED shall direct the President; the President shall not direct the CEO/COO/ED; the President and CEO/COO/ED will work collaboratively for the benefit of members.

C) Ends:
1. Council develops the Ends of the GSA-UW.
2. Council’s Ends are reported to the Board via the President, and provided that the proposed Ends are consistent with the organization’s articles of incorporation, are clearly written, and do not expose the organization to unreasonable risk, the Board approves said Ends.
3. Operational/logistical needs of Council and General Membership are provided to the Board via the President, and the Board directs the CEO/COO/ED to achieve them.

D) Fees:
1. By-Law 3 is preserved.

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1 Including, but not limited to, advocating on behalf of the Association to the University through seats on the Senate, the Senate Executive Committee, the Graduate Student Relations Committee, the Graduate Student Support Advisory Committee, the Student Services Advisory Committee, the Senate Graduate & Research Council, and the University Tenure & Promotions Committee; advocating on behalf of the Association to the University, directly or through a designate, on policy-drafting committees, search and hiring committees, and other senior level ad-hoc committees; advocating to the Kitchener-Waterloo Town & Gown Committee and other advocacy organizations outside the University as directed by Council; and nominating, for consideration by Council, graduate students to advocate on behalf of the Association to the University through seats on University committees and other University bodies that make decisions or that advise on decisions that affect graduate students.
2 **Chair of Council:** Responsible for administering the affairs of Council.
3 **Speaker:** Responsible for presiding over Council meetings.
4 **CEO/COO/ED:** Head Manager / Chief of Staff & Operations
5 **Ends:** Goals of the organization to be achieved by the President (responsible for social, political, and academic goals) and/or the CEO/COO/ED as appropriate.

10e **Motion to recommend delaying GSA-UW reforms**

**WHEREAS** the GSA-UW Board of Directors have been working on GSA-UW reforms since May 2017; and

**WHEREAS** the GSA-UW Council was only first made aware of the content of these proposals at the November 2017 meeting of Council; and

**WHEREAS** the Draft Policy Manual was not made available to Councilors until January 2018; and

**WHEREAS** the Council Reform Working Group was not established until January 2018 to review the proposals and feedback from surveys and the World Café; and

**WHEREAS** the CRWG has recommended positions that will require major revisions to the Draft Policy Manual; and

**WHEREAS** such positions have been adopted by Council; therefore

**BIRT** the GSA-UW Council recommends to the GSA-UW Board of Directors that adoption of the reforms be delayed, giving Council the opportunity to develop its policies.
## Attendance:

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### FAC. DEPARTMENT

#### AHS
- AHS Dean/Social Work*
- Kinesiology: Daniel Martel 1
- Rec & Leisure: Naima Samuel 1
- SPHHS: Julia Goyal 1

#### ARTS
- Accounting and Finance: Allan Wang 1

#### Stratford
- Anthropology: Jason Lajoie 1
- Classical Studies: Sushma Dusowoth 1
- Digital Exp. Innovation*: Clay Dasilva 1

#### Economics
- English Lang & Lit: Russ Freure 1
- Fine Arts: Emily Cyr 1
- French Studies: Chris Wass 1
- Germanic & Slavic: MacKenzie Smith 1
- Global Governance: Emily Cyr 1
- History: Emily Cyr 1
- Peace & Conflict: Emily Cyr 1
- MPACS: Emily Cyr 1

#### Wat.
- Public Service, Master*: Sushma Dusowoth 1
- Religious Studies: Emily Cyr 1
- Sociology & Legal Studies: Emily Cyr 1

#### Cambridge
- Architecture: Tanvi Kundiliwal 1
- Chemical: Archisman Ray 1
- Civil & Env: Jessica Achebe 1
- Electrical & Computer: Takin Tadayon 1
- Management Sciences: Alison Jennings 1

#### ENG
- Mech & Mechatronics: Kissan Mistry 1
- Systems Design: Mei Lin Chen 1

#### ENV
- Geography and Env. Mgmt: Vicky Vanthof 1
- School of Planning: Christopher Bell 1

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