



# Council

## Notice of Meeting

Date: Thursday June 25, 2015

Time: 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Place: RCH 103

### AGENDA

Time	Open Session	Page	Action
4:40	1. Agenda/Additional Agenda Items		Decision
4:45	2. Chair's Remarks		Information
	<b>Consent Agenda*</b>		
4:50	<b>BIRT Council approves and/or receives for information by consent items #3 &amp; #4 of the agenda.</b>		Decision
	3. Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting.	3	Decision
	4. Executive Reports	9	Information
	<b>Regular Agenda</b>		
4:55	5. Appointment of New Councillors  <b>BIRT Council approves the appointments of new Councillors omnibus.</b>		Information/ Decision
5:00	6. Q&A- to Executive Reports ( <i>oral reports</i> )		Discussion
5:10	7. PACE Update (Ami Rints)		Discussion
	8. AFSA Referendum		
5:25	<b>BIRT Council directs the GSA Board to call a referendum to approve the AFSA fee of \$30.00/term charged to each MAcc student.</b>	19	Decision
	9. Get Out The Vote Campaign (Kristen Leal)		
5:40	<b>BIRT Council approves the GSA-UW support and participation in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations' "Get Out The Vote Campaign" for the upcoming federal election.</b>		Decision
5:55	10. Graduate Student Space (Maya D'Alessio)		Discussion
6:10	11. Grad House Events (Arun Raj)		Information

6:15	12. Other Business		Discuss/Info
6:25	13. <b>Confidential Session</b> <i>(if required)</i>		
6:30	14. Adjournment		Decision

\*To allow council to complete a number of matters quickly and to devote more of its attention to major items of business, the agenda has been divided between items that are to be approved and/or received for information by consent and those that are to be presented individually for discussion and decision and/or information. A consent agenda is not intended to prevent discussion of any matter by the council, but items listed under the consent sections will not be discussed at the meeting unless a councillor so requests. Councillors are supplied with the appropriate documentation for each item and all items will be approved by means of one omnibus motion. The Council will then move immediately to consideration of the items on the regular agenda.

Matthew Perrone,  
GSA Student Affairs Officer, Chair

June 18, 2015



## Council

### Minutes of Meeting

Date: Thursday May 14, 2015

Time: 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Place: Needles Hall - room 3001

<b>Councillors:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>On-line</b>	<b>Regrets</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Matthew Perrone, Student Affairs Officer, Chair	✓			
Maya D'Alessio, President	✓			
Rachel Mitchell, Vice President	✓			
Kristen Leal, External Affairs Officer	✓			
Michael Makahnouk, EAO, Director	✓			
Ghazal Memartoluie, Director	✓			
Anna Justine Brousseau, Director				✓
Filip Budimir, Director			✓	
Robert Henderson, Director				✓
Adeboye Oyegunle, Director			✓	
Michael Piazza, Director	✓			
Chris Pugh, Director			✓	
Marcel Humelnicu, Director			✓	
Adam Moreash, Peace & Conflict Studies	✓			
Ahmed Abdel Aziz, Electrical & Computer Eng				✓
Angela Willmot, Sociology & Legal Studies	✓			
Chris Burke, EGSA	✓			
Christina Chan, Architecture				✓
D.J. Houle, Classical Studies	✓			
David Pomaranski, Physics & Astronomy				✓
Gah-Jone, Optometry				✓
Jamie Sewell, Philosophy				✓
John Doucette, Computer Science			✓	
Julie Leeming, Recreation & Leisure Studies	✓			
Jumana Shahzadeh, Management Sciences			✓	
Laura Coakley, French	✓			
Michelle D'sa, Public Service			✓	
Mohammed Ghaziaskar, Economics	✓			
Nawaz Ahmed, School of Pharmacy	✓			
Nathalie Moon, Stats & Act. Sci.			✓	
Nicole Nagy, Mechanical & Mechatronic Eng.			✓	
Phil Miletic, English Language & Literature			✓	
Puneet Sharma, Applied Math				✓
Ryan Amos, Chemistry	✓			
Ryan Truong, Earth & Env. Studies	✓			
Sara Scharoun, Kinesiology	✓			

Sina Varamini, Civil & Environmental Eng.				✓
Sonja Senthana (*Amanda Jones), SPHHS	✓			
Thomas Freure, History			✓	
Tim Leshuk, Chemical Engineering	✓			
Ty Ghaswala, Pure Mathematics	✓			
<b>NON-VOTING Members</b>				
Samantha Shortall, At-Large	✓			
Sepehr Mohaddes, At-Large	✓			
Shannon Callender, Grad student-Pharmacy	✓			
Rose Vogt, General Mgr. (minutes)	✓			

Quorum is reached. Perrone takes the chair and calls the meeting at order at 4:34 pm. Vogt records the minutes.

1. The agenda is approved unanimously. (Leal/Piazza)

2. Chair's Remarks

Councillors are the most important resource to the GSA, they bring unique and different perspectives and issues to the table.

Council heard the various methods used to engage students to GSA Council positions. Recent emails were sent to the departments to confirm council representatives and solicit the appointment of representatives. An opportunity for graduate students to self nominate themselves to the position is available. Perrone will administer the nomination/election process.

Council heard a brief summary of Robert's Rules of order, and how they will be applied to Council meetings.

3. Appointment of Council Speaker

**BIRT Council appoints the Chair, Matthew Perrone, as Council Speaker.**

(Makahnouk/Mitchell) Approved unanimously.

### **Consent Agenda**

**BIRT the Council approves and/or receives for information by consent items #4 - #5 of the agenda. (Piazza/Leal) Approved.**

4. Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting: January 14, 2015.

5. Executive Reports were submitted with the agenda package.

## **Regular Agenda**

6. Appointment of New Councillors  
Perrone acknowledges and thanks past councillors for their service, and announces new councilors.

Angella Willmot Sociology  
Anton Mosunov, Pure Mathematics.  
D.J. Houle, Classical Studies  
Julie Leeming, Recreation & Leisure  
Michelle D'Sa, Masters Public Service  
Nicole Nagy, Mechanical & Mechatronic Engineering  
Nathalie Moon, Statistics & Actuarial Science  
Ryan Truong, Earth and Environmental Sciences  
Sara Scharoun, Kinesiology  
Adam Moreash, Masters Peace & Conflict Studies  
Amanda Jones, SPHHS  
Mohammed Ghaziaskar , Economics

### **BIRT Council approves the appointments of new Councilors omnibus.**

(Leal/Mitchell) Approved.

7. Presentation on Course Evaluation Project (Mark Seasons)

Council heard a presentation by Mark Seasons, School of Planning, and Chair of Course Evaluation Project Committee.

The committee is mandated to recommend a course evaluation model that meets the needs of Waterloo students, instructors, staff, and administrators.

\*Policy 77 – required end of course evaluation. This tool may provide an opportunity to hold a mid-course evaluation to be used as a diagnostic.

### Questions:

How will the new model be rolled out? There is a window of opportunity and to maintain momentum, it is recommended not to roll out the new model incrementally. It could cause a drift. Mark Seasons is interested in hearing what the Council thinks.

Accountability? What are the privacy concerns? Where is the middle ground? The privacy of instructors as well as students has to be very carefully managed. The vulnerabilities of this could be used for public shaming. The data could be aggregated to course rather than to an individual, while some feel that all the information should be available.

Is there a concern about the turn out? How have the 3 online uses been in terms of turnout? [Completion of the forms online]

Literature says participation slumps then bounces back. On campus, it has been stable. This factor has to be designed into the system.

Are TA's as instructors included in this project? What does it mean?

When students give evaluations there be a section that is "this is your TA" The technology will let you segment out whether it is an instructor vs TA.

Tenure track research vs. teaching what is the ratio? What are the ramifications of consistently negative UW evaluations? The ratio/mix in theory is 40 research:40 teaching: 20 service. Are faculty supposed to be good at everything? Not everyone is good at everything. An older graduate student (more experienced?) would advocate stronger for research. One may be excellent in research and "good" in teaching...

Is the data meaningful? It is part of the annual performance evaluation.

When you apply for tenure and promotion, you provide all kinds of lines of evidence.

If Waterloo moves to an online basis for the evaluations-it seems there may be a lack of people that would respond, and may be one of the extremes. How do you encourage completion? Evidence does not show that there is a drop in completion. The completion rates depend on the relevance of the data. The data has to be used to inform a culture change

Is the TA being evaluated in this process? Instructor is interpreted to be a TA.

Has there been any consideration for graduate students to give feedback on their supervisor?

The relationship between the graduate student and the supervisor is a one :one relationship. ( This is a good suggestion)

There is a need for a shift in the culture of learning. Disclosing the professors' information is important to support the cultural shift. If we do not share the information, it will reduce the 'buy-in' from students. They will go to "rate my professor" etc. and will devalue the data.

The comments are being used at the instructors' own discretion. That introduces bias. Chair wants a full picture of what is going on.

Supervisory and mentorship assessment: There is no training for mentorship. There are lots of opportunities to become a better teacher.

There are still many challenges facing this project. Anything is possible in the

technology. Faculty may not want to do this. Gender bias is perceived on campus, especially with female faculty.

Teaching quality, Are you trying to anticipate the good or the bad?

How long is the data record kept?

Is there a current summary of such blogs as “rate my professor”, and would there be some evaluation between the Waterloo system and more public systems?

Mark Seasons asks that feedback from the GSA as a group is requested.

8. Q&A, Officers’ Reports

Officers introduce themselves to the Council and provide brief description of their role and portfolio.

9. Get Out The vote Campaign, Kristen Leal

CASA gave a presentation about Get out the Vote campaign. The campaign is non-partisan. It will highlight topics such as: how to vote and where to vote. CASA wants a resolution but Leal want to table this motion until after the CASA Foundations conference.

A friendly amendment was made to table the motion until the June 2015 Council Meeting.

10. OGSA – University Funding Reform Consultation, Mike Makahnouk.

Council heard a presentation by Mike Makahnouk, OGSA President.

2012 – OGSA was founded at UWaterloo at a meeting of eight Ontario Universities.

Policy brought to provincial government to secure a tax credit for expenditure on technology for graduate students. This could help graduate students that do not receive funding. The tax credit is not tied to income.

OGSA is working to clearly define what the actual numbers will be.. It will be an annual credit, applied to technology, licensing software, etc.

Based on the programs, OGSA is asking for \$250.00 per student per year. OGSA hopes that two more years would be the time needed to implement the tax credit, they are already one year in.

11. Health & Dental Plan Fees:

Council heard a brief presentation of the Health and Dental Plan fees set for the coming year, beginning September 1, 2015. The Health Plan Fee will be \$55.00 and the Dental Plan Fee will be \$78.00 per student per term.

12. Chief Returning Officer (CRO)

The GSA is seeking to fill the role of Chief Returning Officer. The Board will appoint the CRO. A formal nomination period will be announced. Councillors should forward this information to members in their department.

Question: Provide the results of the referendum that occurred in the winter term.

The CRO reports that 327 votes yes, 37 votes no, 0 declined. The requirement was to achieve 15% of eligible voters to vote YES. This was not met, and the low voter turnout suggests that the topic is of low importance.

A subsequent motion was passed at the March 2015 AGM to repeal the document, specifically because it was overwhelming yes of the voter's that did vote. It was also deemed that the document itself was not a legal document, nor is it a legal constitution.

13. Business – none.

14. No confidential session

15. Adjourned at 6:38 PM

MP:rv



**Report to the GSA Council**  
**Maya D'Alessio, President**  
**June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Summary of Meetings:**

Committee - Meeting	Date	Notes / Attendance
<b>Committees:</b>		
<b>Building and Properties</b>	May 15 <sup>th</sup>	Called in. Confidential. Orientation for new committee members. Discussion of on-going campus construction progress. Approval of small land transfers.
<b>Senate</b>	May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Attended.
<b>GSRC</b>	May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Called in. Discussion around progress on universal TA contract to come in to effect Fall 2015. Update on scheduled release of scholarships. Debate on the ADDS proposed changes – going to June Senate.
<b>Course Evaluation Project</b>	May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Continued the discussion around the course evaluations. I voiced concerns that the committee was not going to address graduate students as TAs. I have been asked to write a document outlining considerations for TA evaluations and the complexities.
<b>Senate Executive</b>	June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Approved the agenda for June Senate meeting
<b>Board of Governors</b>	June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Attended a full day of activities; governors meet before the official meeting to discuss things offline, then the meeting happens, then there was a dinner at the University Club.
<b>SSAC</b>	June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Special meeting of SSAC to change splits between grads/undergrads for Athletics and CCA, and the splits between the University and students for health services and counselling services. Also presenting proposed changes to the SSAC protocol.
<b>SGRC</b>	June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Regrets – away at two day bioinformatics workshop in Toronto
<b>SIAG (Space)</b>	June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Continued discussion on campus space inventory and how to get a better picture of use. Have made a private meeting with the necessary parties to have an in person discussion on graduate specific space issues.
<b>Policy 30 committee</b>	June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Had the first meeting of the Policy 30 drafting committee (TA policy). Post-meeting decision with other executive to first address the hiring practices

		element.
<b>GSA Board</b>	June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Board met and discussed the GSA financials to date, and how to look at the budget. Also addressed some internal policy and HR questions and formed two subcommittees to deal with these questions. Approved the position of a campaign manager for the get out the vote campaign we are offering on campus.
<b>GSRC</b>	June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chaired and led discussion around implementing the universal TA contract, to be released for the Fall term. Also discussed Policy 33 consultation coming to Council (ethnical behavior policy)
<b>Pre-senate meeting</b>	June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Met with Bryan Tolson (faculty relations) and David Porrecca (FAUW president) to discuss a proposed motion that the graduate student senators were bringing to senate – asking that senate recommend a task force to determine how to implement feedback on quality of supervision.
<b>Senate</b>	June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Flew to Regina, but after landing was able to call in to the first hour of the senate meeting, where the updated ADDS document was addressed and the proposed student motion regarding the above task force.
<b>Away</b>	June 15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	In Regina for a research conference.
<b>Non-committee based activities</b>		
<b>Travel Planning</b>	May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Updating a memo on travel planning and approval process for UW members travelling to countries with travel warnings.
<b>Meeting with Jim Frank</b>	May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Met to discuss policy 30 drafting committee formation, TA contract progress, potential collaboration on town halls in the Fall.
<b>Working group on Sexual Violence</b>		Sitting in for VP. Very interesting and complex discussion on how to go about writing a policy to deal with sexual violence/assault on campus.
<b>HeForShe meeting</b>	May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Met with Diana Parry to discuss the HeForShe campaign and how the GSA would participate. Early plans to have panel/seminar on having a family while being an academic. Some students on campus do research on this subject, and lots of faculty members who had their family before/after tenure.
<b>Feds meeting</b>	May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Met with the Feds to discuss issues with

		International Student tuition. Working with them and the Provost to look at a tuition framework for students once they are UW students.
Away	May 22-26	I was out of town for my sister's convocation
Chris Read/Feds	May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting to discuss priorities for the next year and how our priorities overlap. Planning to work together to achieve common goals. Big things: ombudsmen office, student space, policy 30, ancillary fee protocol.
Dutch Royal Visit	May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Participated in the educational workshop showcasing international collaborations between institutions.
Lunch with Henry	May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Informal lunch with Grad House Manager and all of the executive to bond, and discuss Graduate House priorities and issues.
Family Clinic	June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Meeting with Lannie Butler from the Family clinic to discuss how to work with Health Services to promote the family clinics services to graduate students.
Executive Meeting	June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Executive met to discuss documents coming to the Board, how to facilitate good discussion and stay up to date on each other's work.
Welcome Lunch	June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch at the University Club with the GSO to introduce everyone and begin working relationships for the year.
South Commons Discussion	June 10 <sup>th</sup>	A proposed construction project may have significant short and long term impacts to the Graduate House. Meeting with Dennis Huber and Dan Parent (campus architect) to discuss how to manage/mitigate these.

Current Projects:

- Opening discussions with the administration re. graduate student space
- Working with the Feds on international student tuition issues
- Preparing for the Class Z drafting committee
  - Working on a document outlining all parts of the TA process that need to be considered in the policy (attached)
- Getting close to a finalized universal TA contract
- Working on some policies for the Operations Manual

**Report to the GSA Council**  
**Rachel Mitchell, Vice-President**  
**June 18th, 2015**

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**Summary of Meetings:**

Committee - Meeting	Date	Notes / Attendance
GSA Council		Attended May meeting, and will be in attendance in June
GSA Board		Attended May meeting, and will be in attendance for the June meeting.
GSA Committee		
University Committee		
SSAC	June 4th	Continued discussions on student fees. Consult President Maya for more detailed information
President's Advisory Committee on Sustainability	May 27th	First meeting of the PACS. Another meeting scheduled for June. June is bike month. We will be promoting many of the bike month activities online.
Orientation	May 12th	Sent regrets
Senate Executive	June 1st	Approved Senate Agenda
Senate	May 19th	Will be attending upcoming June meeting
Sexual Violence Working Group	May 14 <sup>th</sup> May 20 <sup>th</sup> June 5 <sup>th</sup> June 12 <sup>th</sup> (regrets)	Sent regrets for the May 20 <sup>th</sup> meeting, Maya attended in my place.
GSRC	May 25 <sup>th</sup> June 12 <sup>th</sup> (regrets)	Draft new TA contract (includes time allocation form)
Policy 33	June 5th	
Policy 30	June 11th	Initial meeting to discuss TA policy.
Meetings: - Executive		The executive team has continued our bi-weekly communal office hours and executive meeting. We have made excellent progress in setting priorities for the year and discussing work being undertaken in various university committees.
Community Relations	May 11th	Great meeting with community relations, discussed some great ideas to showcase community-grad initiatives.
He for She Meeting	May 20th	Discussion surrounding the university's

		commitment and grad focused initiatives and events.
<b>GSA/FEDS Priorities with Chris Read</b>	May 27th	Wonderful discussion with Chris Read, GSA exec, and FEDS execs about student priorities.
<b>GSA Exec meeting with Henry</b>	May 29th	Great informal discussions with Henry about Grad House activities, vision, and goals.
<b>GH Events</b>	June 1st	Met with Arun the GH Events Coordinator to learn about the upcoming events and summer festival. Planning to support Arun through social media promotion. Plans to have GSA exec volunteer at upcoming events. There will be a GSA night in July as part of the Summer Festival.
<b>Family Clinic</b>	June 3rd	Discussions on supporting Family Clinic information and promotion to grad students.
<b>Welcome Lunch with GSO</b>	June 4th	We had a lovely lunch with the GSO office. It was a great opportunity to meet the staff of the GSO and learn more about the work they are doing, and how we can support one another's work.

#### Comments and updates:

- Approved signing authority at CIBC
- Meeting with Dennis Huber about South Campus Commons project
- Currently in Montreal for the Studentcare Stakeholder meeting.

#### Further information from meetings:

#### Current Projects:

- Completed extensive website training – currently adding new bios, and information to the website.
- I am working with Mat Thijssen (Sustainability Coordinator) to review the GSA's official position on sustainability.
- Researching Policy 33 – contacting GSAs from Queens and Guelph to find out more about their ethics policies and involvement in the ethics policy creation process

#### Comments:

May was a very exciting month! The month has come and gone faster than I anticipated but I have managed to make some great contacts and navigate the UW committee world. So far in June I have done some quick updates to the website to promote accessibility. Looking forward for the latter part of June, I will be dedicating more time to working on Policy 33 and sexual violence working group initiatives.

**Report to GSA Council**  
**Matthew Perrone, SAO**  
**June 18, 2015**

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**Summary of Meetings:**

Committee - Meeting	Date	Notes / Attendance
GSA Council Meeting	May 14	Discussed Course Evaluation Project, GOTV Campaign, and OGSA university funding reform
Hiring Committee Meetings	May 20-29	Interviewed candidates for vacant Men's Basketball Head Coach Position.
GSRC Meeting	May 25	Discussed campus transit plan, TA Allocation Form, and scholarship release schedule.
Councillor Meeting	May 25	Met with MPACS Councillor
GSA/FEDS/Chris Reed Meeting	May 27	Discussed priorities for the year.
Lunch Meeting with Henry Ensley	May 29	Discussed Grad House Issues
GH/GSA Meeting	June 1	Discussed Grad House/GSA Events
Executive Meeting	June 3	Discussed Policy 30, GOTV Campaign, GSA HR Practices, and Priorities
Lunch with GSO	June 4	Had a great lunch with Jim Frank and the GSO, they are very supportive of the GSA
Councillor Meeting	June 5	Met with Accounting and Finance Councillor
CIC Presentation Meeting	June 9	Met with Darlene Ryan to organize a GSA social event following the CIC Presentation
Policy 30 Committee Meeting	June 11	Discussed considerations for the policy.
GSA Board Meeting	June 11	Discussed GSA policy and Get Out The Vote Campaign.
GSRC Meeting	June 12	Discussed TA Contract, Scheduled release of scholarships, and Policy 33 Review
Councillor Meeting	June 15	Met with Religious Studies Councillor

#### Current Projects:

- Updating Council List for the new year
  - Filled 5 vacant Councillor positions
  - Continuing to reach out to departments without Councillors
- Preparing Council Meetings
  - The next Council Meeting will be June 25<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:30pm in RCH 103
  - Council Meetings will be catered by Grad House
  - Future issues to be discussed include student space and TA allocation form
- Collecting Student Feedback
  - Meeting with Councillors to discuss student issues
  - Discussion topics include student space, TA issues, funding, and opportunities for grad students to meet
- Starting new Department GSA's/Clubs
  - Growing the number of Department GSA's
  - Have been helping Geographers Without Borders create a constitution

#### Upcoming Projects:

- AFSA Referendum
  - Accounting and Finance Student Association will be having a referendum to approve a fee change
  - GSA will be administering the referendum
- Student Handbook
  - Create a document that outlines the steps a grad student should take when facing an issue

#### Comments:

I'm happy to answer any questions regarding my report and welcome comments.

**Report to the GSA Council**  
**Kristen Leal, External Affairs Officer - CASA**  
**Thursday, June 18th**

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**Summary of Meetings:**

	Date	Notes / Attendance
<b>Board Meeting</b>	May 13th	Inaugural meeting for the 2015-2016 GSA Board.
<b>Exec office hours</b>	May 14th	Discussed tasks we each are dealing with
<b>Exec meeting</b>	May 20th	Discussed various priorities for the year
<b>CASA Foundations</b>	May 21st-22nd	Attended CASA Foundations conference. Involved with hiring of next CASA Executive Director as well as the election of the new Board of Directors as well as committee selection
<b>GSRC</b>	May 25th	Sent regrets
<b>Meeting with Chris Read</b>	May 27th	Discussed priorities for the year
<b>Exec meeting - CASA</b>		Exec discussed outcomes of CASA Foundations conference
<b>Meeting with Henry</b>	May 29th	Sent regrets
<b>CASA - Grad Council</b>	June 2nd	Elected chair, vice chair, and secretary. Discussed priorities for the year as well as meeting schedule.
<b>Meeting with FedS VP-Ed</b>	June 3rd	Discussed Get Out The Vote campaign initiatives and the integration of undergrads into the campaign
<b>Exec meeting</b>		Discussed various priorities for the year, new policies, and documents.
<b>CASA - Policy Committee</b>		Elected chair, vice chair, and secretary. Discussed priorities for the year as well as meeting schedule.
<b>Lunch with GSO</b>	June 4th	Met the people who make our lives better
<b>Academic Integrity Council of Ontario</b>	June 5th	Attended the meeting, commented on lack of grad student support for academic integrity issues
<b>Board meeting</b>	June 11th	Attended, board approved hiring of campaign coordinator for GOTV.
<b>Graduate Student Relations Committee</b>	June 12th	Gave feedback on issues like the TA contract, Adds, the payment of scholarships, and academic integrity.
<b>OGSA AGM</b>	June 13th	Attended as secondary delegate
<b>Policy Committee - CASA</b>	June 16th	Discussed issues for the year- will be spearheading policy on scholarship transparency and ombudsmen offices
<b>Grad Council - CASA</b>	June 17th	Discussed issues for the year. Will be pursuing issue of tax credits for grad students as a CASA ask.



**Comments and updates:** The CASA Foundations conference was an amazing experience. I met a ton of other student leaders and helped hire a new executive director for the organization. I also got more information regarding the GOTV campaign for this year's coming federal election. The executive team continues to bond and we're all really excited to work together this year (hence the plethora of meetings we have, we just really like each other)

After receiving Board approval, I've hired a campaign coordinator for the GOTV campaign. I'll announce the name one she's formally accepted the position. Other than that, I've been doing research into NSERC student deferment, ombudsmen offices, and scholarship accountability moving forward as policies for CASA. This month was great! Spent lots of time bonding as an exact team while also starting to focus on my portfolio.

**Current Projects:**

- Hiring of a Campaign Coordinator for the Get Out The Vote campaign
- Organization of the Policy and Grad Council committees for CASA
- Development of new policies for Policy and Grad Council
- Survey to CASA schools re:ombudsmen
- Partnership with FedS re: GOTV
- Research for CASA policies

**Motions:**

*BIRT that the University of Waterloo Graduate Student Association support and participate in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations' "Get Out The Vote Campaign", for the upcoming federal election*

**Report to the GSA Council**  
**Michael Makahnouk, EAO**  
**June 18, 2015**

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**Summary of Meetings:**

Committee - Meeting	Date	Notes / Attendance
GSA Board	May 13	- First meeting of the board was lengthy, with many important items discussed
GSA Council	May 14	- Presented an update on OGSA activities and lobbying efforts - Answered questions from councilors
OGSA Board of Directors	May 25	- Met for an informal call to discuss the OGSA AGM
Meeting with Chris Read – Associate Provost, Students	May 27	- Discussed GSA priorities, and heard more about the priorities set by FEDS and Chris Read
GSA meeting with GH manager	May 29	- Met with Henry to have an informal lunch chat
GSA Executive meeting	June 3	- Monthly meeting with executive team to discuss ongoing matters in the GSA

**Comments**

My efforts have focus on the day-to-day operations of the OGSA. I have also been organizing details for the OGSA AGM, which will be held at the McMaster GSA office. Last month, I proposed holding the meeting at the UW-GSA Graduate House, but McMaster expressed interest in hosting the meeting. I have completed the 2014-15 annual report, and have circulated the document to the OGSA officers for feedback. I will share the report with the Board of Directors at the July meeting.

## AFSA Referendum

The Accounting & Finance Student Association (AFSA) is a student run organization representing nearly 2000 students studying Accounting & Financial Management, Biotechnology/CPA, Mathematics/CPA and Computing & Financial Management. Our goal is to create a strong community within our program and provide students with all the necessary resources to succeed. Through events, merchandise sales, professional development sessions along with many other initiatives, we work to support every student in all facets of their university experience. We will always continue to provide an environment in which all accounting and finance students feel included and a part of our family where they can continue to develop personally and professionally.

Approximately 214 Master of Accounting (MAcc) students are members of AFSA.

More information can be found at the AFSA website: <http://www.uwafsa.ca>

The following information is provided to satisfy GSA Council policy regarding referenda on behalf of affiliated groups. Note that AFSA is not a departmental GSA. It is an organization that has grad student members.

The amount of the proposed fee is \$30.00.

Master of Accounting (MAcc) students will participate in the referendum, and if the fee passes, they will be assessed the fee.

The purpose of the fee is stated below.

*The Accounting and Finance Endowment Fund (AFEF) originated in 1991. The fund is dedicated to strengthen School of Accounting and Finance (SAF) students' education. Currently students make a \$50 refundable contribution in each academic term. The Accounting and Finance Students Association (AFSA) supports SAF students in many ways. Student associations, in contrast to dedicated educational funds, support a wider variety of worthwhile endeavours that enhance student life. Having both a dedicated educational fund and a strong student society will lead to a better experience for SAF students.*

*The purpose of this referendum is to bring the wording of the AFEF up to date; to decrease the student contribution to the AFEF by \$30; and to institute a society fee for AFSA by the same \$30. Both of these will continue to be refundable. The effect is that the individual student's contribution, in total, will remain the same; however the amount flowing to support student activities will increase significantly. This is because the amount flowing from the AFEF reflects all past student donations along with investment performance and will continue to rise. Additionally, the \$30 AFSA fee will flow immediately to funding student activities. The significant increase in the available funds will improve the quality of student life and our educational outcomes.*

The Referendum question is as follows:

*"Do you approve the revised Constitution of the Accounting and Finance Endowment Fund (<http://www.uwafsa.ca/afsa-referendum/>) including a reduction in the voluntary contribution made each academic term to the AFEF of students in SAF programs from \$50.00 to \$20.00 (see article 4(a)i in the revised AFEF constitution) and the institution of a student society fee for AFSA in the amount of \$30.00 charged per academic term to each MAcc student."*

AFSA constitution can be found here: <http://www.uwafsa.ca/governing-documents/>

AFSA is not a departmental GSA; therefore, according to GSA Council policy, the signatures of ten percent (10%) or ten (10) members, whichever is greater, of the proposed-fee payers who are members of the GSA, supporting the application, have been collected and will be available for review during the Council meeting.