Graduate Student Association

(GSA) Constitution

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Graduate Student Association University of Waterloo Secretariat

University of Waterloo Graduate Studies Office

CONSTITUTION

A by-law relating to the affairs of the

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION - UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

BE IT ENACTED as a by-law of the corporation as follows:

1. Name

The name of the Corporation shall be the "Graduate Student Association - University of Waterloo" hereinafter referred to as the GSA.

2. Objectives

Collective Bargaining

The GSA shall promote and represent any or all of the mutual interests of its members.

The GSA shall promote and maintain communication with the university community and represent its members and their interests within the university.

The GSA shall administer its affairs within the limits prescribed by the GSA's Letters Patent, Supplementary Letters Patent,this Constitution, the by-laws of the corporation and policies and procedures attached thereto.

Affiliation

The GSA shall cooperate with other organizations having objects, wholly or in part, the same as or similar to the objects of the GSA.

The GSA shall only join external lobby organizations that work on issues other than student issues.

Services

The GSA shall endeavor to provide services that will enhance the quality of graduate students’ experience at the University of Waterloo.

The GSA shall endeavour to aid individual members with specific problems related to the university community.

The GSA shall act to stimulate, social, intellectual, and political contact among its members.

3. Membership

All students registered as full-time or part-time graduate students at the University of Waterloo who have paid in full their membership fees, shall be members of the GSA.

All members of the GSA shall be entitled to vote in GSA elections and referenda, to notice of, and to attend and vote at, general meetings of the members.

4. Board of Directors

The directors of the corporation, hereinafter referred to as the “Board”, shall manage or supervise the management of the activities and affairs of the corporation and in compliance with current Ontario laws governing Not-For-Profit Corporations.

The number of directors shall be fixed at a minimum of ten (10) and a maximum of fifteen (15).

The Board shall appoint officers of the GSA and officers that shall be ex-officio members of the Board**.**

Nothing in this section shall limit the GSA, through its by-laws, policies, and procedures, from establishing additional provisions for the holding of the office of Director.

The term of office of each Board member shall be determined in accordance with the by-laws, but in any event shall not exceed two (2) years. Nothing in this Constitution shall prohibit any member, otherwise eligible, to hold office as a Board member for more than one (1) term.

The procedure at Board meetings shallbe defined by the GSA policies and procedures.

5. Officers

The Board shall appoint the officers of the GSA consisting of at least a President, Vice President, Corporate Secretary, and Treasurer, and other such officers as the Board may determine.

The Board shall determine the duties, privileges, responsibilities, and remuneration of the Officers.

Subject to the by-laws, nothing in this Constitution shall prohibit the Board from appointing one individual from holding more than one officerposition at one time, or shall prohibit the Board from appointinga member, from holding an officer position for more than one (1) term.

Board shall appoint a Chief Returning Officer to administer all GSA elections and referenda.

6. Graduate Student Council

The social and political body of the GSA shall be Graduate Student Council

(hereinafter referred to as the "Council").

The procedure at Council meetings shall follow Robert's Rules of Order and the

GSA policies and procedures where applicable.

The Chair of the Council shall be a member of the Council appointed by the Board.

Members of the Board of Directors shall be ex-officio members of Council.

The total number of members of Council shall be equal to the number of academic departments at the University of Waterloo plus twenty (20) plus the total number of directorships.

All members of the Council must be members of the GSA. Appointment of members to Council shall be in accordance with the GSA policies and procedures.

Council may be responsible for creating committees to facilitate the functioning of the GSA. Council mayspecify the duties, powers, and responsibilities of such committees.

The holding and conduct of all meetings of Council and its Committees, including notice thereof, and right to attendance thereat, shall be in accordance with the GSA policies and procedures.

7. By-Laws

The GSA may adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws in accordance with Ontario law governing Not-for-profit Corporations. (ONCA 2010, c. 15, s 17(1)-(6))

The Board and the Council may adopt, amend, or repeal GSA policies and procedures wherever applicable.

8. Amendments to the Constitution

This Constitution can only be amended by a simple majority of votes cast in a referendum called for such a purpose.

ENACTED AND PASSED BY THE MEMBERSHIP on the 26th day of March 1997

AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP on the 25th of March 1998
**a date to be determined.**

WITNESS the seal of the CORPORATION.