

Motion for Constitutional Amendment – Special Resolution – requires 2/3 majority to pass
(EGSS President)

WHEREAS the current constitution, in place since September 26, 2012, lacks some provisions to regulate certain procedures at EGSS;

Resolved that the General Assembly approve the constitutional amendments and additions proposed below.

Amendments and Additions

Name of EGSS

WHEREAS McGill University does not allow for the use of its name by Student Associations,
BIRT Section 1.1. be amended to read:

“The name of this organization shall be Education Graduate Students’ Society (EGSS).”

BIFRT Section 1.2. be amended to read:

“The French version of the name of this organization shall be l’Association étudiante des cycles supérieurs en éducation (AÉCSE).”

Article 1 Name

- 1.1. The name of this organization shall be Education Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University (EGSS).
- 1.2. The French version of the name of this organization shall be l’Association étudiante des cycles supérieurs en éducation de l’Université McGill (AECSE).

Composition of Council 1

WHEREAS current PGSS councillors representing EGSS at the PGSS council have no voting rights at the EGSS Council;

WHEREAS PGSS councillors fulfil an important role representing EGSS at the PGSS level;

WHEREAS PGSS councillors are democratically elected to serve in their roles;

BIRT Section 4.1. be amended to read:

“EGSS Council, hereafter ‘Council’, shall be composed of voting members and non-voting, ex-officio members.”

BIFRT “PGSS Councillors (3)” be moved from section 4.3. to section 4.2.

Article 4 Composition of Council

4.1. EGSS Council, hereafter ‘Council’, shall be composed of twelve (12) voting members and eight (8) non-voting, ex-officio members.

4.2. The voting members of Council are:

- The President;
 - The Vice-President Academic;
 - The Vice-President Finance;
 - The Vice-President Communication;
 - The Vice-President Student-Life;
 - The Vice-President Diversity and Equity;
 - Conference Chair;
 - Departmental Representatives from:
 - the Department of Integrated Studies in Education (DISE) (1);
 - Kinesiology and Physical Education (KPE) (1);
 - Educational and Counseling Psychology (ECP) (1);
 - Program Representatives from:
 - First Nations and Inuit Education (FNIE) (1);
 - The Master’s of Arts in Teaching and Learning (MATL) (1).
- 4.3. The non-voting, ex-officio members of Council are:
- PGSS Councillors (3);
 - Departmental delegates (3) from the Association of Graduate Students Employed at McGill (AGSEM);
 - McGill’s Library and Information Studies Student Association (MLISSA) Representative (1);
 - Education Undergraduate Society of McGill (EdUS) Representative (1).

Composition of Council 2

WHEREAS AGSEM delegates fulfil an important role representing EGSS members who are employed as either Teaching Assistants or Course Instructors both at AGSEM and in Council;

WHEREAS AGSEM delegates are democratically elected to serve in their roles;

BIRT “Departmental delegates (3) from the Association of Graduate Students Employed at McGill (AGSEM) be moved from section 4.3. to section 4.2.

Number of PGSS Councillors

WHEREAS EGSS has no control over the Society Activities Manual of PGSS;

WHEREAS the Society Activities Manual regulates the allocation of seats to student associations in the PGSS council;

BIRT that the number in brackets next to “PGSS councillors” in Section 4.2. be amended to read:

“PGSS Councillors (The number of seats is contingent upon PGSS regulations)”

Roles of the President of EGSS

WHEREAS the President of EGSS, as the head of the society, should be responsible for overseeing the workings of the society;

BIRT that a new section 5.3.1.1., adjusting all subsequent numbering as necessary, be added stating:

“Ensure that all rules and regulations set out in the Constitution are followed.”

Roles of the Vice-President Communication

WHEREAS the EGSS email account receives high volumes of information constantly;

WHEREAS some of that information is time-sensitive;

BIRT that Section 5.3.5.4. be amended to read:

“Check the EGSS e-mail account at least once a day during school days and ensure that messages are delivered to the appropriate Council members within 36 hours.”

[5.3.5.4. Check the EGSS e-mail account and ensure that messages are delivered to the appropriate members;](#)

Quorum of Council meetings

WHEREAS the current quorum requirement for EGSS council meetings has made the decision-making process somewhat tedious and difficult,

WHEREAS a lower quorum would allow the EGSS council to make decisions more easily;

WHEREAS other student societies as PGSS have substantially lower quorum requirements;

BIRT Section 7.7. be amended to read:

“Quorum shall be at least fifty percent (50%) of voting members.”

[7.7 Quorum shall be at least sixty percent \(60%\) of voting members.](#)

Attendance to Council meetings and removal for absence

WHEREAS Section 5.2.3. states that the responsibilities of Council members include “Attending and contributing to EGSS meetings throughout the academic year”;

WHEREAS attendance to EGSS council meetings is vital to be up-to-date on EGSS matters,

BIRT Section 15.1.1. be amended to read:

“They are officially absent from three (3) consecutive Council meetings over the course of the year, barring medical, family or other valid reasons at the discretion of Council;”

15.1.1. They are officially absent from four (4) consecutive Council meetings over the course of the year, barring medical, family, or other valid reasons at the discretion of Council;

PGSS councillors’ roles

WHEREAS the attendance of PGSS councillors to PGSS council meetings is vital to have representation at the PGSS level;

BIRT that a new section 15.1.3, adjusting all subsequent numbering as necessary, be added stating:

“In addition to the provisions stipulated in 15.1.1. and 15.1.2., PGSS Councillors are automatically removed from office should they lose voting rights at the PGSS council.”

Impeachment

WHEREAS Council should ensure that Council members remain accountable to the Membership;

WHEREAS Council members might be substantially more familiar with the work of other fellow Council members than the Membership at large;

WHEREAS EGSS has no procedure in place that allows Council itself to make decisions regarding the removal of a Council member for delinquency of duties and violations to the Constitution;

BIRT a new Section in Article 14 with corresponding subsections, adjusting all subsequent numbering as necessary, be added stating:

“A Council member may also be removed from office if they have previously been censored by Council twice or more during their term. In such cases, impeachment shall require the signatures of at least five percent (5%) of the Membership or a motion to impeach be passed at Council with the support of at least seventy percent (70%) of voting members”.

Eligibility for re-election for automatically removed officers

WHEREAS our current constitution has no clear provisions regarding the re-election of Council members that have been impeached or automatically removed from office in terms of the position such a member could fill in the future,

BIRT section 14.4. be amended to read:

“Should a Council member be impeached for any reason, that member is not eligible for re-election in any position in Council.”

BIFRT section 15.2. be amended to read:

“Should a Council member be automatically removed, that member is not eligible for re-election in any position in Council.”

Listserv use

WHEREAS both the President and Vice-President Communication are responsible of the EGSS email account and sending out information over the listserv;

WHEREAS EGSS is committed to try to minimize the volume of information being sent to our members through the listserv;

WHEREAS EGSS receives many request for messages to be sent out over the listserv by both EGSS members and entities external to EGSS;

BIRT section 16.5.2. be amended to read:

“The President or Vice-President Communication shall acknowledge the receipt of the e-mail and, upon mutual agreement, send it over the listserv within two (2) school days.”

BIFRT that a new section 16.5.3. be amended to read:

“In the event that the President or Vice-President Communication refuse a request or do not come to an agreement on sending a message over the listserv, a motion to approve or overturn the refusal or solve said disagreement must be brought to Council.”

BIFRT that a new section 16.5.4, adjusting all subsequent numbering as necessary, be added stating:

“In the event an entity external to EGSS request that a message be sent out over the listserv, the President and Vice-President Communication shall evaluate the relevance of the message and, upon mutual agreement, send it over the listserv within two (2) school days. If no agreement is reached, the procedure stipulated in Section 16.5.3. shall be followed.”

Use of the EGSS name

WHEREAS the use of the EGSS name holds the Education Graduate Students' Society and its Council as a whole accountable for any action taken or any information disseminated using the EGSS name;

BIFRT a new Article be added after Article 16, adjusting all subsequent number as necessary, named "Use of the EGSS name", whose first Section state:

"No member shall use the name of EGSS without permission of Council."

BIFRT a second section be added, adjusting all subsequent number as necessary, stating:

"In the event an EGSS member desires to use to EGSS name for any purpose, this member shall bring a motion to a Council meeting following the rules stipulated in sections 7.7 and 7.8."

BIFRT a third section be added, adjusting all subsequent numbering as necessary, stating:

"Members of Council are authorized to use the EGSS name in their signatures provided they use their name and position in Council"

BIFRT a fourth section be added, adjusting all subsequent numbering as necessary, stating:

"Members of Council may not create email accounts associated with the EGSS name unless mandated to do so by Council, and if so, that a minimum of 2 members have access to that account."