

Mathematics and Statistics Graduate Students Association (MSGSA)

Constitution & Guidelines

Fall 2015

The Purpose of this Constitution is:

1. To provide a general philosophy and rationale for the Graduate Student Association.
2. To provide a general orientation for the membership.
3. To lend stability and continuity to the Graduate Student Association.
4. To provide an understanding of the operations, practices and procedures carried on within the various parts of the Graduate Student Association.

ARTICLE 1: Name and Compliance

I.I Name: This organization shall be known as Mathematics and Statistics Graduate Students Association (MSGSA), the name under which it is officially registered with York University Graduate Students Association (YUGSA). It will hereinafter be referred to as MSGSA.

I.II Compliance: MSGSA operates at York University, subject to York University and York University Graduate Students Association (YUGSA) policies and procedures.

Article 2: Preamble

The Graduate Student Association—hereafter referred to as the GSA—represents and advocates for the collective interests of MSGSA graduate students in all matters of departmental policy and action at York University. The GSA seeks to build community among the graduate students, faculty, and larger university, with consideration for diverse experiences and interests. Above all, the GSA works to optimize the environment within which graduate students develop, both professionally and personally.

Article 3: Membership

The members of the MSGSA are Mathematics and Statistics graduate students. Current enrollment in the graduate program is sufficient for membership. No general membership dues will be collected from members, although members may be expected to pay nominal fees for specific events.

Article 4: Meetings

MSGSA meetings will be moderated by the President/co-Presidents and held a minimum of two times per semester during the academic year [or 4 times over the calendar year]. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Normally, any voting will take place in the meeting, and members who are not in attendance at the meeting forfeit their right to vote, unless a proxy vote has been arranged in advance. The MSGSA does reserve the right to decide, by a majority vote or the decision of the President/ co-Presidents, to put any vote to the entire MSGSA. In these cases, the issue will be

presented via written or electronic memo to all members, and members will be given a pre-specified period of time in which to cast their ballots. Before any official action is taken by the MSGSA, a majority vote must be obtained for those votes taken outside of meetings (as per the stipulations outlined above). In all cases, the votes of all members will be weighed equally.

Article 5: Elections and Eligibility

Elections for MSGSA offices will be held in the August of every year [dates at the convenience of the members]. Only MSGSA members may hold official positions. All nominations for elected office will be sent to the current elected officers. If no officers exist currently, they may send the nomination request to the Graduate Program Director (Prof. Mike Zabrocki) (GPD) or the Graduate Program Assistant (GPA). The voting will take place at a meetings set by the current elected officials, and or the GPD and GPA. If there are no nominations, the GPD may recommend two individuals to take on the duties.

Article 6: Elected Positions

The GSA has 2 elected officers: President and Vice President. CUPE 3903 Stewards will be elected independently of the MSGSA.

Section 5.1: Requirements of Officers

The Officers of GSA must attend >50% of regularly scheduled meetings.

- **President:**
Requirements: The president is responsible for organizing and overseeing meetings [and elections], communicating with other officers, calling special meetings, coordinating officers in special tasks. Will be the sitting councilor for the Mathematics and Statistics graduate students at YUGSA council meetings and will have to be one of the two co-signers necessary for any banking activities.
- **Vice President:**
Requirements: The vice-president is responsible for recording the minutes of the meetings and distributing them to the membership, keeping all records and lists updated, and moderating the departmental listserv. Will be the sitting councilor for the Mathematics and Statistics graduate students at YUGSA council meetings and will have to be one of the two co-signers necessary for any banking activities.

Article 7: Replacing Officers and Representatives

If a member serving in an elected position other than the President, resigns or is otherwise unable to fill his or her position, the GSA executive, will appoint a replacement to fill the remainder of the term. If the President resigns or is otherwise unable to fill her or his term, an election will be held following all the guidelines and stipulations for a regular election. Replacement members for any position, including those elected, will serve only until the end of the original term of that position.

Article 8: Finances

The GSA's money will be primarily acquired through funds allocated to the GSA by YUGSA and the department. Any expenditures of the GSA must be in accordance to the GSA's annual budget,

approved by the membership. Only if the GSA exceeds its budget or needs money for a special event may dues be collected. This must be approved by a majority (50% +1) of the membership. All monies belonging to the GSA shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for the GSA. All funds must be deposited within one week of collection. The MSGSA will use the Bank of Montreal to perform their duties. Any leftover funds will be transferred for the next year. Access to the funds will require two co-signers (Ideally the President and Vice President). The current officers will pass the access information to the next year's elected officers. In order to be able to gain access to the account, they will need a document from the GPD ensuring that they are the representatives in order to change the signing authorities from the past year to the current year.

Article 9: Ad Hoc Committees

Ad hoc committees may be created at any time by the decision of the President or a majority vote at a MSGSA meeting. Appointments to the ad hoc committee will be the responsibility of the executive committee. Each ad hoc committee must select a contact person so that MSGSA members and others can communicate efficiently with that committee. All ad hoc committees are responsible for maintaining records of their activities and for reporting pertinent information to members at the MSGSA meetings.

Article 10: Amendments and Revisions

An amendment can be added to this constitution with a 2/3 vote of all members present at the meeting when the issue arises. The amended constitution must be presented to the YUGSA office in the beginning of every academic year.

The Members Guest List, or who approve of this constitution.

Yi leng Ywe

Jemina Sardico

Angie Road

Ashkan Saedi

fanghao yang

Danny Tmitambu

Affan Shaukat

Eric Ens

J.M.

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Kahri Janda

Yi leng Ywe

Jemina

Angie

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fanghao

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Kahri Janda

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