

McMaster Astronomy and Physics Graduate Students' Association

Constitution

Created on September 24, 2025.

CONTENTS

Abbreviations and Definitions	1
I. Name & Mission	2
A. Name	2
B. Mission Statement	2
C. Purpose	2
II. Land Acknowledgment	2
III. Additional Acknowledgments	2
IV. Membership & Dues	2
A. Eligibility & Membership	2
B. Dues	2
V. Code of Conduct	3
VI. Association Structure and Executives	3
A. Structure	3
B. Representatives (Elected by Members)	3
C. Officers (Elected by Reps)	3
D. Election	3
VII. Responsibilities of the Executives	3
A. each role (Reps & Officers)	3
VIII. Meetings	3
IX. Constitutional Violations	3
X. Continuation	3

ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

- MAPSA –
- PHAS –
- GSA –
-

MAPSA PHAS GSU SGS 'Faculty' PHAS Graduate student

I. NAME & MISSION

A. Name

The name of this club shall be the **McMaster Astronomy and Physics Graduate Students' Association**, abbreviated to MAPGSA ("map-G-S-A"), but commonly nicknamed (and henceforth referred to) as MAPSA "map-sah".

B. Mission Statement

The purpose of MAPSA is to provide academic and social opportunities to all members. It is focused on enhancing the Physics and Astronomy graduate student experience.

C. Purpose

MAPSA is a collection of peers among the Department of Physics and Astronomy graduate student body volunteering to improve the quality of life of its members by:

- being points of contact for the Department
- organizing non-academic events
- serving as an alternative means of voicing members' concerns to the Department
- disseminating information and promotions to the graduate student body
- participating in Department Meetings as graduate student presence
- encouraging, promoting, and enhancing events organized by members of the PHAS community

It is important to emphasize that this association must not take away from the personal and academic growth of participating members.

II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

MAPSA operates on the McMaster University main campus which it is located on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations, and within the lands protected by the "Dish with One Spoon" wampum agreement.

III. ADDITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MAPSA is (non-financially) supported by the Department of Physics and Astronomy. MAPSA thanks the PHAS faculty in allowing graduate students to voice concerns and enjoy themselves through social gatherings.

IV. MEMBERSHIP & DUES

A. Eligibility & Membership

B. Dues

Dues shall be \$0 CAD per year, that is there are no dues. No financial instruments shall be exchanged between members for purposes of MAPSA operations.

V. CODE OF CONDUCT

MAPSA abides by the Student Code of Conduct outlined in the McMaster Graduate Calendar. It also accepts professional, inclusivity, and social expectations set out by the PHAS department, GSU, SGS, and McMaster University outside of the Student Code of Conduct. MAPSA related operations do not tolerate violations of these agreements

VI. ASSOCIATION STRUCTURE AND EXECUTIVES

A. Structure

MAPSA employs a flat hierarchical structure. No commander-in-chief is to acting as point of contacts and is no position higher than another, executives do not

B. Representatives (Elected by Members)

One for each constituency and two for Department Meeting

C. Officers (Elected by Reps)

The following officers are to be voted into their positions by the Representatives. Such officers may be nominated persons among the Representatives or any standing member. No one person shall conduct the role of multiple officers.

- Chair
- Treasury Officer
- Communications Officer
- Visitor Coordinator(s)*
- Events Coordinator(s)*

*a maximum of two such coordinators may take each position at any time.

D. Election

Elections are to be held each year during the final week of September by all members for their respective constituency's Representatives. The Representatives must conclude on a list of Officers before the end of October of each year.

VII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVES

A. each role (Reps & Officers)

VIII. MEETINGS

IX. CONSTITUTIONAL VIOLATIONS

X. CONTINUATION