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# POLICY for the SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

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By the Deputy Speaker

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Under the Supervision of the Speaker

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THE SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

*The University Western Ontario*

LONDON ONTARIO CANADA

2022

## **5.15 Sustainability Committee**

### **5.15.1 Ratified**

August 22, 2019

### **5.15.2 Mandate**

As per Bylaw 2.9.4.1., the Sustainability Committee is a standing committee of the Society of Graduate Students (SOGS). The Sustainability Committee shall strive to promote sustainability on-campus and off-campus by addressing environmental and social challenges at hand.

### **5.15.3 Article I: Membership**

5.15.3.1. The Sustainability Committee shall have:

5.15.3.1.1. An Official Liaison, who shall be the Vice-President Academic and shall be a voting ex-officio member, in compliance with Bylaws 2.9.3.2 and 2.9.3.3.

5.15.3.2. The Sustainability Committee will elect:

5.15.3.2.1. One Chairperson or two Co-Chairs, who shall:

5.15.3.2.1.1. Be elected from amongst the committee members;

5.15.3.2.1.2. Act in compliance with the Duties of the Chairperson (Bylaw 2.9.2.);

5.15.3.2.1.3. And fulfill the duties in Bylaw 2.9.5.11.1;

5.15.3.3. The Sustainability Committee shall have:

5.15.3.3.1. A membership limit, as per Bylaw 2.9.4.2.2., set at 12 voting members, including the Chair(s).

5.15.3.3.2. Ideally a minimum of one (1) member of the Society from the following four (4) divisions: Arts, Biosciences, Physical Sciences, and Social Sciences.

5.15.3.4. All voting members of the Sustainability committee shall be:

5.15.3.4.1. Full and associate members of the Society nominated to the committee by the Society's Council.

### **5.15.4 Article II: Committee Responsibilities**

5.15.4.1. The Sustainability Committee will act in accordance with Bylaw 2.9.3.5 and 2.9.3.7 to determine quorum, Bylaw 2.9.3.9 to manage and maintain attendance, and Bylaw 2.9.4.2.1 to count votes.

5.15.4.2. Voting Policies

- 5.15.4.2.1. Aside from the scheduled meetings, online voting is also permitted on the condition that it is for correcting spelling, grammar, or wording mistakes on motions. Voting members shall be given one (1) business day to respond to an online vote, at which point the vote shall be considered concluded. If any voting member objects to business being voted on online, the voting shall be prohibited for that particular piece of business.
- 5.15.4.2.2. Committee members (including the Official Liaison, Chair(s), and ex-officio members) can hold up to three (3) proxies.
- 5.15.4.3. Non-committee members may attend as non-voting guests if invited by the chair. Committee members may also request that non-committee members attend as non-voting guests.
- 5.15.4.4. As per Bylaw 1.6.5. the Chair(s) and voting members may serve no more than 12 consecutive months without being ratified for a new council year.
- 5.15.4.5. Respectful Abandonment: In the event of the failure of a voting member of the committee to attend two meetings during their term either in person or by proxy, the Chair(s) may remove the member from the committee in accordance with the protocols listed in Bylaw 2.9.3.9.
- 5.15.4.6. Committee members may hold one of the following positions, as required by the committee:
  - 5.15.4.6.1. Promotions, Advertisement, and Social Media Manager(s), who shall be responsible for creating and distributing promotional material;
  - 5.15.4.6.2. A Recording Secretary, who shall be responsible for keeping committee meeting minutes;
  - 5.15.4.6.3. Event Coordinator(s), who shall be responsible for event logistics;
  - 5.15.4.6.4. Communication Officer(s), who shall be responsible for maintaining contact with collaborators.

## **5.15.5 Article III: Operations**

- 5.15.5.1. The Sustainability Committee shall:
  - 5.15.5.1.1. Educate SOGS members about sustainability via events and initiatives, and appropriate Society media (e.g. Society newsletter);
  - 5.15.5.1.2. Determine areas within the Society (e.g. the Society's Office, the Grad Club) that could benefit from sustainability initiatives, and work with appropriate groups to implement such initiatives;
  - 5.15.5.1.3. Plan and execute two (2) to four (4) sustainability initiatives or events each year;
  - 5.15.5.1.4. Collaborate where appropriate with other student groups to promote sustainability on-campus;

- 5.15.5.1.5. Collaborate where appropriate with Facilities Management, Sustainability Western, and other relevant stakeholders on sustainability initiatives at Western.

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