

## By-Law Changes

Submitted 27.09.2018

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1. Be it resolved that the following By-Law (listed under V.1 Board of Directors) be amended as follows:

~~V.1.2 All Equity Commissioners shall be responsible to check in with a member of the Executive each week during the academic year and make reasonable efforts to meet with their constituents when requested.~~ All Commissioners shall be responsible for abiding by Operating Resolutions & respecting Policy Resolutions & will make reasonable efforts to be available to the Executive and the constituents who they represent.

### Rationale Provided:

- Specific tasks required of Directors can be laid out in Operating Resolutions, there-by providing a means to adjust position requirements with more flexibility.
- Including these requirements in a single place under an operating resolution will also make it very clear what is expected.

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2. Be it resolved that the following By-Law (listed under V.1 Board of Directors) be amended as follows:

~~V.1.3 All voting members of the Board will be responsible for sitting on Standing Committees, as described in the by laws herein~~ committees, as described in the Operating Resolutions of the Association.

### Rationale Provided:

- Specific tasks required of Directors can be laid out in Operating Resolutions, there-by providing a means to adjust position requirements with more flexibility.
- Including these requirements in a single place under an operating resolution will also make it very clear what is expected.
- More directors than there are seats on the standing committees

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3. Be it resolved that the following By-Laws (listed under V.1 Board of Directors) be amended as follows:

~~V.1.4 All voting members of the Board of Directors must be members of the Association prior to the commencement of their term.~~ Each Director of the Association must be a member of the Association for the year in which they are elected. Executive Directors are not required to be members of the Association during their term, but all other directors must be members during their term.

Rationale provided:

- Executive positions are demanding positions. Expecting these individuals to also be students may cause undue hardship and prevent them from effectively fulfilling the requirements of their position.
- Some Trent Graduates are very invested in the student experience in upper-years and have the potential to provide more insight into student governance.
- This is all currently allowed for in the current by-laws, but this wording provides greater clarity.

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**4. Be it resolved that the following clauses of By-Law V.2 (Number of Directors) be retracted:**

- x) One (1) director who is the President of the Graduate Students' Association, ex officio, who shall have no vote;
- xi) One (1) of the two (2) student members of the Trent University Board of Governors, ex officio, who shall have no vote;

Rationale provided:

- Both these non-voting position have traditionally gone unfilled as no representative has shown up to board meetings for several years now.
- Holding multiple offices has become more of an issue with board members of late.
- Tidies up the by-laws, but it is recommended that individuals who hold the positions being retracted be given speaking rights.

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**5. Be it resolved that the following sub-sections to By-Law IX.1 (Meetings of the Board of Directors) be enacted:**

IX.1.1 Speaking

IX.1.1.1 Members of the Corporation may attend all meetings of the Board and have the right to speak to any issue on the agenda of any such meeting except

when the Board moves into closed session, as defined by the Corporation's parliamentary authority designated in the by-laws hereof.

IX.1.1.2 Speaking rights shall also be granted to student members of Trent University's Board of Governors, The President of the Trent Graduate Student Association, & the President of the Trent Durham Student's Association.

Rationale Provided:

- Considering the removal of these seats on our Board of Directors, it is important that colleagues who also represent student interests be provided with a voice within the Board of the Association.

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**6. Be it resolved that the following additions to By-Law IX.4 (Parliamentary Authority) of the Trent Central Student Association be enacted as follows:**

IX.4.1 In all matters of procedure not provided for in this or any other by-law or resolution, the board and all other meetings of the Corporation shall acknowledge and be governed by the rules and forms contained in the most recent revision of *Robert's Rules of Order, Revised*.

IX.4.2 Directors may choose to suspend *Robert's Rules of Order* at a duly constituted meeting, special meeting, or emergency meeting of the Board of Directors by a special resolution that achieves a 2/3rds majority in favour. The motion, if successful, it shall only apply to the main motion before the Board when this special motion is passed.

IX.4.3 The Board may designate exceptions to *Robert's Rules of Order* that represent the Association's common practices under a single Operating Resolution. This Operating Resolution shall also be populated with any exceptions to Robert's Rules that exist within the association's By-Laws.

Rationale provided:

- Provides a means for Directors to continue conversation and decisions when Robert's Rules impedes effective governance of the Association.
- Only allows for the suspension of Robert's Rules on a case by case basis that the Board can consider in the context of the discussion before them.
- Clarifies exceptions to Robert's Rules that the Association already has defined in a single place.

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**7. Be it resolved that the following amendments to By-Law X.1.4 (Standing Committees, Reporting) be approved:**

X.1.4 Reporting

~~X.1.4.2 Minutes will be recorded for~~ Each standing committee meeting (except Executive) **is responsible for reporting back to the Board of Directors at each duly constituted meeting.** ~~And These reports will be available in the appendices of the minutes of the Board Meeting that they coincide with that they are reported.~~

**X.1.4.2** Any funds greater than \$500.00 that receive approval by a standing committee without being approved in the annual budget must be reported to the Board by the next scheduled board meeting.

Rationale Provided:

- Minutes for the previous years standing committees are available, but prior to this the keeping of standing committee minutes has been inconsistent.
- Allows for each Standing Committee to report to the Board in its own effective way.
- If an oral report is given it will be put on record by the Board Secretary.
- Due to turnover, different Executives have different preferences for reporting standing committee work.
- It is recommended that each committee determine a consistent means of reporting their operations back to the Board so that they remain accountable and accessible to the overarching governance of the Association.

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**8. By-Law XVI.4 (Presentation of Amendment Proposals) of the Trent Central Student Association be amended as follows:**

XVI.4 Amendments to the by-laws of the Corporation will be adopted at the Semi-Annual General Meeting ~~or at a special meeting called for that purpose by a two-thirds-majority vote by~~ **those members in attendance at the semi-annual general meeting** ~~the voting delegates.~~

Rationale provided:

- To ensure by-laws regarding the presentation of amendment proposals are consistent with the bylaws listed under “Meetings of the Membership” (pg. 13)
- Clarifies the amendment process by specifying SAGMs as the appropriate meeting to conduct by-law amendments.

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**9. By-Law XVI.6 (Presentation of Amendment Proposals) of the Trent Central Student Association be amended as follows:**

XVI. 6 The amendment package, or each amendment proposal, as the case may be, shall be considered adopted by the corporation at such a time as a two-thirds majority vote is cast in favor of the amendments by the voting members in attendance **at Semi-Annual General Meetings.**

Rationale provided:

- Clarifies the amendment process by specifying SAGMs as the appropriate meeting to conduct by-law amendments.