

HSGSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) Agenda
February 19th, 2021, 5.00 PM (Zoom)
Meeting id: 81319063924; Password: 617521

1. **Call to order: 5:01 PM**

2. **Ratify the Chair**

Not needed, HSGSA President chaired the AGM.

3. **Territory Recognition**

We would like to acknowledge that The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabe, (pronounced Anish-nah-beg) Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene (pronounced Den-nay) peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis (pronounced May-T) Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

4. **Introduction of HSGSA Executive Members**

HSGSA Executive Position	Executive Name
President	Akshi Malik
Vice-President Internal	Marina Costa Fujishima
Vice-President External	Toby Le
Vice-President Marketing and Events	Muhammad Aldhshan
Vice-President Academic	Javad Alizadeh
Vice-President St. Boniface	Shayan Amiri

5. **Guests** to be approved by the membership: *No non-voting guests present*

5.1. Whereas visitors do not have speaking and voting rights.

BIRT the HSGSA membership approves the presence of (the name of guests) at the HSGSA AGM 2020-21. No non-voting guests present

6. **Approval of the agenda**

*6.1. BIRT the HSGSA membership approves the agenda presented for the February 19th, 2021 AGM. **Walid and Jamie approved the AGM agenda.***

7. **Approval of the minutes** from the January 24th, 2020 HSGSA AGM (see Appendix A). Robert's Rules specify that AGM minutes must be approved by members who were in attendance at that meeting.

*7.1. BIRT the HSGSA membership, present at last year's AGM, approves the minutes of the January 24th, 2020 AGM. **Kristin and Jamie approved the minutes of the last AGM meeting***

8. **Review of the 2020/2021 HSGSA Budget** (Appendix B)

The HSGSA Finance Committee is well within the 2020-2021 fiscal budget (\$17,650.00), which was approved in May 2020. Budget details were provided by VP-Internal. HSGSA will no longer be included within the UMGSA annual audit therefore the current executive working with the HSGSA bylaws committee has added financial oversight by HSGSA council and UMGSA over our annual budget and spending, this is reflected in the HSGSA Bylaws changes proposed and the financial manual.

9. **Executive Committee Annual Reports**

9.1. **President:** Chair the HSGSA Council and Executives committees. Sits in CSHRF Committee; HSGSA Finance Committee; HSGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee, Rady Faculty Covid-19 support working group; International Students Support group at the Bannatyne Campus and the UMGSA Executives and Council committees; FGS Executive and Council Committees.

9.2. **VP Internal:** Chair the HSGSA Finance Committee, sits in HSGSA executive committee; HSGSA Council Committee; HSGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee; UMGSA Finance Committee; FGS Appeals Committee; CHSRF Committee and a current member of the FGS Council.

9.3. **VP Academic:** Chair the Distinguished Lectureship Committee, Sits in the Biosafety Committee, Graduate Student Experience Committee, FGS Awards Committee(s); HSGSA Council; HSGSA Executives committee; CSHRF and HSGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee.

9.4. **VP External:** Sits in the Student Support and Services Committee; Chair Ed Kroeger Mentorship Committee; Bannatyne Sustainability Committee; HSGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee; Graduate Student Experience Committee and CSHRF. Chair the Multidisciplinary Health Science Experience ad-hoc Committee and initiated the Humans of Rady Faculty.

9.5. **VP St. Boniface:** Chair the HSGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee, sits in the HSGSA Executives and Council committees; UMGSA Bylaws Committee; CSHRF; UMGSA Awards Committee and the HSGSA Finance Committee.

9.6. **VP Marketing and Events:** Chair the CSHRF Committee, Sits in the FGS Appeals Committee; UMGSA Events Committee; HSGSA Finance Committee; HSGSA Council and Executives Committees and the HSGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee.

10. Presentation on the history of the relationship between UMGSA and CFS 10.1.

10.1. See Appendix C for the Section of the UMGSA Bylaws that deals with this.

10.2. The Bylaws of the UMGSA stipulate that our relationship with the Canadian Federation of Students will be discussed at each Annual General Meeting. The UMGSA is not a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), nor its affiliated groups (CFS-S & CFS-MB). Because the CFS has not been willing to concede that fact, per student fees equal to the amounts that would have been paid to the CFS by equivalent student groups have been collected in a contingency fund to defend the UMGSA's position on this matter.

10.3. ***BIRT the HSGSA membership approves no change in the money dedicated to the External Relations Fund only until the end of the UMGSA's 2020-2021 fiscal year, unless otherwise advised by legal counsel and given legal verification of the situation. Approved by Shayan and Walid.***

11. Proposed Elections Policy and Procedures Manual Revisions as presented in Appendix D. (Moved by HSGSA Bylaws committee, February 11th, 2021)

11.1. ***BIRT the HSGSA approves all changes to the HSGSA Elections Policy and Procedure Manuals as presented in Appendix D and previously approved by the HSGSA bylaws committee and Council. Approved by Kavisha and Elinor.***

12. Other Business: None

13. **Announcements:** The HSGSA Elections is afoot, the nomination period is still open till the 22nd.

- No updates on the tuition fees increase (Summer continuation fees). The FGS will help support grad students in other ways (Tech fund and Covid-19 relief fund).

Adjournment: 5:35 PM

Appendix A:

HSGSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) Agenda: February 24th, 2020, 4:45 PM Theatre C, Basic Medical Sciences Building

1. Call to order: *4:50PM*
2. Ratify the Chair

Not necessary, President chaired

3. Territory Recognition

We would like to acknowledge that The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, (pronounced Anish-nah-beg) Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene (pronounced Den-nay) peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis (pronounced May-T) Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

4. Introduction of HSGSA Executive Members

HSGSA Executive Position	Executive Name
President	Mahder Teffera
Vice-President Internal	Roma Zayats
Vice-President External	Jasmine Frost
Vice-President Marketing and Events	Sanjana Syeda
Vice-President Academic	Javad Alizadeh
Vice-President St. Boniface	Cameron Eekhoudt

5. Guests to be approved by the membership
 - 5.1. Whereas visitors do not have speaking and voting rights.

BIRT the HSGSA membership approves the presence of (the name of guests) at the HSGSA AGM.

No non-voting guests present

6. Approval of the agenda.

6.1. BIRT the HSGSA membership approves the agenda presented for the February 24th, 2019 AGM.

Colin Graydon/Kristin smerchanski

Approved

7. Approval of the minutes from the January 24th, 2019 HSGSA AGM (see Appendix A). Robert's Rules specify that AGM minutes must be approved by members who were in attendance at that meeting.

7.1. BIRT the HSGSA membership, present at last year's AGM, approves the minutes of the January 24th, 2019 AGM.

Colin Graydon/Kristin Smerchanski

Approved

8. Review of the 2018/2019 HSGSA Budget (Appendix B)

The HSGSA Finance Committee is well within the 2019-2020 fiscal budget (\$17, 650.00), which was approved in May 2019. Budget details can be provided by VP-Internal. HSGSA will no longer be included within the UMGSA annual audit therefore the current executive working with the HSGSA bylaws committee has added financial oversight by HSGSA council and UMGSA over our annual budget and spending, this is reflected in the HSGSA Bylaws changes proposed and the financial manual.

9. Executive Committee Annual Reports

9.1. President

Chair of HSGSA Executive, Chair of HSGSA Council, VP Health Sciences (UMGSA), HSGSA Bylaws and Policy committee , HSGSA Elections committee, HSGSA Internal development and Review committee, HSGSA Finance committee, CSHRF (Research Days), FGS Executive committee, FGS Faculty Council, UMGSA executive, UMGSA council, UMGSA VPA selection committee, UMGSA office coordinator selection committee

9.2. VP Internal

Chair of HSGSA Finance, HSGSA Executive, HSGSA council, HSGSA By-laws and Policy committee, UMGSA Finance Committee, Appeals committee, CHSRF (Research Days)

9.3. VP Academic

HSGSA Distinguished Lectureship Committee (Chair), GSA Awards Committee, Biological Safety Advisory Committee (BSAC), HSGSA Bylaws Committee, , HSGSA Executive Committee

9.4. VP External

Chair of Ed Kroeger Mentorship Award Committee, CSHRF (Research days), HSGSA By-laws and Policy committee, U of M Sustainability Committee, UMGSA service and support committee, HSGSA finance committee, HSGSA Executive, HSGSA Council

9.5. VP St. Boniface

Chair of HSGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee, CSHRF (Research Days), UMGSA Bylaws committee, HSGSA Executive, HSGSA council, Appeals committee

9.6. VP Marketing and Events

Chair of CSHRF (Research Days), UMGSA Events Committee, UMGSA CRO/DRO selection committee, HSGSA Council, HSGSA executive

10. Presentation on the history of the relationship between UMGSA and CFS 10.1.

10.1. See Appendix C for the Section of the UMGSA Bylaws that deals with this.

10.2. The Bylaws of the UMGSA stipulate that our relationship with the Canadian Federation of Students will be discussed at each Annual General Meeting. The UMGSA is not a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), nor its affiliated groups (CFS-S & CFS-MB). Because the CFS has not been willing to concede that fact, per student fees equal to the amounts that would have been paid to the CFS by equivalent student groups have been collected in a contingency fund to defend the UMGSA's position on this matter.

10.3. BIRT the HSGSA membership approves no change in the money dedicated to the External Relations Fund only until the end of the UMGSA's 2019-2020 fiscal year, unless otherwise advised by legal counsel and given legal verification of the situation.

Kristin Smerchanski/Kaye Quizon

Approved

11. Proposed Bylaw Revisions as presented in Appendix D. (Moved by HSGSA Bylaws committee, February 3rd, 2020; will be presented to council on February 18th, 2020)

11.1. BIRT the HSGSA approves all changes to the Bylaws and Procedures manuals as presented in Appendix D and previously approved by the bylaws committee and HSGSA council.

Moved by bylaws and policy committee

Approved

12. Other Business

13. Announcements

HSGSA Elections

14. Adjournment: *5:03PM*

Appendix B:

GSA-HSGSA Operating Grant - \$17,650.00							
	Total Revenue						
Budget Code	Expenses	Fiscal Budget	Proposed budget	Approved Budget (TOWARDS UPASS)	Spent	Remaining	Comments
M	Meetings						
1	AGM	\$250.00	\$250			\$250	
2	Internal Committee meeting	\$300.00	\$300			\$300	
3	IDRC chair honorarium	\$100.00	\$100			\$100	
4	Council Meetings	\$1,200.00	\$600		\$156.80	\$443	Zoom plan \$20/month (start date 8 jun 2020) + tax
5	Hospitality	\$100.00	\$100			\$100	
6	Volunteer Appreciation		\$100			\$100	
	Subtotal	\$1,950.00	\$1,450			\$1,293	
WS	Workshops and Seminars						
1	Student Development Event	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00	
2	Visiting Speaker Series	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	
	Subtotal	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00	
SOE	Social Events						

							- Anika Zumba from previous Execs + Crystal yoga + JackBox game + etransfer fees + \$200 towards UPASS
1	Summer Activity	\$500	\$500	\$369	\$131	\$169	
2	Orientation	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500		\$500.00	- UPASS subsidy
3	Fall Activity	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$0.00	- UPASS subsidy
4	Halloween Social	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00		\$0.00	- UPASS subsidy
5	Christmas Social	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00		\$2,000	\$0.00	Decadence chocolate
7	Winter Activity	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$713	\$287.00	Decadence chocolate
8	Spring Social	\$500	\$500			\$500	
9	Promotional Events	\$250	\$400		\$165	\$235	Starbucks Gift Card (\$25 Survey), Game Night Gift Card (\$20), Yoga Gift Card (\$20), Starbucks (Statistics workshop \$100)
10	Contingency Event Fund	\$400	\$200			\$199	
11	Grad Student Lounge		\$100			\$100	
12	St. Boniface	\$500	\$500			\$500	
	Subtotal	\$9,650	\$9,700			\$2,490	
RD	Research Days						

1	Activities/Prizes	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800		\$0.00	
2	Transportation Charges	\$ -					
3	Research Days Poster Award	\$700.00	\$700		\$700	\$100	
4	Mentorship Award	\$200.00	\$200		78.35+1.5(transferfee)	\$120	
5	Dr. Forough Khadem Poster Award		\$400			\$400	*pending - \$400
	Subtotal	\$1,700.00	\$2,100.00			\$1,220.15	
OS	Office Supplies						
1	Stationaries and Software	\$100.00	\$100			\$100	
2	Web Hosting Fee	\$ -					
3	Advertising and Communication	\$ -					
4	Transportation Reimbursement	\$100.00	\$100			\$100	
5	Professional Consulting	\$ -					
6	Office & Lounge Improvement	\$350.00	\$300			\$300	
	Subtotal	\$550.00	\$500			\$500	
E	Elections						
1	Refreshment	\$150.00	\$250			\$250	
2	Materials	\$150.00	\$150			\$150	
3	CRO Honorarium	\$500.00	\$500			\$500	
	Subtotal	\$800.00	\$900			\$900	
	Total	\$17,650.00	\$17,650	TOWARDS WINTER UPASS \$5000.00		\$9,403	

Appendix C:

ARTICLE VI: EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS

1. The general membership of the UMGSA shall discuss affiliations with external organizations at each General Meeting.
2. The UMGSA is not a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the Canadian Federation of Students - Services (CFS-S), or the Canadian Federation of Students - Manitoba (CFS-MB), herein referred to as CFS/-S/-MB, and in that regard if and when necessary, it shall dispute all statements, claims, indications and suggestions of membership (full or otherwise) in the CFS/-S/-MB.
3. The UMGSA shall continue to collect and hold fees in lieu of CFS/-S/-MB membership in a contingency fund, named the External Relations Fund, until such time that the membership status is officially conceded, in writing, between the legal counsels of the CFS/-S/-MB and the UMGSA, or determined by courts, whichever is sooner.
4. Fees that are collected in lieu of membership in the CFS/-S/-MB may be used toward the reasonable costs associated with the process of defending the position of the UMGSA regarding membership in the CFS/- S/-MB until such time that the membership status is officially conceded, in writing, between the legal counsels of the CFS/-S/-MB and the UMGSA, or determined by courts, whichever is sooner.
5. Once the issue of membership in the CFS/-S/-MB is finally resolved, the UMGSA membership shall determine the use of all remaining fees collected from UMGSA members and held in the External Relations Fund. That determination will take place at the first UMGSA General Meeting following the legal resolution of the membership status of the UMGSA.

Appendix D:

ELECTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

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ARTICLE I — AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

1. This Policy and Procedure Manual may be amended at a meeting of Council with a regular majority.
2. Any proposed amendments to this document must be circulated one week prior to the Council meeting.
3. Any ratified changes to this document must be made available to the membership by electronic means within one week of the changes being accepted.
4. No changes may be made to this document during the election period; this period runs from the first day of nominations until the ratification of the results by Council.

ARTICLE II — RELEVANT BYLAWS

1. This Policy Manual applies to Article IV and V of the Association's Bylaws.

ARTICLE III — CRO Selection and Role

1. The Chief Returning Officer (CRO) shall be selected by HSGSA Council and will serve as the Chair of the HSGSA Elections Committee. The HSGSA CRO will remain in their position from their appointment to the changeover of the Executive. They will act as HSGSA CRO for any General Election, By-Election and Referendum.
2. The HSGSA CRO shall be responsible for the smooth execution of the HSGSA election process, including overseeing publicity prior to nominations, upholding rules and regulations surrounding campaigning, upholding rules and regulations for all voting procedures and providing judgement on infractions and appeals.
 - a. The Executive and Elections Committee shall publicize the opening and closing dates of the General Election nomination period through an email sent to all members of the Association two weeks prior to the nomination period. This email is to have attached to it a suitable document to be posted in each department. The CRO should be ratified (approved) in the council meeting.
 - b. The CRO shall publicize the days of the Voting Period, the locations of polls and the times they are open through an email sent to all members of the Association.

c. The CRO may further, at his/her option, publicize the GSA General Election in any way it deems fit, provided no material favours or disfavours any one candidate in any way.

d. The CRO with help from the Election Committee shall organize a minimum of one (1) All-Candidate Forum during the Campaign Period.

e. No member of the Elections Committee may participate in the election as a candidate or campaign volunteer. Should any individual on the Elections Committee engage in any campaigning, they will be immediately removed from their position on the Committee.

f. The CRO must respond to questions and requests by e-mail in 24 hours.

3. The HSGSA CRO will liaise with the CRO of the GSA election and maintain communication throughout the election process.

ARTICLE IV — NOMINATIONS

1. Any Member of the Association in good standing may run for any Executive position, except the current HSGSA CRO and members of the Election committee membership; any member of the HSGSA may run for any UMGSA Executive position.

2. A student member shall be nominated by ten (10) members of the Association; the student must collect signatures from these individuals on the official nomination form. When running in the HSGSA Executive Election, the candidate must be nominated by members of the HSGSA; when running in the UMGSA Executive Election, the candidate may be nominated by any GSA member, including HSGSA members.

3. During the nomination period, no campaigning is to occur.

4. Completed nomination forms must be submitted to the CRO by email or in person, who will date-stamp and verify its completeness.

a. The CRO will hold a mandatory “candidates meeting” on the closing day of nominations.

b. Individual candidates must notify the CRO at least 24 hours prior to all candidates meeting of which position they are running for. After notifying the CRO, candidates will not be allowed to switch and run for another position unless a position is announced as vacant by the CRO in the event of not receiving any nomination for that position.

c. No later than 17:00 on the last day of the nomination period, the CRO will post a complete list of individual candidates and slates electronically so that all members of the Association can access the information.

5. The nomination period shall coincide with the UMGSA nomination period, as indicated in the UMGSA Election Policy and Procedure Manual (Article VI, 4).

a. If the above is not possible, the HSGSA Election Committee may recommend an alternative nomination period for approval at Council.

b. The nomination period may be extended by the HSGSA Election Committee without approval from council if its extension will not interfere with the election timeline set forth by the UMGSA.

6 - All candidates and representatives of Sides shall attend the “All Candidates Meeting” in its entirety. The CRO may exempt individuals from attendance under extenuating circumstances, but only if the person requesting an exemption does so in writing at least 24 hours prior to the All Candidates Meeting or informs the CRO of an emergency for which no notice could reasonably be given. Failure to attend in “All Candidates Meeting” without a valid reason may subject the candidate to disqualification.

7- The CRO and election committee are not allowed to nominate a candidate for the HSGSA election by signing the nomination form.

5. Slate formation rules

a. Slates are defined as a group of more than one candidate whose nomination has been accepted and has decided to campaign together for the election.

b. Slate memberships can only be decided prior to the campaign period upon the approval of CRO.

c. The CRO must be notified of the formation of the slate (including slate name and membership) prior to campaign period.

d. Any candidate may join a slate of two or more members, so long as this occurs prior to final notification to CRO of slate formation before the campaign period.

e. CRO will approve the slate names on first come first serve basis.

f. No candidate may simultaneously run as part of more than one Slate.

ARTICLE V — CAMPAIGNING

1. Campaign Period

a. The campaign period shall coincide with the UMGSA campaign period, as indicated in the UGMSA Election Policy and Procedure Manual (Article VI).

i. If the above is not possible, the HSGSA Election Committee may recommend an alternative campaign period for approval at Council.

b. Campaigning shall not take place prior to the official campaign period, including, but not limited to:

i. all forms of advertising by any campus media

ii. the distribution of any material designed and/or likely to influence voters

iii. any electronic information (web pages, blogs, email, social media)

iv. posters/banner or displays

v. speeches and public forms.

c. Any candidate or campaign volunteers that are members of the sitting Executive are required to take a leave of absence for the duration of the campaign period and voting period.

2. Campaign materials

a. All campaign material must be approved in form and content by the CRO prior to distribution. CRO will have the final say on appropriateness of specific campaigning material. Material will not be approved that:

i. violates the federal or provincial statute.

ii. is factually incorrect. Sources must be provided for factual materials.

iii. contains libel or slander.

b. All campaign material must be removed by 9:00 CST on the day following the completion of the voting period. Penalty for non-removal will be decided by the Election committee and CRO.

c. Printed Campaign Material

i. Printed campaign material is defined as any poster, flyer, handout, banner, written on paper/poster board etc., which announces, advocates or promotes a given candidacy or slate.

ii. Each candidate running will be allotted 50 - 8 1/2 x 11 free photocopies (i.e. 50 - 8 1/2 x 11 impressions) from the Elections Committee for their written campaign material. Copies will conform to the following specifications: white paper, with black ink only. Receipts must be submitted for reimbursement of photocopying expenses.

iii. Campaign material will not be placed directly on walls or windows of facilities or areas not under control of the HSGSA, unless the space is granted by the controlling organization (such as student council) and equal space is provided to all candidates.

d. Electronic Campaign Material

i. Electronic campaign materials are defined as emails, social media posts, and web pages which announce, advocate and promote a given candidacy or slate.

ii. No emails shall be sent out by the candidates to the HSGSA members.

iii. The CRO will be solely responsible for sending out two unsolicited emails representing all candidates to the graduate students list serve during the campaign period. The email will be sent out on CRO's discretion.

iv. Web pages must be approved in form and content by the CRO prior to the launching of the site. No changes may be made to the material posted without prior approval of the CRO.

e. Social Media

Use of social media, as defined by the CRO and elections committee, during the campaign period will be at the discretion of CRO. Media Campaign Material

i. Media campaigning is defined by the CRO but can be broadly defined as newspaper articles, newspaper ads, letters to the editor, radio and television commercials, radio and television interviews which announce, advocate or promote a given candidacy or slate.

ii. All advertising will be limited to free of charge services. No paid advertising is allowed.

3. Campaign Volunteers

a. A Campaign Volunteer is defined as an individual who is not running for office, but is actively engaging in the process of campaigning for a particular candidate or slate.

b. All campaign volunteers must be registered with the CRO. All campaigning by volunteers is subject to GSA election rules. The candidate/slate is responsible for the actions of their campaign volunteers.

c. All volunteers must familiarize themselves with this Manual, as well as the Association's Bylaws.

d. If campaign volunteers are found to be engaging in campaign tactics which are in violation of the election rules the candidate/slate which they campaigned for will be held responsible and face penalty, and possible disqualification.

4. Campaign Budget

a. Each presidential and vice-presidential candidate will have a maximum allowable budget of \$60. When a slate is formed, budgetary resources can be pooled accordingly.

b. Each candidate not running with a slate can claim up to \$20 worth of travel expenses (i.e., bus tickets, parking tickets and millage) and each slate can claim up to \$40 in total of the travel expenses (e.g., bus tickets, parking tickets and mileage).

c. Receipts for purchases must be provided for reimbursement of expenses.

d. Campaign spending is restricted to the budget provided by the UMGSA.

ARTICLE VI — PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATION

1. Any candidate or slate found violating the rules of campaigning or in another way attempting to undermine the election process may face penalties.
2. Penalties to a candidate or slate are administered at the discretion of the CRO and Elections Committee.
3. The CRO must consult with the Elections Committee prior to determining a penalty.
4. Penalties include, but are not limited to:
 - a. shortening of campaigning period
 - b. requiring public retraction
 - c. Reduction of financial reimbursement from campaigning
 - d. disqualification
 - i. A candidate or slates should only be disqualified for gross and wilful violation of the rules. If another penalty can be found that will rebalance the election process without disqualifying the candidate, it should be pursued.
 - e. A candidate or slates must be informed of the penalty within 48 hours of the CRO being alerted to the violation.

ARTICLE VII— VOTING

1. Voting shall take place over the two (2) days following the closing of the campaign period.
2. Polls will be open from 9:00 AM CST on the first day of voting and will close at 5:00 PM CST on the final day of voting.
3. Voting shall be conducted online. Computers and technical support will be provided in the UMGSA Office for a minimum of four (4) hours each day during the voting period. Office hours will be kept by the CRO and/or members of the Elections Committee.
4. Results
 - a. The ballots shall be tabulated through the online voting system and the number verified by the CRO and members of the Elections Committee. The candidate receiving the greatest numbers of votes shall be declared elected. Tie votes and prospective winners by acclamation will be considered by Council according to Article XII of this Manual.

b. Results will be kept for a maximum of five (5) days after the ratification of the election, and then the memory wiped if no recount or appeal is called for or ballots shall be kept by the corporation providing the online voting software. In the Elections for GSA Senators, the Senate Elections Rule, supersede the above rules in the event of a disagreement.

c. In the case of a single candidacy, if the “NO” votes exceed the Number of “YES” votes, the position shall remain vacant and a by-election shall be held.

ARTICLE VIII — APPEALS

1. Individual candidates, slates or voters may lodge a complaint concerning election procedures or results by submitting a written statement to the CRO either during the election, or within five day of the ratification of the election. The CRO must rule on the appeal within forty-eight (48) hours. Any decisions made by the CRO will be reported and explained to Council; the Council then has the authority to overturn the decision, should there be cause.

ARTICLE X — RATIFICATION

1. Council shall ratify the results of the election at the meeting immediately following the counting of the ballots. The CRO will provide a report of actions taken, any incidents of violation or appeal, and a listing and justification of any rulings made. The Elections Committee shall present the full vote-count and subsequent results. Unless there is due cause to call into question the election results, the Council will ratify the results.

ARTICLE IX — BY-ELECTIONS

1. Any position vacated prior to October 1st will be filled by a by-election. Council will have the ability to appoint someone in the interim.

2. Any Member of the Association in good standing may run for any Executive position; a member of the HSGSA may run for any GSA Executive position.

3. A student is nominated by ten (10) members of the HSGSA; the student must collect signatures from these individuals on the official nomination form. When running in the HSGSA Executive Election, the candidate must be nominated by members of the HSGSA; when running in the GSA Executive Election, the candidate may be nominated by any GSA member.

4. Completed nomination forms must be submitted to the CRO, who will verify its completeness.

a. The CRO will hold a mandatory “candidates meeting” on the closing day of nominations.

b. The CRO will post a complete list of candidates in print and electronically in a forum all members of the HSGSA can access within twenty-four (24) hours of the close of the nomination period.

5. The nomination period shall be ten (10) days prior to the opening of the campaign period.

- a. The Executive and Election Committee shall publicize the opening and closing dates of a By-Election nomination period two weeks prior to the opening of the By-Election nomination period through an email sent to all members of the HSGSA, all departmental secretaries and the graduate program chairs of all departments containing health sciences graduate programs. This email is to have attached to it a suitable document to be posted in each department.
 - b. Nomination Forms will be made available at the announcement of a By-Election.
 - c. The Election Committee shall ensure that Nomination Forms are freely distributed to all departments.
 - d. Nomination Forms will remain available in the Office of the HSGSA until the close of the Nomination Period.
 - e. To be nominated, ten (10) members of the HSGSA must sign the candidate's Nomination Form.
 - f. Nomination Forms shall be submitted to the HSGSA Office.
 - g. No Nomination Forms shall be accepted outside of the Nomination Period.
6. The Campaign Period shall be ten (10) days beginning the Monday following the close of the nomination period.
 7. Campaign materials and volunteers must follow the same guidelines as listed in VI.2 and VI.3

ARTICLE X — TIES AND COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

1. Any position vacated on or after October 1st shall be filled for the remainder of the year through appointment.
 - a. The Executive shall make a recommendation to be voted on by Council.
 - b. Any executive appointment will require a 2/3 vote of the quorum.

ARTICLE XI — REFERENDA

1. Referenda shall be initiated by:
 - a. a resolution of the Executive; or
 - b. a resolution passed by two-thirds (2/3) of Council; or
 - c. a petition signed by at least thirty (30) members of the HSGSA.
2. Referenda questions shall be phrased by the Executive Committee. However, where a referendum is initiated by petition, the phrasing shall not alter the original intent of the petition.

3. At least two (2) weeks public notice of any referendum shall be given.
 - a. No voting shall take place from May 1 – September 1, December 15 – January 15 or during Reading Week.
4. For the purposes of campaigning, the two sides of the Referenda shall be considered 'candidates' and expenditure and campaign rules will follow the regulations listed in Articles IV.2 and IV.3.
5. Referenda balloting shall be organized by the Elections Committee. Council shall not have the power to void a valid referendum which is held in accordance with the By-laws.
6. In the event that a referendum involves less than the required quorum of eligible voters, being five percent (5%), the results shall be considered advice to Council that is in no way binding.