



Brock University Graduate Students' Association

Document 074A

Position Policy Regarding the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario/National (CFS-O/N)

Name:

1. This Document shall be known as the "Position Policy Regarding the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario/National"

Jurisdiction:

2. The Graduate Students' Association, in accordance with Document 010 – The Graduate Students' Association Legislative Framework Policy, may enact legislation known as "Position Policy", which shall:
 - a. Policies may also be used as a statement to provide Board an opportunity to take a stance on an issue that affects graduate students, but one in which it is felt that a piece of policy passed by Board would have a greater effect as opposed to a simple motion.
 - b. "Position Policies" are written statements or stances held by the GSA on any issue that falls within its mandate, as outlined in relevant GSA Legislation.
 - c. Position Policies are the responsibility of the Executive Committee, who may create, uphold, and pursue them but Board reserves the authority to review and advise on all Position Policies.
 - d. Unlike all other policies, which are reviewed but remain in effect until they are amended or redacted by Board, any Position Policy shall expire (3) years from the day it is passed, at which time they can be renewed. Position Policies may be rescinded prior to the three (3) year term.

Statement:

3. The membership of the GSA voted in favour of membership with the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario (CFS-O) in a referendum held on March 30th-April 1st, 2004, which was subsequently ratified through agreement with both CFS-O and CFS-N. The GSA supports, as a principle, the broad efforts of CFS at the provincial and national levels in raising the concerns of graduate students and elevating the collective voice of the student movement.
4. As the official representative of graduate students at Brock University, the GSA acts on behalf of its members on campus as well as at the municipal, regional, provincial, and federal levels. The GSA recognizes the value of partnership and working with other likeminded organizations to increase exposure and access in pursuit of achieving our strategic goals and the GSA's vision for graduate students.
5. As the actions of CFS at both the provincial and national levels may not infringe on member autonomy, the GSA acknowledges that there may be situations in which the advocacy efforts of both organizations do not align. In any such situation the GSA reserves the authority to act in the best interests of its membership, and advocate for their needs specifically rather than those of the larger student movement. The GSA always reserves the right to choose when to

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participate in advocacy campaigns, lobbying efforts or any other such related action.

6. From time-to-time situations may arise in which the GSA has additional opportunities to partner with other organizations in advancing the interests of graduate students at Brock University. Provided these efforts align with the GSA's Strategic Plan and annual goals, the GSA may pursue such relationships while maintaining its membership with both the provincial and national offices of the Canadian Federation of Students.