



## **Brock University Graduate Students' Association**

Document 012D

The Graduate Students' Association Associate Membership Policy

Name:

1. This Document shall be known as the "Associate Membership Policy"

Purpose:

2. The purpose of this Policy is to outline any additional privileges to be conferred on various memberships beyond those provided within Article Four, Section II of Document 001 – Graduate Students' Association ("GSA") Bylaws and Schedule A.

Definition:

3. Under Article Four, Section II of the GSA Bylaw, Associate Members may be any member who was previously a Full member but no longer satisfies the membership criteria for a Full Membership (e.g., on a leave of absence from graduate studies). So long that this failure to satisfy the criteria for a Full membership is not due to having successfully graduated from their graduate program.
  - a. An example of an Associate Member is a student having completed their studies in one term (e.g., December of Fall term) but not convocating until a following term (e.g., Spring Convocation).

Membership Dues:

4. The GSA Membership Fee shall be the designated membership fee, and shall be charged per term, at a rate established and adjusted by the Board of Directors ("the Board"), to those memberships outlined in the GSA Bylaws.
5. The GSA may, at the discretion of the Board, implement additional fees pursuant to any relevant GSA legislation.

Additional Provisions of Associate Membership:

6. Any current graduate student (part- or full-time) eligible to become an Associate Member or who is an Associate Member, as outlined in Article Four of the GSA Bylaw, must be determined to be 'In Good Standing'.
7. In addition to the language provided in the GSA Bylaw, 'In Good Standing' refers to a member whose actions have upheld the core tenants and principles of both the university and the GSA.
  - a. A member's status as 'In Good Standing' shall not be affected as a result of minor infractions as they relate to University or GSA policy, but instead to serious and grievous actions that violate the core tenants and principles of both the university and the GSA.
8. Any member who engages in conduct unbecoming of a member, who has failed to act in accordance with relevant GSA legislation and has undertaken such



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actions that are found to be detrimental to the objects, aims and welfare of the Corporation shall be at risk for having their membership rescinded pursuant to Article Four, Section V of the GSA Bylaws, Document 012, and any additional GSA legislation. Additional legislation (i.e. policy, procedures) must not contravene the language established by the GSA Bylaws or Document 012.

9. Removal of Associate membership must follow member removal procedures outlined in the Bylaw and other relevant legislation.
10. Any Associate Member that has not met the requirements for membership as outlined in Article Four, Section II of the GSA Bylaws, at the close of registration each term shall be automatically removed as a member of the GSA.

#### **Privileges:**

11. Associate Members shall be afforded the rights and privileges outlined in Article Four, Section II of the GSA Bylaws.
12. The Board may, through additional policy, establish any additional privileges for associate members.
13. In addition to the rights and privileges afforded to Associate Members under Article Four, Section II, Subsection b of the GSA Bylaw, Associate Members shall have the right to:
  - a. Become Full Members, upon the payment in full, of the GSA Membership Fee and conference by the GSA Office.
  - b. Be appointed to and serve on committees of both the GSA and the University, provided that those committees require a graduate student representative and not a GSA representative.
  - c. Receive GSA publications, including but not limited to the following:
    1. GSA Health Plan information,
    2. GSA Transit information,
    3. GSA Newsletter,
    4. Any additional GSA publications.
  - d. Be offered the opportunity to opt-in to Full Membership through full payment of the GSA Membership Fee, and upon confirmation of payment by the relevant parties, access the same rights and privileges provided.

#### **Limitations:**

14. No right or privilege provided by this policy may contravene those that are provided by the GSA Bylaws. Any contraventions found shall be addressed in accordance with Bylaw Article Twenty-Two (22).