

BYLAW V: SOCIETIES

Article I: Eligibility

Societies shall consist of all full- and part-time graduate students registered in any Graduate Academic Unit (GAU) offered through a University of New Brunswick department.

Article II: Role of Societies

Societies shall be responsible for establishing their own constitutions and Bylaws, subject to the GSA Constitution and Bylaws established by Council and shall organize and carry out graduate student activities at the departmental, faculty, and campus levels.

Article III: Council Members

Council Members to Council must:

- a) Be elected by the Society they represent in accordance with Bylaw III;
- b) Disseminate all relevant information to their Society's GSA members;
- c) Attend, or send an approved alternate, as determined by the Society's governing documents, to all Council meetings of the GSA.

Article IV: Society Allocation

Section 1: Eligibility

- a) To qualify for allocation, a Society must:
 - i) Have a current Constitution and Bylaws on file with the GSA;
 - ii) Have a Society bank account whereby at least two Society executive members sign all transactions, which debit the account;
 - iii) Have a list of their executive members with contact information on file with the GSA;
 - iv) Actively fulfil all duties required of Council members as per the GSA's governing documents.

- b) Eligibility factors based on enrolment are to be determined from the most recent official graduate student enrolment numbers obtained from UNB Administration. For the determination of the full-time equivalent (FTE) numbers, part-time students are to be counted by the ratio of part-time student's fees to full-time student fees.
- c) To be eligible for a Society Allocation in a given allocation period, a Society's Council meeting attendance rate must be at least 0.5 (50%) for the preceding term. Summer term meetings shall not be included when calculating allocations.
- d) If a Society's council meeting attendance rate for an allocation period is at least 0.75 (75%), it shall receive its full eligibility amount, which is defined as the $0.25 * \text{FTE of the respective society} * \text{GSA Membership dues}$
- e) If a Society's Council meeting attendance rate is between 0.5 and 0.75 (50% - 75%), its allocation shall be calculated as $0.25 * \text{FTE of the respective society} * \text{GSA Membership dues} * (\text{AR} * 2 - 0.5)$.
- f) Notwithstanding the provisions above, Council may vote to deem a Society ineligible for a Society allocation on the basis of violation of the GSA governing documents.
- g) Upon presentation of relevant material to the Executive Committee, any Society that is reactivated after a period of continuous absence or inaction for at least two academic years shall be eligible for the full Society Allocation for the current term in which reactivation occurs.
- h) These numbers are subject to the enrolment numbers provided by the University.

Section 2: Distribution

- a) Society Allocations shall be issued twice per academic year: the amount for the preceding Fall Term will be issued in January, and the amount for the Winter and Summer Terms will be issued in August;
- b) Allocation for each Society shall be calculated based on:

Council meeting attendance rate (AR), which is defined as the number of filled Council seats for the Society during a given allocation period divided by the number of allocated Council seats for the Society for the same period.

Section 3: Unclaimed Funds

Any remaining funds after the Society Allocations have been issued shall be part of the GSA's operating budget.

Article V: Notification of Changes

Any changes among Society executive or regarding the representative(s) of that Society on the Council must be forwarded to the VP Societies and Events prior to or at the next scheduled Council meeting.

Article VI: GSA Oversight

The GSA shall oversee elections of Societies at the request of GAUs that do not currently enjoy active societies.

Article VII: Number of Representatives per Society

- a) Every Society shall be entitled to a minimum of one (1) representative to Council, regardless of the Society's size.
- b) No Society shall be entitled to more than a maximum of three (3) representatives to Council, regardless of the Society's size.
- c) Calculation of number of Council Members is as follows:
 - i) A Society with between 1 and 30 full-time equivalent members, inclusive, will have one (1) representative to Council;
 - ii) A Society with between 31 and 60 full-time equivalent members, inclusive, will have two (2) representatives to Council;
 - iii) A Society with over 60 full time equivalent members will have three (3) representatives to Council.
- d) Full-time active members in the Society count as 1 towards the total of full-time equivalent members while part time active members in the Society count as (ratio of part-time to full-time graduate student fees) towards that total;
- e) If a Society has any Council Members on the Executive, it has the right to send another representative to Council.