



# MEMO

*From the office of the...*

## Associate Vice-President (Internal Governance)

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TO: SRA Members and Committee Chairs  
 FROM: Aiman Dhiloon, Associate Vice-President  
 (Internal Governance)  
 SUBJECT: Operating Policy – MSU Governance & YOU Committee  
 DATE: SRA 22M – January 24, 2023

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**Dear Members of the Assembly,**

One of the projects that I am continuing from last year, at the suggestion of my predecessor Armin, is the review of the MSU Governance and YOU policy. This committee brings together advocates from diverse minority groups, in an effort to increase their representation in MSU governance and activities. In collaboration with Mitchell (VP Admin), Victoria (Administrative Services Coordinator) and Daniela (Executive Assistant), I propose the edits outlined below.

The major points here are that we would like to remove the obligation of the CRO or DRO to act as Chair of this committee, as they already have several other responsibilities within their roles. Instead, we propose that the CRO or DRO be a non-voting member, and that a Chair be elected by the committee at their first meeting (organized by the CRO/DRO). Other changes include routine updates to the names of MSU student groups, as outlined below.

Section	Current	Proposed	Explanation
2.1	Membership List	Make all representatives (excluding DRO or CRO) voting members.	This is to list the CRO/DRO separately, as an “ex-officio” (non-voting) member.
2.1.1	“The Chief or Deputy Returning Officer, who shall act as chair”	Remove this section entirely.	The CRO and DRO have too many other responsibilities. We feel that electing a Chair would make the committee more productive for the student body.
2.1.3	“A representative from the McMaster Indigenous Students	“A representative from the Cooperative of Indigenous Students Studies & Alumni”	MISCA has dissolved. CISSA is an alternative and active student group that can provide an undergraduate student.

	Community Alliance”		
2.1.6	“Diversity Services”	“Diversity + Equity Network”	The name for this service has been updated.
2.2, 2.2.1	N/A	<p>“The Committee shall include the following non-voting members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Chief or Deputy Returning Officer”</li> </ul>	As this is a responsibility associated with their role (“ex-officio”), we propose making the CRO or DRO a non-voting member. This will alleviate some of the strain on their current responsibilities.
2.5.1, 2.5.1.1	N/A	<p>“Be elected by the members of the Committee, from within the Committee’s membership, at the first official meeting;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Until a Committee Chair is elected, the Chief or Deputy Returning Officer shall act as the Interim Chair and perform all duties associated with the Committee Chair, including the organization and facilitation of the first meeting;”</li> </ul>	This shall replace the CRO or DRO as chair, while allowing them to organize the first meeting and get the group together. The committee may then vote for their chair, who will take over responsibilities.
2.4	“Working Group”	“Committee”	Maintaining consistency throughout the policy title and other sections.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email prior to the meeting.

Kind regards,  
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