



# CONSTITUTION

Desautels Graduate Student Society



Revised December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Desautels Faculty of Management | McGill University

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## **PREAMBLE**

In recognition of the vast diversity among members of the Desautels Graduate Student Society and in respect of diverse orientations, this Constitution shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the laws of Canada and of the province of Québec. The Constitution shall be interpreted by the President of the Society in consultation with the Society Executives.

## **MISSION**

The mission of the Desautels Graduate Student Society shall be to cultivate the personal, academic, and professional development of Masters students within the Desautels Faculty of Management.

## **VISION**

The Desautels Graduate Student Society seeks to disseminate a sense of commitment and community at Desautels and to function as an integral resource, in partnership with the Desautels Faculty of Management, in preparing its members for the greatest success upon graduation from McGill University.

## **ARTICLE I – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS**

Unless otherwise defined within an article, the following terms shall be interpreted to mean:

1. “Academic Year”: From the first day of class in July until the final day of exams in April
2. “Student Group”: Encompasses both interim and fully-recognized DGSS professional Clubs and Committees
3. “Committee”: Encompasses Sub-Committees that function to improve student life
4. “Sub-Committee”: Encompasses a group dedicated to a specific aspect of a Committee
5. “Constitution”: The Constitution of the DGSS which governs the affairs of the DGSS
6. “Desautels”: Desautels Faculty of Management
7. “Executive”: An elected official of the DGSS reporting to the President as defined in the Policies
8. “Executive Team”: Elected team of officials to represent Masters students
9. “General Membership of the DGSS”: The most current count of the individuals who are members, as provided by the Masters Office
10. “Policy”: A motion, resolution, statement, paper, platform, report, or position adopted by the DGSS in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution
11. “Policies”: The document containing all the Policies that govern the operations of the DGSS
12. “Portfolio member”: Holder of any Student Group within the DGSS
13. “Portfolio”: The area of responsibility for the President or a Vice President, as outlined in the Policies
14. “Society”: Management Undergraduate Society of McGill University
15. “PGSS”: Post Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
16. “Term”: From the incoming turnover date of the elected members of the DGSS until the outgoing turnover date of the majority of the DGSS
17. “University”: McGill University in Montréal, Québec
18. “VP”: Vice President

## **ARTICLE II – THE SOCIETY AND ITS OBJECTIVES**

### **Section 2.1 The society**

The name of this organization shall be the Desautels Graduate Student Society (DGSS), hereinafter referred to as ("DGSS").

### **Section 2.2 The Objectives**

The objective(s) of the DGSS are:

1. To independently represent its members in its interactions with the Desautels faculty and administration in response to policies, issues, and concerns of importance to its members, including, but not limited to, academic issues, administrative policies, and career planning opportunities.
2. To sponsor and to coordinate professional and social events that will benefit its members, the DGSS, the Desautels Faculty of Management, and the community.
3. To foster a forum that promotes teamwork, mutual benefit through the free exchange of ideas and information, personal growth and congenial working relationships between students, faculty and business professionals.
4. To serve as a funding agency for students and Student Groups by establishing a budget for student funding and disbursement of these funds according to set budget guidelines and review applications for spending of additional funds allocated in the flexible pooled portion of the budget.
5. The DGSS shall conduct its activities based on the following principles:  
*The Desautels Faculty of Management at McGill University brings together in common pursuit of educational goals persons of many nations, races, and creeds. The Faculty is guided by the precept that in no aspect of its programs shall there be differences in the treatment of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other classifications that deprive the person of consideration as an individual, and that equal opportunity and access to facilities shall be available to all. Among the classifications that deprive the person of consideration as an individual are those based upon affectional or associational preference. These principles are expected to be observed in the internal policies and practices of the DGSS, specifically, in those regarding the access to opportunities, resources and information available to students and in the activities planned as a part of extracurricular life. Consequently, the DGSS shall conduct its activities based on these principles and shall work cooperatively with the faculty in furthering them.*

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 3.1 Membership**

#### **3.1.1**

All students currently registered in the MBA two-year program, PMBA three-year program, Masters of Management in Finance (MMF), Masters in Management of Analytics (MMA), Masters of Management in Retailing (MMR), joint MBA-MDCM program, or the joint MBA-BCL/LLB program in the Desautels Faculty of Management are regular members of the DGSS. Aside from this stipulation, the DGSS shall not discriminate in any way deemed unlawful or inappropriate within the PGSS Constitution, McGill University ethics guidelines, DGSS principles set forth in Article II, or municipal, provincial and federal law.

### **3.1.2**

All members of the DGSS are afforded the same rights and opportunities to participate in DGSS or DGSS related activities.

### **3.1.3**

Notwithstanding subsection 3.1.1, exchange students to the Desautels Faculty of Management shall be deemed to be members of the DGSS, except in the matters of:

1. Elections
2. Referenda; OR
3. Amendments

### **3.1.4**

Non-members of the DGSS are afforded the privilege of participating in DGSS or DGSS-related activities, but members shall always take precedence. Practices governing the inclusion of non-members shall be detailed in the Policies.

## **Section 3.2 Rights, Privileges and Obligations**

The rights and privileges of members of the Society, as described in section 3.1, shall include:

1. To vote in all Society elections and referenda.
2. To hold positions within the Society, subject to any restriction of the office or position as outlined by the Policies.
3. To attend meetings of the society as described in Article 6.
4. To speak for or against, move or second motions at Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings.
5. To vote at Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings.

## **Section 3.3 Society Student Levy**

### **3.3.1**

There shall be a fee paid by every member to aid in accomplishing the objectives of the DGSS. The DGSS fee shall be (re)established by consultation with the Desautels Faculty on an annual basis, as part of the budget discussions for the following calendar year. The general DGSS fees are covered by the Desautels Faculty; however, should the funding model change the DGSS Executive will review and determine if collecting a fee from the student body is necessary to fund its operations.

### **3.3.2**

Fees are levied through the DGSS to fund the operations of the organization.

## **ARTICLE IV –THE EXECUTIVE OF THE SOCIETY**

The Executives shall carry out their duties to the best of their ability in accordance to the mission of the DGSS. The Executives shall not derogate the name of the DGSS or any of its members.

### **Section 4.1 The Executive Team Composition**

#### **4.1.1**

The Executive Team shall be composed of:

1. President
2. Vice President of Finance
3. Vice President of Communications
4. Vice President of Internal Affairs
5. Vice President of External Affairs
6. Vice President of Student Groups & Facilities
7. Vice President of Case Competitions
8. MBA1 Representative
9. MBA2 Representative
10. 2 MMF Representatives
11. 2 MMA Representatives
12. 2 MMR Representatives
13. PMBA1 Representative
14. PMBA2 Representative
15. PMBA3 Representative

#### **4.1.2**

All members of the executive are elected by the DGSS members as stipulated in Article VII, section 7.2, Any changes to the composition of the Executive Team shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3rds) votes of the members. This Constitution shall be amended to reflect any changes in the composition of the Executive Team.

#### **4.1.2**

All Executive members have equal say and voting rights in the DGSS.

#### **4.1.3**

The regular Executive shall be elected by the DGSS members and serve a term of one year beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup> and ending on December 31<sup>st</sup> of that year.

#### **4.1.4**

The PMBA representatives will serve terms of one year; from September 16<sup>th</sup> to September the following year.

#### **4.1.5**

The MBA1 Representative will serve a term of 3 months; from September 30<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> the same year.

The MBA2 Representative will serve a term of 9 months, from September 30<sup>th</sup> until graduation in May

#### **4.1.6.**

The MMF Representatives will serve for the length of the 1 year program; from August 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### 4.1.7.

The MMA Representatives will serve for the length of the 1 year program; from September 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4.1.8

The MMR Representatives will serve for the length of the 1 year program; from September 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4.1.9

Members holding the positions of:

1. President
2. Vice President of Finance
3. Vice President of Communications
4. Vice President of Internal Affairs
5. Vice President of External Affairs
6. Vice President of Student Groups & Facilities
7. Vice President of Case Competitions

Must ensure they have available at least 20 hours a week to comply with duties and responsibilities of their position as stipulated in the Policies of the Executive.

### **Section 4.2 Duties of the Executive**

#### 4.2.1

The Executive shall manage the daily affairs of the DGSS as well as fulfill their responsibilities as set by the Bylaws. The main points of such responsibilities shall be:

1. Define the long-term strategy to fairly and efficiently achieve the mission of the DGSS.
2. Ensure the sustainability of the DGSS as a body representing the interests of Desautels Masters students.
3. Foster transparency of all DGSS activities for the entire Desautels Masters student body.
4. Represent the best interests of their respective constituencies and ensure due diligence is performed prior to making all decisions.
5. Maintain good relations with the Desautels Faculty of Management.

#### 4.2.2

The signing officers of the DGSS shall be the President and Vice President Finance, one of whom shall be required to sign financial instruments of the DGSS.

#### 4.2.3

The Executive is expected to collaborate in the various activities and issues with which the DGSS becomes involved. The boundaries between each officer are fluid and the Executive shall assist one another in fulfilling all tasks. Each officer of the Executive is expected to keep the other officers informed of the activities in process and to keep records to facilitate knowledge sharing for the DGSS.

### **Section 4.3 Duties of Executive Members**

#### 4.3.1

President: Is the head of the DGSS and in charge of the general management of the DGSS to ensure that its matters are run effectively and in the best interests of the student body. The President shall



be the representative of the DGSS in formal events and committees. The duties of the President shall include but not be limited to:

1. Chair all Executive meetings
2. Reserve the right to designate another member as Chair of the Executive in his/her stead.
3. Announce and hold office hours at least twice weekly, totaling no less than three (3) hours per week.
4. Hold no other chair in any Club or Committee.
5. Exercise due diligence at meetings and refer to this Constitution, and the Bylaws where there exists a question of order or procedure.
6. Enforce compliance with this Constitution.
7. Supervise, coordinate, and direct the duties of Executive members.
8. Act as spokesperson for the DGSS in dealing with all external parties, unless a replacement is appointed.
9. Maintain relations and communications with key Desautels Faculty of Management and McGill University administration members.
10. Maintain relations and communications with PGSS and all other student societies on campus.
11. Coordinate with the VP Student Groups & Facilities to provide supervision and direction for student groups.
12. Receive a copy of all written exit reports or access to the shared DGSS digital drive holding all documents from the Executive Team to be held for continuity prior to turnover.
13. Reside within the Greater Metropolitan Area of Montréal during the academic year and accessible during the summer (either travel to Montreal or regular communication as needed to perform duties) for the entire term of his/her office.
14. Carry out and have other such powers and responsibilities as are assigned in the Bylaws.

#### 4.3.2

Executives: The duties of the Executive, in addition with those outlined in the Polices, shall include the following, but shall not necessarily be limited herein:

1. Uphold the DGSS Mission Statement, the DGSS Constitution, and all official Bylaws of the Desautels Graduate Student Society.
2. Act as the primary contact points for all members of the DGSS.
3. Fulfill activities required for the successful, sustainable operation of the DGSS.
4. Hold no other chair in any Club or Committee.
5. Make recommendations to the Executives for reoccurring initiatives to be included in the annual budget.
6. Have the power to request removal of an appointed Club or Committee chair by a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote of the Executive, for derogation of the DGSS name or a failure to fulfill their DGSS duties as outlined in the Bylaws.
7. Provide input and feedback during the turnover process on the selection of the incoming Executive.
8. Report regularly to all Executive meetings.
9. Keep accurate written records of their meetings and activities and ensure strong continuity during turnover.
10. Carry out and have other such powers and responsibilities as are assigned in the Bylaws.

## **Section 4.4 Rules of Order**

### **4.4.1**

A copy of the current DGSS Policy, which shall govern at all Executive meetings, shall be made available to each Executive member at the first meeting they attend after election, or acclamation.

## **Section 4.5 Meetings of the Executive**

### **4.5.1**

Executive meetings shall be convened by the President at least once every other week during the academic year.

### **4.5.2**

Executive meetings may be called by the President at any time or if petitioned to do so by a quorum of Executive members.

### **4.5.3**

Quorum shall be two-thirds (2/3rds) of all voting members. If quorum is not maintained, the meeting shall be adjourned, and the time and names of the members present shall be recorded in the minutes. Quorum at an Executive meeting is required to pass any motion brought forward to Council.

### **4.5.4**

The President shall be the Chair of the Executive.

### **4.5.5**

Quorum is achieved when a simple majority of the voting members of the Executive are present.

### **4.5.6**

All Executive positions have the right to one (1) vote. Voting by proxy or voting in absence is not permissible. An Executive member can join a meeting and vote remotely (via a pre-agreed medium), at the discretion of the President.

## **Section 4.6 Removal or Resignation of the Executive**

### **4.6.1**

Each Executive member is expected to act in the best interest of their constituency.

### **4.6.2**

All Council members are subject to removal from the Council on the following grounds:

1. Unfair discrimination
2. Theft, fraud or embezzlement of funds
3. Ineligibility to be a member
4. Just cause
5. Where removal is mandated in accordance with the Policies

### **4.6.3**

Upon a breach of subsection 4.6.2 the President shall make a motion, which has had proper notice, that the offending Executive member be removed as a member of the Council, and from their respective offices under the DGSS. If such a motion is approved by a majority of Executive members present and voting, then the offending member shall be deemed removed. During the vote, the ballot will be secret, and the offending member's voting rights suspended. If the motion is defeated, the President shall make another motion if any other conditions of 4.6.2 are met.

#### **4.6.4**

The President or the Vice Presidents may resign from their positions by written notification to the Executive if unable to fulfill their obligations. Upon resignation, the Executive member must be removed from their respective offices under the DGSS.

#### **4.6.5**

Upon resignation of the President, the interim President shall be voted from within the Executive until a new President is elected through a general election from the student body.

#### **4.6.6**

In the event that any member of the Executive is unable to fulfill their obligations, the other members of the Executive shall designate, by a simple majority (50% plus one) vote, an individual to act in that position until the new Vice President takes office.

#### **4.6.7**

After resignation, the vacant Executive position shall be filled selected in the same manner in which he/she was chosen initially. Not more than thirty (30) days of classes shall pass before the new Executive takes office, assuming that appropriate candidates are identified.

#### **4.6.8**

In the event that no appropriate candidates are identified to fill the vacant Executive position, the position shall remain open and the duties of said position split among the Executive. Selection processes can be repeated at the discretion of the President, in consultation with the Executive.

## **ARTICLE V - FINANCES**

### **Section 5.1 Annual Budget**

#### **5.1.1**

The financial year of the DGSS shall be from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> of the same year.

#### **5.1.2**

The Executive shall present the annual budget to the members by December 15<sup>th</sup> in the DGSS Annual General Meeting. At this meeting, a simple majority of DGSS members must approve the motion to approve the budget.

#### **5.1.3**

The final budget shall be made available to the Student Groups chairs no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5.1.4**

The DGSS shall conduct fundraising for such programs, causes, events or activities as it sees fit.

#### **5.1.5**

The DGSS may request funding from the Desautels Faculty of Management in accordance with the needs of its members.

## **Section 5.2 Financial Reporting**

### **5.2.1**

The outgoing Executive is charged with the creation of an Annual Report, outlining:

1. Overview of the DGSS
2. Analysis of the current year expenditures
3. Student Groups Assessments
4. Checks and e-transfer reconciliation
5. PGSS annual statement copy

### **5.2.2**

The outgoing Vice President Finance must present a work in progress draft Annual Report to the incoming VP before December 31<sup>st</sup>. The incoming Executive shall approve the report section by section, and the document shall be finalized by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **5.2.3**

The creation and completion of the Annual Report shall be in accordance with the Financial Bylaws.

## **Section 5.3 Financial Accountability**

### **5.3.1**

The VP Finance shall submit monthly reports of the Student Group's financial position to be reviewed by Student Group's chairs.

### **5.3.2**

Final statements, annual records and receipts from each of the events, committees and clubs of the DGSS shall be kept on file for seven (7) years and transitioned.

### **5.3.3**

There shall be a bank account under the DGSS's name with two (2) joint signing officers. The President and the Vice President of Finance shall be the only Officers allowed signing authority on the DGSS account, as outlined in Article IV. 4.2.2.

### **5.3.4**

All events funded by DGSS should be planned and scheduled to try and maximize availability and inclusivity of all Desautels Masters students (FT MBA, PMBA 1,2,3 MMF, MMR and MMA alike).

### **5.3.5**

Should a chartered DGSS Student Group close or see its charter revoked for any reason, the balance in their account will automatically be transferred back to the DGSS discretionary budget.

## **ARTICLE VI - GENERAL MEETINGS**

## **Section 6.1 General**

### **6.1.1**

There shall be one Annual General Meeting per year, held in the second half of the fall semester.

### **6.1.2**

Special General Meetings can be called at any time by decision of the Executive or a group of at least 10% of DGSS members.

### **6.1.3**

Notice of a General Meeting shall be given at least one (1) week before the meeting.

### **6.1.4**

All motions shall be passed upon a simple majority vote (50% + 1) of those present at the time of the vote.

### **6.1.5**

Quorum at the General Meeting and Special General Meetings shall be ten (10%) of the membership of the DGSS. Should there be no quorum at such an assembly, business may proceed as usual provided a due notification of the lack of quorum at the assembly is made within one (1) week after the adjournment of the assembly, and a new date shall be set.

### **6.1.6**

The agenda for the Annual General Meeting and Special General Meetings shall be available to all Society members at least five (5) days before the meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA**

### **Section 7.1 Administration**

#### **7.1.1**

Elections and referenda shall be held only at any time in agreeing with the following:

1. No elections or referenda may be held outside of the academic year as defined in article 1.
2. No elections or referenda may be held in the first week of classes in the fall or winter terms, unless deemed absolutely necessary by the President, in consultation with the Executive.

#### **7.1.2**

All campaigns and procedures for Elections and referenda shall occur in accordance with the Bylaws.

### **Section 7.2 General Elections**

#### **7.2.1**

The following positions shall be elected annually by the entire membership of the DGSS in a general election to be held in between November 15<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>, as outlined in the Bylaws:

1. President
2. VP Finance
3. VP Internal Affairs
4. VP External Affairs
5. VP Communications
6. VP Student Groups & Facilities
7. VP Case Competitions

### 7.2.2

The MBA1 Representative, MMF Representatives, MMR Representatives and MMA Representatives will be elected once a year by students in the corresponding classes. These elections shall be completed by the following dates:

1. MBA 1 & MBA 2 Representative – prior to September 30<sup>th</sup>
2. MMF Representatives – prior to August 31<sup>st</sup>
3. MMA Representatives – prior to September 30<sup>th</sup>
4. MMR Representatives – prior to September 30<sup>th</sup>

### 7.2.3

The PMBA 1, 2 and 3 representatives will be elected once a year by students in the corresponding classes, in an election to be held prior to September 15<sup>th</sup>.

### 7.2.4

Notice of open positions shall be given at least one (1) week in advance of the elections.

### 7.2.5

Candidates for the roles of President and Vice Presidents must be currently enrolled students at the time of the election and must be students of a Masters program throughout the following academic year.

### 7.2.6

Candidates for the PMBA representative roles must be PMBA students currently enrolled in the year of study they wish to represent.

### 7.2.7

Candidates for the MBA1 Representative, MBA2 Representative, MMF Representatives, MMR Representatives, and MMA Representatives must be currently enrolled students in their respective programs.

## Section 7.3 Referenda

### 7.3.1

A referendum shall be called at any time by the President upon:

1. A resolution of the Executive OR
2. A petition, delivered to the Executive and supported by the signatures of twenty-five percent (25%) of the members of the DGSS

### 7.3.2

Upon formal receipt of a petition in accordance with subsection 7.3.1, the Executive and petitioners shall agree on the wording of the question.

### 7.3.3

The question posed in a referendum shall be drafted so that it may be answered “yes” or “no”.

### 7.3.4

Upon finalization of the wording of the question, the referendum will be placed on the docket for the next election period.

#### 7.4.5

A referendum shall be acted upon by the DGSS where:

1. Subject to other sections in the Constitution, a simple majority of votes cast support the referendum; AND
2. At least fifteen percent (15%) of the general membership of DGSS has voted

### **ARTICLE VIII - AFFILIATION**

1. The DGSS shall be affiliated with the Post Graduate Students' Society of McGill University (PGSS) as outlined in the PGSS Constitution.
2. The DGSS may choose to be affiliated with other bodies as its membership sees fit.

### **ARTICLE IX - RECOGNITION OF STUDENT GROUPS**

#### **Section 9.1 DGSS Student Groups**

##### **9.1.1**

DGSS Student Groups (including Clubs, Associations and Committees) or other organizations are responsible for catering towards the specific needs of students and expose students to unique areas of business that are outside the academic realm by organizing conferences, competitions, or services for the DGSS members. Student groups shall, as their primary focus, substantially contribute to the achievement of the DGSS mission statement.

DGSS recognizes Clubs that exist with a specific professional function to supplement the professional growth of students. Examples of such functions would be:

1. Organizing industry or job function specific speaker sessions
2. Professional workshops

Groups classified as Associations operate in much the same way as Clubs, and aim to expose students to opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding around a specific and relevant business issue or underrepresented community, and to expand their professional network.

Groups that cater more towards the overall life experience at Desautels would be deemed as Committees. Some example functions of these groups would be:

1. Organizing cultural festivities
2. Organizing sports events
3. Creating the yearbook

##### **9.1.2**

Any group fulfilling the conditions outlined in the Student Groups section of the Bylaws may apply to the Executive to request interim DGSS Student Group status. DGSS will discuss the application at the earliest council meeting and revert with a decision on the request. DGSS may, in line with the structure of Clubs, decide to instead set it up as an Association or Committee.

##### **9.1.3**

The following are considered to be DGSS Student Groups:

#### DGSS Professional Clubs:

1. Desautels Graduate Finance Club

2. Desautels Graduate Marketing Club
3. Desautels Graduate Consulting Club
4. Desautels Graduate Business Technology Club
5. Desautels Graduate Net Impact Club

DGSS Associations:

1. Desautels Graduate Women's Association
2. Desautels Graduate LGBTQ+ Association
3. Desautels Graduate Health & Wellness Committee

DGSS Committees:

1. Culture
  - Sub-Committees:
    - a. La Francophonie
    - b. LATAM
    - c. Asia
    - d. Canada/North America
    - e. Africa
2. Lifestyle
  - Sub-Committees:
    - a. Racquets Sports
    - b. Hockey
    - c. Soccer
    - d. Ball Sports
3. MMF Social
4. MMA Committee

**9.1.4**

Any changes to the composition of the DGSS Student Groups shall be approved unanimously by the DGSS Executive Council. This constitution shall be amended to reflect any changes in the composition of the DGSS Student Groups as they occur.

**9.1.5**

Adhesion, operations, relations and responsibilities of the DGSS Student Groups are defined in the Policies.

**Section 9.2 Removal or Resignation of Student Groups and Student Groups Chairs**

**9.2.1**

A Student Group chair may resign from his/her position by written notification to the Executive.

**9.2.2**

In the event that a Student Group chair resigns, is removed by the Executive, the vacant position shall be replaced by a new member, selected in the same manner in which the member was chosen



initially. Replacement appointments shall be subject to all policies and procedures contained in the Bylaws.

### **9.2.3**

If the member is removed or resigned after November 30th, the Executive and Vice Presidents of the concerned Student Group may appoint a new member to the vacant position, subject to ratification by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the Executive.

## **ARTICLE X – TRANSITION**

### **Section 10.1 Turnover**

#### **10.1.1**

The Executive, and Student Group chairs shall be retired on the official turnover date, at the start of the winter academic term. At that time, the Executive-elect shall assume the powers vested in the offices of the Executive.

#### **10.1.2**

The Executive, prior to the official turnover date, shall ensure that individual position transition documents for themselves are up to date. During this period the outgoing Executive shall provide recommendations to the incoming Executive.

#### **10.1.3**

The expectations, responsibilities, and powers of incoming and outgoing engaged members of the DGSS shall be detailed in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE XI – CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY**

### **Section 11.1 Implementation and governance**

#### **11.1.1**

By the power of a vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) majority or greater of at least fifteen percent (15%) of the membership of the DGSS, this Constitution has been formally ratified and became enforceable on.

#### **11.1.2.**

This Constitution shall remain the law governing the conduct and activities of the DGSS.

#### **11.1.3**

Below are the signatures of the Desautels Graduate Student Society Executive Council, at the date of implementation, acknowledging the ratification and enforceability of the Constitution.

### **Section 11.2 Amendments**

#### **11.2.1**

Amendments to this constitution shall be proposed one week ahead of the annual General Meeting and voted on at the General Meeting.

#### **11.2.2**

Amendments will be voted on by open ballot, and shall be passed upon a simple majority vote (50% + 1) of those present at the time of the vote.

### **11.2.3**

Any changes of the organization's Constitution and Bylaws shall be forwarded to the PGSS within one (1) month of their implementation.

## **ARTICLE XII – BYLAWS OF THE SOCIETY**

### **Section 12.1 General**

#### **12.1.1**

The Desautels Graduate Student Society shall be governed by the Bylaws, subject only to overrule by the DGSS Constitution.

#### **12.1.2**

All proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be distributed to the general membership of the DGSS at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to their ratification and application, which shall occur only by two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote of the Executive.

#### **12.1.3**

Authority to grant exemptions to or suspensions of the Bylaws shall be noted within it and may otherwise occur by a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote of the Executive at any time. Such an exemption or suspension may apply for up to a period of time that does not extend beyond the end of the current Executive members' term.

#### **12.2.4**

All DGSS Policies shall be made publicly available to general membership of the DGSS on the DGSS website.

## **SECTION 12.2 RECOGNIZED BYLAWS**

### **12.2.1**

The DGSS Policies shall govern the operations of the DGSS and shall be composed of the following:

1. Branding and Communications Policy
2. Student Groups Policy
3. Executive Policy
4. Elections Policy

### **12.2.2**

Additions, deletions, and changes to DGSS Bylaws shall be included in the list of 12.2.1 without constitutional amendment.