



# Memorandum

**Secretariat**

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**TO:** Senate

**FROM:** Mr. Stephen Strople, Secretary-General

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Modification of Term Dates for Student Senators

**DATE:** April 17, 2013

**DOCUMENT #:** D12-64

**ACTION REQUIRED:**  INFORMATION  APPROVAL/DECISION

**ISSUE:** This motion proposes to change the term dates for Student Senators to begin June 1 and end May 31, in order to align them with their appointments as officers of student organizations and the terms of student appointments to the Board of Governors.

**BACKGROUND & RATIONALE:** By motion of Senate on November 25, 1970, student Senators hold office from September 1 following their election until August 31 of the following year. Differences in the start dates between the Senate term and student organization terms creates an unanticipated effect, where members of the previous year’s council/executive continue to serve as Senators after their terms of office in their respective organizations expire. Student Senators may graduate before the end of their Senate terms.

This causes a particular problem in the election of student representatives to the Steering and Nominating Committees: currently, either the previous year’s Senators elect the following year’s representatives or Senators-elect are asked to conduct Senate business before their Senate terms begin.

On February 12, 2013, at the request of the presidents of SSMU and PGSS, the Board of Governors approved a motion modifying the Statutes to align the beginning and end of students’ terms on the Board with their terms as officers of student organizations. Following approval by the Visitor, Students’ Board appointments now will begin on June 1 and end May 31 each year.

**MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL:** *Be it resolved that Senate approve establishing student Senators’ terms as beginning on June 1 following their election and ending on May 31 of the following year.*

**PRIOR CONSULTATION:** Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee of the Board of Governors; Board of Governors;

**NEXT STEPS:** N/A

**APPENDICES:** N/A