A HANDY GUIDE TO WRITING A GA MOTION

What is a GA Motion?
- A Motion acts as an argument for why a position needs to be adopted by the SSMU.
- Motions read from top to bottom, each "*Whereas* clause" leading into the next.
- GA Motions can cover anything Political, mandate the Society to take an action or work on a project, but cannot establish a Fee or edit one of the SSMU's Governing Documents.
  - To establish a Fee, edit a Governing Doc., or poll students see Referenda!

What is are Whereas Clauses & How Do They Work?
- A *Whereas* clause can be thought as a bullet point. Each highlights a fact related to the necessity of the actions that will be laid out at the end and.
- *Whereas* clauses end with semicolons ";" unless they are continuing into a sub-point (quotation from a relevant internal document), in which case you would end the clause with a full colon ":"

What is a Be It Resolved Clause?
- After you have written your *Whereas* clauses and laid out your argument, it's now time to put those words to action! That is what a "*Be it resolved,*" clause is for.
- Following a *Be it resolved* (or *Be it further resolved*) clause is where you place the action items that you'd like seen done; be it advocating for a specific task, or the establishment of a project.
- The final *Be it resolved* clause ends with a period.

You can find examples of Motions previously brought forward: here!

Example Motion: [GA Motion Name Here]

Whereas, the SSMU is an organization with a long history of leadership on **[insert topic here]**. As stated in the **[insert relevant clause]** of the **[insert relevant governing document]**:

Whereas, there is undeniable scientific evidence that **[some students are disproportionately negatively impacted by…]**;[1]

Whereas, the **[VP University Affairs]** is mandated to spearhead and coordinate items related to the **[Equity]** following the Referenda Regarding **[abc]** passed at in **[Referenda period of Winter 2015]**;

Be it resolved, that the SSMU, through the Office of the VP (University Affairs), write and establish a **[xyz]** Policy to be brought forward to the SSMU's Legislative Council within the 2016/17 academic year to combat **[that issue]**.

Moved by Petition

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[1] Citations in a Motion work the same way they do in an essay and are necessary if you want your Motion to be both accurate and accessible. Feel free to use one of any number of citation websites to help you with that process. Here's an example of one!