



society of graduate & professional students
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS LOCAL 27

MINUTES

Society of Graduate and Professional Students' Council

Local 27 of the Canadian Federation of Students

Tuesday, April 10th, 2012, 5:30pm

Robert Sutherland Room, JDUC

1. Presentations

2. Adoption of the Agenda & Minutes

MOTION

04/10/12:1

Moved: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

BIRT the agenda for the April 10th, 2012 Council Meeting be adopted.

MOTION

04/10/12:1 M-1

Moved: Julian

Seconded: Becky

BIRT SGPS Council replace "Policy" with "Progress" in MOTION 04/10/12:7.

Motion to amend carries

MOTION

04/10/12:1

Motion carries as amended

MOTION

04/10/12:2

Moved: Jillian Burford-Grinnell (vpfs@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Becky Pero (vpg@sgps.ca)

BIRT the minutes for the SGPS General Meeting of March 27th, 2012 be accepted.

Matt: Financial reports – Auditor is spelt Blay, not Belay.

Nathalie: My last name was misspelled.

Motion carries

3. Executive and Speaker Reports

- a. President – Matthew Scribner (report attached)
Office 213 – Office hours to be determined. Email update to come shortly!
- b. VP Graduate – Becky Pero (report attached)
- c. VP Professional – Annie Clifford (no report)
- d. VP Campaigns & Community Affairs – Matthew Shultz (report attached)
CFS Skills June 13-17 (up to 15 delegates, some spots still available). Transitioning to bottled water free this September. If there are any broken water fountains please let me know.
- e. VP Finance & Services – Jillian Burford-Grinnell (report attached)
Positions for SGPS are posted, please feel free to apply. New Executive Assistant position was posted and we are now receiving applications. Student Saver position has been posted as well – tight timeline for this.
- f. Speaker – Eric Rapos (report attached)

MOTION

04/10/12:3

Moved: Annie Clifford (vpp@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT the Executive and Speaker Reports be accepted.

Sean: Matt Schultz mentioned CFS Skills. Can we learn more about this?

Matt: An annual event teaching things such as budgeting at the University level, media communications, organizing events on Council. This event is free to attend.

Motion carries

4. Senator, Board of Trustees, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

- a. Graduate Student Senator – Terry Bridges (no report)
GPA issue came up at Senate. Decision has been made to reduce GPA requirement for scholarships. New program at NSA Healthcare (blended learning) but objections include limited time to review this program. New Academic Plan Task Force is being formed and I'm hoping to get onto that. Also plans to restructure Senate, which I will be on top of when it comes up.
- b. Graduate Student Trustee – Benjamin Grant (no report)

- c. Committee Reports
- d. Commissioner Reports
 - i. Social Commissioner – Abdullah Abunafeesa (no report)
 - ii. Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)
 - iii. Equity Commissioner: Robin Westland (report attached)
 - iv. International Students’ Affairs Commissioner: Vacant (no report)
- e. Other Reports
 - i. Equity Coordinator – Aliya Kassam (no report)
 - ii. International Students’ Affairs Coordinator: Holly McIndoe (no report)
 - iii. Sustainability Coordinator – Samantha Tavenor (no report)
 - iv. Athletics Coordinator – Meaghan Frauts (report attached)
 - v. Logistics Coordinator – Chris Groten (no report)
 - vi. Planning Coordinator – Cassandra Kuyvenhoven (no report)
 - vii. Rector – Nick Francis (report attached)
 - viii. Chief Returning Officer – Mikhail Kellawan (no report)
 - 1. My report details a number of the issues that came up this year. I welcome further questions
 - ix. Departmental Reports

MOTION

04/10/12:4

Moved: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Jillian Burford-Grinnell (vpfs@sgps.ca)

BIRT the Senator, Board of Trustees, Commissioner, Committee and Other Reports be accepted.

Motion carries

5. Question Period/Departmental Issues

6. Business Arising From the Minutes

MOTION

04/10/12:5

Moved: Queenie Wong

Seconded: Jillian Burford-Grinnell

WHEREAS the CRO performed unsatisfactorily, especially in regards to advertising the nominations period and the voting period; and

WHEREAS the CRO did not prepare a report to council following the executive election and referendum; and

WHEREAS the CRO did not prepare a motion to ratify the results of the executive election and referendum; and

WHEREAS the CRO is directly responsible to council; and

WHEREAS the CRO is paid by stipend at the end of their term based on performance,

BIRT SGPS Council agrees that \$300 of Mikhail Kellawan's honoraria for CRO be withheld.

Lauren: I'm a student advisor with SGPS as an advocate for Mikhail and am here to offer some insights into the Bylaws and Polices that regulate this position. I will offer my take on the situation. The Bylaw regulating stipends is P.2.5 which states that there must be a clear and apparent situation where the appointee has obviously failed to carry out a duty. I would argue that neither of these criteria have been met at this point as we need more input from the appointee at this point. A lot of the concerns coming out of this motion seem to be about the position itself rather than the appointee. I would say that a fair process has not been followed probably because we do not have clear policies pertaining to this. Council is like the employer in this circumstance. This could have unfolded with a lot more dialogue beforehand and ongoing feedback which would have entitled Mikhail an opportunity to remedy the situation. I think that this led to an overly punitive motion, which doesn't really benefit Council. What we need is a clearer job description. While your concerns are legitimate I think that there are better channels to address them (ie: next motion).

Eric: To clarify: The CRO is paid an honorarium not a stipend.

MOTION

04/10/12: E1

Moved: Jillian Burford-Grinnell

Seconded: Terry Bridges

BIRT SGPS Council strike the opening comment from the minutes

Motion carries

MOTION

04/10/12: E2

Moved: Jillian Burford-Grinnell

Seconded: Matt Schultz

BIRT SGPS Council overturn motion 04/10/12: E1

Motion carries

Matt Scribner: I agree with Lauren. I don't feel comfortable voting in favour of this motion.

Rami: Did the CRO receive any warning emails?

Mikhail: I did not receive any emails.

Jillian: I do know that members of last year's exec did email to prepare the motion

Eric (Point of Privilege): I would like to say that I did fulfill my job and publish the agenda a week ahead of time.

Queenie: Was this election officially handed over?

Sean: We have had conversations with ESS but nothing official. No details were ever finalized.

Queenie: When we came into this position, we officially reported that elections work is done by the CRO and SGPS at our Faculty Board Meeting. As ESS we tried to talk to Mikhail but he took no initiative to help facilitate the ESS election as was his mandate. We reported this. I would support this motion.

Mikhail: I would like to first point out that this motion does not address the ESS elections.

Secondly I did respond to the ESS. There is no transition between the old and new ESS Council, and according to their constitution they want to start nominations on September 1st and end on the Friday (3 days). They have over 30 spots to fill. This generally means that they do not get filled and have to extend nominations another week. They are supposed to have a campaign period of 3 days with elections in the 3rd week of September. The issue has always been that there is not enough time for Council to get together, so I think you need to re-evaluate that position. I have run the election according to the Constitution. If this is not satisfactory to fill 30 positions I apologize. I think it is incorrect to say that I have not fulfilled these duties.

Julian: For those not at the GM – perhaps we should review some pertinent points. In the Bylaws there is a requirement to run an all-candidates meeting. Who organized this and what was the result?

Mikhail: I contacted the Grad Club and organized a meeting around January 27th. It ended with asking me what date and time I would like. I never got a confirmation from the Graduate Club on the finalized date – I had to ask Jillian who sits on the Grad Club board to confirm these details. Once this was approved Jillian sent out an email. It was a slow turnaround that happened, but of note I am only an Officer, which means that any contact I want with the SGPS body has to come thru someone with access.

Annie: I am quite new to the SGPS and I know nothing about this situation but I have had nothing but positive experiences with Mikhail during my election. The 2 items (report to Council and motion to ratify results) are these in the Bylaws.

Mikhail: The only thing that I have done over the past years is to approve the results. The only thing I have done is told the Speaker. I was told when I took the job that I did not have the authority to put items on the agenda.

Matt: Regarding the matter of students not being able to vote. Can you quantify that?

Mikhail: No, we get the list from the Registrar. As far as we know it is not a certain Department, it seems to be random. I got around 10 emails. I forwarded at least 3 to Sean but I did not have time to deal with the others.

Annie: Yes or No. Can you say that you did your job according to the best of your abilities and knowledge?

Mikhail: I did my job exactly as the year prior.

Julian: What was your role in the Rector elections this year?

Mikhail: I didn't have much to do with it other than making sure the SGPS was represented.

Jillian (Point of Personal Privilege): I want to apologize; I have to meet with the Principal and must leave.

Matt: Would it be possible to modify the minutes of this discussion to remove Mikhail's name and to reference CRO instead?

Sean: You could strike his name from the minute discussion.

Eric: This vote will be carried out by written ballot. You may vote "yes", "no", or leave the paper blank (abstention).

Mikhail: Can you recap?

Eric: "Yes" would be in favour of the motion to withhold the honoraria.

Motion does not carry

MOTION

04/10/12:6

Moved: Julian Chesterman

Seconded: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

Whereas the SGPS General Meeting approved the creation of an ad hoc committee for the policy review for overseeing Officers of Council, and

Whereas the SGPS General Meeting determined that the composition of the ad hoc committee would be determined at the April Council Meeting,

BIRT that <insert name here> serve as the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee for Policy Review Concerning Overseeing of the Officers of Council;

BIRFT that the members of the Ad Hoc Committee for Policy Review Concerning Overseeing of the Officers of Council will be: <insert desired number of names here>.

MOTION

04/10/12:6 M-1

Moved: Julian Chesterman

Seconded: Matt Schultz

BIRT SGPS Council replace <insert name here> with:
Annie Clifford

Motion to amend carries carries

MOTION

04/10/12:6 M-2

Moved: Julian Chesterman

Seconded: Nathalie Ouellette

BIRT SGPS Council replace <insert desired number of names here> with:

Matt Scribner

Sean Richards

Melissa Trezise

Holly McIndoe

Gillian Bankas

Motion to amend carries

MOTION

04/10/12:6

Motion carries as amended

MOTION

04/10/12:7

Moved: Becky Pero (vpg@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Julian Chesterman

Whereas graduate departments at Queen's are increasingly using progress reports to document students' movement through degree requirements and thesis research;

Whereas consistent and clear communication between graduate students and supervisors, and/or supervisory committees, and/or graduate departments is essential to the academic success of Masters and PhD candidates;

Whereas progress reports offer one method for students to communicate with supervisors and/or committees, and vice-versa; and

Whereas graduate students may also be evaluated according to the information supplied by the student and the supervisor and/or committee in progress reports; then

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of P.X Policy Reports, as seen in Appendix 1, to SGPS Policy.

BIFRT the policy be shared with the School of Graduate Studies and graduate student departments;

BIFRT the SGPS advocate on behalf of any student whose progress report is unjustly used against them;

Becky: This was presented at Council 2 meetings ago and some suggestions were provided.

Holly: what do you mean by "unjustly used", and how does the SGPS address this?

David: Have there been situations where these are unjustly used? Ours are formalities.

Matt: In Sociology – one person was invited by the Head of the Department to take on a Teaching position but she was given a poor report as they made no recognition of this position. This disqualified her from 5th year funding.

Lauren: As a student advisor this is exactly the type of policy I would like to see as there are all sorts of supervisory disputes that could be prevented with some sort of tangible reporting process.

Queenie: Is this going to be done electronically and are they doing to be standardized for all Departments?

Nathalie: I mentioned last meeting how we didn't want to force any Departments to implement progress reports, we are just using this to make sure that they are being employed in the best interest of the students.

Julian: In Engineering we are looking at the implementation of these reports, and they have yet to bring us a final version, but I see this motion as very useful for advocating what we want to see in the reports.

Queenie: We do not want to evaluate force more evaluation than necessary.

Matt: In the English department it has been suggested that it could be problematic as complaints coming from students need to be signed off by the supervisor. It may be more useful if they submit separate reports and the Graduate Chair mediates.

Julian: My view is that there are already avenues to bring up concerns regarding the supervisor. I think the progress reports should be more of a discussion opportunity.

Motion carries

7. Main Motions

MOTION

04/10/12:8

Moved: Becky Pero (vpj@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matt Scribner

Whereas in 1994, the Ontario government disqualified international students from the Ontario Health Insurance Program (OHIP); and

Whereas international students must now pay private health insurance fees through the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) that are more than \$650 a year, and students with two or more dependents can be required to pay nearly \$3,000 a year in mandatory hospital insurance fees; and

Whereas in some instance such fees have increase by more than 30 per cent in a single year; and

Whereas international students already pay tuition fees that are more than double when compared to fees charged to domestic students for the same education; and

Whereas Ontario's 38,000 international students pay provincial taxes and contribute \$2 million to the provincial economy each year, but do not receive health care like all Ontario residents;

Whereas the SGPS Council has previously expressed concern regarding this issue; therefore

BIRT Council endorses a letter (as seen in Appendix 2), addressed to Principal Woolf, to encourage his awareness and more active involvement on the issue of health care costs for

international students, and to further advocate for the extension of OHIP to international students.

BIFRT the SGPS International Team meet with Principal Woolf and present a copy of the letter.

Becky: This letter is to provide a more formal avenue to reach Principal Woolf to discuss and recognize this issue. We may need to amend to sign on behalf of Council.

Eric: The letter was signed as her formed position, but she is asking to send it on behalf of Council. This would be an amendment. We would need to change from first person perspective.

MOTION

04/10/12:8 M-1

Moved: Julian Chesterman

Seconded: Matt Scribner

BIRT SGPS Council modify the letter to reflect the Body of the Council as the author

Motion to amend carries

Dave: How do other provinces insure international students? Manitoba is the most recent, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, and Alberta.

Dave: I'm concerned with the current mandate to cut health spending, I'm not sure that the timing of this motion is ideal. I am in support of it, however.

Holly: Most International students don't understand their healthcare. A major part of this is having a discussion about it.

Annie: It references \$2 million. Is this tax dollars?

Becky: I think it is actually \$2 billion. This references to what is paid out (CFS figure).

MOTION

04/10/12:8 M-2

Moved: Rami Bahgat

Seconded: Matt Schultz

BIRT SGPS Council cite the financial figures in the body of the letter

Motion to amend carries

MOTION

04/10/12:8

Motion carries as amended

MOTION

04/10/12:9

Moved: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council Elect <insert name here> as the SGPS Chief Returning Officer (CRO) for the 2012-2013 term.

MOTION

04/10/12:9 M-1

Moved: Julian

Seconded: Matt Schultz

BIRT SGPS Council change <insert name here> to Eric Rapos

Motion to amend carries

MOTION

04/10/12:9

Motion carries as amended

MOTION

04/10/12:10

Moved: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council Elect <insert name here> as the SGPS Speaker for the 2012-2013 term.

MOTION

04/10/12:10 M-1

Moved: Julian Chesterman

Seconded: Victoria Hoskin

BIRT SGPS Council change <insert name here> to James MacLeod

Motion to amend carries

MOTION

04/10/12:10

Motion carries as amended

8. Other Business

9. Notice of Motions & Announcements

- a. Reports and Motions for the next SGPS Council Meeting are due on Tuesday May 1st, 2012.
- b. The next SGPS Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 8th, 2012

10. Adjournment

MOTION**04/10/12:11**Moved: Jillian Buford-Grinnell (vpfs@sgps.ca)Seconded: Terry Bridges (senator@sgps.ca)

BIRT the SGPS Council Meeting be adjourned.

04/10/12

EJR

CFS-27

Attached:

March GM Minutes

April Reports

April Attendance

April Council Meeting Attendance

| Name | | Represents | Present |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Dana | Wesley | Aboriginal Rep | |
| Marvin | Ferrer | Anatomy & Cell Biology | |
| Daniela | Vogel | Art Conservation | |
| Johanna | Plant | Art History | X |
| Kathleen | Adams | Art History | X |
| Namit | Sharma | Biochemistry | |
| Derek | Gray | Biology | |
| Celia | Symons | Biology | |
| Julian | Chesterman | Biomedical Engineering | X |
| Vacant | Vacant | Biostatistics | |
| Ben | Grant | Board of Trustees Rep | |
| Eric | Peterson | Chemical Engineering | |
| Matthew | Schuster | Chemistry | |
| Jack | Wallace | Civil Engineering | |
| Vacant | Vacant | Classics | |
| Katie | Killorn | Community Health and Epidemiology | X |
| David | Wallace | Community Health and Epidemiology | X |
| Melissa | Trezise | Computing Science | |
| Haroon | Malik | Computing Science | |
| Rami | Bahgat | Cultural Studies | X |
| Patrick | Alexander | Economics | |
| Allison | Chapman | Education - Graduate - President | |
| Queenie | Wong | Education - Graduate M.Ed | X |
| Miao | Li | Education - Graduate PhD | X |
| Chris | Fiorentino | Electrical and Computer Engineering | |
| Patricia | Oprea | English | X |
| Matthew | Scribner | English | X |
| Byomkesh | Talukder | Environmental Studies | |
| Kristy | Chown | ESS | |
| Vanessa | Powell Cavell | ESS | |
| Steven | Meece | ESS | |
| Tyler | Kenopic | ESS President | |
| Soraya | Vitorino | ESS/SGPS Liason | |

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Patrick | St-Amand | French | |
| Sarah | Jacoba | French | |
| Judicael | Zounmevo | GECE President | |
| Kaleigh | Alkenbrack | Gender Studies | |
| Sarah | Allux | Geography | |
| Gentry | Hanks | Geography | |
| Ryan | Dhillon | Geology | |
| Corina | Fonyodi-Szarka | German | |
| Hayley | Morgan | Global Development | |
| Terry | Bridges | Graduate Senator | X |
| Doug | Nesbitt | History | |
| Matthew | Cathmoir | Industrial Relations | |
| Carolyn | Lee | Industrial Relations | |
| Holly | McIndoe | International Rep | |
| Sima | Zakani | International Rep | |
| Gifferd | Ko | Kinesiology and Health Studies | |
| Stefanie | Kullick | Languages, Literatures & Cultures | |
| Vacant | Vacant | Law | |
| Janet | Yang | Law | |
| David | Faour | Law | |
| Jie | Tang | Law - Graduate | |
| Mathew | Mezciems | Law - LSS President | |
| Logan | Crowell | Law Senator | |
| Vacant | Vacant | Management | |
| Saeed | Akhavan Astaneh | Math and Stats | |
| Vacant | Vacant | Mature Student Rep | |
| Jerome | James | Mechanical and Material Engineering | |
| Sarah | Martz | Microbiology | |
| Spencer | Reeves | Mining Engineering | |
| Brandon | Chambers | Mining Engineering | |
| Raynold | Alorse | MPA | |
| Ethan | Zhao | Neuroscience | |
| Stacey | Karp | Nursing | |
| Lisa | Hughes | Part Time Rep | |
| Victoria | Hoskin | Pathology | X |
| Dulcie | Lai | Pathology | X |
| Yohan | D'Souza | Pharmacology | |
| Nikoo | Najand | Philosophy | X |
| Nathalie | Ouellette | Physics | X |
| Andrea | Mimee | Physiology | |
| Alexander | Steffan | Political Studies | |
| Brock | Criger | Psychology | |
| Megan | Jaquith | Public Health | |
| Nick | Francis | Rector | |
| Janice | Phe | Rehab Sciences (Professional) | |
| Ian | Gilchrist | Rehab Sciences (Research) | |
| Vacant | Vacant | Rehabilitation Therapy | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---|---|
| Caleigh | Lyn-Piluso | Religious Studies | |
| Robert | Lawson | School of Religion | |
| Darin | MacKinnon | School of Religion | |
| Gillian | Bankas | Sociology | X |
| Tony | Gkotsis | Urban and Regional Planning | |
| Sean | Richards | Executive Director | X |
| Matthew | Scribner | President | X |
| Jillian | Burford-Grinnell | VP Finance | X |
| Matt | Shultz | VP Campaigns & Community Affairs | X |
| Becky | Pero | VP Graduate | |
| Annie | Clifford | VP Professional | X |
| Abdullah | Abunafeesa | Social Commissioner | |
| Meaghan | Frauts | Athletics Coordinator | |
| Chris | Groten | Logistics Coordinator | |
| Cassandra | Kuyvenhoven | Planning Coordinator | X |
| Robin | Westland | Equity Commissioner | X |
| Aliya | Kassam | Equity Coordinator | |
| Holly | McIndoe | International Students' Affairs Coordinator | X |
| Samantha | Travenor | Sustainability Coordinator | |
| Eric | Rapos | Speaker | X |
| James | MacLeod | Deputy Speaker | X |
| Mikhail | Kellawan | Chief Returning Officer | X |
| | | | |
| Other Attendees | | | |
| | | | |
| Lauren | McNicol | Student Advisor | X |