MINUTES
Society of Graduate and Professional Students’ Council
Local 27 of the Canadian Federation of Students
Tuesday, February 8th 2011, 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Room, JDUC

1. Presentations
Barb Schlafer - Ban Righ Centre
Andrea – Community of mature female students to gather and be with peers often difficult to find in the general student committee. Excellent staff members there to offer help about to navigate the university. They offer advice when you are experiencing social, personal and financial issues. There are rooms available for study, computer lab, kitchen.

Barb Schafler – Was founded in 1974. The centre has given out over a million dollars in bursaries. In three years more than half of that money has gone to graduate students.

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – Can you tell us about the physical resources available?

Andrea – Brown bag lunches, seminar series.

Barb Schafler – Small rooms for a study group, there are two rooms on the top floor with a day bed. There is a library in the basement and a large meeting room. You can book the house for groups that you belong to for a place to meet. We would like you to put our organization on the ballot for graduate student fees as we are struggling to meet our budget every year. We are doing more fundraising. There is a competition currently on for you to write a tribute to a woman in your life.

Mary Anne Loraco – PSAC. We started negotiations in November. The team is made up of 5 graduate students and 3 alternates. We have had four bargaining sessions with the university. We have signed up on a few non-monetary items.
We are still discussing hours and work, appointments. We need to sign off those before we can start on monetary items. We are scheduled for the 24th and 25th of February. PSAC has filed a legal complaint about the teaching fellow salary raises that have not increased. We are having our AGM in April and there will be a call-out soon for the executive.

Crystal Mathey – We are planning a union day for March 16th for the local 901 members, SGPS members and meet the executive along with the bargaining team. There will be other unions involved in this day. There will be a drop in session between 11-3 during the day. We will have a town hall about bargaining so anyone can come in and ask questions. We will have a film screen at the grad club followed by drinks.

2. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes
MOTION 02/08/11:1
Moved ___ Eric Rapos ___ _____ / ___ Jonathan Foster ____________ BIRT the agenda for February 8th, 2011 be adopted.

MOTION 02/08/11:1-M1
Moved ___ Jillian Burford-Grinnell ___ _____ / ___ Yohan D'Souza _______ BIRT that Motion 02/08/11:27 is attached in the appendix.

Carried

MOTION 02/08/11:1- AS AMENDED

Carried

Moved _____ Eric Rapos _____ / _____ Iain Reeve ____________ BIRT the minutes for the January Council Meeting be accepted.

Carried

3. Executive and Speaker Reports
a) President – Jawad Qureshy (report attached)
Peer networking with the board of trustees. Some trustees have agreed to help. (Get list from Jawad to insert). These individuals will be invited to an event on March 5th. There will be another email sent out about this.

b) VP Graduate – Daniel Moore (report attached)
Advisor support group – posters available if you would like to alert colleagues. Casual round table discussion. Completely confidential with two SGPS student advisors.
Graduate studies executive council – AODA training for all graduate students mandatory. This will show up on your transcript and the training is an hour and
half. You need to do this before you graduate. You need to do this to learn how to handle and make materials and presentations accessible for anyone with a disability. This is not a paid training program. It does not retroactively apply. It will only apply to incoming students.

c) VP Professional – Shaughnessy Hawkins (report attached)
d) VP Campaigns and Community Affairs – Anne-Marie Grondin (report attached)
I would like any feedback to the copyright group and the community housing board on any actions you would like SGPS to take on these rent increases.
e) VP Finance and Services – Jillian Burford-Grinnell (report attached)

f) Speaker – Michael Bravo (no report)
I need three students to serve on the judicial board. Marvin Ferrer, Yohan D'Souze, Nora Zwingerman. I am finishing my term on April 31st. If you are interested in the position please contact me and I will fill you in on the position.
The way it usually works they will come in at the April meeting and be ratified at that meeting. At the end of the meeting we would give 15 minutes for people to give a speech and we would than make the decision from that.

**MOTION 02/08/11:3**
Moved ___Eric Rapos ________ / ___Megan Bylsma______________ BIRT
Executive and Speaker reports be accepted.

*Carried*

4. **Committee, Commissioner, Senator, B of T and Other Reports**
a) Graduate Student Senator – Iain Reeve (report attached)
Financial update Provost office – deficit 4.6 million instead of the 3.6 million forecasted. Academic plan task force – the idea of the plan, started by the principal, is to create a plan that will direct funding decisions and will be the main planning documents of the university. I am on the task force and will be the main go-to for graduate students to provide input to this document. There will also be forthcoming town hall meetings. Many opportunities to voice your opinions at the plan. Hopefully more to come next month.

Marvin Ferrer – Trying to increase student enrollment to increase grant income. What is our opinion on this attempt to bring more money?

Iain Reeve – Principal wants this academic plan regardless. In terms of enrollment - worries about capacity, infrastructure, professors. These are things that the task force are going to talk about to address these concerns. We are hoping to have the plan finished by the end of April. We are on a rough plan now so that it can be ratified before senate leaves for the summer. There are going to
be public town halls – unsure if open to university or specific groups on campus.

Jawad Qureshy – The board of trustees has asked the administration to come up with a zero deficit plan in three years. And there is a negotiation that it will take place over 5 years. The province has come out with a program for enrollment. Extra enrollment at the undergraduate level will be rewarded. At the graduate level a new program will come out next year to improve graduate expansion. There is also a long-term program so that there is a balance between incoming undergraduate and graduate students.

Iain Reeve – You can send me ideas or grievances about this issue. There will be public forms and a website.

Nick Day – Market crash effected endowment fund. There are a lot of other issues to do with the deficit. There are issues with pension.

Jawad Qureshy – If Queen’s were following the pension act we would be even a greater deficit. There is no money. Queen’s is going to the provincial government and stating that they do not have the 40 million to pay the pension agreements. Going to the government and asking for them to not pay this because they cannot go bankrupt as a University. The board of trustees is somewhat insulated from students and this is a problem at queen’s. I think what we are trying to do is come to the student events. They need to understand what graduate and professional student life is.

b) Board of Trustees – Benjamin Grant (no report)
c) Committee Reports

Nora Zwingerman – We met with QBC and attached in the appendices is their proposal. We see that we have already completed four a number of the stages that they outlined for a strategic plan. If everyone could take a look at the survey that we have created to send out to all SGPS members. We want a small pilot that you can point out issues that we did not think of.

Finance and services committee
Jillian Burford-Grinnell – Number of motions that we will be addressing tonight about renewals.

Daniel Moore - In regards to the academic affairs committee all the information is in the package. This will give information about the grade change.

Anne-Marie Grondin – How are committees going? How is bylaws and policies going?
Michael Bravo – Bylaws and Policies has not met. We should be meeting next week. In terms of other committees I think they are going OK. There have been some challenges getting people together.

d) Commissioner Reports  
i) Social Commissioner – Abdullah Abunafesa (report attached)  
ii) Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)  
iii) Equity Commissioner: Carolyn Prouse (report attached)  
We have had equity issues standing committee. The committee was full and we have two openings on that committee and we do not have any council members. If you would like to be on this, please email me, the speaker.  

Other Reports  
e) Coordinator Reports  
i) Equity Coordinator – Kalanthe Khaiat (report attached)  
ii) International Students Coordinator – Amir Nosrat and Becky Pero (report attached)  
There are three things over the past month that I have done: Opinion piece in the journal about recommending strategies for internationalization. I coordinated a letter to Principal Wolfe. I put together the ISC roles and the core is that I am recommending a commissioner position for international students and I believe this will be tabled until next meeting. This will be coming up this session.  
iii) Sustainability Coordinator – Ivana Zelenika (report attached)  
iv) Athletics Coordinator – Amanda Leonard (no report)  
v) Logistics Coordinator – Corey Valinsky (no report)  
vi) Planning Coordinator – Nicole McCallum (no report)  
vii) Rector – Nick Day (no report)  
Tri-Colour award and this is the highest honour a student Queen’s can get. This is given out once a year and is given an convocation. They are listed in the program. Two things, the nominations are open. If you think someone should win. Fill out the package and gain letter of support. They are due at the end of the month. The SGPS needs to produce one member to be on the deciding committee.

Michael Bravo – Anyone? Eric Rapos.

Nick Day – If there is someone that you respect go out and nominate them.

Sean Richards – The nomination package is also available online from our website.

Shaughnessy Hawkins – Can you talk about the ESS senator.

Nick Day – Shaughnessy and Logan brought up the ESS Senator. It isn’t specified
if it would be an undergraduate or a student in the fifth year of their teaching program. We are getting organized if the executive students can have it back. Logan and I spoke and we are going to ask the AMS to not elect anyone this year. I feel they will be amenable to this. The executive students are away for half the year and the undergraduate students argue that they will miss out on valuable information.

viii) Chief Returning Officer – Mikhail Kellawan (no report)
MB – Nomination packages available on the website.
ix) Departmental Reports
Eric Rapos – The conference fee is around $2-4 and the registration opens tomorrow and goes until Feb. 24th.

**MOTION 11/08/11:4**
Moved ___Sarah Waurechen___________ / ___Eric Rapos____________ BIRT Senator/Board of Trustees/Commissioner/ Coordinator / Committee, and Other reports be accepted.

Carried

5. **Question Period/Departmental Issues**
Sarah Waurechen – Apparently there is a loophole from the students transferring from the MA program to the PhD (clarify) and they are no longer covered. This was communicated to them through the pharmacist and not the university. You are not automatically re-enrolled. This wasn’t brought to their attention in December when it is already too late.

Sean Richards – This is an issue of the registrar. There is something in their system that reapplies everything but student health and dental. I think we found 18 students that were missed due to this program error, but I don’t think we got everybody. The new system that registrar is switching to should correct for this.

Marvin Ferrer – Extending gym hours?

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – No concrete answers.

Daniel Moore – One thing will help if you have concerns about particular rooms in the building that you would like open. Email Daniel or Jillian with special requests.

Sean Richards – The system is switching in March. Undergraduate pay cycle is changing and not so much for graduate students. The dates are not the same for us.
Hannah Legh-Jones – I spoke with reps from food and services and very interested in getting opinions from graduate students. They want more feedback on meal plans, food options, staggering and opening services. On their website there is all their information. Their office is in Vic Hall. You can contact me as well and I can put together all our concerns into one group.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

7. Main Motions

MOTION 02/08/11:5
Whereas section P.2.1.4.b.i. of SGPS policy charges the Equity Commissioner with “advising Council and the Executive in the formation and formulations of SGPS policies, procedures and priorities regarding equity issues; item promoting awareness of equity issues among SGPS members”; and

Whereas section P.2.1.4.b.iv. of SGPS policy charges the Equity Commissioner with “organizing any applicable equity training for the Executive and other interested parties, in conjunction with the University Human Rights Office”; and

Whereas section P.2.7.a. of SGPS (Anti-Harassment) policy reads that “The SGPS does not tolerate harassment or discrimination in any environment under its jurisdiction or during any event under its jurisdiction”; and

Whereas the knowledge base and skills required to recognize discrimination and to behave in an equitable manner are not ‘natural’ or ‘inherent’ or even taught in most academic programs; and

Whereas the Equity Commissioner and/or Equity Coordinator cannot feasibly be aware of all of the policies, event planning and service provisions undertaken by SGPS executive and staff; and

Whereas the Human Rights Office has experience in implementing anti-oppression training to student government groups, in consideration of the specific organizational needs, free of charge; and

Whereas we have held two training sessions this year that included general introduction to anti-oppression issues as well as SGPS-specific training regarding, for instance, how to incorporate equity into social agendas and issues of gender parity at Council; therefore

Moved Carolyn Prouse / Nicole Day BIRT a policy be added as “P.2.9 Anti-Oppression Training” that reads: “All SGPS employees and Executive are required to participate in SGPS-specific Anti-Oppression Training for a minimum of six hours once per elected or hired term”; and
BIFRT P.2.1.4.b.iv. of SGPS policy that charges the Equity Commissioner with “organizing any applicable equity training for the Executive and other interested parties, in conjunction with the University Human Rights Office” be stricken and replaced with the following:

“Organizing the mandatory Anti-Oppression Training for all SGPS employees and Executive, in addition to organizing any other applicable equity training for the Executive and other interested parties, in conjunction with the University Human Rights Office.”

Carolyn Prouse – I think that the equity commissioner and coordinator portfolios. There are a variety of issues with these positions. These positions can act as a consultant role and token role. People can come to these individuals, but there are not mechanisms to let people know what these issues are. This way everyone on the SGPS is more aware about the various equity issues. We have had two training sessions with the human rights office and they have are specified to our needs. We want to put this into policy and put it into the broader mandate of SGPS. We’re adding this, making it mandatory, and including it in the portfolio of the commissioners.

Nora Zwingerman – Still going to cost money for paying employees.

Carolyn Prouse – When hiring is done, there is an allotment of hours given towards things like this.

Nora Zwingerman – I think the concept of free is a little misleading.

Anne-Marie Grondin – The way that this has worked so far is that no pay was added for those who attended the training. For that particular week if you did the training your X amount of hours went towards that.

Mikhail Kellawan – How different is this the equity training that we need to do in the department?

Carolyn Prouse – The accessibility training is different.

Daniel Moore – This is a specific form of oppression. This training speaks to a broader range.

Carolyn Prouse – They do overlap slightly, but ours is specific to the SGPS. The number of hours is that we did one in the summer. We are working around peoples schedules.
Carried

MOTION 02/08/11:6
Whereas social events are an important service that the SGPS provides to its members; and

Whereas the SGPS wants to be equitable in terms of addressing the needs and interests of its entire membership; and

Whereas section P.2.7.a. of SGPS (Anti-Harassment) policy reads that “The SGPS does not tolerate harassment or discrimination in any environment under its jurisdiction or during any event under its jurisdiction”; and

Whereas section P.2.1.4.b.iii. of SGPS policy charges the Equity Commissioner with “ensuring all social events hosted by the SGPS are equity-aware in all senses”; therefore

Moved Carolyn Prouse/ Jillian Burford-Grinnell BIRT policy be added to section P.2.1.4.b. that the “Equity Commissioner or Equity Commissioner’s delegate sits on the Social Committee”

Whereas section P.6.2.9.b. policy regarding the Social Committee reads: “The membership of the Committee shall be: i. the Social Commissioner, who shall chair the Committee; and ii. A minimum of three (3) appointees of Council; therefore

BIFRT policy be added to section P.6.2.9.b. that reads: iii. the Equity Commissioner or the Equity Commissioner’s delegate

Carolyn Prouse – This is similar to the last. There has been no mechanism that this part of the policy is ensured. Kali has been sitting on social committees and been discussing equity issues with these groups. This has been fairly successful. There is still not enough awareness about equity issues.

Tejinder Dhaliwal – What about social committee members receive the same training so that they can be well versed in these issues.

Carolyn Prouse – The members that are on the committee that are employed by SGPS do receive the training. This will ensure that all social events are equitable.

Iain Reeve – The training is new this year? Has this equity committee member sitting on social committees come from the notion that these needs have not
been met and there is an obvious issue?

Carolyn Prouse – This helps to broaden our approach that we are hosting. This is to respond to that and keep it heading in the right direction.

Carried

MOTION – Equity Climate Survey Policy 02/08/11:7
Whereas the SGPS is committed to respecting and advocating for equitable practices;
Whereas the SGPS is currently limited in its ability to assess the extent to which our members are faced with barriers to equity;

Whereas the Equity Climate Survey provides the SGPS with a means to document perceptions of inequity, how such inequities manifest, and avenues for redress;
Moved ____Anne-Marie Grondin___ / ____Jillian Burford Grinnell__________
BIRT that the following Policy be added to the SGPS By-Laws and Policy:

P.9.(x) SGPS Equity Climate Survey

Background
The SGPS is committed to equitable practices. Over the years, several cases of harassment, discrimination, social exclusion, and other forms of inequity affecting Queen’s student body have been noted in the press, as well as in Student Advisor and other reports. Seeing as such case evidence only provides us with information about incidents which are officially reported, the SGPS undertook to assess the experiential climate at Queen’s from the graduate and professional student perspective via a membership-wide, online survey.

Purpose
As detailed in the Equity Climate Survey Report, the SGPS Equity Climate Survey was created as a tool to document incidents pertaining to the areas mentioned above, and to identify how inequities manifest, the groups most adversely impacted, and avenues for redress. Data amassed through the survey will help to guide SGPS Executive and Staff in their pursuit of equitable organizational practices, to inform policy, and to advocate for attitudinal and institutional change. In repeating the exercise yearly, the SGPS will also be able to record longitudinal data to track variants in how inequities transpire, our members’ evolving needs, and levels of success in tackling barriers to equity.

Execution One elected member of the SGPS Executive will be responsible for:
- Chairing the Equity Climate Survey Committee.

This Committee includes, but is not limited to the following members:
-The SGPS Equity Commissioner or delegate
-At least one (1) member representative who is qualified in dealing with
statistical analyses
- At least one (1) member representative who is qualified in dealing with qualitative data analyses
- At least one (1) faculty member who has experience in conducting anti-oppressive research
- One (1) representative from Queen’s Equity Office
- One (1) representative from Queen’s University International Centre (QUIC)
- The Queen’s Student Health Cultural Counselor or equivalent
- One (1) member representative from Queen's Diversity and Equity Taskforce (DET)

In collaboration with the Equity Climate Survey Committee:
- Reviewing and improving the methodology and content of the survey on a yearly basis
- Implementing the survey once a year
- Compiling responses
- Writing a report of the findings
- Comparing and contrasting the findings of that year’s report with those of previous years.

Anne Marie Grondin – Draw your attention to the appendix section of the council package I included a report on the equity climate survey. The history behind the survey. How the equity climate survey committee was formed and the purpose of the survey. I discuss how we have moved forward with it. We are in the process of analyzing the data. Quantitatively they do not tell us a whole lot due to low response rate. This is an issue of low visibility and how it was presented. We had issues in implementation. We had 218 respondents who gave us interesting qualitative data. 218 experiences of inequity are not be seen as clinically insignificant. There were survey trolls who liked to play with surveys. 4-5 people would take 25 minutes to answer a survey and really long answers and provide very discriminatory data. The committee has recommended that we think of this year as a pilot. We should implement this as a service to the membership on a yearly basis. We would start it next year and do it in February. This would allow us to do three main things – raise awareness about the survey itself, we would be able to improve the survey as we go along and gear it towards more specific things as targeted as what was raised. It would help us to collect longitudinal data. I would like to motivate this survey as a yearly initiative.

Nicole Day – Have you considered adding a position from disability services? You are not including students having invisible disabilities. I have had issues with equity as a graduate student with invisible disabilities. Have you considered including health counseling disability services.

Anne-Marie Grondin – We did have a section in the survey about this and we struggled with wording. We did address that in the survey. As for representation
we do have someone from health and counseling services. The list doesn’t really specify what students and faculty members to look for. One reason the committee is as it is now is because when we went to the education committee they recommended that everyone who had contributed be considered the committee. This doesn’t mean that we can’t include other members. The person who is the likely contender for taking over Jinette Parsons is already sitting on the committee.

**MOTION – Equity Climate Survey Policy  02/08/11:7-M1**

Moved _____Nicole Day___ / ____Jess Hickey___________ BIRT that we amend this policy 02/08/11:7 to add one member representative from disability services.

*Carried*

Marvin Ferrer – One of the first questions was what do you identify is. I could only choose one.

Anne-Marie Grondin – The question read do you identify with one of the following groups. Those who didn’t identify with any group could not move on in the survey. The groups who ran the studentvoice surveys did a test run and this was an obvious glitch that came up afterwards. We were able to contact StudentVoice to fix the problem and extended the deadline for the survey.

Jonathan Foster – How are you ensuring that committee members are qualified for working with stats?

Anne-Marie Grondin – when we are interviewing for equity positions we do not do a test, we gear questions to test their knowledge in this area. Most of the students do research and perhaps we can use that as a strength.

**MOTION – Equity Climate Survey Policy  02/08/11:7 – AS AMENDED**

*Carried*

**MOTION 02/08/11:8**

Whereas the SGPS has established a budget line for charity and donations. The Finance & Services Committee have been approached by some of our members to bring school supplies for schools overseas who are in need.

Whereas the SGPS Finance & Services Committee have recommended the following:
Moved Jillian Burford-Grinnell/ Iain Reeve BIRT that the SGPS spend $250 to buy school supplies for those schools overseas that are in need of these supplies.

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – Each year members of education students go overseas and some do a practicum and we were contacted by a couple of them going to various countries to teach to youngsters. They asked if we had any money that they could access to be supplies. We can use our charity donation volume and we know that it will go the purpose is intended for. They can use our purchasing power to get reduced rates and we would order that for a reduced rate. We will also have a drop box for people to drop off that could be passed along. We can certainly increase the amount.

Tejinder Dhaliwal– How much are we willing to give?

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – the budget is $1000, but we wanted to leave room for other members to come forward with ideas for charitable donation.

Hannah Legh-Jones– the SGPS would be buying the supplies that students would bring over?

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – Yes.

Nora Zwingerman – How much have we spent so far?

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – None.

Yohan D’Souza – Is there a specific need?

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – Specifically members are going to el Salvador. The community does not have a school. It is just a building and then can only afford to pay a teacher for 4 hours. I have spoke with Haley Backewich. In terms of quantity we need to be realistic.

Marvin Ferrer – It is almost better to the host country to buy the products there.

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – The members who approached me asked it do this way.

Michael Bravo – The specifics of how it is dealt with will be determined at a later date.

Carried

MOTION 02/08/11:9
Whereas the following fees have been recommended for renewal by the SGPS Finance & Services Committee.

MANDATORY FEES

MOTION 02/08/11:10
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the Campus Observation Room Class A Mandatory Fee of $0.50 be renewed.

MOTION 02/08/11:11
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the Telephone Aid Line Kingston A Mandatory Fee of $0.75 be renewed.

MOTION 02/08/11:12
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the Sexual Assault Crisis Centre Kingston Class A Mandatory Fee of $1.25 be renewed.

MOTION 02/08/11:13
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the AMS Walkhome Class B (indexed to inflation) Mandatory Fee of $17.81 be renewed.

MOTION 02/08/11:14
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the Health Counselling and Disability Services Class B (indexed to inflation) Mandatory Fee of $53.46 be renewed.

OPTIONAL FEES MOTION 02/08/11:15
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the SGPS Sports Fund Class A Optional Fee of $2.00 be renewed.

MOTION 02/08/11:16
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the HIV AIDS Regional Services Class A Optional Fee of $1.00 be renewed.

MOTION 02/08/11:17
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the Reelout Class B Optional Fee (indexed to inflation) of $1.63 be renewed.

FEES FOR REFERENDUM MOTION 02/08/11:18
Moved __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / ___ Megan Bylsma _________
BIRT the CFRC Radio Class A Mandatory Fee of $3.75 be put to referendum in the following form: "Should the SGPS increase a Class A Mandatory fee from $3.75 to $4.77 (an increase of $1.02 per student) for CFRC Radio?"

MOTION 02/08/11:19
Moved ______Jillian Burford-Grinnell________ / _____ Megan Bylsma __________
BIRT the Ban Righ Centre Class A Optional Fee of $1.00 be put to referendum in the following form: "Should the SGPS renew a Class A Mandatory fee of $1.00 for the Ban Righ Centre?"

**MOTION 02/08/11:20**

Moved ______Jillian Burford-Grinnell________ / _____ Megan Bylsma __________
BIRT the Queen's Journal Class A Mandatory Fee of $3.50 be put to referendum in the following form: "Should the SGPS increase a Class A Mandatory fee from $3.50 to $6.50 (an increase of $3.00 per student) for the Queen's Journal? This fee last went to referendum in 2006-2007."

**MOTION 02/08/11:21**

Moved ______Jillian Burford-Grinnell________ / _____ Megan Bylsma __________
BIRT the following question be put to referendum in the following form: "Do you agree to the establishment of a Class B Optional Fee of $0.75 (indexed to inflation) for the Levana Gender Advocacy Centre?"

*Carried*

**Whereas the following fee has not been recommended for renewal by the SGPS Finance & Services Committee.**

**MOTION 02/08/11:22**

Moved ______Jillian Burford-Grinnell________ / ___Anne-Marie Grondin__________ BIRT the AMS Accessibility Task Force Class A Mandatory Fee of $3.00 be renewed.

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – Finances and services committee and the equity team. Formerly this fund has not benefited our membership. There have been a lot of programs that have been put forth by our members but never come to fruition. I am asking council that this will fail and the following motion and this will go into an SGPS fund that would allow our members have access to this fun.

Iain Reeve – this was a fund between AMS and SGPS and that applications could be made to this fund and we are not feeling that our applications not been considered.

Jillain Burford-Grinnell – Yes.

Iain Reeve - Are there not graduate students on the committee?

Jillain Burford-Grinnell – I don’t know.

Carolyn Prouse – We are having to do more work due to the mismanagement of this fund. And we don’t have a lot of say where this money goes. The fund itself tends to fund capital based projects. It would be nice to fund what we want to fund.
Jillian Burford-Grinnell – This motion has to fail.

Not carried

Whereas the following fee has been recommended for establishment by the SGPS Finance & Services Committee and the SGPS Equity Committee.

MOTION 02/08/11:23
Moved ____Jillian Burford-Grinnell_______ / __Sarah Waurechen___________
BIRT the following question be put to referendum in the following form: "Do you agree to the establishment of a Class A Optional Fee of $3.00 (not indexed to inflation) for the SGPS Accessibility Fund?"

MOTION 02/08/11:23-M1
Moved ____Marvin Ferrer_______ / __Ceilia Symons___________ BIRT that optional be stricken and replaced with mandatory.

Carried

MOTION 02/08/11: AS AMENDED

Carried

MOTION 02/08/11: + 30 MIN
Moved ____Jillian Burford Grinnell_______ / __Anne-Marie Grondin___________ BIRT that the SGPS council meeting be extended for thirty minutes.

MOTION 02/08/11:24
Whereas water is essential to life and a human right; and Whereas we, in Kingston, have access to safe, potable tap water; and Whereas bottled water is more expensive and less regulated, consumes more energy and releases more harmful toxins into the environment than tap water; and Whereas the Queen’s Conference on Water held on February 5th, 2011 highlighted the importance of banning bottled water from an environmental perspective; and Whereas 9 other Canadian campuses have banned bottled water thus far; and Whereas Queen’s is currently taking steps towards banning the sale of bottled water on campus; and Whereas the SGPS collaborates with Queen’s Sustainability Office, the Water Access Group, and the Canadian Federation of Students to advocate for
increased investment in water fountains and sound public water infrastructure; therefore
Moved ______Anne-Marie Grondin____ / ______Jonathan Foster________________ BIRT Council pledge its support for the next national Bottle Water Free Day, taking place on March 10, 2011.

Anne-Marie Grondin – Motion to endorse bottle water free day. Hosting events all day. Pledge your support with your vote.

Jess Hickey – Does this extend to catering services on campus?

Anne-Marie Grondin - Tricky. The university is incrementing it. We need to provide access to water and there needs to be work on water mains in the building. Going to have water in cooler on campus.

Carried

MOTION 02/08/11:25
Whereas in April 2010, Senate approved a new grade scale for implementation across all faculties and schools at Queen’s University in May 2011,
Whereas this grade scale replaces percentile grades with letter grades, thereby creating substantial “compression or lack of differentiation of grades at the top end of the scale” (SCAP Report to Senate, April 2010),
Whereas the compression of upper-class grades will impact adjudication criteria and practices for academic awards, not least in the case of Tri-Colour Council Awards,

Whereas, despite concerns raised to the Senate Committee on Academic Procedures (SCAP) about the compression of grades under the letter-grade system, “Faculties and Schools may use only a subset of the full set of grades and non-evaluative grades available if they wish” (SCAP Report to Senate, April 2010),

Whereas the straight conversion of grades, rubrics, and department or class medians from percentile to letter grades could impact students adversely,
Whereas SCAP’s April 2010 Report to Senate observes “that there may be transition issues as the grading system changes at Queen’s, particularly for students who are in-progress during the change,” and therefore “urges instructors, departments, and Faculties/Schools to be sensitive to any potential impact from the grading change and to strive to ensure that continuing students are not disadvantaged by the changes,”

MOVED __Daniel Moore_________ / _Sarah Waurechen___________BIRT Council encourage SGPS members – as students, Teaching Assistants, Teaching
Fellows, and student representatives on decision-making bodies – to participate in this transition conscientiously and with attention to the many ways this change may impact fellow students and colleagues.

Daniel Moore – The academic affairs committee met with the CTL and she brought forward her own concerns. The CTL is actively trying to coordinate and educate and make such a broad transition. This is bringing it to you in your department and certain questions that should be raised at certain points. The bigger issue concerning graduate students without percentages about applying for funding positions they have list criteria to work with. This is to increase awareness about this issue.

Iain Reeve – I have heard mixed stories about departments and graduate students. Have we set up any avenues to collect stories, complaints from graduate students so that we could act as a voice to pressure departments and administration.

Daniel Moore – We are hoping to partner with the CTL with a post follow-up mechanism.

Charan Rainford – Motion to encourage that seminars are held at the CTL for faculty and TF and TAs regarding this change for the successful transition.

Sarah Waurechen – One thing that should be emphasized should be opportunities for departments to invite CTL to do workshops.

Nora Zwingerman – This is supposed to be cheaper? This would mean different scores for undergraduate students and graduate students differently?

Iain Reeve – I don’t think it is going to save them that much money. It is more bringing us in line with a greater number of institutions. It is to create a bit more consistency.

Daniel Moore - They save money by taking out the average line.

Nora Zwingerman – They stated how the grade is input will be cheaper

Sean Richards – Cheaper because have to file all marks electronically.

Carried

MOTION 02/08/11:25
Whereas the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) at Queen’s has provided training and support on campus since 1992,
Whereas much of the CTL’s efforts have benefited and continue to benefit members of the SGPS who wish to develop effective presentation and pedagogical skills,
Whereas, on 26 January 2011, the SGPS Finances and Services Committee unanimously voted in favour of the below motion,
MOVED __Daniel Moore_________/__Jillian Burford-Grinnell_____________
BIRT the establishment of a Centre for Teaching and Learning Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of $1.25 be put to referendum in the following form: “Do you agree to the establishment of a Class B Optional fee (indexed for inflation) of $1.25 to go towards the Centre for Teaching and Learning? This fee will support pedagogical development at Queen’s University.”

Daniel Moore – Optional because not everyone wants to become a teacher. Why isn’t this part of our tuition and why we need to fund this extra service and this is because graduate studies do not necessarily mean that you are going to become a teacher.

Iain Reeve – The CTL is a fantastic resource for students. There is a real push on the CTL to improve the teaching. It could really improve teaching quality at the university.

Anne-Marie Grondin – The CTL was an amazing resource for putting together course lectures and material. They are also great for helping grad students teaching portfolios that we need to have as doctoral candidates. They can provide the training that we need but not necessarily given to us from our departments.

Carried

MOTION 02/08/11:26
Whereas there have been months of discussion and negotiation between the SGPS, the AMS and the University Administration with respect to the new Queen's Centre and the Student Life Centre (SLC). These discussions have led to the creation of two new documents: an operation and management agreement and a SLC Constitution.
MOVED __Jillian Burford-Grinnell_________/__Jonathan Foster_____________
BIRT the SGPS support the signing of the SLC Operation & Management Agreement and the revised SLC Constitution.

Jillian Burford-Grinnell – We have been discussing and negotiating this for 7-8 months. I am content with the two agreements. Should there be any questions or concerns I can take those.

Hannah Legh-Jones – Is there any reason that we need to keep discussing this
MOTION KGH Foodservice Contract 02/08/11:27
Whereas the Kingston General Hospital (KGH) has approved a plan to outsource its food provision contract to Compass Food in Toronto, a multi-billion dollar transnational corporation contracted to ship processed, frozen foods to ailing KGH patients; and
Whereas this plan will result in: the loss of millions of dollars for our local economy; employment losses for local farmers, small businesses, and hospital workers; a reduction in the quality of food offered to patients; and a greater ecological footprint; and
Whereas the plan was opposed by 79% of polled Kingston residents, the Kingston Labour Council, and City Council; therefore
Moved ______Anne-Marie Grondin____ / ___Jillian Burford-Grinnell__________ BIRT Council endorse a letter to the President and CEO of Kingston General Hospital, Ms. Leslee J. Thompson, to our MPP, the Honourable Mr. John Gerretsen, to Kingston’s Mayor, Mr. Mark Gerretsen, and the Minister of Health, the Honourable Deborah Matthews, opposing the decision to outsource KGH food services, and encouraging the development of a new, local solution.

Sample Letter of Objection
February 8, 2011
Honorable Deborah Matthews Minister of Health & Long-Term Care 80 Grosvenor Hepburn Block, 10th Floor Toronto, ON M7A 2C4
Re: Procurement and outsourcing of the foodservice contract between Kingston General Hospital and Compass Food
We, the Society of Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS) at Queen’s University (Kingston, Ontario) strongly object to Kingston General Hospital’s decision to outsource its foodservices to Compass Food.
As members of the Kingston community, we are concerned that the decision reached by the hospital’s Board of Governors will have detrimental effects for our local economy and for the environment.
As health service patrons, we feel that hospital meals should be freshly prepared and nutritional. Cost-saving measures should not take priority over our health. We expect more from our health care providers than factory-made, microwaveable meals.
We urge you to respond to our call for a local solution, and stand in solidarity with our community, including the Kingston City Council and the Kingston Labour
Council, to ask that you suspend Kingston General Hospital’s foodservice contract with Compass Food.
Respectfully yours,
The Council of the Society of Graduate and Professional Students at Queen’s University Kingston, Ontario
Anne-Marie Grondin – Attached to the package is a sample of the letter sent. A similar motion was passed by the labour council. 70% of the Kingston community that were polled support this decision. As community members or future or current patients this motion speaks to sustainability and health. Even though the decision by the board of governors has passed, the fight is not over yet. I think by sending out this letter from our perspective as students and community residents we can provide support for important struggle.

Jess Hickey – I feel there have been enough issues with health care coverage. I feel pretty strongly to provide comfortable and accurate medical care is more important than food costs and economics of local community. I am not sure if this is our place to have a position on it.

Hannah Legh-Jones – I believe the food budgets and patient care budgets are fairly separate. I think it would be important to clarify that they are separate.

Anne-Marie Grondin – The history goes pretty far back. KGH used to offer delicious local foods. The person who was COO decided that these local foods provided too much of a health risk because they could potentially go bad. Went to a new service provision. If you look at the most recent decision of the board of directors. Their arguments are based on the fact the food services are of poor quality. They are moving towards a more nutritional option, or this is their reasoning. Compass foods made the argument that their food is of high quality for a low price. They chose Compass based on this fact, without investigating other local options. I went to a town hall meeting and heard from a variety of people about the budget. Most seemed very disappointed with this decision to go with Compass. Questioned whether it was nutritional. Those at town hall wanted to push for more local initiatives. What I heard from that town hall meeting seem to be in agreement that this is a bad move and were not concerned that this would not influence their budget. The most recent decision is a further regression. They are moving towards a more questionable state.

Jess Hickey – Could we write a letter with not so much an opinion? Coming from a department that is in the hospital but write a letter that points to all the aspects of this problem. I think they are trying towards focus more money to the medical side as opposed to the lifestyle sides.

Sarah Waurechen – Would recommend tempering the language of the letter. Making provisions for specific dietary needs is difficult at a local level compared
to a corporate level.

Marvin Ferrer – I would like to speak against this motion. I don’t think we have a stake in this issue. I don’t think we have a say in this. The benefits of eating locally quite suspect and not well delineated.

Patrick Turko – Concerned that the wording of the letter is a little vague. Not sure how different our product is from that grown in California.

Anne-Marie Grondin – In Kingston’s plan to become the most sustainable city. There is an interesting section in this plan about the pillars of sustainability. We can make this a little more specific in the letter. In regards to dietary needs – I am not a food expert in Kingston. I know there are several food initiatives in addressing food concerns. We have a lot more gluten free products than a lot of other smaller cities. I also questioned this deal with Compass. I question the way this deal was met. I also question the inclusion of the Tim Horton’s in the hospital. I question whether nutrition or health are indeed the focus.

Jonathan Foster- Time sensitive? Motion to table.

**MOTION 02/08/11:27- TABLING**

Moved_ Jonathan Foster/__Jillian Burford-Grinnell__BIRT that MOTION 02/08/11:27 will be tabled until the March SGPS council meeting.

Carried

**MOTION 02/08/11:28**

MOVED __________/______________BIRT B.9.2a be amended as follows:
The following constitute the Appointees of Council, and shall be responsible for assisting Council and the Executive with a specific aspect of the SGPS' operations, and are responsible for reporting to Council: (1) Communications Commissioner (2) Social Commissioner (3) Equity Commissioner (4) International Students Affairs Commissioner (4) Education Coordinator (5) Equity Coordinator (6) International Students Affairs' Coordinator (7) Web Coordinator (webmaster) 8 (8) Logistics Coordinator (9) Planning Coordinator (10) Athletics Coordinator (11) Layout Coordinator

Not Carried

**MOTION 02/08/11:29**

MOVED __________/______________BIRT that the following P.2.10 be removed and replaced with the following P.2.1.10 International Students Affairs
The mandate of the International Students Affairs Commissioner shall be to foster an increased awareness of issues facing international students on campus and endeavour towards finding and implementing means to address these issues with appropriate people and entities on and off campus.

The minimal duties of the International Students Affairs Commissioner shall be to:

(i) ensure constant representation of Queen’s University’s international student opinions, concerns, and issues in the Equity Issues Standing Committee, Campaign and Community Affairs Standing Committee, the SGPS Council, Queen’s University International Centre Council, UHIP Compliance Working Group, Graduate Student Life Working Group, TAFA’s various bargaining and executive teams, the Rector’s Office, the SGPS Student Advisors program, the SGPS Social committee, provincial or national student organizations such as the Canadian Federation of Students, administrators that frequently deal with international student issues, and any pertinent University Senate or Board of Trustees committees.

(ii) ensure regular meetings of the SGPS International Students Standing Committee;

(iii) advise the SGPS Executive, Council, SGPS Trustee, and student Senators on how to approach and tackle international student issues;

(iv) lobby the Board of Trustees, University Senate, and the Alma-Mater Society to address international student issues with the help of student representatives;

(v) (vi) (vii) concerns;

(viii) guide and assist the development of policies regarding international student issues at the SGPS, AMS, and/or University level; and establish and maintain communication with international students and groups on campus; establish and maintain communication with equity-seeking groups on campus;

(ix) promote the organization of social, academic, outreach and political events pertaining to international students.

c. (i) (ii) (iii) the University Health Insurance Premium;

(iv) improved coverage and quality of service provided by the University Health Insurance Premium;

The International Student Affairs Commissioner shall at least promote the following causes: the reduction of financial barriers facing international students as a result of tuition fees; the promotion of grants and bursaries designated for or favouring international students; the reduction and/or removal of financial
barriers facing international students as a result of

(v) academic resources such as courses, databases, research funding, and researchers that focus on non-Western and non-North American themes;
(vi) the designation and construction of centralized and visible social space, housing, and services for international students;
(vii) sensitizing professors, staff, and students to international student needs and issues of diversity;
(viii) (ix) (x) (xi) (xii) (xiii)
d. assistance, delegation, and recommendations of the International Student Affairs Coordinator.
e. The International Student Affairs Commissioner shall report to and communicate jointly with the VP Campaigns and Community Affairs, VP Graduate, and the President of the SGPS.

P.2.1.11 International Student Affairs Coordinator
a. The mandate of the International Student Affairs Coordinator shall be to foster an increased awareness of issues facing international students on campus and endeavour towards finding and implementing means to address these issues with appropriate people and entities on and off campus.
b. The minimal duties of the International Student Affairs Coordinator shall be to: (i) chair the International Student Standing Committee in the event that no other members of the committee other than paid SGPS staff and appointees volunteer for this task; (ii) supporting and advising the International Student Affairs Commissioner in their work; (iii) attending meetings and committees as delegated by the International Student Affairs Commissioner; (iv) (v) and (vi)
c. Commissioner sensitizing SGPS staff to international student needs and issues; support services aimed at reducing cultural barriers; support services aimed at addressing culture shock; support services aimed at generating exit opportunities for international student graduates; supervisory relations that favour international students; and SGPS research on international student issues.

The International Student Affairs Commissioner shall perform their responsibilities with the organizing any events or workshops that affect international students; assisting in the development of policies and research pertaining to international students; uphold SGPS policies that favour international students. The International Student Affairs Coordinator shall report to the International Student Affairs

Not Carried

8. Other Business
9. Notice of Motions/Announcements
Reports and Motions for the next regular Council meeting are due Tuesday, March 1st, 2011. The next regular SGPS Council meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8th, 2011.

10. Adjournment
MOTION
02/08/11:30
Moved ___Sarah Waurechen________ / __Jonathan Foster_________ BIRT the SGPS Council meeting be adjourned.

02/08/11 MFB CFS-27 Attached: January Minutes Attendance January Meeting February Reports
Appendix – 1

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<td>Kalanthe Khait</td>
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<td>Amir Nosrat</td>
<td>International Students' Coordinator</td>
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<td>Becky Pero</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ivana Zelenika</td>
<td>Sustainability Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Bravo</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morgan Craig-Broadwith</td>
<td>Deputy Speaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mikhail Kellawan</td>
<td>Chief Returning Officer</td>
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