



**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 February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 6:00pm

**Ellis Hall, Room 323**

## **1. Presentations**

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Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) Ontario: Anne-Marie Grondin & Toby Whitfield

- CFS provides services to the membership and student advocacy
- Campaigns on Post-residency Fees and other provincial issues, e.g. student loans, National Copyright Reform
- Services: provide student unions and individual students with discounts
  - o ISIC cards: free for SGPS members
  - o Cost-saving, bulk purchasing programs e.g. orientation materials, purchase of textile products from Single Mothers' Cooperative instead of sweatshops
- Seats on various committees on various issues, e.g. the National Student Loan Advisory Committee to address problems brought up by students (e.g. delay of OSAP payments)
- Ontario Graduate Caucus
- Documents available at <http://www.cfsontario.ca>

## **2. Adoption of the Agenda & Minutes**

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**MOTION**

**02/12/13:1**

Moved: Matthew Scribner ([president@sgps.ca](mailto:president@sgps.ca))

Seconded: Terry Bridges ([senator@sgps.ca](mailto:senator@sgps.ca))

BIRT the agenda for February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Council meeting be adopted.

*Motion carries.*

**MOTION**

**02/12/13:2**

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

Seconded: Becky Pero ([vpg@sgps.ca](mailto:vpg@sgps.ca))

BIRT the minutes for January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Council meeting be accepted.

*Motion carries.*

### **3. Executive and Speaker Reports**

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- a. President – Matthew Scribner (report attached)
- b. VP Graduate – Becky Pero (report attached)
- c. VP Professional – Vacant (no report)
- d. VP Campaigns & Community Affairs – Matthew Shultz (report attached)
- e. VP Finance & Services – Jillian Burford-Grinnell (report attached)
  - i. Grad Club AGM to vote for departmental representatives
- f. Executive Assistant – Anne-Marie Grondin (no report)
  - i. Research on problems with room bookings; send comments to [ea@sgps.ca](mailto:ea@sgps.ca)
  - ii. Research on T4/T4As
  - iii. Rebooting Student Saver program; hired two new solicitors to canvas local businesses to increase number of discounts
- g. Speaker – James MacLeod (report attached)

#### **MOTION**

**02/12/13:3**

Moved: Becky Pero ([vpg@sgps.ca](mailto:vpg@sgps.ca))

Seconded: Matthew Scribner ([president@sgps.ca](mailto:president@sgps.ca))

BIRT the Executive and Speaker Reports be accepted.

Eric: One of the sanction deadlines was February 29<sup>th</sup>. So is it February 28<sup>th</sup> or March 1<sup>st</sup>?

James: Let's make that February 28<sup>th</sup>.

So each university is getting the same number of OGS grants?

Anne-Marie: To my understanding, yes.

*Motion carries.*

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

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- a. Graduate Student Senator – Terry Bridges (report attached)
  - i. French Studies MSc and PhD program has been suspended, but current students will finish. Still lots of questions on this matter.
  - ii. We'll be writing up on many factors affecting time-to-completion to bring up at the next SGS meeting.
- b. Graduate Student Trustee – Tony Gkotsis (no report)
- c. Committee Reports

- d. Commissioner Reports
  - i. Social Commissioner – Cassandra Kuyvenhoven (report attached)
  - ii. Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)
  - iii. Equity Commissioner: Robin Westland (report attached)
    - 1. Disability Awareness Month: opportunity for students researching disability to have their posters posted around campus; interested students can contact [equity@sgps.ca](mailto:equity@sgps.ca)
  - iv. International Students’ Affairs Commissioner: Holly McIndoe (no report)
    - 1. Holly will be sending out an email to talk to international students regarding orientation at Queen’s, looking for feedback to improve the event
- e. Other Reports
  - i. Equity Coordinator – Tian Lu (report attached)
  - ii. International Students’ Affairs Coordinator: Kris Singh (no report)
  - iii. Sustainability Coordinator – Jack Wallace (no report)
  - iv. Athletics Coordinator – Chris Harris (no report)
  - v. Logistics Coordinator – Ciara Bracken-Roche (no report)
  - vi. Planning Coordinator – Margaux MacDonald (no report)
  - vii. Rector – Nick Francis (no report)
  - viii. Chief Returning Officer – Eric Rapos (report attached)
    - 1. Election Season is underway
      - a. Both current Graduate Trustee and Senator will be ending their terms early, so positions available (Trustee, 1 year; Senator, 2 years)
      - b. Nomination forms available March 1<sup>st</sup>
      - c. Contact Eric Rapos for questions about campaign
      - d. First all-candidate debate
  - ix. Departmental Reports

**MOTION**

**02/12/13:4**

Moved: Matthew Shultz ([vpcca@sgps.ca](mailto:vpcca@sgps.ca))

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

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

Tabitha: Are the current time-to-completion rules grandfathered in, i.e. are current students affected?

Terry: We will need to check.

*Motion carries.*

## 5. Question Period/Departmental Issues

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Alyssa: A group has been sending emails to grad students indicating that all RA/grad student contracts regarding guaranteeing funding were not legally binding.

Anne-Marie: The letter of offer is not a legally-binding document, but the e-contract is an actual contract.

Jillian: The contract you sign each year is only legally-binding for that one year. We will check into this issue.

Natalie: I can't say for sure if it is legally binding or not, but the Physics department takes the letter of offer takes it seriously. If the supervisor cannot provide funding, the department will have to and there was discussion to change the wording.

Jillian: I completed a Master's in Gender Studies before getting into Law school. After receiving my letter of offer with my funding package, and there was an e-contract that I clicked. So it is the same between Sciences and Humanities. I didn't sign the letter of offer.

## 6. Business Arising From the Minutes

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None.

## 7. Main Motions

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### MOTION

02/12/13:5

Moved: Eric Rapos ([cro@sgps.ca](mailto:cro@sgps.ca))

Seconded: Matthew Scribner ([president@sgps.ca](mailto:president@sgps.ca))

Whereas SGPS Bylaws and Policies state "The Chief Returning Officer shall recommend a date for SGPS elections and referenda to Council, by bringing forth a motion to approve the recommended date. This motion shall be brought to the February Council Meeting";

BIRT SGPS Council approve March 26 and 27, 2013 as the dates for the 2013 SGPS Election and Referendum;

BIFRT the following timeline be recognized as conforming to SGPS Bylaws and Policies:

- March 1: Nomination forms made available at the SGPS Office and Online
- March 11 - 4pm: Nomination period comes to a close
- March 12: Campaign Period Begins
- March 19 - 5:30pm: Candidates Debate at the SGPS General Meeting

- March 25: Campaigning ends at Midnight
- March 26 and March 27: Online Voting

*Motion carries.*

**MOTION**

**02/12/13:6**

Moved: Nathalie Ouellette ([nouvellette@astro.queensu.ca](mailto:nouvellette@astro.queensu.ca))

Seconded: Tabitha Renaud ([11tr8@queensu.ca](mailto:11tr8@queensu.ca))

Whereas the SGS currently requires graduate students to apply for external funding from a number of government agencies; and,

Whereas punitive measures such as inadmissibility for internal scholarships and removal of guaranteed funding are applied in certain departments when these scholarship applications are not submitted; and,

Whereas transcript fees associated with these scholarship applications can amount to a non-trivial expense for graduate students and a deterrent to applying for external funding; and,

Whereas it is financially beneficial for graduate students, supervisors, departments, the SGS, and Queen's University as a whole if graduate students receive external funding for their research; and,

Whereas the Academic Affairs Standing Committee has been tasked by the SGPS Council to address the issue of mandatory scholarship applications and all related matters;

BIRT the SGPS request the Office of the Registrar to waive transcript fees for scholarship applications;

BIFRT the SGPS include this request in its upcoming list of recommendations regarding mandatory scholarship applications, if such a document is produced.

Natalie: The motion is on behalf of the Academic Standing Committee, and we found that the transcript issue was apart from everything else: we would like to not pay for transcripts.

**MOTION**

**02/12/13:6 M-1**

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

Seconded: Melissa Trezise

BIRT SGPS change "SGPS" to "SGPS Council".

*Motion to amend carries*

**MOTION**

**02/12/13:6 M-2**

Moved: Becky Pero ([vpj@sgps.ca](mailto:vpj@sgps.ca))

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

BIRT SGPS Council add “Academic Affairs Standing Committee” after “BIFRT the SGPS”

*Motion to amend carries.*

Jackie: Does this apply to all external scholarships or just Tri-council ones?

Julian: We wrote it to be generally broad. Ideally, we would like it for no transcript fee for any scholarship application. The only mandatory one would be the Tri-council one. We’ll see what happens. Since OGS is internal now, it is not necessary for that.

Natalie: I was under the impression that the external scholarships were mandatory. If we were to talk to the Registrar, we would like to include everything but we’d have to include all whereas clauses.

**MOTION**

**02/12/13:6**

*Motion carries as amended.*

**MOTION**

**02/12/13:7**

Moved: Trevor Snider

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

Whereas SGPS Council must ratify the incoming VP Professional,

Whereas the Hiring Committee recommends Council ratify David Francis as the VP Professional,

BIRT SGPS Council ratify David Francis as the VP Professional.

*Motion carries.*

**8. Other Business**

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Tony: We’ve talked about the Campus Master Plan in the last few meetings. It will determine the short- and long-term group of the university. There were consultations with internal stakeholders in January. Now is the broader consultation process, and are looking for feedback especially from graduate students. This is a great opportunity for grad students to talk about what it is like for grad students and what they’d like to see. On March 26, 1-2 pm at the ARC: speak directly with the consultants. This will go beyond your experience here, as the changes will occur in the next 5-10 years. This is the best opportunity to address the physical form of the campus. You can also comment at: [www.queensu.ca/cmp](http://www.queensu.ca/cmp).

Matt: CFRC is having their funding drive which is ending soon. They also have an online album from local talent.

## 9. Notice of Motions & Announcements

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- a. Reports and Motions for the next SGPS Council Meeting are due on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- b. The next SGPS Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

## 10. Adjournment

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### MOTION

02/12/13:8

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

Seconded: Matthew Scribner ([president@sgps.ca](mailto:president@sgps.ca))

BIRT the SGPS Council Meeting be adjourned.

*Motion carries.*

02/12/13

JAM

CFS-27

Attached:

January Minutes

January Attendance

February Reports

Name		Represents	Feb-12
Dana	Wesley	Aboriginal Rep	
Marvin	Ferrer	Anatomy & Cell Biology	
Marie-Lou	Beauchamp	Art Conservation	X
Kathleen	Adams	Art History	
Alyssa	Kirlin	Biochemistry	X
Trevor	Snider	Biology	X
Kate	Mathers	Biology	X
Julian	Chesterman	Biomedical Engineering	X
Vacant	Vacant	Biostatistics	
Tony	Gkotsis	Board of Trustees Rep	X
Ningsi	Mei	Chemistry	X
Kyle	Petrie	Chemical Engineering	

Ryan	Regier	Civil Engineering	
Vacant	Vacant	Classics	
Colleen	Webber	Community Health and Epidemiology	X
Lidija	Latifovic	Community Health and Epidemiology	
Melissa	Trezise	Computing Science	X
Simrin	Nagpal	Computing Science	X
Rami	Bahgat	Cultural Studies	
Andrea	Craig	Economics	
Lisa Alice	Mitchell	Education - Graduate - President	
Jessica	Chan	Education - Graduate M.Ed	X
Scott	Hughes	Education - Graduate PhD	X
Chris	Fiorentino	Electrical and Computer Engineering	
Patricia	Oprea	English	X
Maya	Bielinski	English	X
Byomkesh	Talukder	Environmental Studies	
Vanessa	Powell Cavell	ESS	
Alyson	Prabhu	ESS	
Lauren	Johns	ESS	X
Kristin	Boyd	ESS President	
Jennifer	Parker	ESS/SGPS Liason	
Patrick	St-Amand	French	
Kyle	Stepa	French	
Judicael	Zounmevo	GECE President	
Kaleigh	Alkenbrack	Gender Studies	
Alexandra	Giancarlo	Geography	
Sinead	Earley	Geography	
Cara	Kennedy	Geology	
Vacant	Vacant	German	
Hayley	Morgan	Global Development	
Terry	Bridges	Graduate Senator	X
Tabitha	Renaud	History	X
Matthew	Cathmoir	Industrial Relations	
Carolyn	Lee	Industrial Relations	
Bo	Liu	International Rep	
Tobias	Langguth	International Rep	X
Robert	Bentley	Kinesiology and Health Studies	X
Celina	Shirazipour	Kinesiology and Health Studies	X
Stefanie	Kullick	Languages, Literatures & Cultures	
Max	Ma	Law	X
Janet	Yang	Law	



Vacant	Vacant	Law	
Mariella	Montplisir	Law - Graduate	X
Robert	Thomson	Law - LSS President	
Aarondeep	Bains	Law Senator	X
Paul	Dion	Management	
Saeed	Akhavan Astaneh	Math and Stats	
Vacant	Vacant	Mature Student Rep	
Robert	Nishida	Mechanical and Material Engineering	
Sarah	Martz	Microbiology	
Spencer	Reeves	Mining Engineering	X
Alexander	Cushing	Mining Engineering	X
Raynold	Alorse	MPA	
Farin Babaei	Bourojeni	Neuroscience	
Jane	van de Ven-Dantes	Nursing	X
Vacant	Vacant	Part Time Rep	
Victoria	Hoskin	Pathology	
Dulcie	Lai	Pathology	
Yohan	D'Souza	Pharmacology	
Kyley	Ewing	Philosophy	X
Nathalie	Ouellette	Physics	X
Andrea	Mimee	Physiology	
Maria	Krause	Political Studies	
Alexander	Steffan	Political Studies	
Jackie	Huberman	Psychology	X
Megan	Jaquith	Public Health	
Nick	Francis	Rector	
Kristen	Gamble	Rehab Sciences (Professional)	X
Sunny	Ma	Rehab Sciences (Research)	X
Laurel	Paterson	Rehabilitation Therapy	
Vacant	Vacant	Religious Studies	
Robert	Lawson	School of Religion	
Darin	MacKinnon	School of Religion	
Gillian	Bankas	Sociology	X
Arthur	Grabowski	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	X

Annie	Clifford	VP Professional	
Cassandra	Kuyvenhoven	Social Commissioner	
Chris	Harris	Athletics Coordinator	
Ciara	Bracken-Roche	Logistics Coordinator	
Margaux	MacDonald	Planning Coordinator	
Robin	Westland	Equity Commissioner	
Aliya	Kassam	Equity Coordinator	
Holly	McIndoe		
Kris	Singh	International Students' Affairs Commissioner	
Jack	Wallace	Sustainability Coordinator	
James	MacLeod	Speaker	X
Alvin	Szeto	Deputy Speaker	X
Eric	Rapos	Chief Returning Officer	X
Anne-Marie	Grondin	Executive Assistant	X
Other Attendees			
Sara	Pavan	Student Advisor	
Victoria	Millious	Student Advisor	
Francis	David		X
Jean	Pfledierer	Human Rights Officer	X