



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, October 11th, 2011, 5:30pm

McLaughlin Room, JDUC

1. Presentations

- a. Eric Rapos – Council Orientation Presentation
 - Review of presentation from September Council orientation
- b. Canadian Federation of Students Presentation (Kimalee Phillips & Graham Cox)
 - Kimalee: Represent students both nationally and provincially.
 - One of the primary concerns is the increase in tuition fees
 - 10.6% tuition increase this year alone. Ontario students are paying the highest tuition fees and we receive the lowest per student tuition subsidies across the country
 - We wanted the provincial parties to deal with the student debt that has mounted
 - Represented both Federally and Provincially
 - More than 600, 000 members across all 10 provinces in Canada
 - Upcoming national meeting in November
 - Within federation there are constituency groups that represent aboriginal students, international students etc. + caucuses. Campaigns focused on equity & human rights
 - Purchasing power allows money to be saved, services provided by national student union (ISIC, Student Saver)
 - Annual Skills Development Symposium: weekend-long skills development conference. Contract negotiation, sponsorship, dealing with the media etc.
 - National Graduate Caucus: separate body within larger student movement allowing graduate students to sit and discuss the specific issues that are relevant to graduate students

2. Adoption of the Agenda & Minutes

MOTION

10/11/11:1

Moved: Cody Yorke (vpp@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Anne-Marie Grondin (vpcca@sgps.ca)

BIRT the agenda for the October 11th, 2011 Council Meeting be adopted.

Motion carries

MOTION

10/11/11:2

Moved: Cody Yorke (vpp@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Anne-Marie Grondin (vpcca@sgps.ca)

BIRT the minutes for the September 13th, 2011 Council Meeting be accepted

Motion carries

3. Executive and Speaker Reports

- a. VP Graduate – Irene Karagiorgakis (report attached)
- b. VP Professional – Cody Yorke (no report)
 - Cody: new to the position and have no report at this time. Report will be prepared for next meeting
- c. VP Campaigns & Community Affairs – Anne-Marie Grondin (report attached)
 - Anne-Marie: Open access week coming up. October 24-30. Fact sheet will be available in the office should you want one.
 - One update on open access: Organizing viewing parties to watch the broadcast panels for rights to research.
 - Have been talking to the librarians and we are organizing displays. These will touch on issues such as the rising costs of journal subscriptions
 - Another item: Earlier on today we had a council prep session. A good tool to review both the format and items that are to be discussed during the meeting. Will be a monthly event and all are welcome to attend.
- d. VP Finance & Services – Andrea Phillipson (report attached)
 - Andrea: I have no updates to my report

- e. Speaker – Eric Rapos (report attached)
- An update to the internal committees note. October 28th is the latest date by which I need to receive a list of your preferences for committees. Descriptions of the committees are available in the Bylaws and Policies and you are welcome to contact the Chairs for more information.
 - A lot of work has gone into the new Rector elections policy. We are currently in the nominations period for Rector elections. We are now going to be having a separate elections platform for the SGPS (to the AMS).
 - Matt Scribner: Do all committees listed have vacancies?
 - Eric: Yes, and as members of Council you have priority. Contact me for exact position numbers.
 - Andrea: Can you tell us what the Rector is?
 - Eric: The Rector is the 3rd officer of the university and student representative (all students). They are elected by both the AMS and the SGPS. The Rector sits on a number of committees and presides over convocation as well. It is the highest attainable student position. Nominations are due by tomorrow.
 - Stacey Karp: Which committee addresses the health and well being of the student body?
 - Anne-Marie: There is a Health and Wellness steering committee with 4 separate subcommittees. The list we have are internal SGPS committees. If you're interested please drop me an email.
- f. President – Jillian Burford-Grinnell (report attached)
- Jillian: I have 2 points to emphasize. I want to reiterate what the Speaker said about Rector policy, a lot of hard work has gone into this.
 - Daniel has noted some issues about the Academic Plan and I urge you all to contribute to this process are there are a number of concerns

MOTION

10/11/11:3

Moved: Anne-Marie Grondin (vpcca@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Andrea Phillipson (vpfs@sgps.ca)

BIRT the Executive and Speaker Reports be accepted.

Motion carries

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

- a. Graduate Student Senator – Daniel Moore (report attached)
- 2 items I had mentioned from the last Senate meeting. 1: Academic Planning Task Force – queensu.ca/saptf. There are very few comments about graduate studies in their 80 page report about where Queen’s should go next. I was hoping for a more detailed explanation about what Queen’s thinks they should do about graduate studies. You can read and comment on this report online.
 - Another point: Senator Moreli is moving that Queen’s add to the new grading system to include percentile marks as well. This seems last minute to me given we dealt with this last year. If you have concerns please get in touch with me. As many of you know, the Academic Affairs committee released a report on RAs and it seems the SGPS is investigating how RAs can claim non-employment status. Last week the SGS emailed me to ask me to retract the report. I have yet to respond because they have not detailed why they want it retracted, and it is not one individual’s responsibility to retract a report that comes from an entire committee. We feel that we should be asking the SGS to put in writing these concerns.
 - Lauren McNicol: Can you comment on the message of dissent from the Academic Planning Task Force?
 - Daniel: (realacademicplanning.wordpress.com) It seems that there are concerns with how the process unfolded. Some parts of the academic plan were written last minute and without consultation from the members and seemingly moving towards virtualization in a potentially problematic fashion.
 - Jillian: Just to add, Senator Jones was on sabbatical for the last few months and when he came back the project was very different than from when he left. When we discussed the concerns about how graduate students who TA fit into this plan, the Dean of the SGS was quick to point out that TAships should be for graduate students only.
 - Anne-Marie: I am surprised with these new things that were stuck in there without consultation. When the plan was to be set to be implemented one of the main reasons the campus revolved was that we may be moving towards virtualization and e-Learning (not necessarily cost-saving). This had implications for jobs etc and sounds like it is an

important point. Has this generated any movement to oppose the plan as it stands/will it be revised?

- Daniel: Much of the feedback has been fairly negative. As for the virtualization (called blended learning) it seems that the first recommendation from the task force is to tell all departments to adopt a task-based learning model which is essentially blended learning. This means you listen to a lecture online and then come to class to learn things. This is OK for some disciplines, but not for all, as Senator MacLean highlighted. The Principal has asked that we just accept the concept of the pillars but not necessarily the blended learning.
- b. Graduate Student Trustee – Benjamin Grant (no report)
- Thru Jillian: Nothing from the Board of Trustees to report. No voting issues.
- c. Committee Reports
- Nathalie Oulette: Invite to join our committee. We meet once per month for an hour to deal with academic affairs such as the grading scheme change etc. We are especially looking for Engineering, Law, Business, and Urban Planning. Interested? Contact Irene.
- d. Commissioner Reports
- i. Social Commissioner – Abdullah Abunafeesa (report attached)
 - Thru Meaghan Frauts: On the 21st of October 7pm Biosciences Atrium we are screening PhD comics. Please let your faculty know as we are one of the few schools in North America that are able to screen this.
 - Derek: How many tickets will be available?
 - Jillian: About 450
 - ii. Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)
 - iii. Equity Commissioner: Elizabeth Amirault (no report)
 - I did want to say that there are still positions available on the Equity Senate Committee.
 - iv. International Students’ Affairs Commissioner: Becky Pero (report attached)
- e. Other Reports
- i. Equity Coordinator – Aliya Kassam (no report)
 - ii. International Students’ Affairs Coordinator: Holly McIndoe (combined with International Students’ Affairs Commissioner Report)
 - iii. Sustainability Coordinator – Ivana Zelenika (report attached)
 - iv. Athletics Coordinator – Meaghan Frauts (no report)
 - v. Logistics Coordinator – Chris Groten (no report)

- vi. Planning Coordinator – Cassandra Kuyvenhoven (no report)
- vii. Rector – Vacant (no report)
- viii. Chief Returning Officer – Mikhail Kellawan (no report)
- ix. Provincial Elections Campaign Organizer – Andrew Stevens (report attached)
- x. Departmental Reports
 - Matt Scribner: There are a couple of conferences coming up: Modern Horizons – October 21st (all day). In addition, Come Together 2012, there is still a call for papers out with a deadline of October 21st.
 - Elizabeth: The 119th Annual Theological Conference (17-18 October). Student admission is free. Questions should be directed to the Queen’s School of Religion.
 - Derek Gray: Regarding registration issues and student payouts for scholarships. A number of students in our department were not registered and had subsequent issues because of this. We are voicing our dissatisfaction regarding this.
 - Jillian: We have not finished dealing with the Registrar over this issue.
 - Nathalie: I would suggest you email your concerns to Irene who is meeting with the Registrar’s office tomorrow and we are compiling a list of these issues.
 - Lurn McNicol: Reminder that we can refer you to the various resources across campus. Feel free to contact us. I also wanted to report on a workshop from last Tuesday. We dealt with issues of the Student-Supervisor relationship and we will have several more workshops on this.
 - Eric: Design Our Tomorrow is a conference (series of speakers) given a few minutes to talk in TED-talk fashion. Designourtomorrow.com – tickets are free to students and you are only responsible for transportation (we have a bus for \$15).

MOTION

10/11/11:4

Moved: Anne-Marie Grondin (vpcca@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Andrea Phillipson (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

10/11/11:5

Moved: Cody Yorke (vpp@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mikhail Kellawan (cro@sgps.ca)

Whereas at the last Council Meeting, Council tasked the Bylaw and Policy Revisions Standing Committee to create policy on Leaves of Absence,

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of the following Bylaw Section:

B.12 Leaves of Absence

a. Any member of the Executive, any Appointee of Council, or any Officer of Council, may request to take a leave of absence from their position for the following reasons:

- (1) Medical Leave
- (2) Family Emergencies
- (3) Other Extraneous Circumstances as Approved

b. The maximum period of time for leave of absence is four (4) months.

c. A member must submit their request for a leave of absence in writing to the Executive of the Society. The Executive will then assess the request, which must be approved by at least three (3) members of the Executive. The Executive will take into account the amount of time requested, and the amount of time remaining in the term when assessing the request.

d. The Executive will assess the request and provide a response no later than one week from receiving the written request.

e. Upon approving a request for a leave of absence, the executive will then fill the position by finding a suitable replacement. The proposed replacement must be approved by at least three (3) members of the Executive.

f. Once approved by the executive, the replacement will begin filling the position immediately, and must be approved by a majority vote of Council at the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

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g. No pay will be issued to the person on a Leave of Absence. Instead, the amount that would regularly be paid to the person in that position will be paid to the interim replacement.

h. The interim replacement will hold all the same rights and responsibilities as the person taking leave for their tenure in the position.

i. Once leave has been approved, and a replacement found, the term of the leave will be no shorter than the amount originally requested. A person on leave may not return early, and must wait until the end of their approved leave to return. At such a time, the interim replacement will be responsible for facilitating a smooth transition back into the position to the original holder. This includes familiarizing them with recent work, and current projects.

j. If at the end of the approved leave, the person does not return to the position, the interim replacement will continue to fill the position for the remainder of the term, subject to the approval of Council, by a majority vote of Council at the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

Eric: This is the result on there being no policy on leaves of absence. This will not take effect until approved at the AGM.

Andrea: Amendment - adding "if it is possible to do so" re: submitting request.

MOTION

10/11/11:5 M1

Moved: Andrea Phillipson (vpfs@sgps.ca)

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

BIRT that the SGPS Council amend a) to include "if it is possible to do so", when submitting a request for a leave of absence

Lauren: The concern relates to the writing rather than the request?

Andrea: Yes

Motion to amend carries

Point of Information: How do we find a suitable replacement?

Jillian: It would be from the same location ie: VP Professional replacement would come from the Professional students.

Eric: The Executive do have the responsibilities to make sure the replacement meets the requirements.

Stacey Karp: Medical leave – is that defined by the SGS Bylaw around medical leave?

Jillian: You do not need to go on medical leave from the institution itself (ie: from the SGS, Law, Education Faculty etc.). Something may happen that could prevent me from continuing as President but not necessarily from continuing my studies.

MOTION

10/11/11:5 M2

Moved: Stacey Karp

Seconded: Andrea Phillipson (vpfs@sgps.ca)

BIRT the SGPS Council amend the Leaves of Absence policy B.12 to include parental leave

Anne-Marie: I would speak in favour of this as it is in line with the SGS policy.

Daniel: Is it misleading to call it parental leave if it is not paid?

Eric: We do state unpaid.

Lauren: Would Daniel's concern be addressed by stating upfront an unpaid leave of absence, or does parental leave generally imply paid?

Andrea: the SGS calls it parental leave and it is unpaid, so I think we are OK.

Eric Peterson: These are relatively unforeseen events. Parental leave can be foreseen to some degree (9 months), so perhaps you should not be running if you know you are going to have a child.

Tony: I don't know if you can say that.

Eric: Well you may find out after the fact that you may not be able to do everything that you thought you could as a parent.

Stacey Karp: Parental leave could also include individuals who are adopting, and this can be sudden.

Cody: We need to keep in mind that leaves of absence is different from vacating a position. If somebody thinks they need longer than 4 months they could vacate the position.

Motion to amend carries

MOTION

10/11/11:5

Melissa: Is there a minimum timeline to apply for leaves of absence?

Eric: Short terms are not necessary, but should one be requested it is up to the Executive reviewing the request.

Melissa: I see a problem with someone assuming that a 3 week leave is OK without approval.

Jillian: We have had members of the Executive with children/have emergencies arise. Part of working as a team means that in those moments the rest of the team has to pick up the slack and the favour is returned later. I see your concern but am not sure if we can effect this in policy.

Anne-Marie: I think that it is good to have this flexibility as you don't necessarily know how long it is going to last for. It also places on onus on the Executive to boot you out if that time elapses. They are capable of assessing whether the situation will be resolved or whether there will be a problem.

Tony: With the amendment we just added, we do not have this in writing so that means that the Executive has the power to make these decisions.

Eric: A lot of this has to do with the varying range of positions that this bylaw covers. It is up to the Executive to weigh this, therefore it should be on a case-by-case basis.

MOTION

09/13/11: +30 Minutes

Moved: Eric Peterson

Seconded: Julian Chesterman

BIRT SGPS Council meeting be extended by 30 minutes

Motion carries

MOTION

10/11/11:5

Motion carries as amended

7. Main Motions

MOTION

10/11/11:6

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

Seconded: Andrea Phillipson (vpfs@sgps.ca)

Whereas the SGPS requires a Judicial Committee comprised of seven members of Council,

Whereas there are seven vacant spots on the SGPS Judicial Committee to be filled by SGPS Council Members,

BIRT SGPS Council approve <insert name here>, <insert name here>, <insert name here>, <insert name here>, <insert name here>, <insert name here> and <insert name here> as members of the SGPS Judicial Committee.

Eric: As chair of this committee we deal with non-academic discipline who are members of the SGPS.

Complaints by Student Constables or other students. For each complaint there is a judicial board formed. They also deal with any issues that come up during the Rector elections.

Matt: What if one of my friends was running for Rector, is this a conflict of interest?

Self Nominations

Alex Steffan

Tony Gkotsis

Yohan D'Souza

Gillian Bankas

Kayleigh Alkenbrach
Julian Chesterman
Matthew Scribner

MOTION

10/11/11:6 M1

Moved: Jillian Burford-Grinnell (president@sgps.ca)
Seconded: Daniel Moore

BIRT the SGPS Council insert the following names, Alex Steffan, Tony Gkotsis, Yohan D'Souza, Gillian Bankas, Kayleigh Alkenbrach, Julian Chesterman, and Matthew Scribner, where there is a blank above.

Motion to amend carries

MOTION

10/11/11:6

Motion carries as amended

MOTION

10/11/11:7

Moved: Jillian Burford-Grinnell (president@sgps.ca)
Seconded: Anne-Marie Grondin (vpcca@sgps.ca)

Whereas the SGPS requires joint policy with the AMS to deal with election and removal of the Rector,

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of the Rector policy, as seen in the appendices.

Eric: We have been writing this over the past month. To briefly summarize: This is joint policy with the AMS and is to be identical to what they have. Any changes to be made in the future must be passed at both the AMS and SGPS Councils. Campaigning follows typical campaign rules. Expenses are capped at \$350 (subject to approval)

Matthew: P.X.2 a) also occurs when the term is up?

Jillian: Yes, terms are 3 years.

Motion carries

MOTION

10/11/11:8

Moved: Jillian Burford-Grinnell (president@sgps.ca)
Seconded: Cody Yorke (vpp@sgps.ca)

Whereas Rector Election Policy requires the spending limit for Rector Elections to be approved by SGPS Council,

BIRT SGPS Council approves a spending limit of \$350 for this rector election.

Eric: This figure comes from the AMS and SGPS amounts for Executive elections.

Motion carries

MOTION

10/11/11:9

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

Seconded: Anne-Marie Grondin (vpcca@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approves the appointment of Scott Carey to the Student Life Center Council as a representative of the SGPS.

Jillian: The SLC Council representative (previous) has been unable to make the meetings so we are to appoint a new representative.

Motion carries

8. Other Business

9. Notice of Motions & Announcements

- a. Reports and Motions for the next regular SGPS Council Meeting are due on Tuesday November 1st, 2011.
- b. The next regular SGPS Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 8th 2011.

10. Adjournment

MOTION

10/11/11:10

Moved: Andrea Phillipson (vpfs@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Daniel Moore (senator@sgps.ca)

BIRT the SGPS Council Meeting be adjourned.

Motion carries

10/11/11

EJR

CFS-27

Attached:

September Council Meeting Minutes

Attendance September Council Meeting

October Reports

Appendices to Motions

SGPS Council Attendance (October)

Name		Represents	
Vacant	Vacant	Aboriginal Rep	
Marvin	Ferrer	Anatomy & Cell Biology	
Daniela	Vogel	Art Conservation	
Chantal	Valkenborg	Art History	X
Johanna	Plant	Art History	
Namit	Sharma	Biochemistry	
Derek	Gray	Biology	X
Celia	Symons	Biology	
Julian	Chesterman	Biomedical Engineering	X
Vacant	Vacant	Biostatistics	
Ben	Grant	Board of Trustees Rep	
Vacant	Vacant	Chem Eng (CEGSA) President	
Eric	Peterson	Chemical Engineering	X
Matthew	Schuster	Chemistry	
Jack	Wallace	Civil Engineering	X
Vacant	Vacant	Classics	
David	Wallace	Community Health and Epidemiology	X
Katie	Killorn	Community Health and Epidemiology	
Melissa	Treize	Computing Science	X
Haroon	Malik	Computing Science	
Jaspreet	Bal	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	X
Matthew	Scribner	English	X
Patricia	Oprea	English	X
Mike	McHugh	Environmental Studies	
Vacant	Vacant	ESS	
Rebecca	ReginorId	ESS	
Sunny	Moondi	ESS	
Derek	Smalls	ESS Liason to SGPS	
Tyler	Kenopic	ESS President	
Sarah	Jacoba	French	X
Judicael	Zounmevo	GECE President	
Kaleigh	Alkenbrack	Gender Studies	X

Gentry	Hanks	Geography	
Sarah	Allux	Geography	
Ryan	Dhillon	Geology	
Corina	Fonyodi-Szarka	German	
Hayley	Morgan	Global Development	
Daniel	Moore	Graduate Senator	X
Doug	Nesbitt	History	
Minoo	Kianizad	Industrial Relations	
Sima	Zakani	International Rep	
Holly	McIndoe	International Rep	
Gifferd	Ko	Kinesiology and Health Studies	X
Stefanie	Kullick	Languages, Literatures & Cultures	
Stephanie	Timerman	Law	
Brittany	Sargent	Law	
Jeremy	D'Souza	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	
Andrew	Purssell	Microbiology	X
Brett	Owens	Mining Engineering	
Brandon	Chambers	Mining Engineering	
Raynold	Alorse	MPA	X
Ethan	Zhao	Neuroscience	
Stacey	Karp	Nursing	X
Lisa	Hughes	Part Time Rep	
Victoria	Hoskins	Pathology	
Dulcie	Lai	Pathology	
Yohan	D'Souza	Pharmacology	X
Nikoo	Najand	Philosophy	X
Nathalie	Ouellette	Physics	X
Andrea	Mimee	Physiology	
Steffan	Alexander	Political Studies	X
Brock	Criger	Psychology	
Megan	Jaquith	Public Health	
Vacant	Vacant	Rector	

Janice	Phe	Rehab Sciences (Professional)	X
Ian	Gilchrist	Rehab Sciences (Research)	
Vacant	Vacant	Rehabilitation Therapy	
Caleigh	Lyn-Piluso	Religious Studies	
Gillian	Bankas	Sociology	X
Vacant	Vacant	Theology	
Darin	MacKinnon	Theology Senator	
Tony	Gkotsis	Urban and Regional Planning	X
Sean	Richards	Executive Director	X
Jillian	Burford-Grinnell	President	X
Andrea	Phillipson	VP Finance	X
Anne-Marie	Grondin	VP Campaigns & Community Affairs	X
Irene	Karagiorgakis	VP Graduate	
Cody	Yorke	VP Professional	X
Abdullah	Abunafeesa	Social Commissioner	
Meaghan	Frauts	Athletics Coordinator	X
Chris	Groten	Logistics Coordinator	
Cassandra	Kuyvenhoven	Planning Coordinator	
Elizabeth	Amirault	Equity Commissioner	X
Aliya	Kassam	Equity Coordinator	
Becky	Pero	International Students' Affairs Commissioner	
Holly	McIndoe	International Students' Affairs Coordinator	
Ivana	Zelinka	Sustainability Coordinator	
Daniel	Moore	Graduate Student Senator	X
Eric	Rapos	Speaker	X
James	MacLean	Deputy Speaker	X
Mikhail	Kellawan	Chief Returning Officer	
Andrew	Stevens	Elections Coordinator	
Other Attendees			
Lauren	McNicol	Student Advisor	X