



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 9th, 2012, 5:30pm

McLaughlin Room, JDUC

1. Presentations

Denise Stockley – Acting Director, Center for Teaching and Learning

<http://www.queensu.ca/ctl/index.html>

Contact ctl@queensu.ca for more information.

2. Adoption of the Agenda & Minutes

MOTION

10/09/12:1

Moved: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

BIRT the agenda for the October 9th, 2012 Council Meeting be adopted.

Eric: Please correct the dates for the motions on the October agenda.

Motion carries.

MOTION

10/09/12:2

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

Seconded: Becky Pero (vpg@sgps.ca)

BIRT the minutes for September 11th, 2012 Council Meeting be accepted.

Motion carries.

3. Executive and Speaker Reports

- President – Matthew Scribner (report attached)
- VP Graduate – Becky Pero (report attached)
- VP Professional – Annie Clifford (report attached)
- VP Campaigns & Community Affairs – Matthew Shultz (report attached)
 - CFS Ontario “Post-residency Fees Now” Campaign to decrease time-to-completion
- VP Finance & Services – Jillian Burford-Grinnell (report attached)
- Executive Assistant – Anne-Marie Grondin (report attached)
- Speaker – James MacLeod (report attached)

MOTION

10/09/12:3

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

Seconded: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT the Executive and Speaker Reports be accepted.

Motion carries.

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

- Graduate Student Senator – Terry Bridges (report attached)
- Graduate Student Trustee – Tony Gkotsis (no report)
 - i. At BoT Meeting, next stage in undergraduate student housing will be move forward, which should move forward room for graduate housing. I believe we still have the hotel this year.
 - ii. University proposed mandate statement on moving forward in reply to the Ministry, discussion will proceed between the two governing bodies
 - iii. Senate and Trustee retreat happened recently, first in a decade
- Committee Reports
- Commissioner Reports
 - i. Social Commissioner – Cassandra Kuyvenhoven (no report)
 - ii. Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)
 - iii. Equity Commissioner: Robin Westland (report attached)
 - iv. International Students’ Affairs Commissioner: Holly McIndoe (report attached)
- Other Reports
 - i. Equity Coordinator – Ian Fanning (no report)
 - ii. International Students’ Affairs Coordinator: Kris Singh (report attached)
 - iii. Sustainability Coordinator – Jack Wallace (no report)
 - Plans to make Queen’s carbon neutral by 2040
 - 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)
- ix. Departmental Reports
 - Patricia Oprea (English): At the English department meeting, discussion regarding the distribution of financial aid (i.e. QGA).
 - Victoria Hoskin (Pathology and Molecular Medicine): Regarding award payments, there have been a number of student complaints as to when the students will receive their rewards. Before each department handled the awards independently but now everything goes through the SGS, and increased paperwork through SGS results in a delay when the students receive their awards. Many students are dependent on these awards to be paid on time, which affects their ability to pay for tuition and rent. Graduate assistants don't have an answer to this and students are frustrated when they are told they need to find alternate arrangements, and it doesn't seem there'll be a resolution by January.
 - Cara Kennedy (Geology): We are currently discussion the issue of time-to-completion and are discussion ways to help students stay on track.

MOTION

10/09/12:4

Moved: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

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

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

Motion carries.

5. Question Period/Departmental Issues

Becky: Is there a funding letter?

Patricia: Yes, there is a funding letter

Holly McIndoe: Previously, we received a letter for the amount of the award and when it will be received. Now, the personnel do not think it's possible to predict the amount of QGA (Queen's Graduate Award that will be received.

Melissa Trezise: You don't really know what's going to happen where the funding will come from. They don't really tell us where it's coming from.

Terry: In Education, we usually know by late summer. So we know it's possible to be done earlier.

Eric: It's kind of black box model, if you haven't received all of it by the end of term, then you should be asking questions.

Alyssa: Last year, our graduate secretary had a whole spreadsheet ready as to who gets what before September. This year, when my award was given to me it was after the first of September since they were backed up on some paperwork.

Tabitha: If you enrol in the payment plan, it seems to be okay. But some people don't want to make monthly payments.

Victoria: It's new that this award is being shuttled through SGS, but in previous years it didn't.

Becky Pero: I'm happy to have the conversation with SGS directly regarding external awards. But doesn't QGA come through Student Awards?

Anne-Marie: Maybe it will be a good idea to document your troubles and it would seem appropriate to send an email to Becky about your concerns, since she deals with them directly.

Victoria: I just wanted to say that this problem is specifically with external awards in our department.

James: So Becky will report back next meeting with an update.

Alyssa: This is not a departmental issue, but more of a graduate resources issue. A student contacted me and she just had a child. She said she had contacted SGPS but was directed to the City of Kingston. I don't know all the details, but she wanted to know if there are any resources that can be made available.

Jillian Burford-Grinnell: The only reason I can think of as to why she was referred to the City of Kingston would be because she needed subsidy. If she needs any information, she should contact me because I'm familiar with this situation. We'll look into finding a way to but some resources on the website.

Cara Kennedy: Does anyone know if Annual Progress Reports are effective.

Becky: In some departments, they are only required for PhD students as of 2012.

Anne-Marie: The SGS has a guide discussing the effectiveness of the progress reports. You can find it on the website under Bylaws and Policies. You can also check our previous minutes on discussions on this issue.

6. Business Arising From the Minutes

MOTION (First Reading)

10/09/12:5

Moved: Eric Rapos (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Whereas SGPS Elections currently take place during a time which coincides with Queen's University Reading Week, and this leads to a large portion of the campaign period being lost; and,

Whereas the effective start date for our Executive is April 1st, which is out of sync with many other University bodies; and,

Whereas the SGPS currently excludes a large number of its membership from filling commissioner and coordinator positions in the spring;

BIRT SGPS Council approve the first reading of the bylaw changes, and approve the policy changes (subject to second approval of bylaws) as seen in Appendix 1, which address these concerns; and,

BIFRT the current SGPS Executive members' terms be extended to end on April 30, 2013 to allow for a smooth transition for the new Executive; and,

BIFRT the current Commissioners and Coordinators will be offered an extension of their current terms, subject to a performance evaluation, to end on October 31, 2013, and in the event they decline, hiring will be done for interim replacements for the Term of May 1, 2013 – October 31, 2013.

MOTION

10/09/12:5 M-1

Moved: Eric Rapos (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Max Ma

BIRT SGPS Council replace "by a process delineated by SGPS Policies" with "at the beginning of the Fall term"

BIFRT SGPS Council remove instances of "-elect" from B.6.c.

Motion to amend carries.

MOTION

10/09/12:5

Motion carries as amended.

MOTION

10/09/12:6

Moved: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Becky Pero (vpg@sgps.ca)

Whereas, in accordance with SGPS Policy P.5.2.2.f, "Any two voting members of Council may place items on the agenda of a Council Meeting" and "Two voting members of Council may also add items that are strictly matters of a housekeeping nature to the agenda of a Council Meeting";

Whereas, this is out of keeping with the practices of comparable bodies, such as Queen's University Senate or the plenary meetings of the Canadian Federation of Students, which require a seconder to consider motions but which only require a mover to place motions on the agenda;

Whereas, the 2011-2012 SGPS Executive, in their report for the March 2012 General Meeting, recommend that the SGPS "Consider changing policy so two voting member are not need[ed] to add an item to the agenda. It would be better to give councillors an opportunity to second motions so they can get accustomed to active participation";

BIRT Policy P.5.2.2(f) be replaced in its entirety with:

"f. Any member of Council, excluding ex-officio honorary members, may place items on the agenda of a Council meeting by giving written notice to the Speaker at least seven days in advance of the meeting.";

BIFRT new Policies, P.5.2.2(g)- P.5.2.2(h), be created as follows:

"g. Items that are strictly of a housekeeping nature may be added to the agenda by any member of Council, excluding ex-officio honorary members, without notice by presenting them to the Speaker before the meeting begins.

h. Items placed on the agenda may only be moved and seconded by a voting member of Council"

BIFRT the lettering of the rest of P.5.2.2 be adjusted to reflect these additions.

MOTION

10/09/12:6 M-1

Moved: Eric Rapos (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Cara Bracken-Roche

BIRT SGPS Council modify h. to read: "Items placed on the agenda may only be seconded by a voting member of Council

Motion to amend carries.

MOTION

10/09/12:6

Motion carries as amended.

7. Main Motions

MOTION

10/09/12:7

Moved: Eric Rapos (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Whereas the Council and General Meeting dates for the 2012-2013 year must be ratified by SGPS Council,

Whereas the date of the Winter General Meeting is yet to be determined,

BIRT SGPS Council ratify Tuesday, March 19th, 2013 as the date of the Winter General Meeting

Motion carries.

MOTION

10/01/12:8

Moved: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Becky Pero (vpg@sgps.ca)

Whereas the President of the SGPS, the President of the AMS, and the Associate Dean of Student Affairs have in good faith negotiated a fee protocol for the collection of Student Activity Fees by Queen's University on behalf of the SGPS and the AMS,

Whereas the document is of crucial importance to the finances of the Society,

Whereas SGPS Council should be consulted on such matters,

BIRT SGPS Council recommend that the President sign a fee protocol on behalf of the Society,

BIFRT SGPS Council recommend that the final fee protocol signed reflect in spirit the draft protocol as seen in the appendix.

MOTION

10/01/12:8 M-1

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

Seconded: Jane van de Ven-Dantes

BIRT SGPS council recommend that the president signed fee protocol on behalf of the society provided that clause 2.9 is removed.

Motion to amend carries.

Paul Dion: If the university is dead set on putting in the fees, is there a ceiling to that so we know how much we're in for?

Tony: I'm afraid that if we include that limit, that will be the de facto amount they will take.

Anne-Marie: I just wanted to say that this conversation exists elsewhere, not just at Queen's.

MOTION

10/01/12:8

Motion carries.

MOTION

10/01/12:9

Moved: Becky Pero (vpg@sgps.ca)

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

Whereas UHIP has repeatedly been identified by the SGPS International Student's Commission and the Student Advisors as an issue for international graduate and professional students at Queen's; and

Whereas the SGPS recommended, in 2007, that a bursary be established to address the costs of UHIP for international students; and

Whereas, at this time, the bursary has been sufficiently researched and one such bursary would not be financially feasible for the SGPS to undertake alone; and

Whereas efforts to secure financial support from sources outside the SGPS have been as of yet unfruitful, in great part due to a lack of understanding about UHIP, its history and its function;

BIRT that the SGPS Special UHIP Bursary Committee be dissolved; and

BIFRT the International Students' Commission be tasked with educating students, staff, and faculty about the discrepant impacts of UHIP on international students; and

BIFRT the International Students' Commission be tasked to advocate for OHIP for international students.

Motion carries.

Holly: There has been a committee for three years, but it hasn't actually sat. A reason why is because there isn't a way for the SGPS to pay for each international student. The reason why it's difficult to get funding beyond the SGPS because the UHIP has been seen to a solution to a problem as opposed to a problem in itself. There's very little understanding around UHIP for international students, domestic students and graduate assistants. In order for it to be addressed, there needs to be a wider understanding on campus as to what UHIP is?

Jane: Have international students been covered by OHIP in the past?

Holly: Up to 1994, and UHIP was created as a response to that.

8. Other Business

MOTION

10/01/12:9 E1

Moved: Matthew Shultz (vpcca@sgps.ca)

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

Whereas the AMS Board has repeatedly refused to approve the CFRC's budget, citing an unsustainable operating deficit and,

Whereas the 2012-13 budget deficit is in part a result of the AMS offloading numerous operating costs onto the CFRC and,

Whereas, citing this operating deficit, the AMS Board has without warning or substantive supporting argument, terminated the position of CFRC Business Manager, decreeing that it be replaced with a volunteer position, with no plan provided for transition or training of the volunteer, and,

Whereas the Business Manager is an integral part of both CFRC operations and fundraising, such that the absence of this position has hampered CFRC's ability to conduct normal operations, train new volunteers, and raise funds, with several thousand dollars in fundraising already lost due to the position's abrupt termination and,

Whereas the absence of the Business Manager presents a direct threat to the continued viability of CFRC, the world's oldest campus community radio station,

BIRT SGPS Council direct the SGPS Executive to write an open letter to the AMS Board, condemning the decision of the Board to terminate the Business Manager, and calling on the Board to reverse its decision and to reinstate the Business Manager.

Alyssa: Since the SGPS pays into the CFRC, why doesn't the SGPS have some sort of say?

Matt Scribner: There is an advisory board with an SPGS representative but the AMS does not have to consult with them first to make a decision.

Paul Dion: Did they propose a business plan with regard to their decision?

Matt Shultz: There was no business plan for this decision as to how to train the volunteers, etc.

Motion carries.

9. Notice of Motions & Announcements

- Reports and Motions for the next SGPS Council Meeting are due on Tuesday, November 6th 2012.
- The next SGPS Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 13th 2012.

10. Adjournment

MOTION

10/01/12:10

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

Seconded: Matthew Scribner (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT the SGPS Council Meeting be adjourned.

Motion carries.

10/01/12

JAM

CFS-27

Attached:

September Minutes

October Reports

September Attendance

Appendix 1

Student Life Centre Shared Space Policy

Ancillary Fee Protocol

Name		Represents	Present
Dana	Wesley	Aboriginal Rep	
Marvin	Ferrer	Anatomy & Cell Biology	
Marie-Lou	Beauchamp	Art Conservation	X
Kathleen	Adams	Art History	X
Alyssa	Kirlin	Biochemistry	X
Derek	Gray	Biology	
Celia	Symons	Biology	
Julian	Chesterman	Biomedical Engineering	
Vacant	Vacant	Biostatistics	
Tony	Gkotsis	Board of Trustees Rep	
Ningsi	Mei	Chemistry	
Kyle	Petrie	Chemical Engineering	
Ryan	Regier	Civil Engineering	X
Vacant	Vacant	Classics	
Colleen	Webber	Community Health and Epidemiology	X
Lidija	Latifovic	Community Health and Epidemiology	X
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	
Kristy	Chown	ESS	
Vanessa	Powell Cavell	ESS	
Steven	Meece	ESS	
Lauren	Johns	ESS	X
Kristin	Boyd	ESS President	
Jennifer	Parker	ESS/SGPS Liason	
Patrick	St-Amand	French	
Kyle	Stepa	French	X
Judicael	Zounmevo	GECE President	
Kaleigh	Alkenbrack	Gender Studies	

Alexandra	Giancarlo	Geography	X
Sinead	Earley	Geography	
Cara	Kennedy	Geology	X
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	X
Tobias	Langguth	International Rep	X
Robert	Bentley	Kinesiology and Health Studies	X
Stefanie	Kullick	Languages, Literatures & Cultures	
Max	Ma	Law	X
Janet	Yang	Law	
Vacant	Vacant	Law	
Jie	Tang	Law - Graduate	
Robert	Thompson	Law - LSS President	
Aarondeep	Bains	Law Senator	
Paul	Dion	Management	X
Saeed	Akhavan Astaneh	Math and Stats	
Vacant	Vacant	Mature Student Rep	
Robert	Nishida	Mechanical and Material Engineering	
Sarah	Martz	Microbiology	
Spencer	Reeves	Mining Engineering	
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	X
Dulcie	Lai	Pathology	
Yohan	D'Souza	Pharmacology	
Kyley	Ewing	Philosophy	X
Nathalie	Ouellette	Physics	X
Andrea	Mimee	Physiology	
Maria	Krause	Political Studies	X
Alexander	Steffan	Political Studies	

Jackie	Huberman	Psychology	X
Megan	Jaquith	Public Health	
Nick	Francis	Rector	
Kristen	Gamble	Rehab Sciences (Professional)	X
Vacant	Vacant	Rehab Sciences (Research)	
Vacant	Vacant	Rehabilitation Therapy	
Vacant	Vacant	Religious Studies	
Robert	Lawson	School of Religion	
Darin	MacKinnon	School of Religion	
Gillian	Bankas	Sociology	
Michael	Rac	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	X
Aliya	Kassam	Equity Coordinator	
Holly	McIndoe	International Students' Affairs Comissioner	X
Kris	Singh	International Students' Affairs Coordinator	
Jack	Wallace	Sustainability Coordinator	X
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	
Robert	Bentley	Kinesiology and Health Studies	X