



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 September 9th, 2014 6:30PM

McLaughlin Room, JDUC

1. Presentations

- a. Primer on Robert's Rules, attached as an appendix – Max Ma (speaker@sgps.ca)

Max: introduces himself as the speaker, and as a third year law student. He asks everyone to say their name and the department they represent before speaking, so as to eventually know everyone by name. The meeting is called to order, and he talks briefly about the common rules for governing meetings. They include: having one speaker at a time, or one person as “having the floor”, and raising hands to draw the attention of the speaker. The three points (order, information, and personal privilege) are explained, and can be found along with an explanation of the rest of Robert's Rules on the first page of the appendix. The terms “amend, table, refer,” etc are mentioned with regards to motions. As the meeting gets started, Max reminds everyone to use a “point of order” to raise questions... “this is what I intend to achieve; how do I get there?”

2. Adoption of the Agenda & Minutes

MOTION

09/09/14:1

Moved: Kevin Wiener (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Thompson Hamilton (VP Professional)

BIRT the agenda for September 9th, 2014 Council meeting be adopted.

The motion is introduced by Max, moved by Kevin, and seconded by Thompson. No amendments are made, and the motion carries unanimously.

MOTION

09/09/14:2

Moved: Dinah Jansen (vpg@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Tabitha Renaud (History)

BIRT the minutes for August 19th, 2014 Council meeting be accepted.

Dinah: corrects the pronunciation of her name (DYE-nah) and states that she is unsure of exact procedural norms. She explains that she would like to wait until the October meeting to deal with this motion, as the current minutes do not satisfactorily capture discussions at last month's meetings. She has further concerns about clarity, and would like to work on edits, possibly with other council members to improve the August minutes for next month.

Max: presents two options with regards to deferring these minutes to another meeting. These include: having a motion to table the minutes; or having a motion to refer the minutes to a committee that was present during the meeting.

Kevin: moves to table the motion (regarding the August 19th minutes) to the October council meeting.

Max: asks if there are any questions or concerns with a motion to table the minutes.

Eric: seconds the motion to table the minutes.

Tabitha: raises the question of who the deputy speaker is.

Max: explains that the appointed deputy speaker, Jon, has class conflicts, and will therefore be unable to take minutes in council meetings for the fall semester. MacKenzie Bulkowski-Rose will be taking the minutes in his stead.

Tabitha: asks if Jon will be taking minutes when he comes back.

Max: confirms that Jon will resume his role taking minutes in the winter term.

Eric: asks for clarification with regards to the procedure for dealing with the August minutes. Wants to know if it will be a batch amendment, and if so, how we will approach this.

Mike: as a point of order, thinks that it would be easier to take the minutes off the docket and to submit new minutes next council.

Kevin: for clarity's sake, then explains that this would mean, once the changes were done, council would strike out the minutes and then replace them.

Max: calls the vote on whether the minutes should be tabled or not (see above for "moved" and "seconded")

Motion carries unanimously.

3. Executive and Speaker Reports

- a. President – Kevin Weiner (report attached)
- b. VP Graduate – Dinah Jansen (report attached)
- c. VP Professional – Thompson Hamilton (report attached)
- d. VP Campaigns & Community Affairs – Lorne Beswick (report attached)
- e. VP Finance & Services – Patrick Gajos (report attached)
- f. Executive Assistant – Andria Mahon (report attached)
- g. Speaker – Max Ma (report attached)

MOTION

Moved: Thompson Hamilton (vpp@sgps.ca)

00/09/14:3

Seconded: Thomas Vaughan (Computing)

BIRT the Executive and Speaker Reports be accepted.

Max: introduces the members who will be speaking, and asks if they have anything they would like to add to their reports, or refresh?

Kevin: states that everything is in his report, and that nothing has changed. Talks about an honorary degrees meeting held on Monday, and that who receives the honours degrees will be found out in January.

Dinah: corrects the pronunciation of her name again. She states that there is not much to add to her report. Briefly talks about the Senate Advisory Research Council Meeting, and that the winners of such will be announced by Principal Woolf next week. Discussed the revisions to the Senate Research Integrity plan, which will be decided on at the October meeting. Thanks the people involved who helped to make things run smoothly.

Max: states that a point of personal privilege can be used to clarify a wrong name.

Thompson: states that he does not have much to add. He talks about the QPOP music festival, for which there will be literature in the coming weeks. SGPS (over the summer) had decided to sponsor Clark Hall pub, the Grad Club etc. to boost the campus club scene. He mentions that the website is up as well. Moves on to discuss how well done orientation week was, and gives a shout out to the Social Commission as every event was sold out.

Lorne: gives a warm thanks for a wonderful orientation week.

Patrick: briefly reminds council that the new health and dental plan is in full force. He further explains that relevant literature can be found in the office, or on the SGPS website (sgpa.ca). Goes on the further thank the staff for orientation.

Andria: not present due to illness.

Max: introduces the motion, and asks if there are any questions.

Thompson: moves the motion.

Thomas: seconds the motion.

The motion carries unanimously.

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

- a. Graduate Student Senator – Eric Rapos (report attached)
- b. Graduate Student Trustee – James MacLeod (report attached)
- c. Committee Reports
 - i. Sustainability Committee – Megan MacCallum (report attached)
- d. Commissioner Reports
 - i. Social Commissioner – Ciara Bracken-Roche (no report)
 - ii. Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)
 - iii. Equity Commissioner: Tabasum Akaseer (no report)
 - iv. International Students' Affairs Commissioner: Tian Lu (no report)
- e. Other Reports
 - i. Rector – Mike Young (report attached)

- ii. Chief Returning Officer – Peter Charboneau (no report)
- iii. Departmental Reports

MOTION

09/09/14:4

Moved: Lorne Beswick (vpcca@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Julian Chesterman (Biomedical Engineering)

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

Max: introduces the motion and asks speakers to report in turn.

Eric: explains that there is a Cyclical Program Review Committee opening, which can be applied to through the Senate website.

James: sent regrets.

Megan: sent regrets.

Ciara: apologizes for having not submitted a report, but thanks everyone for the busiest and best orientation week. She explains that there were no major issues with either participants or venues, and hopes they will all have us back next year. Among those thanked were the SGPS executive; Sean; Jess; Andria; the front desk staff; and her team, Sean, Ahmed, and Jamie. Thank-you emails were sent to the venues as well. It is noted that there were problems with event turnout (having about half the people who signed up, show up). That being said, the smallest even turnout was about 40-45 people. The boat cruise was an issue too, as 20 people who paid did not make it, and the corn maze had poor turnout due to rain earlier that day. She mentions the need for strategies regarding cancellations. Then moves on to discuss “sports hour” which will be held from 5:30-6:30 in the upstairs gym at the ARC. These will include sports such as floor hockey, badminton, volleyball etc. Also mentions the idea of having a “post-orientation mixer” at the end of September for people who may have missed some of the events during orientation, as well as some events in October as well.

Sean: nothing to add to report.

Tabasum: nothing to add to report.

Tian: not present.

Mike: introduces himself and explains that he is the new Rector, after having taking over from Nick Francis. Talks about how he represents both the undergraduate and graduate student bodies, and acts as a first point of contact. His office is upstairs from the AMS, and is near Queen’s Pub, and is usually there from 9-5. Talks briefly about the student issue of residences and enrolment, with grad students in hotel rooms. Also talks about his desire to create a student award for work in the area of mental health, and is looking to the SGPS to help collect information and ideas that would potentially serve as criteria. Also briefly talks about the 175th anniversary for Queen’s (2016-2017), to remind members to be aware that it is coming up, and to disseminate this message to their constituents. Work has been done on this since 2012, and will hopefully end in celebrating our heritage, and engaging the alumni. He is looking for a contact from the SGPS, and explains that any questions can be directed to him.

Peter: nothing to add to report.

Max: introduces the motion to be moved.

Lorne: moves the motion.

Julian: seconds the motion.

Max: asks if there are further questions.

Tabitha: asks Ciara for clarification regarding sports hour, so she can email out the information.

Ciara: clarifies that sports hour will encompass pickup sports from 5:30-6:30 in the upstairs gym of the ARC, and that information will be posted on Facebook.

Tabitha: asks Eric for clarification on the name of the committee.

Eric: restates that it is called the Cyclical Program Review Committee.

Max: asks if there are further questions, and then puts the motion to a vote.

Motion passes unanimously.

5. Question Period/Departmental Issues

No further minutes to record.

6. Business Arising From the Minutes

Minutes tabled until October meeting.

7. Main Motions

MOTION

09/09/14:5

Moved: Kevin Wiener (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Eric Rapos (Graduate Senator)

BIRT Council appoint _____ to sit on the Student Life Centre Council for the 2014-15 term.

Max: introduces the motion.

Eric: seconds the motion.

Kevin: introduces Troy Sherman who is a representative from the Student Life Center Council. Explains that he is looking for a representative from SGPS to become involved with this. He encourages involvement for those interested in student life, and then requests that speaking rights be given to him, despite being a non-member.

Max: asks Troy if he has anything to add.

Troy: says the meeting will be at 5:30 on September 23rd, and that the member appointed to this body will be participating on a special vote on the facilities budget.

Max: asks if anyone has anyone to nominate to fulfil this role.

Mike: nominates James.

James: respectfully declines.

Dinah: nominates Thomas.

Thomas: respectfully declines.

Eric: volunteers to fill the position... "I'll do it."

Kevin: nominates Eric.

Max: asks if there are any further nominations. "Seeing none," the nominations are closed. Introduces a motion to amend the motion to read "BIRT Council appoint Eric Rapos to sit on the Student Life Centre Council 2014-15 term."

Tabitha: moves the motion.

Dinah: seconds the motion (to amend the motion).

Max: calls for a vote.

The amendment carries with Eric Rapos opposing.

Max: calls the vote on the main motion (see above for "moved" and "seconded").

The motion carries with one abstention (Eric Rapos).

MOTION

09/09/14:6

Moved: Thompson Hamilton (vpp@sgps.ca)

Seconded: James Brown (Physics)

BIRT Council approve the year plans of the Executive as submitted.

Max: introduces the motion, and explains that a discussion will be held first, followed by a vote on the year plan.

Kevin: explains that each members prepares a plan, and collaborates with other members over the summer. During labour day, they hammered out what needed to be accomplished. Explains that the plans don't necessarily encompass everything they do, but certainly cover the bigger things. These are important for the maintenance of the SGPS, and feedback is valued.

Max: again reminds council that all plans will be discussed before the vote at the end.

Dinah: welcomes feedback on her year plan.

Thompson: nothing to add to year plan.

Lorne: explains that he did his plan in the past tense, as if the year had already passed.

Patrick: welcomes questions comments.

Max: asks council if there are any questions or comments.

Eric: mentions how well put together the reports are, given the new initiative regarding formatting.

Kevin: gives a thank you to Cody (the previous VP) for the templates used to construct the plans.

Max: asks council if there are any further queries. Given that there are none, asks for a vote to accept the year plans.

The motion carries unanimously.

MOTION

09/09/14:6

Moved: Patrick Gajos (vpfs@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Julian Chesterman (Biomedical Engineering)

BIRT Council approve the 2014/2015 SGPS budget (attached).

Max: introduces the motion.

Patrick: tries to give a condensed version of the meeting package, and shows a PowerPoint presentation which can be downloaded from sgps.ca/council/documents. Talks about how revenues are an overview of how the society gets money, and explains that there are also lots of expenses. Everything is assigned to a line, and at the end, there is roughly \$1000.00 that is unallocated. Many changes to the budget are covered in his presentation, including: the central bursary (+ \$1000.00), the international student reimbursement (- \$5000.00), transition and planning (- \$4000.00), campaign (+ \$1000.00) and conferences (- \$5,800.00). He mentions that there is \$9,300.00 less in revenue without the carry-forward line, and that \$30,000.00 in expenses have been re-allocated. He also talks about the money to be invested, which is currently around \$1,000,000.00 (in GIC's and government bonds). At the end, then says he is happy to take questions.

Max: asks if there are any questions regarding the budget.

Kris: asks Patrick to elaborate on the rationale for reducing conference funding.

Patrick: explains that CFS conferences have one free space covered by CFS, which covers the cost to send one exec there. This means that the cost of sending an additional person must be covered by money allocated from somewhere else in the budget.

Kevin: further explains that this budget change also had to do with some changes in staffing. The previous executive assistant position had a lot of interest in this, and therefore went to all six of the conferences. Now these conferences are always in Toronto or Ottawa, and the CFS subsidizes travel expenses for participants from B.C., increasing the overall cost. Therefore, the two conferences held in Ontario were around \$400; the national cost about \$840, and there are also two additional caucus meetings. Because Andria is not as interested in attending these conferences, the reduction in the budget mostly reflects the close to the money saved from not sending an additional delegate. Therefore, there is now also an opportunity to explore alternative conferences.

Tabitha: asks if the plan to put reserve money into GIC's is still happening.

Patrick: explains that the reserve money is currently collecting 1% in interest in a savings account. Within the year plan, there will be a report for council with investment options to decide on collectively.

Kris: asks if the lack of attendees previously from SGPS was deliberate or due to a scheduling issue. He believes that the CFS conferences are very useful, and encourages attendance at conferences. Beyond this, he finds the lack of funding discouraging.

Kevin: agrees that they present training opportunities, and points to the training conference in May. Likewise, he encourages full participation. He does believe that the national conference's purpose is not as focussed on training, and encourages a vote on resolutions to direct the

organization as a whole. Also reminds Kris that there is not necessarily less money available to the execs as compared to prior years regarding the conferences.

Patrick: mentions that they will send at least one member to each conference, whom can then return and share what they learned.

Max: asks if there is anything else anyone would like to add to follow up this information.

Kevin: reviews the idea that CFS covers one delegate, which ensures someone is going. Two members will attend the national conference in October, and Lorne and Dinah will go to the graduate caucus meetings. Also explains that the past conflicts included being past the registration deadline, as well as members having made other commitments.

Max: asks if there are further questions. Seeing none, proceeds to vote.

The motion carries unanimously.

8. Other Business

- a. Proactive Approached to Student Housing Issues, attached as an appendix – Kevin Wiener (president@sgps.ca)

Max: introduces Kevin to speak on student housing issues.

Kevin: talks about how he worked over the summer for the election that is now coming up. Alongside with the AMS, the idea was to “target one issue and press it into priority during the campaigns.” They had an interview etc. for a researcher position, and hired Alia Tulloch from the school of urban planning. There is a report attached (page 37). With regards to this, he will be meeting with a city council candidate to discuss the bylaw enforcement. As it stands, bylaw enforcement is highly reactive, meaning the progression of events for a tenant given a serious problem is: call for a city inspection; have an inspector determine there is something deficient; have the city order the land owner to address the deficiency, and should they refuse; court. However, this does not often happen due to a fear of approaching the city given a problem, as well as lack of knowledge of property standards. There are two possible options to address this: landlord licensing, and proactive enforcement. Because licensing would be a significant cost to landlords which would hit the tenants, the latter is more preferable. In this, proactive enforcement could look like a partnership with the housing grievance center with door-to-door inspections. Of course, if not enforced city-wide, this again has the potential to drive up rents. Essentially wants feedback, and to enforce the idea that this should start a discussion with candidates about something that applies to students, even making sub-par housing a council priority.

Max: asks if there are any questions.

Julian: asks if the report was distributed to everyone running in the election.

Kevin: explains that only one candidate has it, as he did not want to make it public prior to the meeting. Also talks of having a press event, possibly involving The Whig etc. to promote it. Beyond this, there is hope to get it into the hands of council and to get information from them. He wants to have conversations with them on other student issues, like pedestrian snowplowing north of campus, despite them being non-priority walkways.

Thompson: comments that the report is very well done, and that the issue is long overdue.

Martin: asks how Kevin is planning to collaborate with the AMS on how to approach mayoral candidates. Also has the wrong nametag.

Kevin: is pushing online voter registration, which is something he's worked on since before he took office. Explains that there are mutual student issues between SGPS and the AMS: city passing noise exemptions for orientation week; daycare spaces, especially as Queen's daycare is closing one center; the one garbage bag per week rule; housing; snowplowing; engagement. Talks about the frustrations regarding ID requirements for voter registration, and how he and the AMS are running into city walls. For example, the city was present at the sidewalk sale, but did not actually register anyone because most people were not carrying copies of their leases etc. They will be returning two more times: September 16th from 4:30-8:30 at Leonard cafeteria, and September 19th from 11:00-2:00 at Cogro. If students are registered ahead of time, they can actually vote online. To register, they must bring one document with their name and Kingston address on it (bank statement, utilities, drivers license, lease etc.). Registration is also on-going at city hall until the 20th of September. Other wise, come election day, there will be a bus at the JDUC going to the various voting locations.

Lauren: confirms the date and times, as well as that only those of Canadian citizenship can vote.

Kevin: reminds everyone to not vote if not a citizen because that's illegal. It is okay to vote in more than one city if you consider where you live here a semi-permanent residence.

Dinah: asks of the students residing in the Kingston community, how many are SGPS members.

Kevin: says that SGPS members are typically more spread out, living in Williamsville etc., and that there is a move east as the years go on. Numerically, however, the AMS wins.

Max: asks if there are further questions. No further questions are raised.

9. Notice of Motions & Announcements

Tabitha: says there is a history bake sale in Watson Hall lobby on Thursday.

Kevin: asks (for next meeting) that members bring forward policy changes for committees to choose grad council committee reps. If approved, he would like to open up these spots for departments to choose from any interested student.

Dinah: asks how many positions there are for the departments.

Kevin: explains that there are only positions in the humanities, health sciences, and physical sciences (and not the applied sciences) and that there is always one PhD student, and one Master's student.

Max: thanks him for the information.

Julian: raises a point of interest regarding moving the meeting time based on any education students present.

Thompson: says that there are no representatives from that body because their elections are on-going.

Eric: confirms that the elections were extended to Friday.

Kevin: asks everyone to block off the 5:30-6:30 time slot if possible.

Max: asks if there are any conflicts or preferences for starting at 5:30. A unanimous preference is noted for a start time of 5:30 (as opposed to 6:30). The next meeting will still be 6:30 PM on October 14th (second Tuesday of the month). Agenda items will be due October 7th.

10. Adjournment

MOTION

09/09/14:7

Moved: Thomas Vaughan

Seconded: Dinah Jansen

BIRT the SGPS Council Meeting be adjourned.

Max: introduces the motion.

Thomas: moves the motion.

Dinah: seconds the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Max Z. Ma, Speaker

MacKenzie Bulkowski-Rose, Minute Taker

September Meeting Attendance

Name	Department	Attendance
Calista Preusser	Chemical Engineering	Present
Ciara Bracken-Roche	Social Commissioner	Present
Dave Riegert	Math and Stats	Present
Dinah Jansen	VP Graduate	Present
Eric Rapos	Senate	Present
Erin Beange	Rehab	Present
Ian Mannes	Communications Coordinator	Present
Ian Moore	Senate	Proxy
James Brown	Physics	Present
James MacLeod	BoT	Regrets
John Cullen	Chem	Present
Julian Chesterman	Biomed Engineering	Present
Kevin Wiener	President	Present
Kris Singh	International Coordinator	Present
Lauren Buttle	Art Conservation	Present
Lorne Beswick	VP CCA	Present
Megan MacCallum	Sustainability Coordinator	Regrets
Mike Young	Rector	Present
Nakkiran Arulmozhi	Chemistry	Present
Patricia Oprea	English	Present
Patrick Gajus	VP FS	Present
Paul Warchuk	Law	Regrets
Robert Bentley	SKHS	Present
Rudy Schueder	Civil Engineering	Present
Ryan McSheffrey	Philosophy	Present
Sean Coughlin	Law	Present
Sean Richards	Executive Director	Present
Tabasum Akseer	Equity Commissioner	Present
Tabitha Renaud	History	Present
Thomas Vaughan	Computing	Present
Thompson Hamilton	VP Professional	Present
Victoria Hoskin	Pathology	Regrets
All Other Council Members	All Other Council Members	Absent