[No reports submitted]
Dear Council,
Since I have submitted a report just recently, my report this time is relatively short.

I like to mention that I have followed up with different offices of the University to look for opportunities for collaborations and receiving the Ethics Clearance through them. Of these, a grant program offered by the Center for Teaching and Learning to conduct research on education quality at Queen’s. While this is a great opportunity for the SGPS, it will not cover all different topics that the SGPS may be interested in exploring, and therefore, lacks generality.

I also attended the special meeting of Senate to celebrate 175th anniversary of Queen’s. A prominent part of the agenda focused on issues of reconciliation with the indigenous peoples and highlighted the role of Queen’s University in persecution of the indigenous peoples.

I attended a meeting of the Board of Trustees, last week, and used that opportunity to mention some of the problems that the students have mentioned in their working relations with their supervisors through a survey that we had run recently.

The Board-Senate retreat was themed around issues of equity and inclusivity, and we discussed three main areas of student experience, internationalization, and research and innovation from this angle, in small groups. In my group, the issue of faculty renewal and recruitment of the new faculty members from diverse backgrounds.

I had a meeting with the Ombudsman and we discussed the ways that he can reach out to more students to let them know of his role in the conflict resolution at the University.

Thank you!
Saba Farbodkia
[No report submitted]
[No report submitted]
SGPS Council,

Updates below:

**Structural/Governance Reform**
Nothing to report. Timelines are still on track to have transition materials done for the next executive.

**Bursary/Grants/Strategic Funds**
Under B.24.1.2.e, this report shall serve as notice of following changes to the scope of the bursary system:

*The SGPS Dental Bursary shall hereby include dental procedures covered at below 75% as well as overages on scaling/polishing procedures.*

These changes shall be reflected online, communicated to the membership through the newsletter, and displayed in all application materials.

**Event Sanctioning/Departmental Registration Review Committee**
There was a very productive meeting this week where the committee recommended several changes to the online forms and back-end process of risk assessment. Once changes are finalized and approved by the committee, Council will receive a final report with the changes.

As always, I am free to take your questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Stuart Clark
Vice President (Finance & Services)
Society of Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS)
vp.finance@sgps.ca
Bursary Report

Below is a summary of the approval statistics for each bursary for fiscal year 2016-2017

Quantity Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bursary</th>
<th>Approved</th>
<th>Denied</th>
<th>Incomplete</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DBA (5235)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>73.33%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESA (5415)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>31.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISB (5240)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>91.67%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports/Activity (5260)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>61</strong></td>
<td><strong>72.13%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Previous Year Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bursary</th>
<th>Amount 15-16 YTD</th>
<th>Amount 16-17 YTD</th>
<th>16-17 Budget (Gross)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DBA (5235)</td>
<td>$6,294.31</td>
<td>$4,617.45</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESA (5415)</td>
<td>$12,398.05</td>
<td>$1,735.00</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISB (5240)</td>
<td>$6,806.18</td>
<td>$13,464.00</td>
<td>$15,740.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports/Activity (5260)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>$490.00</td>
<td><em>include with ESA</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,498.54</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,306.45</strong></td>
<td><strong>$60,740.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Year to date fixed at February 3rd, 2017

Recommendations

1. Expand the Scope of the DBA
   a. Member feedback indicates a willingness to expand Health and Dental benefits to cover more units of scaling/procedures
   b. Contraction of ESA applications and DBA grants has left additional budget room for DBA expansion
   c. **Recommend** that DBA scope broadened to include 50%, 75% covered procedures and overages on scaling/polishing procedures

2. Raise Bursary amounts to account for inflation
   a. Institutional memory indicates that bursaries have not increased for several years
   b. Overall contraction of applications generally allows for increased targeted financial aid to students in need
   c. **Recommend** that bursary amounts be raised by $50 in time for the next executive term

Grants Report

Below is a summary of the approval statistics for each bursary for fiscal year 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Cheque Payee</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Amount Approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School of Kinesiology &amp; Health Studies (Graduate Program):</td>
<td>Queens University - Horwood Conference</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horwood Conference</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Retreat Organizing Committee - West Campus</td>
<td>Writing Retreat Organizing Committee</td>
<td>$335.00</td>
<td>$335.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Student's Mental Health Initiative, Faculty of Education</td>
<td>Education Graduate Student's Society</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen's Health &amp; Human Rights Conference Organizing Committee</td>
<td>Queen's University - Office of Global Health</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Contact Person</td>
<td>Amount 15-16 YTD</td>
<td>Amount 16-17 YTD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen's Collaborative Biomedical Engineering</td>
<td>Fiona Serack</td>
<td>$584.87</td>
<td>$584.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just Add Nature Organizing Committee</td>
<td>Jeremy Walsh</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Studies Program - The Aesthetics of Surveillance</td>
<td>Queen's University - The Aesthetics of Surveillance</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate in Visual Culture Association (GVCA) - Context &amp; Meaning on the Fringe</td>
<td>Graduate Visual Culture Association (GVCA)</td>
<td>$715.00</td>
<td>$715.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology Department - Interconnection: Navigating People, Society &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Queen's University - Sociology Department</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$715.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Science's Student Association - Speed Mentoring</td>
<td>Public Health Science's Student Association</td>
<td>$719.54</td>
<td>$591.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Studies Program - UnDisciplined</td>
<td>Queen's University - Culture Studies Conference</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen's Bangladeshi Student Association - International Mother Language Day</td>
<td>Queen's University - ILMD</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science to Business Network - S2BN at Queen's Innovation Park</td>
<td>Queen's University - ???</td>
<td>$481.69</td>
<td>$466.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinesiology - Eastern Canada Sport &amp; Exercise Psychology Symposium</td>
<td>Queen's University - ECSEPS</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehab Society - Queen's Rehab Career Fair</td>
<td>Queen's University - Rehab Society</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Previous Year Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Amount 15-16 YTD</th>
<th>Amount 16-17 YTD</th>
<th>16-17 Budget (Gross)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$8,510.00</td>
<td>$4,119.87</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recommendations

1. **Abandon Batch Processing Model**
   a. Even though the website clearly lays out due-dates for grants, 30% of applications came in late anyway
   b. There is no great administrative burden to processing grants at the same time as bursaries (something we know now because our Finance Director has gotten very fast at processing both)
   c. **Recommend** removing deadlines for grants, and begin to process them on a regular basis
Dear Council,

I hope everyone is having a good semester so far. Especially at busy and stressful times like these, it is good to keep in mind that there are numerous resources on campus available if you are feeling overwhelmed and in need of support, either academic or personal. Our office is always there to direct you to the best resources available on campus, and the executive, commissioners, and staff are all here to help.

I have no programming related updates except to let you know that the workshop series continues to run every Wednesday, 6-8 pm. For a full schedule, and locations, please refer to our website. We currently don’t have the last few weeks of March listed as we are waiting for updates from those delivering the programming, however I will hopefully have an update by the time Council meets. If you have any ideas for workshops that you would like the SGPS to run, or ones that you would like to co-run, please feel free to contact me via email at vp.community@sgps.ca.

Sincerely,

Anastasiya Boika
VP Campaigns & Community Affairs
Oral report to be presented at Council.
Hello Council,

There are no updates since our last meeting (which was only a week ago?)! I will be participating in a Special Senate Meeting today however to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the first classes at Queen’s University on Tuesday 7 March.

I will fill you in on anything else that arises with an oral report at the Council meeting.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any comments, concerns, or questions at senator@sgps.ca.

Respectfully submitted,
Ciara Bracken-Roche
Graduate Student Senator
The Board of Trustees held its third quarterly meeting on Friday, March 3.

During the Principal’s strategic update, Principal Woolf stated that the Implementation Committee on Racism, Inclusion and Diversity is in line to meet their deadline to submit their report to him by March 31. During the month of March, the committee will hold three open town halls to gain feedback from the broader Queen’s community about issues of racism, inclusion, and diversity at Queen’s. Once those dates become solidified, the SGPS community should be made aware of them.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is presenting its final report on Tuesday, March 7 at a special meeting of the Senate, and will be released March 21.

The Board approved undergraduate and graduate tuition fees for both the 2017-18 and 2018-19 academic years. The fees recommended for both years are in accordance with the Ontario government’s tuition fee framework,

Additionally, the approval of fees for the next two years was done to have fees set far enough in advance to satisfy the requirements for the net billing initiative from the Ministry of Advanced Education Skills and Development.

Domestic undergraduate fees were increased by 3%, which is the cap instituted by the provincial government, while international undergraduate students will not have their annual tuition increase by more than 5%. Both domestic and international graduate student fees will not be increased over the next two years.

Board-Senate Retreat

On Saturday, March 4, the Board and Senate attended a retreat on Diversity, Inclusion, and Racism at Queen’s at the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies. After listening to guest speaker Shakil Choudhury, a Queen’s alumnus, lecture about his book Deep Diversity, the members went into several breakout groups to discuss the theme of the retreat in relation to Student Experience, Internationalization, and Research at Queen’s, while considering the question “what do we want Queen’s to look like on issues of inclusion in 20-30 years?”

The written recommendations from these breakout groups were submitted to the Secretariat’s Office, and will be compiled in a report before being given to the Implementation Committee on Racism, Inclusion, and Diversity.
Dear Council,

February was a difficult month for the Athletics Commission as I was unable to find any members for the SGPS executive and commissioners that were able to facilitate the two events I had planned. I was still out of province on placement for the month of February and therefore was unable to facilitate the events myself. Both events unfortunately were cancelled for this reason. I will be back in Kingston in March and have many exciting events planned.

**Wheelchair Basketball**

On March 11th from 5-6pm in the ARC Upper East Gym we will be hosting a free, drop-in wheelchair basketball event. We will be playing games of 3-on-3. All experience levels are encouraged to attend. Rules will be explained prior to play. This is an excellent opportunity to get active while trying a unique sport! Online waivers must be filled out prior to play.

**Meditation Workshop**

On March 15th from 5:30-6:30pm we are hosting a free meditation workshop at the ARC in studio 4. This workshop will focus on the benefits of meditation, take students through a guided meditation, and give them tips for at home meditation sessions. Registration is available on the SGPS website. Space is limited.

**Rock Climbing**

On March 23rd at 7pm we will be hosting a rock climbing event at The Boiler Room for SGPS members. The cost is $10 and must be paid prior to attending. An online waiver must also be filled out. The price includes gear rental, lessons on how to belay and safely climb, and time to spend climbing with other students. All levels are welcome to try this exciting sport that gives a great full body workout.

**Other upcoming events**

Below are tentative dates for other March and April events.

March 25th → drop-in basketball at the ARC, 6pm
March 29th → group run + social
April 5th → ultimate Frisbee
April 12th → group run + social
April 20th → Nature Walk at Lemoine Point
April 26th → ultimate frisbee

I am happy to take any suggestions or comments about future and past SGPS athletics events as well as general questions or comments about athletics and physical activity for graduate students. I can be reached at athletics@sgps.ca.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Ruiter
Athletics Commissioner, SGPS
Dear Members of the SGPS,

Happy March and almost-end-of-the semester! The most important update from my portfolio this report is in regard to the event I am hosting in two weeks. Please find the poster below, RSVP on the SGPS Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/events/188851321601771/), and bring your friends to this promising and engaging night. There will be portraits of Queen’s students, discussion and debate, spoken word and poetry, and music – for free! I am really excited to have all of your support and I look forward to seeing you there.

In solidarity,
Tahseen Chowdhury
Equity & Diversity Commissioner
Dear SGPS Members and Council,

There have been no major developments since the February Council Meeting.

**March 15th. SGPS Games and Pizza Night- Robert Sutherland Hall 334 (6-7.30pm)**

Come join the SGPS for a night of charades, heads up and other games. Pizza will be provided. Take a short break from your studies! Please let your departments know about the games and the free food!

**Office Hours**

My office hours are Wednesdays from 1pm-2pm in JDUC 205. If any international students in your department face any issues they need to talk about or need advocacy for, please direct them my way. As always, I welcome any suggestions or comments, my email address is international@sgps.ca

Best wishes,

Chiedza Pasipanodya

**International Student Affairs Commissioner**
February was a month dedicated mostly to planning for Social. Semi-formal is rapidly approaching and I'm expecting you, my fellow councilors, to help me make it a success. As mentioned in my previous report, semi-formal will be on Friday March 31st from 7pm to midnight at Renaissance (on Queen Street). Social is now about to begin marketing the event to the various departments. What I will be needing from all of you is to tell people within your respective faculties about the semi and how they can buy tickets (through Tilt, super easy). By doing this, you will help make semi one of the SGPS's most successful events yet.

Speaking of events, I would like to clarify what happened to last week's planned pool night, which I had to cancel late on Saturday night. Unfortunately, I was unable to get volunteers to help me at the event. Volunteers are crucial as they help verify that people are properly registered for the event. If people are not properly registered but still partake in said event, our insurance makes like Houdini and disappears (i.e. we're no longer covered, which is not good). Social lacks a proper group of volunteers that it can call on for events and is looking to solve this issue to avoid situations like Saturday.

Despite this momentary setback, Social is co-hosting an event this month with Athletics: climbing at the Boiler Room on Thursday March 23. Also, did I mention that Social is hosting a semi-formal on Friday March 31st?
[No report submitted]
Oral report to be provided.