The Society of Graduate and Professional Students recognizes the traditional and ancestral territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Nations on whose lands we gather on today.

I. Presentations

A. Welcome to Council Presentation (Speaker - Jennifer Williams)

II. Adoption of the Agenda and Minutes

A. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION 05/09/17:1

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the May 9th, 2017 Council Meeting.

B. Adoption of the Council Minutes (March Council)

[SEE ATTACHED MINUTES]

MOTION 05/09/17:2

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Minutes for the March 14th, 2017 Council Meeting.

C. Adoption of the General Meeting Minutes (April GM)

[SEE ATTACHED MINUTES]

MOTION 05/09/17:3

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Minutes for the April 11th, 2017 Council Meeting.

III. Executive & Speaker Reports

A. Executive Reports

a. President – Adam Grotsky (report attached)
b. VP Graduate – Stéfy McKnight (report attached)
c. VP Professional – Russell Durward (report attached)
d. VP Finance & Services – Lauren Peacock (report attached)
e. VP Campaigns & Community Affairs – Tyler Morrison (report attached)

B. Speaker Report

a. Speaker – Jennifer Williams (oral report)

C. Approval

MOTION 05/09/17:4

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Executive and Speaker Reports.
IV. Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

A. Senator Report – Graduate Student Senator – Ciara Bracken-Roche (report attached)
B. Trustee Report – Graduate Student Trustee – Adam Ali (no report submitted)
C. Commissioner Reports
   a. Athletics Commissioner – Lindsay Ruiter (report attached)
   b. Equity & Diversity Commissioner – Kelly Watson (no report submitted – regrets received)
   c. International Students Affairs Commissioner – Atul Jaiswal (report attached)
   d. Social Commissioner – Martyna Kamela (report attached)
D. Committee Reports
E. Other Reports
   a. University Rector – Cam Yung (report attached)
   b. Chief Returning Officer – Vacant
F. Approval

MOTION 05/09/17:5
BIRT SGPS Council approve the Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports.

V. Question Period & Departmental Issues

VI. Business Arising from the Minutes
Main Motions

A. Graduate-Specific Space

WHEREAS Queen’s is well known for its student experience, but graduate students often feel disconnected from this narrative.

WHEREAS the 2013 NCHA Student Health and Wellness Survey, among other studies, confirmed that graduate students have a significantly lower sense of belonging and are less involved in activities than their undergraduate counterparts.

WHEREAS there is currently no graduate-specific space on campus to foster community amongst graduate students.

WHEREAS graduate-specific space would serve as a hub and network to connect graduate students.

BIRT the SGPS is committed to advocating for the establishment of graduate-specific space on campus.

B. Amendment to Finance and Services Standing Committee

WHEREAS the Finance and Services Standing Committee strives to operate in strict accordance with SGPS Bylaw and Policies.

WHEREAS the Finance and Services Standing Committee receives time-sensitive bursary and grant applications that must be reviewed and voted upon in a timely manner.

BIRT that the following amendments be made to P.8.2.1:

P.8.2 Terms Of Reference For SGPS Standing Committees

P.8.2.1 Finance and Services Standing Committee

a. Finance and Services Standing Committee shall be responsible for:
   (1) aiding the VP Finance and Services in preparation of the annual SGPS budget, to be presented to Council by the September meeting;
   (2) ensuring the budget guidelines are set for the expenditure of all funds included in the annual SGPS budget. Such budget guidelines shall be brought to Council for approval at the same time as the annual SGPS budget;
Agenda
May 9th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

(3) ensuring that all SGPS funds allocated to SGPS committees or outside organizations are spent for the purpose(s) for which they were allocated;
(4) recommendations to Council regarding non–academic fees; this fee shall be reviewed each year by the Committee, but shall only be changed by a simple majority on a referendum in accordance with P.1.2;
(5) making recommendations to Council regarding the allocation of grants; reviewing grant and bursary applications in accordance with B.24.1 and B.24.2;
(6) reviewing the detailed income/expense statement of the SGPS every three months and reporting the observations made to Council;
(7) recommending financial policy objectives for the SGPS;
(8) reviewing the SGPS operations including but not limited to the Health and Dental Plans

b. membership of the committee shall be:
   (1) The VP Finance and Services, who shall chair the committee;
   (2) the President;
   (3) the Assistant Director of Finance; and
   (4) a minimum of three ordinary members

c. ordinary members may be removed from the committee at the discretion of the VP Finance and Services upon missing three deadlines or meetings without providing due notice.

C. Amendment to Finance and Services Standing Committee
MOTION 05/09/17:

Whereas the VP Campaigns and Community Affairs is currently and unnecessarily long title

Whereas “Community” can adequately represent the entirety of the portfolio

BIRT the VP Campaigns and Community Affairs be renamed VP Community

BIFRT this change be reflected in Bylaw & Policy

VIII. Other Business
IX. Notices of Motion & Announcements

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, August 8th at 5:30 PM (location Robert Sutherland Hall). Motions for the April Council meeting are due by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, August 1st.

Elections for the SGPS Council Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and Chief Returning Officer will occur at the September Council meeting. This announcement will be distributed during the summer to seek out candidates.

X. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

Motion 05/09/17:9

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.