



**Philosophy Department (Submitted by Jared Houston)**

Fellow Council Members,

The Philosophy Graduate Students Association (PGSA) had another successful year of advocating on behalf, and advancing the interests of, philosophy graduate students at Queen's. Highlights include:

- Fruitful conversations between graduate student and faculty representatives on our Board of Graduate Studies.
- Continuing our successful Graduate Student Colloquium.
- Updating and amending our Constitution which, among other changes, included a newly mandated equity, community and wellness committee.

Our department has recently undergone a cyclical review, which prompted open conversation between the graduate student body, faculty, and external reviewers about the strengths and weaknesses of the program. It is hoped that several positive changes will emerge from the follow-up to the review, including improve graduate student office space.

I look forward to seeing philosophy graduate students play an active role in the SGPS this coming year.

Regards,  
Jared Houston  
SGPS Interim-Councilor (Philosophy)



**Kinesiology & Health Studies Department (Submitted by Emma Thompson & Alex Velickovic)**

July 19, 2017

Dear Council,

This past academic year has seen a number of changes in the operations of the SGPS and both the SKHS Arts and Science Council Reps were happy to be involved in the process. We look forward to the upcoming academic year with the new SGPS Executive.

We hope that the new executive will continue with some of the projects started by the previous executive. Specifically working with the Society of Graduate Studies to explore and research supervisor relations and continuing to pilot the peer editing service. We were happy to see the Equity Draft Plan and the International Student Affairs Commission Constitution submitted this past spring. We hope that this year we will see the hard work of the previous Equity and International Student Commissioners' put into policy.

This past election saw very low voter turn-out and SGPS executive positions were uncontested. We feel this low engagement from the student body is indicative of a lack of awareness about what the SGPS does for students. We would like to see the SGPS executive improve its engagement with the graduate and professional student body. We think graduate and professional students are largely unaware of the role the SGPS plays in their experience at Queen's and why the SGPS is relevant. If students recognize that the SGPS is the body that advocates for their interests and needs, then they might be more likely to get involved and approach the SGPS.

SKHS will be holding its Annual General Meeting in September with the hopes of drumming up participation in our own graduate student society. Elections for the 2016-2017 SKHS Arts and Science representatives will also occur in mid-September with the new reps attending the October council meeting.

Respectfully,

Emma Thompson, SKHS Arts Rep  
[emma.thompson@queensu.ca](mailto:emma.thompson@queensu.ca)

Alex Velickovic, SKHS Science Rep  
[av36@queensu.ca](mailto:av36@queensu.ca)



Dear Council,

It's hard to believe that summer is already coming to a close. I know this time of the year can be stressful for graduate students; many of you are working long and hard to complete your programs, while others are preparing for the semester ahead. Whatever it is that's keeping you busy, I'd encourage you to carve out some time to refresh and destress by getting outdoors. In any case, below you'll find my updates since our last meeting.

### **Budget and Strategic Plan**

This meeting's vote on the annual operating budget and strategic plan is the culmination of a process that began in early May. Both documents were developed through consultations with stakeholders across the university and were designed with the core purpose of improving the graduate and professional student experience. By presenting the budget and strategic plan together, we are affirming the approach we took throughout their development: that these two guiding documents must be a reflection of one another, rather than created in isolation. I look forward to the fruitful debate and discussion that lies ahead.

### **Graduate Space in Stauffer Library**

I am excited to announce that, in partnership with the Office of the University Librarian, we have secured graduate-only space in Stauffer Library. Martha Whitehead, Vice-Provost (Digital Planning), has committed to working with the SGPS to create a space on the second floor that will be accessible only to graduate and professional students (possibly through an ARC-like student card access point). The space will be funded through the generous support of a donor, to whom we are very much grateful. In the coming months, an architect will be hired for the project and I will be soliciting feedback from Council regarding a vision for the space.

### **Student Experience Survey**

At our last meeting, I mentioned that I would be creating a student experience survey and presenting it to Council for review in August. Since then, I was approached by a team of graduate students who will be conducting a likeminded survey for their research and want to partner with the SGPS. This is an opportunity to get valuable data that will be used to better serve the needs of our members. The survey will be administered in both the fall and winter semesters to allow for a comparison, and the results will be analyzed by the graduate students undertaking the project. As I mentioned previously, please let me know if there are any particular topics you want to see included.

### **Restructured Grant Program**

As referenced in the Executive Strategic Plan, we are proposing a restructuring of the grant program. Rather than a single grant with an overly broad set of criteria, four separate grants will enable us to

target areas of focus for the coming year. The DSC Grant in particular is worth highlighting, as it will allow department student councils to receive funding to organize their own events and initiatives. This decentralized approach recognizes that departments are often better suited to organize events for their subset of members. Access to the grant will be contingent upon the student council registering with the SGPS, which will allow us to better communicate and coordinate with our departmental counterparts on advocacy initiatives. A specific motion for the creation of these grants will be brought to the next Council meeting.

### **SGPS-AMS Clubs Agreement**

The final touches are being put on a new clubs agreement with the AMS. The new agreement will see the SGPS contribution drop from \$20,000 to \$5,000 per year. The specifics of the agreement are consistent with the previous arrangement, while the \$5,000 contribution is a more accurate reflection of how many clubs are deemed to be SGPS by definition (majority graduate students or a graduate executive). Since SGPS clubs will be receiving the same access to resources and services, this is surely a positive change.

### **SGPS-Grad Club Trivia Agreement**

We are close to finalizing an agreement that will revive SGPS sponsorship of the Grad Club's weekly trivia. If all goes according to plan, the first trivia will be hosted during Orientation Week for incoming students – a good way to introduce students to the Grad Club and build up our community. I will be able to share the specifics of the agreement at our next meeting.

### **Redesigned Newsletter**

You've already received the first newsletter that has been redesigned with a minimalist, graphics-based approach. Rather than the traditional newsletter that was a lengthy PDF attachment, the newsletter is now embedded into the email and is limited to pertinent, SGPS-specific information. The new platform also supports the tracking of open rates, click rates, and other metrics that will allow us to continually refine and enhance our content delivery.

### **Sexual Violence Video Collaboration**

I have been working closely with the AMS to organize a video campaign aimed at increasing awareness of the issue of sexual violence. Given the prevalence of incidents of sexual violence, especially on university campuses, I believe that the SGPS has an obligation to step up and support students in this regard. The first video, which will be released soon, tackles common myths surrounding sexual violence. Stay tuned for its release on social media, and make sure to share it with your networks!

### **Homecoming Programming**

As part of our commitment to strengthening community, we are seeking ways to better incorporate the SGPS and its members into Homecoming programming. As a starting point, we are in the process of securing a "grad student zone" at the ReUnion Street Festival, the largest event of the weekend. I'll have more updates on this initiative in the coming month.

## Queen's Reads

This program used to provide first year undergraduate students with a free book that addressed a topical issue in society. We have worked with the planning committee to make the program accessible to all SGPS members this year. Be sure to pick up your free copy of "The Break" by Katherena Vermette at the SGPS offices in September!

That's all for now. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Grotsky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adam" and last name "Grotsky" clearly distinguishable.

Adam Grotsky  
SGPS President  
[president@sgps.ca](mailto:president@sgps.ca)



Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the Vice President Graduate  
August Council Meeting 2017

Dear Council,

Please accept this letter as my formal report for the month of August. This summer, your executive have been actively working to make the following year great. Adam and I have been actively seeking opportunities throughout the University to institute graduate only space. As you know, it is difficult to find a space on campus that is free from an overabundance of undergraduate students or faculty. To ensure productivity, it is important that graduate students feel like they have a space outside of their offices or homes to do research, reading, grading and writing. We have met with Principle Woolf and the SGS about this need. To date, we can say that graduate space on campus is a priority that has been considered by several stakeholders on campus.

Other projects include thinking through time of completion for graduate students. It is important that we assess both supervisory capacity at Queen's and student wellness and academic resources on campus. At this time, we cannot stop time of completion, though we can think of strategic ways of helping students work through it. If you have any concerns or comments about this, please reach out to me as I would love to talk more about it with graduate students who are directly impacted by this.

I've been invited by the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies to help support and plan the 2018 Ontario Graduate Student Symposium. More information and details about this will be circulated in the fall.

The next big step of my position is meeting and welcoming all returning and new graduate students during Orientation Week.

I hope you are having a productive and fruitful summer. If you have any questions about this report, please send me an email at [vp.graduate@sgps.ca](mailto:vp.graduate@sgps.ca).

All the best,

Stéfy

Stéphanie McKnight (Stéfy)  
Vice President (Graduate)  
SGPS  
[vp.graduate@sgps.ca](mailto:vp.graduate@sgps.ca)



Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the Vice President Professional  
August Council Meeting 2017

Dear SGPS Council Members,

I hope that this report finds you happily preparing for council as the campus prepares for the new semester and new students who will be joining us. The summer has been a busy time for the SGPS, preparing for the incoming graduate and professional students, I have been performing whatever I can to help alleviate that work.

Following the discovery of similar logos as the SGPS', I have been in the process of collecting the necessary documentation to trademark our logo. This is to protect the society should one of the other similar logos do the same and challenge us for infringement. The process has been long, but hopefully it can be submitted soon and will be well worth the effort for the foreseeable future.

Other than that, my time and duties have been mainly assisting the other executive members wherever possible and preparing my programs within the strat plan. As nothing is time sensitive for the beginning of the school, as opposed to the Orientation programs, I have been preparing as much as possible to reduce the amount needed during the school year when I hope to roll out the various programs.

The months to come will be both exciting and exhausting, but I hope that with the cooperation of the remaining exec members as well as the Council members, the year will go without a hitch and will be beneficial for everyone, student body included. Thank you for reading, and I look forward to seeing you and answering any questions at the Council Meeting.

Russell Durward

Vice-President Professional  
vp.professional@sgps.ca



Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the Vice President Finance & Services  
August Council Meeting 2017

[No report submitted – see attached budget]



Hi Everyone,

Hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the summer. It has been a busy time at the SGPS. Gearing up for the year and finalizing this year's orientation week has taken up most of my time. That being said I have a few updates on top of orientation week that I would like to share with everyone.

### 1. Orientation Week

Over the past few months the commissioners and I have been busy scheduling and booking this year's orientation week. The schedule is nearly finalized and will be released as soon as possible. After attending the working group for orientation week through the SGS it has become abundantly clear that more communication between the SGPS, SGS, and individual departments is needed to create a successful O-Week for incoming students. This is an issue I wish to tackle over my term. I would like to bring all the necessary parties together to create a cohesive Orientation Week with as little overlap as possible.

### 2. Mental Health

Adam, Lindsay and I met with Jennifer Dodds, the director of Student Wellness Services to discuss our plans for this year. The first thing on the agenda for that meeting was to address the cap on counselling appointments. As it turns out, there is no cap. Students are able to use as many counselling appointments as they would like. However, when it is clear that a student requires long term regular support they will be referred to off campus councilors. This is when the SGPS health and dental plan kicks in. There is now \$500 dollars available exclusively for mental health services. We are also in the process of creating a network of off-campus councilors who will join with our insurance provider to bring the cost of each appointment down. During this meeting we also discussed the need for Student Wellness Services to become more technologically integrated. This first means addressing the need for an online booking system for all on campus wellness services. The SWS is fully on board with this and we will continue to make sure this becomes a reality. Secondly, we discussed the need for online, app based wellness services. Again this is something the SWS is very interested in and we will continue to work with them to make it happen.

### 3. Commissioners

The commissioners and I have continued our bi-weekly meetings to discuss events and advocacy initiatives for the year. They have also submitted their year plans and budgets which will be approved by the time council swings around next week.

Thank you for taking the time to read my report. If you have any questions feel free to ask me at council, through email, or drop by anytime at the Executive office. Have a great end of the summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Morrison', with a stylized, cursive script.

VP (Community)  
Tyler Morrison



Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the Council Speaker  
August Council Meeting 2017

Oral report to be presented at Council.



Hello Council,

I hope you all had a successful end-of-term and are looking forward to the summer ahead. In this report I have included notes from the Graduate Studies Executive Council (GSEC) that took place in April as well as an update following up on the last Senate.

### **Graduate Studies Executive Council (GSEC)**

#### **Dean's report:**

- The PhD Community Initiative pilot program held its capstone event at the Donald Gordon Centre on March 22, 2017. The initiative was a great success with several teams/individuals being invited to share their work through other venues. Planning is underway for the next iteration.
- The Task Force on Graduate Enrolment has submitted the final report to the Provost. The report will be discussed at the May 2017 GSEC meeting.
- The proposed PhD in Gender Studies has been approved by the Senate Committee on Academic Development (SCAD) and Senate, and has been sent to the provincial Quality Council and to the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD).
- Last week's site visit of the external reviewers for the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in English Language and Literature) went very well.
- The Provincial 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition, hosted by the University of Waterloo, was held on April 12, 2017. V. Donovan, a PhD student Neuroscience represented Queen's brilliantly. The provincial competition was won by a student from the University of Toronto.
- GSEC members were reminded that Spring 2017 convocation ceremonies are coming up and faculty members should try to attend a ceremony to support our students.
- M. Corbett provided an update on the SGS online application renewal project. New and improved functionality developed over the past 6-8 months is ready to be presented to graduate assistants for their feedback. Two meetings are planned for May 2017.

#### **Reports from Faculty Graduate Councils/Committees:**

The Faculty of Arts and Science Arts Graduate Council discussed amending the process for identifying student members of Council, with the goal of getting student representative members involved in Council business and discussions in a more timely way. The Graduate Committee for Business reported that admissions to 2017-18 are ongoing. The Graduate Studies and Research Committee in Education reported that their 2017-18 PhD enrolment targets have been met and that admission to the M.Ed. including the new dual degree program with the South China Normal University is almost complete. This Committee continues to discuss improving times to completion,

as well as overall student satisfaction with graduate programs in Education. Other Committees/Councils discussed regular business such as course changes at recent meetings.

GSEC approved:

1. Preapproval for Proposed Graduate Diploma and Master's in Health Research Methods
2. Omnibus Report April 2017

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

**Senate Meeting**

Major updates from the Senate meeting are mostly regarding the PICRDI Report which was officially presented to Principal Woolf on April 10 and to Senate on April 18. Since January, the Principal's Implementation Committee on Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (PICRDI) researched and consulted our Queen's community for better racial inclusion at Queen's. At Senate, members of this committee presented their findings and recommendations. Major recommendations include the creation of the Alfie Pierce Student Centre for Racial Equity and Social Justice, A Cross-Cultural Advisor with Student Wellness Services, and University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity (UCARE) which will oversee and facilitate the implementation of PICRDI and its recommendations. There was also a recommendation for an Associate Vice-Principal of Equity to oversee issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion at Queen's by 2018/2019. Other initiatives on campus have been recommended to improve the culture around equity, diversity, and inclusion at Queen's such as anti-oppression training during Orientation Week, increasing the visibility of equity goals on campus, and making efforts to hire underrepresented groups in Faculty as well as offering more support to students of colour.

Overall, the committee's recommendations have been well received and would benefit our campus greatly; however it relies on the actual implementation of the recommendations from the PICRDI Report. As we know, recommendations from past reports have been all but ignored, and so the SGPS Executive, Council, Trustee and Senator need to follow up and ask questions in order to make sure that these recommendations do not fall by the wayside.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ciara Bracken-Roche  
Graduate Student Senator



At the final quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees on May 12, the Board approved the 2017-18 Operating Budget as well as residence, student activity and course-related fees. This included approval of the SGPS 2017-18 Budget.

Included within the Principal's six high-level goals, which will guide the final three years of his current tenure, is the intent to develop a faculty renewal strategy, continue to execute the internationalization strategy of the university, and to develop and implement a diversity and inclusivity strategy.

Additionally, the Principal also included in his report strategies for improving the quality of the graduate student experience that have been taken over the past year. These included: the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) sharing key performance indicators at the program level with all departments, as well as the SGS reaching out to 5-year plus PhD students and supervisors to share degree completion strategies and consulting with their respective Deans.

As of September 2016, the doctoral graduate student engagement rating was 62%, well under the administration's goal of 70%. At the next Board meeting this upcoming October, this rating will be updated and I will provide feedback as to whether this number improved at the following SGPS meeting.

The Principal will be launching a review of Orientation week in 2017-18 after hearing feedback that many of its activities are felt to be physically, culturally and economically inaccessible.

During the Board meeting, the final reports of the Principal's Implementation Committee on Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (PICRDI) as well as the Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) Task Force were presented to the board.

In response to the release of PICRDI, management has committed to the following:

- \$3 million in funding over the next three years for implementation of recommendations arising from the PICRDI and TRC reports
- Changing the portfolio of the Deputy Provost, currently filled by Teri Shearer, to include responsibility for senior leadership on equity and diversity
- A review of Orientation week
- Reviewing and revising the university's planning documents to include language that indicates Queen's commitment to anti-racism, diversity, and inclusion

Additionally, on April 18<sup>th</sup>, the Principal announced his commitment to establish a Council to support resolving issues of racism, diversity, and inclusion issues on campus, as well as create an equity hub to create greater awareness of campus equity initiatives.

During the meeting, the Board also approved its Trustees Diversity Statement, brought forward by the Governance and Nominating Committee, to help ensure that the Board is taking pro-active steps to seek out candidates from equity-seeking groups.

In late June, the Board convened for a two-day retreat in Toronto. The objective of the board retreat was to discuss and examine current trends and issues facing the university with the aim of identifying their strategic implications.

The major themes of the retreat included a review of the strategic framework in consideration of the recommendations from the PICRDI and TRC Final Reports as well as other identified priorities, and a focus on philanthropy and innovation within the academy.

The supervisor-supervisee relationship, time to completion, and the state of race relations on campus are important issues affecting many of our SGPS members, and as such will continue to guide the second year of my term in addition to other key objectives and issues that arise.

The dates of the 2017-18 Board of Trustee Meetings are as follows:

- October 13-14, 2017
- December 15-16, 2017
- March 2-3, 2018
- May 11-12, 2018

A reminder that all of the documents associated with the open meetings of the Board, including past reports, motions, minutes, and attachments, are available to the public at the Queen's University Governance Portal, which you can find at the following link:

<https://queensuniversity.civicweb.net/portal/>

Please e-mail me if you have any questions or issues for the Board and/or administration,

Thanks,  
Adam

[trustee@sgps.ca](mailto:trustee@sgps.ca)



Dear Council,

In this report I will briefly outline all summer events that have occurred.

### **Run and Social**

Run and Social events occurred every other week for most of the summer. Normally 6-14 students would attend. We would go for a run, ranging from 3-8k to accommodate for various experience levels, and then meet at Grad Club after for a social component. These runs will continue throughout the year as long as students keep attending.

### **Frisbee in the Park**

Frisbee in the park was a free, drop-in event, where students met in Victoria Park to throw the Frisbee. We had a 4-on-4 frisbee game which was lots of fun!

### **Group Cycles**

I hosted two group cycles throughout the summer – the first was about 60 minutes in length and the second about 120 minutes in length. We explored Lake Ontario Park and the Marshlands Trail as well as followed K&P trail.

### **Kayaking**

Kayaking was a great success with 20 students attending. The group was split into two groups of 10 and each spent 60 minutes on the water.

### **Sports Hours**

Basketball and Volleyball sports hours continued throughout the summer, being held every other week. Sports hours are drop-in events and aimed at all experience and fitness levels. They will continue throughout the year.

### **Health and Wellness Committee:**

I am in the process of working with the executive to start a health and wellness committee to expand the advocacy component of my portfolio.

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](mailto:athletics@sgps.ca).

Sincerely,

Lindsay Ruiters, Athletics and Wellness Commissioner, SGPS



Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the Equity & Diversity Commissioner  
August Council Meeting 2017

Regrets received – Kelly Watson, Equity & Diversity Commissioner, is away for the summer period (May/August Council meetings).



Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the International Student's Affairs Commissioner  
August Council Meeting 2017

Dear Council,

Compliments of the season to you all.

After joining SGPS, I had regular meetings with Tyler regarding my job role and responsibilities. I prepared my Year plan and budget and submitted the same for approval. We, all four Commissioners (Social Commissioner, Athletics Commissioner, Equity Commissioner, and International Commissioner) had regular meetings for creating possible collaborations to organize joint events for graduate professional and international students from June 2017 to April 2018. A tentative list of annual lists is prepared and waiting for approval.

I had informed my joining as new International Commissioner to QUIC and Kingston Community Health Centres (KCHC), and had meetings with them to plan for events that could be done in collaboration for SGPS members (international and domestic) in the term (Sept 2017-April 2018). My meeting on July 26 with QUIC Director and International Advisor went well. We discussed about planning of events together, one-page handout in the Welcome package, Support Workshops, and Movies night. KCHC is organizing 8th Multicultural Arts Festival in downtown Kingston on Sept 10 (Flyer is attached along). I am sitting on their Planning Committee and had meetings to ensure good numbers of Queen's SGPS members are engaged in the event either in terms of participants or volunteers in the event.

I also attended a focus group meeting organized by SGS for Expanding Horizons/Professional Development on June 16, 2017 and advocated for the ideas which are important for professional development for international student on campus. I also joined the SGS Orientation Committee in the capacity of International Commissioner to advocate for resources for international students.

Additionally, I also worked with Stephanie McKnight (VP-Graduate) on updating the Queen's Handbook for International Students. I attended a Working Group Meeting on Turnitin Software implementation on June 24, 2017. We discussed how Turnitin is now implemented across all departments and how students might need support to interpret the results generated by software and how to avoid academic integrity issues within their assignments/papers.

In addition, I recruited three members for International Students Affairs Committee and 20 new SGPS members on Facebook page of SGPS- International Affairs.

I look forward to interacting with you all at the various events that will be hosted throughout the year. As always, I welcome any suggestions or comments, my email address is [international@sgps.ca](mailto:international@sgps.ca)

Best wishes for the semester,

Atul Jaiswal  
**International Student Affairs Commissioner**  
**2017-2018**

Sunday, September 10th

# 8th Annual Kingston Multicultural Arts Festival



Food · Live Music · Dance · Art · Culture

11:30am - 5:30pm, Confederation Park



**Kingston  
Multicultural  
Arts Festival**

Connect with the Cultures of Kingston

[www.kipcouncil.ca](http://www.kipcouncil.ca)  
613-544-4661

[f kingstonmulticultural](https://www.facebook.com/kingstonmulticultural)

[t @immigrate\\_ktown](https://twitter.com/@immigrate_ktown)

#KMAF17

Presented by:



**KINGSTON  
IMMIGRATION  
PARTNERSHIP**

**Our Funders:**



Kingston Community  
Health Centres  
Centres de santé  
communautaire de Kingston



**Sponsors:**



**Our Media and Community Partners:**





Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the Social Commissioner  
August Council Meeting 2017

I am sending my regards for my absence in this meeting, but I am happy to announce that O-Week planning is coming together and that most events are now finalized. This O-Week, we try to achieve the goal of inclusivity in the wide variety of events we will have occurring. We are hoping to appeal to as many graduate and professional students as possible in marketing these events and in taking any form of feedback to heart. Furthermore, we are increasing the scope of activities to include family friendly options. Events such as the corn maze, outdoor live music, and the trolley tours will be occurring on the weekend of O-Week to facilitate family engagement and will have potential to be desirable to all ages.

This summer, we held a variety of SGPS social events such as volleyball mixers, paint nights, beach days and bar mixers. The variety in these events attracted a diverse population of graduate and professional students, some of which have not attended an SGPS event previously. This was beneficial to us as it allowed us to receive feedback for each event to better assist us in planning future events. All suggestions are deeply appreciated and welcome, and these suggestions will help us in organizing future events in order to increase the amount of students attending and participating in these events.

This upcoming O-Week, we are continuing with some of the traditional events that have had success in the past, such as the Boat Cruise, Speed Meeting at the Grizzly Grill, Trolley Tours and the Corn Maze. A "coffee and connect" social is currently being planned to occur one week after orientation, to allow professional and mature students an opportunity to meet over coffee and form new relationships in a relaxed and easy environment. There is no record of an event of this kind occurring in the SGPS in previous years, and we are looking forward to the population and success this event is able to attract.

A big event that will be coming up in September is a day trip to Canada's Wonderland amusement park. After a lot of feedback and requests from students to hold an event like this with the SGPS, we have finalized the plan and are happy to announce that this event will be running at the end of September.

With O-Week quickly approaching, I am looking forward to help provide students with an exciting week filled with diverse activities that will allow everyone to form meaningful relationships within their graduate and professional programs.

Best regards,  
Martyna



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR  
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY AT KINGSTON

Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the University Rector  
August Council Meeting 2017

[No report submitted]



Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Report of the Chief Returning Officer  
August Council Meeting 2017

Position vacant.