



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

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.



Adoption of the Agenda

A. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION 08/15/17:1

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the August 15th, 2017 Council Meeting.

Motion carries.



Executive & Speaker Reports

A. Executive Reports

- a. President – Adam Grotsky (report attached)
Adam Grotsky (President): \$5000 (from \$20,000) for AMS Clubs relationship. On Thursday part of embedded counsellor for Graduate Counsellor. Thank Kinesiology & Philosophy for submitting reports. If you have updates from your departments, please submit.
- b. VP Graduate – Stéfy McKnight (report attached)
Stefy McKnight (VP Graduate): Update about international student handbook – has been updated, alongside International Commissioner. Up now, or should be up in September – please circulate amongst international students in your department.
- c. VP Professional – Russell Durward (report attached)
- d. VP Finance & Services – Lauren Peacock (report attached)
Lauren Peacock (VP Finance & Services): My report is the budget. Other than that, not a lot of updates.
- e. VP Community – Tyler Morrison (report attached)
Tyler Morrison (VP Community): Just a few things to add – first thing is the editing service in the Kinesiology report. It's met some troubles in moving it forward – it's not being abandoned, but going to need to go from a different angle. Not something that will happen overnight.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Orientation week: Not this orientation, but for next year – more communication with departments, SGPS, and SGS. Need Council members help to get in contact with those in charge of planning orientation week. Involved in a think-tank this year; clear that as simple as tours are falling through the cracks – simple things that are easily solved. I'll be going through more formal avenues next year; please help people get in touch.

SWS – met with Adam; the “cap” on counselling appointments. There isn't a cap on counselling services for students. The only stipulation is that if a student needs long-term, regular appointments, that is when insurance can help. Jennifer Dodds want this to get out – a misnomer.

Will be going to the CFS annual general meeting – expect a full report in September.

B. Speaker Report

- a. Speaker – Jennifer Williams (oral report)

C. Approval

MOTION 08/15/17:2

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Executive and Speaker Reports.

Jared Houston (Philosophy): VP Professional – us preparing a trademark for our logo, because it was similar to other logos. It may be more fruitful to have conversations with local organizations, instead of a legal route. Sustainability Kingston is the organization in mind. I would not think it would be appropriate for us to take up a legal posture.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): That is the single logo up for debate or concern. If you look at the Sustainability Kingston logo, it looks similar. The purpose of trademarking is not to gather legal; however we had conversation at the start of our term regarding changing our logo. We decided that we only have so many tricolour logos, and if the only group that we are somewhat similar to is an environmental lobbying group in the community, the mandates are very different, and so there's no concerns.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): I just find it a bit odd – they had the logo first. It would be bad practice for us to trademark our logo. Should we just go back to a previous logo.

Korey Pasch (Political Studies): I was sitting on Council when we were having those discussions, when we were looking at logos. There was a \$500 prize from the SGPS at the



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

time, I believe. I was unaware that Sustainability Kingston had an almost identical logo, and that was called to my attention. I would encourage we go back to a different logo option.

Terry Soales (PhD Education): Asking for clarification – it seems like a no brainer to me that we go back to a different logo. We stole a logo from an environmental initiative – it seems like a no-brainer to me.

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): : We discussed this as well. There's a significant cost with doing what you've suggested; the SGPS has a branding issue in general – we need more students aware of what we do. Again, that's not to say we can't do it. The other thing we want to speak to – is that we wouldn't be trademarking the rings only – it would include the SGPS name. With the text included in the logo, it is pretty

Terry Soales (PhD Education): Have they come forward with this issue?

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): They have not. I understand the concerns, however, it would be expensive to re-brand.

Jared Houston (Philosophy): It might be good moving forward to have a conversation with them. Secondly, fundamentally – the SGPS is not a business or corporation. The roles of the SGPS are to be a democracy and to . However, given the restructuring of fees, we have had concerns about

Emma Thompson (Kinesiology & Health Studies): It appears it may cost to trademark – I would prefer to rebrand. One way is to have communication with community groups.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): A lot of great points we have had so far – I would recommend that we have a separate discussion at another Assembly for this. It would be under \$500 to trademark a logo; it would be recommended to switch and trademark or trademark the current logo. It's important to keep in mind that the previous Council voted to create this logo – we would overturn a decision made at a previous Council. I, personally, was not there – it's too similar. But then we had wholesome discussion. It's important to note that there are similar colours and styles and approaches – if it's just an issue with a community group, I don't see a group.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): I have to second what Jared says about referring to ourselves about a business organization – we are a student organization to serve students who pay into the Association and maintaining health of our graduate student community. If we take this logo and trademark it, that's quite aggressive. If we met with them and agreed, then I would be okay with that. There were a bunch of logos and the voting was very close. Maybe it's time to bring this back to the table.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Kris Jones (Sociology): Trademarking seems like a premature move, given that there has not been conversations with the group. Would it be an option and we want something set down – could we set up an MOU to use, rather than going the trademark route.

Stefy McKnight (VP Graduate): Questions – I've worked with Sustainability Kingston – I don't think they know about our logo. Second, if they have trademarked our logo, how does that affect trademarking ours. I think in terms of trademarking a new logo – I don't know.

Korey Pasch (Political Studies): A couple of questions have come to mind – the previous SGPS logo – was it trademarked. Instead of going to an alternative design, could we go back to a different logo? I reiterate the vote was between staying with a previous logo and the current logo – and it was very close. Honestly, had I known about this, I probably would have voted differently. This may be a failure on the previous Exec – there were multiple designs that were submitted – can't recall who was responsible, but part of that should have included that we weren't infringing on other's logos. We ended up in a position because that groundwork.

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): Totally open to discussing this at a later date – this was not supposed to be a power-play. They are likely substantially different enough. As for an MOU, that would work with sustainability Kingston – wouldn't support. It sounds like we've created the issue – I don't think Sustainability Kingston knows or cares about this issue.

Motion to move discussion at next meeting and the SGPS Executive to meet with Sustainability Kingston and to investigate. Motion carries.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): Apologies on not reviewing the agenda prior – correct me if I'm misunderstanding. I fully get where you're coming from re: the way Orientation groups didn't liaise or converse. I was wondering to what extent you are working with them this year. I've been checking the website and I haven't seen anything.

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): Orientation week is just about to be finalized – 90% is booked and ready to go; the reality is that that the incoming student list from the Registrar's Office; because we will not be filtering if existing vs new students will be processed. We will email new students first, then post it – it seems fairer. That will probably happen next week – that's why it hasn't been posted.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): It is August 15th, though – but the fact that it isn't posted, they may have already transited.

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): That's a fair point – people are signing up, not signing up. If we could get the Registrars list in the future earlier, that would be better. We went with the



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

date they gave us. We can put pressure to get the list earlier in future. I fully anticipate us selling out in future, but you're right.

Dylan Sora (Biology): You've mentioned you will be going to the CFS meeting. March Council – would recommend looking over the minutes from that.

Cam Yung (Rector): A lot of hard work in the summer. Tyler - \$500 is now exclusively available for counselling – is this on or off campus?

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): This is off campus. We had a conversation with Jennifer Dodds re: insurance on campus. It will take a lot of work to get there first, chatting with insurance companies, across the Board – undergraduate and graduates. SGPS and AMS have two different insurance providers. It's \$500 off campus – maybe in the future, it can be applied on campus. But there's a lot of moving parts.

Cam Yung (Rector): Are there any restrictions to this - \$500 for each appointment for each individual.

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): Our understanding is that there are no limits – it's just \$500 total for the year. We're also work with our broker talking about success in the past for VIPs in the area.

Motion carries.



III. Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

- A. Senator Report** – Graduate Student Senator – Ciara Bracken-Roche (report attached)
Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): Have been doing some appeals over the summer – not that much fun; academic appeals. I have also reached out to the incoming Senator to transition and bring him up to speed. He's excited to take over the role. The next meeting will be at the end of September.
- B. Trustee Report** – Graduate Student Trustee – Adam Ali (report attached)
Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Introduces self and role. Have 4 more Board of Trustees meetings. Please feel free to red my report. Race relationship, supervisor relationship, and time to completion – three main issues I advocate for. If you have any feedback, please get in touch with me.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

C. Commissioner Reports

- a. Athletics Commissioner – Lindsay Ruitter (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 (no report submitted)
Cam Yung (Rector): Away on vacation – just got back yesterday. Introduces self. Last year at Queen's in this position – elections will be happening in January. Great opportunity to represent students – SGPS and AMS assemblies, Commissions, Senate...etc. Lots of information will be coming out in the election in January. Working in the summer for the Social Justice Centre – trying to find a space and funding to implement this, to bring together student groups and departments in conversation regarding diversity and inclusion on campus. I've been working on a Student Wellness Roundtable – so many groups on health advocacy, yet not many of them have an opportunity to connect. One last thing is a party registration – this is a great opportunity to learn about prevention techniques to have understanding about what may bring police to your party.
- b. Chief Returning Officer – Vacant
- c. Department: Philosophy – Jared Houston (report attached)
- d. Department: Kinesiology & Health Studies – Emma Thompson & Alex Velickovic (report attached)

F. Approval

MOTION 08/15/17:3

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports.

Motion carries.



Question Period & Departmental Issues

A. Update on the Relationship Between the SGPS and Grad Club – Discussion

Emma Thompson (Kinesiology & Health Studies): We just submitted a question period idea – and I guess we were just caught off-guard regarding about the relationship between the SGPS and Grad Club. When I read the report from Adam, I'm not sure if I



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm

Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

read it correctly – was it your Executive or the previous paused the Grad Club relationship?

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Previous. I'm not going to defend or support the decision. It may have happened at the end of your Council meetings. They may have done it at the end of their terms. I generally agree with the reasoning between the brief termination of the agreement – it had to do with the fact that there was a long-standing agreement, but that the finances were especially high. To ensure we came to a proper written agreement. The first conversation we had with the Grad club and we have now been negotiating a new contract.

Valerie Freemantle (Geography): It's a great idea to get this in writing. It did happen before our last meeting. I'm glad this will be a lasting agreement.

Korey Pasch (Political Studies): Will the content of the agreement be made available to SGPS Council.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Yes, once it is approved.

Terry Soales (PhD Education): The nature of the relationship is that they do trivia – is it just the agreement re: trivia.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): We're trying to do three different things – one is trivia (finding out costs), collaborating on homecoming programming – a graduate student zone at the reunion street festival, and some sexual assault program "Ask for Angela" program. Staff will be undergoing training for that.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): By all accounts, our relationship is official amicable and we are just working towards a written agreement.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Yes

B. PhD Funding vs. Ontario Full-Time Minimum Wage – Discussion

Please see attached letter from Sebastian De Line (Cultural Studies PhD Student)

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): I'm glad this was submitted – it's a great example of democracy. This is a great venue to discuss them at – this is a great way to get a point across. I passed it along to the SGS to get their comments on it. We had some



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

background to frame our discussion. They made a few points – I spoke with the Associate Dean. She was sympathetic to the issue – it's an issue that plays with PhD students at Queen's and across the province. We are pretty much average with PhD funding. While \$18K is the minimum, most departments will provide more (~\$25K on average). Cultural Studies has a minimum of \$20K – a little higher than the minimum.

Points from Marta: We have to be careful by comparing PhD funding to a salary or wage – you are engaging in research and learning, not a “job” with a salary.

Dylan Sora (Biology): In Biology and a number of research-based programs. It depends on the advisor – if we raise tuition, that would have a large effect on the programs by those departments. One thing relevant for all departments – we reviewed our minimum stipend and it had not increased in 5 years. Increased the stipend to reflect current cost of living. This could provide a valuable example for other departments if your minimum stipend has not increased over the years; comparing to relevant other departments. This was a great way to increase the stipend to approx.. ~\$700 more.

Valerie Freemantle (Geography): This student made a comment regarding why paying tuition if they are not taking as much resources in their first year. When you're in coursework, yes, pay more – but that is an issue at the provincial level. This may be something to bring up at the conference next week – there needs to be talk about models of graduate funding.

Emma Thompson (Kinesiology & Health Studies): My initial thoughts are that I enrolled in my PhD and our department are in line with funding across Queen's. CGS/OGS replace QGA. I came here for research and learning not for a job. I guess a step for coursework is interesting – although we draw on resources intermittently, it's an interesting concept.

Korey Pasch (Political Studies): I certainly have a lot of sympathy for the writer of the letter, but what I found problematic was that there are issues with modern University. I have issues with the Dean associating PhD positions with the job. We have had issues in Politics with the funding model. Teaching Fellows and Adjunct Faculty is an easy and cheap way to fund courses to rely on tuition to sustain itself. So I think if we are not taking into account the politics and economics that cause this issue, we do not recognize the larger issue. What can the SGPS actually do about any of this? We will be in bargaining for TA/TFs, but it would be more fruitful to have a discussion about what the SGPS can do.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Stefy McKnight (VP Graduate): A couple of points here; we are bargaining now – if you are a TA. As much as we're not workers, a lot of your funding is working. In terms of having \$18K - \$10K is RA or TAship. This is still way before the poverty line; and the SGS has rules you can't work longer than 10 hours/week. I think that there are ways that we can work to improve this. I do appreciate this letter. Considering those are domestic fees and that student is international – there are more fees associated with this.

Terry Soales (PhD Education): Part-time workers being paid the same as full-time workers. Those hours should put us above the poverty line. I don't think comparing it as a job is necessarily fair. This may not be the successful way to do it. Graduate student funding to be indexed to tuition or inflation. That may be a more successful route to take. This is my 9:5 job and beyond. I fully believe many students treat it as a job, but I don't think the University sees us as employees.

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): Just a comment about going to the CFS – one of the things I fully anticipate saying is that the CFS would like to go to the extreme (ex. reducing tuition to \$0). If a group is as big and powerful as the CFS could come up with a better system, I think that's one thing – the SGPS can't lobby the government, but the CFS can. Encourage the CFS to take a more realistic approach, rather than going to the extreme.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): What can the SGPS do? The most tangible way is to do what Dylan did – have Councilors go to their department and inquire about if there are scheduled increases. A decentralized approach may be the best option to make change, rather than at the SGPS. We are happy to support you.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): Great Biology – especially with the humanities departments with the new funding model to make the money stretch. Graduate students are over stretched. Professors are over stretched. This should not be decentralized – I think we need to think about this in approaching Orientation week. We need to deal with the SGS and we need to take a role in the Union. We're a Graduate Student Association – if we can advocate, that's what we need to do to work alongside these groups.

Terry Soales (PhD Education): I differ to Adam for a response.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): We do not have the capacity as an Executive to chat with each of the 70 departments – that would be a great example of what can happen through your group. A letter of support or funding to a campaign (awareness). There's a lot of ways to help achieve your goals. What you see best for your department – as a Law student, I don't know if I could go into Chemistry when someone like Moran would be more aware.

Terrance (Education): It's always good to have power in numbers. I think that's what Ciara was saying. We need to get a point across – I'm not familiar with the CFS. We can work with our Faculty, but is there not some way we can take a successful story and share with us the strategy used in Biology. Wouldn't this also be an equity point to bring forward to the CFS – you don't want to deal with funding, but can we bring it up as an equity point.

Stefy McKnight (VP Graduate): We need to work with other organizations, we cannot work as the SGPS alone. We're in bargaining – it's a very strategic time. It's on the bargaining demands is having a conversation about tuition. I'm passionate about this discussion – if you want to move forward with this, I'm prepared to take this on. I would also encourage you to go to your departments and get started with this. And I also encourage going to the CFS too.

Suhaylah (Chemistry): At CFS – at a point, OSAP runs out at a certain point. It may be manageable with OSAP – but something to take into consideration.

Dylan Sora (Biology): There appears to be some interest in strategy that Biology used – willing to provide a brief synopsis as a guideline for how to approach this with your department.

Emma Thompson (Kinesiology & Health Studies): This may be a structural issue, as Corey mentioned. I can't name the number of TFs that are teaching – for unknown reasons, we seem to have a lot of TAs, and yes, they get paid at a decent wage, but for a TF they don't do a lot. As a PhD student, you are employed by the University, but that appears to conflict with time to completion – you have to apply to exist, despite holding multiple TF positions. I'm wondering if there is a way to speak to the structural issues.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): I promise this will be the last time I will speak tonight. I think we're bringing so many issues relevant to graduate and professional students. Speaking from a Graduate student perspective, you are directly



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

reporting to Faculty within your department. If I'm working 20 hours/week as opposed to the 10, without it becoming awkward. I know that our Union has processes, but those aren't realistic. I find it upsetting and offensive that what we do isn't a job. There's a number of other graduate positions in other countries, where they do receive more funding – nearly a salary. Can we advocate at the SGS, then speak to the broad funding package – that would be a nice start. That would be an amazing thing for Council to take on.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Tyler and I are taking on Queen's lobby days – speaking to the Minister at the provincial level and Federal level colleagues. Great to share re: issues not just at the local level. We can also go to the SGS. Realistically, the SGS has a lot of authority over department operations. We can definitely employ both of these things. Keep in mind we all have goals, priorities, and interests about what the top priorities are for the year. We have to be aware of how much political capital we use. As an internal measure, the idea of a supervisor-supervisee contract – is an informal contract at the start of a relationship to lay out expectations for time for feedback on a draft, # of hours with TA ship...etc. While not legally bindings, it is a way to keep supervisors and students accountable.



Business Arising from the Minutes



Main Motions

A. 2017-2018 SGPS Budget

MOTION 08/15/17:4

See "SGPS Budget Overview for Council" document.

BIRT that SGPS Council approve the 2017-2018 SGPS Budget.

Lauren Peacock (VP Finance & Services): One of the biggest changes we made, we budgeted from 0. In cases there we can't do that, we used last years numbers to make estimations. This allows us to have an operating contingency of 8%. If anything comes up, we can allocate the 8% to this. That was the biggest change made. My apologies that the Excel documents – some of the names hadn't been changed. All the content is right.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): Point of information – you could only receive a bursary once or twice.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): We never had a bursary maximum – and that has in the past and in the future hurting us – we could go in the negative because we gave more money than we had. We increased the bursary amount, because we are also in the planning process of creating a new grant system – underutilized because it was tough to apply for this fund. Created four separate grants, which will hopefully target areas of importance for students – accessibility, diversity, department student council, and sustainability. We want to give you more support and funding to run events at the graduate level. Council/Committee Line - \$9,000 – reason for this year; there was never allocation for the Executive. Changes to our staffing structure – allowed us to be more effective with our student monies.

Dylan Sora (Biology): I think this budgeting from 0 is a great idea and something to be implemented in the future. I also like the restructuring of the grant and bursary system. Until I had to run an event, I didn't know about the grants available to different organizations and departments. Two questions about the grants: 1) You allocated \$5,000 to each initiative and \$10,000 to departments-. Were those \$5K based on previous years? 2) How would you be eligible to receive the grant and what could you use it for?

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Great questions. The approval of this budget does not approve the grants – it would require a policy change, pending approval of our budget and strategic plan. The numbers themselves are flexible. Because this was the first year we are running on this and we didn't have information in past, we are going on estimations. \$25K is a hard cap, but individual grant amounts is soft capped. Department grants would have more funding, given that there are over 70 departments. The eligibility would be that DSC would be registered with the SGPS. Some in the past have registered as clubs, but you are student councils. So we want to make sure that is reflected properly.

Jared Houston (Philosophy): Telephone line - \$10,000 seems rather high.

Lauren Peacock (VP Finance & Services): Telephone has a few working pieces – our landlines are under half (\$500), which is quite high. The rest is cell phone plan reimbursement for permanent staff and Executive, who are expected to use personal phones for reimbursement.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Just to add, I was surprised to see this number. It's a cost of running the organization. Cost of our contracts include cell phone reimbursement. Council deemed previously that cell phones would need to be reimbursed. One of the key ways University officials connected was through extensions – it was important to have an office phone, and decided to pilot it with just the President phone. I believe it's a worthwhile expense.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): Just to clarify, the \$11,000 is the monthly bills, for everything. There was also an initiation fee that was factored in.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Motion carries.

B. 2017-2018 SGPS Executive Strategic Plan

MOTION 08/15/17:5

See "SGPs Executive Strategic Plan – Final" document.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): I will quickly outline goals for the year: Strengthen Community; Improve Wellness and Access; Increase Academic and Career Support; Reform Internal Structures. In terms of approving this document, I don't want you to think that approving this document approaches the details. Any of these items will require Council approval on the "nitty gritty" issues. Just keep in mind that grants – we would not be approving the grants themselves, but rather the ideas.

Emma Thompson (Kinesiology & Health Studies): Presenting on behalf of Adam – under the Strategic Initiative on Strengthening Community #6 – decreasing racist initiatives. You may just want to be accurate about that. How does diversity fit into the guiding principles of the SGPS?

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): I'm going to cross out in recent years – Queen's has been plagued by a number of racist incidents. A stronger community is based on the need for diversity.

Valerie Freemantle (Geography): Thank you for the clarity of this strategic plan. I think a supervisor-student contract is a great idea. I think the new website was great – need to include the Bylaw and Policy document update on website. Couldn't make connections to the policy document. Near the end, you mention that there is disconnect in Council – potentially an increase in restructuring does not decrease services, but rather enhances.

Korey Pasch (Political Studies): I have two questions – I appreciate the work that has gone into drafting it. It was clear and by far the best document I've read, as to what the SGPS is seeking to do. I appreciate the hard work. The first question: With the DSC grants, or the idea of them, and tethering that to departmental registration. I was involved in discussions with the finances and services committee regarding registration and sanctioning – Stuart had a productive meeting. Just an update about where the SGPS stands for department registration and where it stands. How would that interact with event sanctioning? There were many insurance questions around this. My second question relates to Health and Dental aspect and your email Adam from July 11th about changes to the plan – I forwarded it to the graduate students in the department. I do have some feedback in terms of an issue with the plan.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Do you want to email me first about the plan, just for simplicity? As for the DSC grant, the way I do registration is quite simply, we will have a form on the website – we want to know who your Executive is and how to contact you. That will allow us to better contact you. That will help us connect with you and improve communication with departments. There's just no sufficient way to do it. Access to the DSC grant would be supported through registration. We are hoping to simplify the event sanctioning process, remove red-tape

Jared Houston (Philosophy): Thanks for this well written document – I think it's an improvement over having individual plans. I'm interested in point 5 of the Wellness system. Forming a relationship with the Peer Support Centre – it's primarily Undergraduate program. We have a complimentary program – Student Advisor Program. There are a number of differences between that program and Peer Support. They are graduate students, more in tune with graduate issues. What is exactly being complimented in the Student Advisor Program by having access to the Peer Support Centre, if it is staffed by undergraduate students?

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): This idea came out of the mental health survey results – whether or not you want access to the Peer Support Center. Overwhelmingly, they wanted access. It is overwhelmingly, the Peer Support Center goes through more training, not academically focused. Student Advisors are more aware of academic and policies. We make sure they have that training, but we want to provide another venue for students, without the academic support with it. We will also recruit graduate student volunteers, making graduate students available during their hours.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): Three comments/questions: 1) This whole liability thing, I find problematic in the first place. I'll be critical in the first place – I think it's very "Big Brother". What size and scale of event are we talking about for liability coverage? If I bring my department over and we're drinking, should I submit a request for that? Where is the line? 2) The major issue we had was the information requested. SGPS was requesting personal information in order to apply – I don't think those things should be necessarily. 3) Health and Dental Coverage – my understanding is that the bursary can cover you for services up until 10%. If you have things like filling – you have 65%, but the service overall could be quite high. Why can't we raise that?

Tyler Morrison (VP Community): I'll speak to the liability issue – the realize of the situation is that if a department hosts an event, the SGPS is being named in the lawsuit. Everyone, including Queen's, will be named. Our insurance company is going to try to avoid being responsible for whatever costs come out of those proceedings is to insist that. Registration as a department, instead of individually – that's a good way to connect. When it comes to registering each individual event. You're just making it available to be personally liable.



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): It would be great to have standardized emails – it looked great for communication at the Undergraduate level. Phone number would not be required for registration. Our new event sanctioning – just name and email is necessary.

Lauren Peacock (VP Finance & Services): I'm assuming you're talking about the dental bursary – if something is covered beneath 10% or you've maxed.

Ciara Bracken-Roche (Graduate Student Senator): Why do we have to go by %, rather than needs based? I feel it should be opened up?

Lauren Peacock (VP Finance & Services): We should look at a threshold. Now that we have a hard cap on the bursary. Definitely something to look at.

Suhayla (Chemistry): Just going back to the Peer Support Centre – was there anything about Graduate Student Advisors? The data has not been completely analyzed yet. There were questions about familiarity of different services. I wonder if students were saying they wanted the Peer Support Centre, but because they were just unaware of the Student Advisor program.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): The Peer Support Centre is a volunteer services – so we would recruit graduate students to be a part of the service. We can also explore different locations, recognizing the issue of going to a space with students they may teach.

Korey Pasch (Political Studies): I'd like to thank Lauren for clarifying the contact information being department based – that was a large part of the conversation. I'm not sure how far along Stuart came with this discussion. Low-risk, pre-cleared events would be automatically approved. And then, is there a list that has been drafted in terms of what falls within that low risk, pre-cleared events. We also talked about a severity index about a review process – was an index like this drafted. These are all questions left on the table.

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): I don't believe Stuart got that far. The SGPS website – the new event sanctioning process does identify certain event sanctioning: it's on campus, low-risk, no alcohol. You're good. And if there is a grey area, we would seek out more information, then give you the go-ahead.

Terrance (Education): Students who come in in May – we have a survey recently. There was concern that one student didn't opt-in to Health and Dental in the summer transition – it's a short period of time. What would be the mechanism to trigger this?



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): Opt-in/opt-out is based on a traditional September year. Some Education students are not around during the opt-out period. Assessed fees do not include health and dental – so we have an opt-in period. I met with Chris Suppa about how to communicate this to students. So we are in the future going to have an email just to May start students, only for Health and Dental opt-in information. September would be an opportunity to opt-out. May students will automatically receive Health and Dental in September.

Cam Yung (Rector): With the RA positions – my understand is that graduate students have 10 hours max per work in paid positions, while the majority already receive TAships. Will they have the opportunity to meet the expectations of the Executive re: particular specific topics of the Executive? Many were met with ethics issues and setting up within a year – how effective do you think this will be?

Adam Ali (Graduate Student Trustee): We recognize some students want to have experiential learning a few hours a week, like PhD funding minimums, to help us make decisions.

BIRT that SGPS Council approve the 2017-2018 SGPS Executive Strategic Plan.

Motion carries.

C. SGPS Health & Wellness Committee Creation

MOTION 08/15/17:6

The Health and Wellness Committee is tasked with promoting the health and wellness of SGPS members. This committee serves as a platform to discuss issues and initiatives related to health and wellness, and to guide the Society's strategic vision and direction for improving the health and wellness of SGPS members.

Mandate:

- To provide a platform to discuss issues relating to the health and wellness of SGPS members
- To review the efficacy of existing SGPS health and wellness events and initiatives
- To brainstorm new events and initiatives aimed at improving the health and wellness of SGPS members
- To draft a Health and Wellness Strategic Plan that outlines the committee's findings and recommendations pertaining to the health and wellness of SGPS members

Operations:

- The committee will meet three times per semester



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

- Agenda items can be proposed by any member of the committee
- During the first committee meeting, members will discuss areas that should be a priority for the upcoming year
- The Committee will submit its Health and Wellness Strategic Plan to SGPS Council no later than the April 2018 Council meeting

Membership:

- SGPS Athletics and Wellness Commissioner, Chair
 - SGPS President
 - SGPS Vice-President (Community)
 - Two members of SGPS Council
- Any SGPS members at large interested in joining the committee

BIRT that SGPS Council approve the establishment of the Health & Wellness Committee.

Motion carries.

D. Council Meeting Dates 2017-2018

MOTION 08/15/17:7

Meeting Dates (@5:30pm)	Reports/Motions Due (@4:00pm)	Location
Tuesday, September 12 th	Tuesday, September 8 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, October 17 th	Tuesday, October 10 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, November 14 th	Tuesday, November 7 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, December 12 th	Tuesday, December 5 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, January 16 th	Tuesday, January 9 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, February 13 th	Tuesday, February 6 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, March 13 th	Tuesday, March 6 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, April 10 th	Tuesday, April 3 rd	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, May 8 th	Tuesday, May 1 st	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)
Tuesday, August 14 th	Tuesday, August 7 th	McLaughlin Hall (JDUC)



Agenda

August 15th, 2017 - 5:30pm
Robert Sutherland Hall, JDUC

BIRT that SGPS Council approve the 2017-2018 Council Meeting Dates.

Motion carries.



Other Business



Notices of Motion & Announcements

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 12th at 5:30 PM (McLaughlin Hall, JDUC).
Motions for the September Council meeting are due by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, September 5th.

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



Adjournment

A. Adjournment

Motion 08/15/17:8

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.

Motion carries.