Political Studies Department:

Dear Council,

We’re writing to update you on the previous year’s activity in the Department of Political Studies. We had an excellent year in our department, with graduate students playing a vital role in its functioning. The following events are highlights from our year:

The Political Studies Graduate Student Association (PSGSA) organized and hosted its Annual Graduate Student Conference held May 12th & 13th 2017. The conference provided an opportunity for our own graduate students to share some of their current scholarly work here at Queen’s University and to collaborate with graduate students from across Canada, including British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. Altogether we had 23 graduate student presenters, 2 graduate student discussants, and 10 established scholars acting in various capacities.

Our department has a new hire in International Relations, Dr. Stephanie Martel who is a specialist in the Asia-Pacific region. The PSGSA is pleased that graduate students were very engaged in attending lunches with the prospective hires and their job talks. Graduate students provided important feedback to hiring committee members on each of the candidates.

We would like to highlight the creation of the Queen’s University chapter of Women In International Security (WIIS). WIIS is an international organization which promotes the involvement of women in international security and considerations of gender in the field of international security, broadly defined. The PSGSA is pleased that a chapter of WIIS has been established at Queen’s and we are happy to support their work on campus. WIIS sponsors leadership training, mentoring, and networking programs as well as substantive events focused on current policy problems. WIIS also supports research projects and policy engagement initiatives on critical international security issues, including the nexus between gender and security.

The PSGSA also successfully launched its inaugural Graduate Student Speaker Series this past year. We had several graduate students take advantage of this new forum for Political Studies MA and PhD candidates to present their research. The PSGSA established a permanent executive position to oversee this series to continue to provide and expand this great opportunity to our membership. We would like to thank those graduate students in the Department of Philosophy, especially Jerad Houston, who shared their knowledge on their colloquium series.

We would also like to highlight the continued interest of graduate students in our department in mental health initiatives and services both on and off campus. The PSGSA would be interested in partnering with the SGPS to push this issue area further, especially increasing student access to mental health resources.

Finally, Korey would like to extend his sincere thanks to the Speaker, members of Council, the Executive, and SGPS staff both present and past for the opportunity to contribute to student governance at Queen’s University through the SGPS. Serving as the PSGSA’s department representative has been a challenging and rewarding experience. Politics aside, the SGPS is a vital institution, space, and voice for graduate students on
campus and he is proud to have contributed to it over the previous three years. He is thankful for the friendships and memories made during his time on Council.

Sincerely,

Abdi Issa, current Department of Political Studies SGPS Council Representative
Korey Pasch, former Department of Political Studies SGPS Council Representative
Dear Council,

October is an exciting month, not just for sweater weather and pumpkin spiced lattes, but also because many of you are joining us for the first time in your new role. I’m very much looking forward to meeting you and working together to improve the graduate and professional student experience. SGPS Council is the Society’s legislative body, meaning it is the forum where we debate policies and issues affecting our members. The SGPS Executive (comprised of myself and the four vice-presidents) is directly accountable to Council, so don’t be afraid to ask us tough questions and challenge the ideas we bring forward. It is my view that diverse perspectives will only strengthen the initiatives we champion. To get up to speed on our goals for the year, click here to read the Executive Strategic Plan. To review the Society’s bylaws and policy, click here. Below, you will find my key updates since the September meeting.

**Joint Board-Senate Committee to Review the Principalship**

As you may know, the Principal has indicated that he will pursue and third (and final) five-year term. That announcement triggered the formation of a Joint Board-Senate Committee to Review the Principalship, and I am one of three students that will serve on it. Whether the principal should be granted a third term is a critical decision for the future of our university, and one that I expect SGPS Council will actively participate in. To that end, I hope you will solicit feedback from your departments on the state of the university and whether the Principal has effectively advanced the best interests of Queen’s. We will also engage in a discussion on the topic at an upcoming Council meeting. While the committee’s work is confidential, I look forward to sharing the comments and views brought to my attention.

**Graduate-only Space in Stauffer Library**

At the August Council meeting I was pleased to share that we successfully advocated for graduate-only space in Stauffer Library (through the revitalization and expansion of the second-floor graduate reading room). A working group has now been formed to bring the new space to fruition. If you have any thoughts about what you or your department would like to see from this space, please let me know. My own view is that it should include lounge space, individual workspace, and collaborative workspace. It should also be restricted to graduate and professional students through a student card system much like the one used at the ARC. I will continue to provide updates as this project progresses.

**Homecoming Programming**

By the time Council meets, Homecoming weekend will have come and gone. However, I’m very excited that the SGPS has been more involved in programming this year. Most notably, we will have a tent set up at the ReUnion Street Festival to provide graduate and professional students with a base to connect with alumni and one another. We are also offering an exclusive incentive to partake in the festivities: the first 100 SGPS members to enter the licensed area of the festival will get in free, and the first 100 members to arrive at the SGPS tent will get a food voucher for any of the vendors at the festival. I hope many of you will take advantage of this opportunity to connect with our Queen’s community and immerse yourselves in the infamous Queen’s spirit. On a personal note, I’m excited to be attending the Tricolour Guard Dinner, which celebrates our venerable alumni who graduated 50+ years ago!
Electoral Engagement Strategy
As the new year (read: election season) is quickly approaching, it is important to begin developing a plan to improve electoral engagement. Last year, only 6% of SGPS members voted in the election, and every position went uncontested (I suspect the later was, in part, the cause of the former). This also means that a very small portion of our membership determined which student fees passed or failed. To ensure our democracy is strengthened moving forward, I will be forming an ad-hoc committee to develop an electoral engagement strategy. I encourage any interested members of Council to join this important initiative.

Partnership: I Love First Peoples
We’re partnering with the local chapter of I Love First Peoples (ILFP), an organization that empowers Indigenous children and youth to succeed. ILFP bridges communities through practical projects that promote reconciliation and education. They are currently running a shoebox collection campaign (in short: gift-filled shoeboxes for Indigenous youth), and the SGPS will be participating by using our office as a collection centre. We’re also hoping to work with you to organize collections in your respective departments. More information about this campaign can be found at: https://www.ilovefirstpeoples.ca/shoebox-gifts.

Partnership: Canadian Club
(No, not the whisky). We’re partnering with the Canadian Club of Toronto, which is a forum to hear from leaders in politics, business, the social sector, and the media. Past speakers have ranged from Morgan Freeman to Hillary Clinton to Art McDonald. SGPS members will receive $30 off individual tickets to any event, or $300 off a table. Further details of this partnership will be made available in the coming weeks. To learn more about the organization, visit their website at https://www.canadianclub.org.

That’s all for now. Please let me know if you have any questions, or would like to meet outside of Council.

Sincerely

Adam Grotsky
SGPS President
Dear council,

I hope you had a lovely long weekend. Welcome new and returning council members! I look forward to working with all of you. The month of September was a busy one, and I’ve already been to several meetings in October. Please accept this document as my formal council report for the month of October.

**SCSSA meeting**

On September 28th I attended the Senate Scholarships and Student Aid on behalf of Lauren our Vice-President Finance. While most of the meeting is confidential, I was encouraged to share the bursaries available to all Queen’s students with financial need. Here are a list of bursaries you may apply to. The criteria and deadlines are all different so please read the descriptions carefully. Where it does not identify undergraduate students, I would say you are safe to apply.

- **Bursaries and Awards**
  - External Awards
  - Specific Student Groups
  - General Bursary & Summer Bursary

**Student Engagement Panel**

On November 4th, myself and a couple other Queen’s students including Cam Yung, will be sitting on a Student Engagement Panel, part of the Queen’s University Council annual meeting. On October 4th, we met to go over the agenda and prepare ourselves for the panel.

**Student Advisor Program Report**

Andria is in the process of creating an annual report of our Student Advisor program to circulate to council and the School of Graduate Studies. This report will outline the number of students who utilize the service, concerns, and strategies for the upcoming year. Adam and I recently met with the student advisors, and have come to the realization that we are in need of an advertising campaign. We will be rolling out this campaign in the following weeks, beginning with social media presence and making magnets or small postcards to share with students. If you have any suggestions, please email me.

**CAGS in November 2017**

Adam and I will be attending the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies conference in Québec, November 7-9. The programme can be found online [here](#). Updates on this to follow.

**Student & Supervisor Relations**

Student and Supervisor Relationships are at the forefront of several issues and concerns we receive from our members. Adam and I are in the process of working through some solutions on how to ease these relationships. We are looking for feedback from you and your departments, so please contact us if you would like to share stories, experiences or suggestions on how to approach this academic issue.

**Non-traditional Thesis Support**

Queen’s University has been implementing several new thesis formats. Some formats include, projects based and creative research and monographs*. We are looking for feedback from members who may be doing a non-traditional thesis, and some of the support they may need. Some examples may include, creating an interactive website but no access to platforms or funds to host it; creative project but limited funds or limited space/studio to produce work. I foresee this impacting our humanities and social sciences, though any feedback would be greatly appreciated as this is a new idea.

*While monographs are normal in the sciences, it is very unusual for doctoral students to create a monograph in the social sciences and humanities. Though, this is becoming an option for several social sciences and humanities programs and departments.
Upcoming workshops and events:

The School of Graduate Studies has asked me to help promote their events with our members, thus I will be listing a few events in my report that may be of use to you, your research and professional development. Please circulate this with your departments.

**SSHRC Research Grant Applications 101**
17 October, 10-11 am, Watson Hall Room 517

**Grant Writing for SSHRC Applications**
18 October, 2-4pm, Watson Hall Room 517

**Building Successful Academic Relationships Across Cultures**
23 October, 9 – 11am, Robert Sutherland Hall, Room 202

**Navigating Learning Diverse Classrooms: Opportunities for Facilitation and Curriculum Design**
23 October, 2 – 3:30pm, Robert Sutherland Hall, Room 202

**Research Collaboration with Indigenous Communities**
27 October, 1 – 4pm, Robert Sutherland Hall, Room 202

If you have any questions about this report, please send me an email at vp.graduate@sgps.ca.

All the best,

Stéfy

Stéphanie McKnight (Stéfy)
Vice-President (Graduate)
SGPS
vp.graduate@sgps.ca
Hello Council,

Another month under our belts, another month closer to the end of the year.

Two big things have happened for me since our last council meeting: logo trademarking and professional faculty connecting.

Since the release of the trademarking report I have taken the next steps to trademark the SGPS logo. There is not much else to say, the process has been completed and I will keep the Council informed of anything that pops up concerning the application, however there should not be too much to be concerned about.

The executive and myself have determined that it would be best that instead of organizing joint faculty social events ourselves, it would in fact be better to help facilitate the faculties to do it themselves. This has transformed my role from that of an organizer to that of a facilitator, I am now in the process of communicating with the faculties to help create these events with other faculties with the hope that bonds will form between the students and the faculties going forward. My main duties going forward will be liaising with the faculties for grants/bursaries and other assets that I can provide them to simplify the process to create these events.

I have attended a few Board of Directors meetings with the Grad Club. The renovations have been completed at the bar, however there have been some difficulties with a few of the renovations, causing difficulties that have led to tension with the builders. The SGPS sponsored trivia night has been very successful at the club, and they are hoping to expand the night. The board is still looking for an Education representative, other than that it is full and in the process of bringing innovations to the menu (new drinks) and events (pushing reservations by students and groups).

For the ISAT-SAC meeting last month, it was mainly determining what will be talked about for the coming year, things that students want addressed. The major points were technical issues with SOLUS and OnQ, as well as developments in the IT services, such as the new programs which are free to students this year (check their website for the complete list of programs available). There were the usual questions pertaining to data collection, and how secure the information collected by the school is. In the coming months, when more detailed and specific matters are discussed, I will pass that information to the Council with the hopes that they will pass that information on to their faculties and groups. If the Council has any IT or technical issues that they or their group want addressed, let me know (in person or by email) and I will bring those matters before the committee and have them addressed as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Russell Durward
VP-Professional
Dear Council,

A few things to update you on this month:

**NEW Grant Program**
Department Student Council Applications with DSC specific Grant Application Guide are live as of October 10th. Accessibility/Diversity & Inclusion/Sustainability is open for applications, new Guide for A/DI/S should be posted by October 13th.

**Changes to Bursary Criteria:**
Following the meeting of the Finance and Services Committee in late September, the following changes to the Bursary criteria have been made:
1. Expansion of Activity Bursary to include Conference Registration Fees within North America
2. International Student Bursary amount changed to $200

**Continual Review of Bursary/Grant Application Process**
I have been working with Sandy Beaton (our Director of Finance) to tweak our email responses. We have updated our ‘Bursary Application is Incomplete’ emails to include more information (especially for International Students) on what will qualify as Proof of Need, where to find qualifying Proof of Need on SOLUS (with screenshots), and how to apply for Queen’s Bursaries (that can be used as Proof of Need for SGPS purposes).

**Next Steps:**
I will now be working on ‘Bursary Application is Denied’ emails to follow the same format as our incomplete emails and these will include same information as to what why their application was denied (i.e. what component – Proof of Need or Proof of Expense – was missing) as well as hyperlinks to other funding sources (Queen's Student Awards).

That’s all for now,

Lauren Peacock
VP Finance & Services
Society of Graduate & Professional Students (SGPS)
Hi Everyone,

Time flies! It feels like just yesterday we had September council. I hope everyone is doing well. I only have a few quick updates for all of you.

**CFS Presentation**

The CFS has agreed to come to our November AGM and put on a quick presentation about some of their programing and the CFS itself. They have asked if there is any specific content we want them to talk about, so I would ask if there’s anything you want to know more about to notify me asap and I can ask them to prepare.

**Deputy Commissioner Hiring**

A lot of my time has been going towards hiring our four deputy commissioners. As I write this we are in the middle of interviews and by council next week we should be hiring the successful candidates.

**Risk Management Meeting**

Earlier this month I was lucky enough to be invited to a presentation put on by the risk management office by an individual who is an expert in Risk Management. There was a group presentation in the morning and then Andria Burke (executive director) and I were able to meet one on one with risk management and the expert. In conclusion, everyone agreed that our processes for event sanctioning are robust and in a very good place to avoid accidents from happening.

Thank you for taking the time to read my report, I tried to keep it short and sweet and I look forward to seeing you all next week.

VP (Community)
Tyler Morrison
Oral report to be presented at Council.
Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Graduate Student Senator
October Council Meeting 2017

[No report submitted]
To the SGPS Membership,
The first quarterly Board of Trustee Meeting is occurring on October 13 and 14. I will provide an oral summary of the meeting at our council meeting next week, with a full report coming at our November council meeting.

The open agenda of the Board meeting will be made available at the Queen’s University Secretariat’s website at https://queensuniversity.civicweb.net/Portal/.

If you have any questions concerning the Board of Trustees, or Queen’s University generally, please feel free to e-mail me.

Thanks,
Adam

trustee@sgps.ca
Dear Council,

It has been a busy fall with lots of events from the Athletics and Wellness Commission. Please see below for past and upcoming events!

**Events Since Sept 12th Council Meeting:**

**Sports Hours:** Sept 19th, Oct 3rd, Oct 17th, Oct 31st, Nov 14th, Nov 28th, Dec 12th – this is a free event and sports will include floor hockey, basketball, and volleyball

**Run and Social:** We have hosted three run and social events in the past month. These events are catered to all levels and include a group run (or walk) followed by nachos. These events will be ongoing throughout the fall.

**Terry Fox Run:** Sept 17th 10:30am – It was hot out, but several SGPS members came out to celebrate Terry Fox. There was a BBQ after the run as well.

**Yoga Class:** Sept 27th 6:30pm – Metabodyworks studio hosted an SGPS yoga class. Students paid only $5 to attend a 60 minute flow yoga class.

**Intramurals:** Three SGPS intramural teams are ongoing. We have a tier 2 and a tier 3 volleyball team as well as a tier 1 ultimate Frisbee team.

**Cooking Class:** Healthy Cooking Club hosted a cooking workshop for 10 SGPS members to attend for only $5. Students worked together to make a three course fall themed meal and then enjoyed their food together. Another cooking class will occur in November.

**Health and Wellness Committee:** The health and wellness committee had their first meeting on Oct 2nd and discussed various issues related to SGPS health and wellness. The committee will meet monthly and will accept new members on an ongoing basis. If you are interested in joining please email athletics@sgps.ca

**Upcoming Events:**

**Sports Hours:** Oct 31st, Nov 14th, Nov 28th, Dec 12th – this is a free event and sports will include floor hockey, basketball, and volleyball

**Run and Social:** These events are catered to all levels and include a group run (or walk) followed by nachos. These events will be ongoing throughout the fall.
Intramurals: Three SGPS intramural teams are ongoing. We have a tier 2 and a tier 3 volleyball team as well as a tier 1 ultimate Frisbee team.

Cooking Class: Healthy Cooking Club will host another cooking workshop on November 2nd, 5:30-7:30pm for only $5.

SHRC Teach-in: The Sexual Health Resource Center will be hosting a discussion and workshop for graduate students on November 13th at 7pm. This event is free and will include topics such as healthy relationships, sexual health, sex toys, etc.

Health and Wellness Committee: The committee will host its second meeting in November and will accept new members on an ongoing basis. If you are interested in joining please email athletics@sgps.ca

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 and Wellness Commissioner, SGPS
Dear Council:

Hope everyone has had a good first month back at school.

As part of my role, I sit on many different committees and working groups that relate to diversity and equity issues. Here is an overview of what is being discussed in these groups:

- **BEWG - Built Environment Working Group** - responsible for accessibility of buildings on campus - they have created a beautiful pdf that evaluates accessibility of all buildings on campus. Categories are "accessible" or "partially accessible", it is a shock but some buildings on campus are still not fully accessible! We discussed integrating accessibility of buildings into campus event booking software so that all students, faculty, and members of the public can attend events without facing physical barriers.

- **SVPRWG - Sexual Violence Prevention Group** - biggest update is that the Ministry of Education (Federal Government) is attempting to implement a wide-scale survey that would be a long questionnaire about sexual assault safety on campus. This will be implemented by every university and college across Canada. Since it is a Federal body, every education institution is required by law to participate in the survey, but students do not have to participate if they wish. One concern is that for the many students who have experienced sexual assault, that the survey would be a "trigger" for them. The survey is currently being thoroughly scrutinized by Queens General Research Ethics Board (GREB) and all other equivalent Ethics bodies at all universities across Canada. The survey would be administered in February or March 2018, assuming they can meet all their deadlines. If all deadlines are not met (e.g., ethics approval from all university boards across Canada), the survey will have to wait until Fall 2018 because they are not allowed to administer these types of surveys during exam period. Lastly, we discussed if there is any budget or concrete plan to deal with an anticipated influx of request for counselling appointments at Student Wellness Services for students who this survey is a "trigger" for. There is no budget and at present there is no plan how to accommodate a potential influx in students requesting counselling services.

- **Equity Caucus** - this meeting was one day after the deadline for this report - stay tuned for an update. I can discuss an update at SGPS Council meeting, if committee members are interested.

Other activities going on in the life of a SGPS Equity & Diversity Commissioner are:

- Attended event "Take Back the Night", an event hosted by a member of the Sexual Violence Prevention Group - This was an incredible event that really reinforced the message "No means no". It was a very empowering experience.

- Discussing budget to move forward with planning diversity/equity events for school year. Specifically, we are discussing hiring a bus to facilitate SGPS students with disabilities to attend a job fair in Montreal in November. Discussing feasibility and # of attendees we would need to make the event financially feasible.
- We are in the process of hiring Deputy Commissioners for each SGPS Commissioner - we have reviewed applications and are in process of scheduling interviews.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at equity@sgps.ca. Thank you.

Kelly Watson

Equity & Diversity Commissioner
Dear Council,

Season’s Greetings,

The month of September was full of events that we planned together for our incoming and existing members. Beginning from the Orientation week and Students ID pick up day, we welcomed a good number of students, informed them about SGPS services and distributed them our SGPS Planner and pens. I also got a chance to represent SGPS at “Meet and Greet 2017” at An Clachan Community Housing on September 16, where more than 20 families with international origin (including SGPS student members) were present and I informed them about SGPS and our services.

Adam and myself also went to Welcome Event organized by QUIC for graduate international student members and gave orientation about SGPS services. 8th Multicultural Arts Festival in downtown Kingston on Sept 10 was also very successful and around 25 graduate students volunteered in it. Being a member of this event’s planning committee, I coordinated with KCHC and publicized the event using our Facebook group and SGPS newsletter and felt a good number of Queen’s students (including SGPS members) were present in the event and participated in it.

Through our SGPS newsletter ad, we were successful in recruiting four SGPS members of international origin for our SGPS International Students’ Affairs Standing Committee (ISAC). First meeting of this committee took place on Oct 1 where members were introduced to the mandate for the committee. I shared details of my event planning with them and discussed their role in working towards revising the ISAC Policy document along with helping in events planning. I also shared the report of research conducted by “SGPS Preliminary Report on Resources for International Graduate and Professional Students” and discussed the recommendations of the report to get their insights on it. It is planned that every month from now there will be an event/workshop for students. The ideas especially on themes for workshops were discussed which are as follows:

Theme 1) Work on Campus;
Theme 2) Pre and Post preparation of Students for Tax filing; and
Theme 3) Writing and editing your thesis especially for students who have English as their second language.

In addition to these workshops, we will have three movies nights with social (first on Thanksgiving day, second around Christmas Eve and third in Feb/March 2018). The proposed workshops and Movies night with Social (including one on Oct 9) are organized in collaboration with QUIC where we are using their space to organize our event. I had three meetings with QUIC Director and Facilitating staff to set up the collaboration with them.

In addition, as the recruitment process of SGPS Deputy Commissioners are on, we were involved to screen the applicants, and hope we will select the best out of the pool while interviewing them on Oct 10, 2017. I also worked with Sandy (Director-Finance) to draft the content for the section on SGPS Bursary application guidelines with respect to international students. This was in response to address the concerns
of some applicants with international origin whose documents to proof financial need for bursary was not up to the requirements.

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

Best wishes for the semester,

Atul Jaiswal  
International Student Affairs Commissioner  
2017-2018
Dear Council,

Now that O-week is over, we are in the midst of a new semester with exciting events planned in which we hope some students attend with the same enthusiasm that was present during O-Week.

**Canada’s Wonderland Trip**
On September 23rd, we hosted a bigger social event in which more planning and organization was required – a full day trip to Canada’s Wonderland for SGPS students. All the hard work paid off as we sold out our first round of forty-eight tickets within twenty-four hours, and were able to rent a second bus. In total, we had ninety-six students attending the trip. We received overall very positive feedback about the event, and many students expressed that it was an unforgettable experience and asked whether another trip like this could be possible soon. We even had a third waitlist going for students who were unable to attend the trip. Though the season is changing and another trip may not occur until next year, I believe it was a memorable event and that it should continue for years to come.

**Hike to Rock Dunder**
This upcoming Sunday, October 15th, we will be taking a bus to a popular hike just outside of Kingston called Rock Dunder. I have received many requests from students to take a group out hiking during the fall season so that students can experience some of the incredible Ontario fall foliage. We’re keeping our fingers crossed for good weather and beautiful colours!

**Upcoming Events**

1. **October 26, 2017 – Fort Fright with the SGPS**
   A bus will be leaving the University where we will be taking a group of students up to Fort Henry to experience the outdoor haunted house. Since this is a popular event each year, we decided it is only suited for us to continue the tradition.

2. **November 17, 2017 – Pool Night at the Grizzly Grill**
   Look out for our Pool Night event mid-November – we have rented out a few pool tables and will be providing some appetizers for the students to have a nice mental break from school!

As always, I am happy to take suggestions and feedback in regards to future and past social events. I can be reached at social@sgps.ca

Sincerely,

Martyna Kamela
Social Commissioner, SGPS
Dear Assembly,
I am trying to do better as Rector by submitting my report to the SGPS Assembly on time; as such I have submitted this one in advance of the submission deadline! This report will be shorter than usual as I have been away from the office for the past week due to a concussion. Please see the remainder of my report below:

Joint Board-Senate Committee to Review the Principalship | The Board of Trustees held a special meeting last Thursday to approve the slated nominees for the Joint Board-Senate Committee to Review the Principalship. The Committee is going to be chaired by the Chancellor – Jim Leech – with nine members from the Board of Trustees, including myself and the Chair of the Board, and nine members of Senate, including the SGPS President (Adam Grotzky), the AMS President (Jennifer Li), and the Student Senate Caucus Chair (Kevin Corey). The Committee will be meeting in the coming weeks ahead to decide the Principal Woolf’s decision to seek a third (and final) reappointment to the position of Principal.

Drinking Culture at Queen’s | The Alcohol Working Group has been moving forward with initiatives and campaigns to address the pervasive drinking culture at Queen’s. As the Ontario Student Representative for the Postsecondary Educational Partnership - Alcohol Harms (PEP-AH), I have been encouraged to consider long-term planning and initiatives for Ontario institutions to focus on harm reduction as it relates to alcohol consumption. Working with Health Promotions in Student Wellness Services, and Queen’s For The Boys, I have been looking to bring several different initiatives and programs to Queen’s University. One such event that Kate Humphrys, Ramna Safeer and I held was called the #RethinkTheDrink Talk Back Tour that had Alex Hillyer and Hannah Billinger, Ann Dowsett Johnston and Catherine Paradis as the panellists to discuss drinking culture on campus. It was a very successful event with a great conversation and wonderful turnout from the Queen’s community. Further to this, I have been sitting as an advisor for University Council’s Special Purpose Committee On Student Alcohol Use & Misuse. This Committee will be meeting with student leaders and Queen’s members in the coming weeks to learn more about our current climate with regards to Queen’s use and misuse of alcohol.

Student Health and Wellness Roundtable (SHWR) | There are many student-led groups and clubs that focus on the promotion, awareness, education, and support of student health and wellness on campus. Though many of these groups independently do important work, there has been an overlap in education and awareness initiatives. With repeated messaging, students who are generally targeted with this information have lost an appetite for this education; all while those who do not receive this messaging continue to be ignored. With other student leaders (Dylan Buskermolan and Emma McCallum; a new addition to the team has been Elisha Corbett) I have started the Student Health and Wellness Roundtable (SHWR) to combat these issues. Our goal is to bring together student groups and clubs that focus on student health and wellness, whether it pertains to physical, mental, or emotional aspects of health. SHWR will encourage collaboration and communication between student-led groups and clubs on campus. I will continue to keep the SGPS updated on this group for the duration of this academic year.

Princeps Servesque Es

Cam Yung
35th Rector of Queen’s University
Position vacant.