



Gender Studies:

November 21, 2017

Dear Council and SGPS members,

The department of Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary department that works to disrupt structural, political and social injustices. As a department we are committed to anti-oppression and anti-racist work. A few members of my department, including myself, have completed their undergraduate studies and graduate studies at Queen's. Principal Woolf has been the only Principal during my time at Queen's and during my time at this University, I have had the opportunity to get involved with many student groups (Levana Gender Advocacy Centre, Queen's Judicial Committee (ASUS), and am a former executive of the African and Caribbean Student's Association (ACSA)) As such, the Senate review of the principalship is of particular importance and interest within our department.

Gender Studies would like us to have a more robust conversation surrounding administrative accountability, more specifically holding the principal accountable to racialized students. There have been numerous protests by students of colour over my time at Queen's, most recently when students of colour held a march on November 10, 2017 <http://www.queensjournal.ca/story/2017-11-10/news/students-organize-protest-demanding-anti-racism-action-fromadministration/> against racism on campus. Given this level of ongoing engagement from students of colour, I'd like to draw on a few quotes from the principal at the Senate meeting that occurred on November 29, 2016 in response to the "racist party" of 2016. Principal Woolf indicated at this meeting that he does not think punitive measures would prove useful in such a situation. Specifically, he stated that his "belief is that what we need is a broader more sustained... on diversity and inclusion at Queen's" [sic]. The Principal goes on to say, "Let me be clear that I have no appetite or interest in revisiting the grounds of those other reports to identify there is a problem..." [sic] While some may argue that the references that I bring up are a year old, we have seen no indication that Principal Woolf has changed his position on instances of racism. There has been little to no measures made to appropriately respond to instances of racism, such as disciplinary actions, nor has there been measures instituted to materially and directly improve the lives of students of colour on this campus, such as an increase in bursaries and scholarships for Black students. I think it is important to note that the principal has positioned his belief as central to the process as opposed to centering the experiences of racialized students on campus. During the senate meeting on November 29, 2016 Principal Woolf stated during his remarks, "my belief is that in itself will fix nothing... what we need is a broader more sustained... on diversity and inclusion at Queen's".

While the department is very excited about some aspects of PICRDI being implemented such as faculty hiring, the department is overall ambivalent as systemically the administrative processes surrounding racism indicates a lack of accountability to the students directly affected. Further to this point, as graduate students we feel as though it is difficult to remain hopeful about research opportunities when issues of racism and lack of support and accountability plague a huge segment of the student population, as students of colour continue to be tasked with the labour of rectifying these institutional imbalances. I would like to see greater discussion around accountability to the student body more specifically.

Sincerely,
Rochelle Burke
Gender Studies Department Representative
SGPS Council Representative on the SHRC Board



Dear Students,

The Fall General Meeting is an exciting opportunity for all SGPS members to actively participate in the Society's governance. As such, my report will take the form of an oral presentation on the progress the Executive has made to date on our [Strategic Plan](#) and other complementary initiatives. This meeting isn't only a chance for you to hear from us – more importantly, it's our chance to hear from you. The agenda includes items of great significance, including a town hall on the proposed major redevelopment of the John Deutsch University Centre. I encourage all members to attend, ask questions, and share thoughts about the issues that matter to you.

Sincerely,

Adam Grotsky
SGPS President
president@sgps.ca



Dear members,

Thanks for coming to the Fall General Meeting of 2017. Please accept this report as my formal overview of this semesters goals and achievements.

Student Engagement Panel

On November 4th, myself and a couple of other AMS Queen's students participated in the Queen's University Council Student Engagement Panel. This was an interesting experience for myself as many of the questions asked were directed to the Undergraduate experience. The questions posed covered items such as alcohol use and miss use on campus as well as the student experience. I am hoping in the future they pay more attention to the Graduate student experience, since a lot of the numbers calculated were for Undergraduates. An issue that arose that I would like to look further in to was employment opportunities on campus and lack of space to host more opportunities.

Student Advisor Program Report

The Student Advisor Report Andria completed is attached.

Mental Health Survey 2016-2017

Andria is currently going over the data from the Mental Health Survey conducted by the SGPS in 2016-2017 and I presume the data being circulated to Council by December 2017. We apologize for the delay on this and thank you for participating in the past year.

Graduate Student Life Advisory Group Meeting

Last week I attended our first GSLAG meeting of the year. We went over passed goals and some issues we would like to address this upcoming year. A few student issues brought to my attention was that international students are not having enough time to find housing after they receive their acceptance letters into programs, and have been using online platforms such as Facebook, Craigslist and Kijiji to find housing, often leading to scams or unexpected apartment conditions. GSLAG is committed to creating webinars they can share with incoming students on how to properly choose a home and how to look out for scams.

Another win for us, and an item that was on my radar and in my platform, was to create better writing support for funding opportunities. In the last year there have been many more workshops and writing tips to apply for SSHRC and tri-council awards. I suggested that we institute writing workshops or webinars for writing Vanier and Trudeau applications. Vanier is open to international students to apply, but these writing workshops would be open to both domestic and international students.

CAGS - November 2017

Adam and I attended the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies conference in Québec, November 7-9. The programme can be found online [here](#). The conference was very fruitful as we met with Deans and Student Society members from across the country. We have found that most Canadian Universities are struggling with research funding, providing career support for graduate students who would like to work outside of academia, and student and supervisor relationships. Two main outcomes Adam and I would like to bring to Queen's and the SGS is the implementation of supervisor and student contracts, and 1 credit personal development courses.

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.

Bursaries and Awards

This is a reminder to apply for bursaries and awards. There are a few options here and many can be applied for on a rolling basis. Please make sure to read the qualifications carefully. If it does not specify that it is an award for an undergraduate then I believe you are safe to apply.

- [Bursaries and Awards](#)
- [External Awards](#)
- [Specific Student Groups](#)
- [General Bursary & Summer Bursary](#)

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



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Vice President Professional
Fall General Meeting 2017

Dear SGPS Council Members,

There is not much to add between now and our last council meeting. It has mainly been a continuation of the events I described last week.

I have been in communication with the Faculty of Law and Medicine to help organize and prepare their joint social event. The ground work is being laid out right now, with the event to be slated for early next semester. I have been in contact with the Education President to hopefully invite them to create a social event with another one of the departments or faculties.

The new thing has been my preparation for the Careers Week next semester. I have been looking over the past couple years to see what had success and what did not. If anyone has any suggestions or opinions on the Careers Week, I am always willing to hear them and try my best to incorporate them this year.

Other than that, it has been pretty steady in continuing these overarching goals. I will also say, for those departments that do not have a representative on the IT Services Advisory Committee, do not hesitate to inform me of any technical issues you or your department has and I will notify the committee and hopefully get them resolved.

All the best,

Russell Durward

Vice-President Professional
vp.professional@sgps.ca



Dear Council,

As I am now over 6 months in my term I thought this would be a good opportunity to provide you with a recap of everything we've accomplished concerning Finance & Services.

2017-18 Budget

This year the Executive implemented 'budgeting from zero' practices, this means more accurate budget forecasting – using last year's actual expenses – which has allowed us to create an overall contingency for unexpected expenses.

Another important change to our budgeting practices has been enforcing 'hard caps' on our bursary and grant budget lines to ensure that the amount of bursary disbursements are distributed as they were intended to be in the budget.

NEW Grant Program

Rather than a single grant with an overly broad set of criteria, we have created four new grants that have enabled us to target areas of focus for the coming year. These grants are the Accessibility, Diversity & Inclusion, Substantiality and the Department Student Council (DSC) Grant. 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.

I am happy to report we have received and approved grants in these various categories since they opened in mid-October. If you are unsure which grant you should be applying for or if your grant will meet the criteria, please feel free to apply and the Finance & Services Committee will funnel your application accordingly. Alternatively, any inquiries can be sent to be directly at vp.finance@sgps.ca

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:

- Expansion of Activity Bursary to include Conference Registration Fees within North America. So far, we have received quite a few of these applications and has proved a great way to get a little bit of money to a broad scope of our members.
- International Student Bursary amount changed to \$200. With the implication of hard caps on budget lines, this was important to ensure that all students eligible for the bursary will be able to receive funding.

Continued 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). Following this, our 'Bursary Application is Denied' emails have also been updated to include the same information as well as hyperlinks to other funding sources (Queen's Student Awards) to assist in financing their application.

While I believe we have made significant improvements to our communications with students this is an area, I will be continuing to revisit this issue to ensure that our communications are as simple and informative as possible.

That's all for now,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lauren Peacock". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Lauren Peacock

VP Finance & Services

Society of Graduate & Professional Students (SGPS)



Hi Everyone,

Commissioner Portfolio

Due to some organizational changes within the Society my position has taken on the role of managing the four commissions. This has been an exciting and interesting process. None of my predecessors had this role and therefore I was working in black box. With the help of the fantastic commissioners I feel as if the transition has been a great success but there is no doubt that my successor will greatly benefit from a thorough transition in this area. The reality is that this has become the largest part of the VP Community's role and hopefully through documentation and a proper transition we can make each experience smoother and smoother.

This year we have experienced a surge of attendance at many of our events. This is fantastic, and we are so happy to be able to facilitate inter-department events like this. It has also brought attention to a problem the society has. The more successful we are in promoting our events, the more unsustainable our current event model is. What I mean by this is that our average event capacity is 20-40, and this doesn't include our sports hours and related events that can accommodate much less. This means we need to shift our focus towards larger events and the facilitation of department level events. The department student council grant is a great way to do this. We can use our resources to help create great events at the departmental level. This is not to say that we will be stopping the event model we have. It is simply to say that if attendance levels continue to grow some of our events will become unsustainable, and we recognize this issue and have begun thinking of ways to solve it.

Expansion of the Athletics Commission

As you know we have expanded the Athletics Commission to become the Athletics and Wellness Commission. While I give the credit for this expansion to our Athletics and Wellness Commissioner Lindsay Ruitter I thought it was important to include in my report to ensure any feedback and suggestions members have about the expansion can be directed to the executive for future years to continue the expansion of this commission. Besides the multiple events related to student wellness the commission has also created a Health and Wellness Committee to help steer the direction in the future.

Orientation Week Review

As I have mentioned before I am beginning to undertake an Orientation week review. I have received a few emails pointing me in the direction of the individual who runs each department's orientation week but it would be very helpful if you all could do this. The plan is to make sure that new students are getting the best possible orientation week, we have the resources but due to what I would describe as a lack of communication the resources are not being allocated properly. You will see formal calls for this in the near future but for now please send me the contact info of the student/faculty who organizes your orientation.

VP (Community)
Tyler Morrison



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

Oral report to be presented at Council.



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Graduate Student Senator
Fall General Meeting 2017

[No reported submitted]



The last Board of Trustee meeting took place October 13-14 over Queen’s homecoming weekend.

Doctoral Graduate Engagement

Graduate engagement was a central topic of the Principal’s address at the open session of the meeting. As one of the indicators of the university’s strategic framework, graduate engagement was 64% this year, compared to 62% the previous year.

Graduate student engagement	Priority	2013	Oct '17	Target 2017	Goal 2019
% Rating academic experience "very good" or "excellent"					
Professional masters		63%	65%		70% 75%+
Research masters		68%	75%		70% 75%
Doctoral		69%	64%		70%+ 75%

The CGPSS (Canadian Graduate and Professional Survey) analysis identifies program and course assessments, research and publication opportunities, and advising and dissertation issues as primary targets of the administration’s efforts in the area of graduate student engagement.

I made a point of ensuring that Principal Woolf, the administration, and the board understood the importance of the supervisor-supervisee relationship in shaping the experiences of doctoral students across various disciplines and faculties.

As stated above, the professional master’s engagement was low as well at 65%.

PICRDI and TRC Implementation

There was an update on the implementation of the PICRDI and TRC reports to improve diversity and inclusion at Queen’s.

Some highlights include:

- The appointment of Janice Hill as Director of Indigenous Initiatives
- Expansion of Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre to almost double in size
- Chancellor Jim Leech providing a \$15,000 fund for upper year Aboriginal students
- The formation of UCARE (University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity)
- The implementation of the DEAP (Diversity and Equity Assessment and Planning Tool), which is being used by a number of academic units across campus to implement the recommendations at the department level, and
- A review of Orientation Week in consideration of the culture and climate at Queen’s University with attention to diversity, anti-racism, and inclusion

Capital Assets and Finance Innovation and Wellness Centre

The Innovation and Wellness Centre development is going well, but did face some challenges with a rainy summer. However, the project is expected to be completed in September 2018.

JDUC Revitalization

As we are all aware following the special meeting on this November 1, a proposed major project on revitalizing the JDUC was presented by the AMS at the Board's open session on the Friday evening. It should be noted that the Board has not taken a position for or against the project. For this to occur, the full capital project plan will have to come to the Board after being presented to, and recommended by, the Capital Assets and Finance Committee.

The target has been set for March Board to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the administration, the AMS, and the SGPS (should we become partners). It should be noted that this is not the same as approving the project itself.

The senior administration is keen to see success in this project, and is currently working on the MOU with the AMS, which would:

- express commitment to the project;
- outline a tentative timeline; and
- clearly state a series of conditions that will have to be satisfied before a shovel goes in the ground, including an identification of all the funding sources committed or pledged, and the university's potential contribution in its capacity as the building owner/landlord.

Approval of Consolidated Financial Statements

The Board approved the audited consolidated financial statements for Queen's University as at and for the year ended April 30, 2017.

The auditors KPMG found no deficiencies in controls, no misstatements, and thus gave a clean audit opinion of the statements. During the 2016-17 fiscal year, Queen's achieved a surplus of \$88.6 million, which was driven by higher than expected student enrollment and favourable investment returns.

Deferred maintenance and a financially unstable pension plan continue to be the two major financial challenges facing the university.

More details on this summary of the meeting can be accessed in the open October Board Agenda, located at the [Queen's University Governance Portal](#).

The next Board meeting is slated for December 15-16.

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

Adam Ali
trustee@sgps.ca



Dear Council,

My focuses for my term as commissioner are to:

- 1) expand the commission to offer more than just athletics events

So far I have worked to fulfill this goal through offering cooking workshops in partnership with Queen's Healthy Cooking Club and Health Promotion, through hosting an education session on sexual health and sexuality through the SHRC, and through hosting a yoga workshop that incorporated some mindfulness and meditation. I plan to continue working towards this goal by hosting more cooking groups, a series of events with the SHRC, and a mental health focused event in the winter.

- 2) expand the advocacy and education part of my role

I have worked toward this goal by writing up health and wellness tips monthly for the SGPS newsletter, starting a Health and Wellness Committee which has met twice this semester, and hosting some education events such as those mentioned above.

- 3) host consistent events

I have hosted many events this year, with there being at least one Athletics and Wellness Commission event each week. A fairly consistent group of people attends the events with some new people. The introduction of several SGPS intramural teams also added to the consistency of athletic event availability for students. For the winter semester we are running dodgeball and volleyball intramurals. I will continue to host sports hour events every two weeks. We will have monthly cooking classes and monthly SHRC talks. I will also continue to host one-time events such as a moonlit snowshoe, a skating event, and possibly a ski weekend if there is sufficient interest.

Events that have occurred this fall and summer:

- Sports hours (every two weeks)
- Run and Social (every two weeks for summer, Sept, and Oct)
- Cooking Workshops (two)
- Intramurals (three teams; two teams registered for winter session)
- Yoga Class (one)
- Kayaking (summer event, one)
- Group Cycle (summer event, three)
- Hike/nature walk (one in summer and one during orientation week)
- A Night with the SHRC (one)

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, physical activity, and wellness for graduate students. I can be reached at athletics@sgps.ca.

Sincerely,
Lindsay Ruitter
Athletics and Wellness Commissioner, SGPS



Dear Members of the SGPS,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful semester so far. As I am transitioning into the role of Equity & Diversity Commissioner, my efforts thus far have been focused on preparing a year plan, consulting with various members of the Queen's community that have interests in the subject matter, and attending committee meetings. Below, I have summarized the actions taken, as well as plans for future endeavors.

Introduction

I would like to introduce myself as the Equity & Diversity Commissioner of the SGPS! I am currently in the Master of Public Administration (MPA), and I have a background in development studies, including various aspects of equity and diversity from a global viewpoint. I am incredibly excited to begin developing programs and initiatives in the Winter Semester- stay tuned for updates throughout next semester!

Committee Involvement

I am currently involved in various committees, including:

- The Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Working Group
- Equity Caucus
- Health and Wellness Committee
- Senate Educational Equity Committee

*Involvement with other associated committees will continue into the Winter term as meetings arise.

Plans for the Future

I am currently developing a year plan in which I outline various events and programs that I am planning to host throughout the Winter Semester. I am hoping to forge connections with groups across campus that could collaborate with the SGPS for various equity & diversity events.

Office Hours

I have weekly office hours available for individuals to come and chat with me about equity issues, or anything else on your mind, in a confidential space. If you would like to meet in person, please feel free to send me an e-mail, and I will be sure to accommodate your request!

Questions, Comments, Concerns

Finally, if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or thoughts that you would like to share with me, please feel free to reach out to me at equity@sgps.ca !

Warmest Regards,

Rosie Petrides
Equity & Diversity Commissioner, SGPS



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

[No reported submitted]



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Social Commissioner
Fall General Meeting 2017

[No reported submitted]



Dear SGPS Members,

Over past few years, I have tried my best to focus on my promises from my elections over 2 years ago – a focus primarily on the Queen's student health and wellness: advocating for more student and study space focusing on advocating for mental health resources, organizing health and wellness groups on campus, and serving as a support. Aside from this, I have been serving many of the functions of the Office of the Rector

Many of my speeches and reports that I had provided to the Board of Trustees had focused primarily on student resources. These have detailed the long wait time that students experience when accessing counselling or health resources at Student Wellness Services. Many times, students are waiting up to 3-4 weeks in order to see a counsellor, a wait-time that is too long for a student in crisis and does nothing in order to provide support. This is also seen to be a similar wait for many of the other services, QSAS, walk-in clinic, health services, etc. There needs to be a continued focus for administration to provide suitable resources for our current student population. My reports also detailed the amount of student study space and work space that has been provisioned to students over the years. Many undergraduate students are finding it challenging to find adequate work space under ~15 mins when it comes to exam or mid-term season, and as a result have to settle for inadequate works spaces. As well for graduate students, the spaces reserved for their work are being taken by undergraduate students, again detailing the fact that there is inadequate work and study space. I have been working with the current SGPS administration to continue these advocacy efforts, and will continue to provide updates on my work.

The Board of Trustees has been focusing heavily on University pensions over the past few years. With a new deal between institutions and the government, there is a hope that this will help to settle much of the concern moving forward. Other risks that the Board has begun to focus upon have been: the Queen's graduate student experience, and the drinking culture here at Queen's. Both will be topics that will continue to be heavily debated and focused upon moving forward. I am now sitting on the Board-Senate Planning Committee, where we have decided that the upcoming Board-Senate retreat must have a focus on the graduate student experience and research here at Queen's.

For senate, I continue to serve on the Academic Procedures Committee – Subcommittee on Examinations where we have continued to focus on making examinations more inclusive for all students. In particular, we have focused on greater accessibility for all students with regards to examinations. I also sit on the Subcommittee on Academic Accommodations, where we had completed the Policy on [Academic Consideration for Students in Extenuating Circumstances](#). This has been a very helpful policy for students experiencing challenges and difficulties that were unexpected or unforeseen.

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; 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.

Diversity and inclusion has been a central focus of the institution, especially after the racist party last year. The Deputy Provost, Teri Shearer, has been assigned to oversee the implementation of the recommendations detailed in the Principal's Implementation Committee on Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (PICRDI) and the Queen's Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC) Reports. I had served as an advisor for the PICRDI team, and attended many of the consultations for the TRC. As a result, I would like to see many of these recommendations passed moving forward. There has been a great focus on changing the current practices and identities that we have at Queen's especially; one in particular is the Undergraduate Orientation Week. A committee has been struck in order to review the various orientation weeks to help enhance and develop events and activities that focus on creating an environment of diversity and inclusion.

Following the Truth and Reconciliation Report from the University, there has been much work by the University to create a more inclusive space for Indigenous students at Queen's. A new office of Indigenous Initiatives has been created, and the director of this office is now Janice Hill, the former director of the Four Directions Student Centre. As well, the institution has been working to recognize the spaces for Indigenous students, naming 4 rooms in Stauffer Library, and putting up a plinth outside of Richardson that recognizes Indigenous peoples. Further, there is continued work to introduce Indigenous teachings in all classes here at Queen's.

I have been continuing my work with the Law Faculty in order to introduce Indigenous Art to the main atrium of the Law Building. Indigenous artists from across Canada have proposed art projects, and a short-list of individuals will be provided early in December. I have been working closely with a group of Indigenous students and allies in order to advocate for more Indigenous spaces on Queen's, and a recognition that we are on Haudenosaunee and Anishinabek territory.

I have been working with the Social Issues Commissioner (SIC) from the Alma Mater Society (AMS), Ramna Safeer and Teri Shearer in order to consult many students groups, and resources on campus about the Alfie Pierce Social Justice Centre. This was an idea created by several students last year that sat on a panel to the University administration in order to provide the experience of marginalized and minority students.

The Principal has put his name forward to be renewed for a third and final term. A joint Board-Senate Committee on the Principal's Renewal has been created and is being chaired by the Chancellor. As a committee, we have been receiving feedback from the Queen's community about the Principal. Much of the feedback has been about research, graduate and undergraduate student experience, leadership, diversity and inclusion, mental health, etc. This is quite an intense process right now with much more to consider moving forward.

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.

This past May, Queen's awarded the Honorary Degree to Justice Kin Kee Pang (Arts '70) in Hong Kong, and reconvened many of the Alumni now living in Hong Kong. It is truly incredible the connection that the Queen's family enjoys.

The 2017-2018 Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award is currently available. You can contact rector@queensu.ca to receive a .pdf of the nomination package. Nominations are due December 22 at 4pm to AMS, SGPS, or Rector Offices. You can also email your forms to me. This is the highest honour that any student can receive for their non-academic, nonathletic service, leadership, and character.

Princeps Servesque Es

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cam Yung', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Cam Yung
35th Rector of Queen's University



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Chief Returning Officer
Fall General Meeting 2017

Oral report to be presented.