



Agenda
January 16th, 2018 - 5:30pm
McLaughlin 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.



I. Adoption of the Agenda

A. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION 16/01/18:1

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the January 16th, 2018 Council Meeting.

Leo motions.

Motion carries.



II. Executive & Speaker Reports

A. Executive Reports

a. President – Adam Grotsky (report attached)

Adam welcomes guests and Councillors back from the new year.

Four things to add to my report:

- (1) If your department has not yet signed up for an opportunity for me to come to talk about the JDUC redevelopment, please get in touch.
- (2) At the next Council meeting, we are hoping to do a bystander intervention training program with Council. Adam is a facilitator – a break from me talking; an hour long, so keep that in mind when you schedule for the next Council meeting.
- (3) The PSAC Union has formed a tentative agreement through the University and PSAC. There is a switch to how they provide funding to the SGPS. The Union has historically given \$120,000: \$100,000 would be put towards the Health Plan and \$20,000 with the bursary program, as mentioned in our November Council meeting when they came in. With the new agreement with the University, students will instead be receiving 3% in lieu of benefits, rather than a lump sum provided through PSAC to the SGPS. For students at large, this is a win – TAs will be receiving more funding this year. However, the SGPS will not be receiving the \$120k. We will likely be bringing forward in February with a new proposed budget that tries to alleviate those that that loss of money causes on the SGPS.



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(4) Happy to see that we have multiple contested elections – hoping to have them all contested – this is the only time since 2012 that we’ve had the President election contested.

- b. VP Graduate – Stéfy McKnight (report attached)
Quick update: section talking about thesis Thursdays and spaces on campus to write. Starting this Thursday, consistent place on campus between 11am-4:30pm on Thursday. The room for the next 6 weeks approximately is Queen’s Center Room 506. Then JDUC Room 352 from March 5th-April 5th. Then it’ll come back to QC506. Poster will circulate on social media and I’ll post the schedule around on campus and the door of the room.
- c. VP Professional – Russell Durward (no report submitted)
- d. VP Finance & Services – Lauren Peacock (report attached)
Going off on Adam, we need to revisit the budget. Andria and Sandy, Adam, and Lauren are going through and will aid to alleviate that loss and will be proposing several scenarios at the February Council meeting.
- e. VP Community – Tyler Morrison (report attached)
I’m going to ask Councillors to check in about who plans Orientation week. Adam and Tyler are going to CFS Annual meeting this weekend in Toronto – looking forward to an update in February.

B. Speaker Report

- a. Speaker – Jennifer Williams (oral report)

C. Approval

MOTION 16/01/18:2

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Executive and Speaker Reports.

Question about how this will impact the health and dental plan?

Adam: This will likely affect the plan for next year, not this year. We will likely need to look at the benefits and usage for next year, and look at how big of an increase we would have to make to the plan. We’re also exploring other options. We’re going to have to assess it.

Maria: Given that this is a big deal, is anything going on with the SGPS representing us?

Adam: The University and PSAC were the two bodies at the table.



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Motion carries.



III.

Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

- A. Senator Report** – Graduate Student Senator – Alexandru Sonoc (report attached)
- B. Trustee Report** – Graduate Student Trustee – Adam Ali (report attached)
Adam: Saturday, March 3rd – topic is the Graduate student experience.
- C. Commissioner Reports**
 - a. Athletics Commissioner – Lindsay Ruitter (no report submitted)
Giving an oral report – apologies for not submitting a report
No floor hockey, but we have floor hockey every Wednesday for an hour and a half for popularity
Basketball and volleyball sports hours
Cooking workshops – monthly for the semester, with the option for additional potlucks. January one is sold out.
Sex and disability working with the SHRC – also next week. All on Facebook and the website.
Trailhead in the dark snowshoeing event on 6th of February
February climbing night at Kingston Bouldering Co-Op
 - b. Equity & Diversity Commissioner – Rosie Petrides (report attached)
Conference in the works.
 - c. International Students Affairs Commissioner – Atul Jaiswal (report attached)
Nothing to add to work we've done. Random Facebook poll – a lot of voting on workshops to finding jobs and working on thesis – key workshops coordinating.
 - d. Social Commissioner – Martyna Kamela (report attached)
Overnight ski trip at the end of the month
Planning events for the rest of the semester
- D. Committee Reports**
- E. Department Reports**
- F. Other Reports**



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- a. University Rector – Cam Yung (oral report)
Happy New Year and welcome back to Queen's. Nice to see everyone here. Reiterate that there are so many people running for positions this year – best of luck. Rector elections are taking place at the same time.

A few updates:

- (1) Alfie Pearce Justice Center – working with DSA, Equity Office, AMS...etc. for what this will look like
- (2) Future of Public Policy Report – edits are now closed; quite exciting for Graduate students as it is looking to integrate policy into multiple areas of the University.
- (3) Met with the Board Senate Advisory Committee – Board Senate retreat is about Graduate Student Experience this year. Focusing on student-supervisor relationships; very important.
- (4) PIPPA – Ontario student representative. Coordinating Ontario symposium on March 8th to gather Ontario institutes in Toronto to begin to address alcohol harms on campus.
- (5) Agnes Tricolour Award – 14 nominees, exciting experience. Selection committee has been. Announcements on February 4th.

- b. Chief Returning Officer (oral report)

G. Approval

MOTION 16/01/18:3

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

Motion carries.



IV. Question Period & Departmental Issues



V. Business Arising from the Minutes



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VI. Main Motions & Discussion

Please note that as nomination packages are due on Monday, January 15th at 4:00pm, Council will be provided with the names of candidates and fees at Council on the 16th.

A. Approval of SGPS Executive Election Ballot for 2018 **MOTION 16/01/18:4**
Motion carries.

B. Approval of Graduate Student Trustee Election Ballot for 2018 **MOTION 16/01/18:5**
Leo: Motion to the floor – JDUC revitalization. Add Graduate Student Trustee to that ballot, so as we will have more student engagement on that issue.

Tyler: This is not a no, but thinking aloud – the thought that the JDUC vote happening separately was to have this separate. Is this defeating the purpose of that initial thought?

Leo: We can't not have a member on the Board of Trustees. Having three elections in the span of 12 weeks is fairly strenuous. Hard on the campaign team and need to have time.

Adam: My term is up May 31st – assume there are no special meetings, the next official meeting is next October/end of September. There is some lee-way in terms of transitioning. I came into the role in a by-election, happening that I attended with James in the May election. We have some lee-way. If we think it is a good idea to capitalize on the JDUC attention, but I also see Tyler's point.

Adam Grotsky: I'm worried it will have the opposite effect. If we're really having an effect – students will incidentally make a choice on Graduate Student Trustee – may not be informed. Given the timeline of his transition, we can always hold a by-election. More food for thoughts.

Perhaps a by-election in September – to allow for incoming students.

Adam: It would be important to not wait that long; need to have the person in place by June 1st. When I stepped into the role; summer meetings and need to have time to get acclimatized. I'm in terms of leeway.



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Leo: With our new balloting, you would hope that people click and take a look – incentivize it. We can't go without having a Student Trustee. Maybe they click through the JDUC, then look at the ballots and bios.

Tyler: Question for Adam – what's the latest possible date to start transition?

Adam: In terms of the absolute latest would be before the May meeting would be ideal, but not necessary. Would recommend the March GM.

Adam Grotsky: temporarily table this, get some more feedback.

Brought back to February Council.

C. Approval of SGPS Student Fee Referendum Ballot for 2018

MOTION 16/01/18:6

Leo: Walkhome fee – set # of graduate/professional students?

AMS VPOps: Have not allocated a specific number of slots – need to go to our Board of Directors. Uncertain of the number associated. We would like SGPS to have a number of applicant spots.

Leo: \$80,000 to supplement staffing costs. That that percentage for budgeting go to graduate students to get part-time funding (no more than 10 hours/week) in their funding packages. If you're campaigning, these are the questions that students will be asking. As an UG students, you know how many applications students get. If we are contributing a significant number of \$\$, should we not be having more spots.

AM VPOps: At this stage, I don't have the information to attribute a number to make promises. But I agree that there is a specific allotment to the SGPS if they contribute to the overall budget.

Adam: What % of the Walkhome budget would \$80,000 count for.

Question: What is BusIT?



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Adam Grotsky: Kingston transit – it's our bus fee. If you want to learn more, take a look at my report for a detailed breakdown.

Leo: Would it be possible to call a Special Board Meeting to discuss this for Graduate students? You're asking for \$80,000 without giving detail about where that's going, especially considering we just lost \$100,000. You're attributing \$80,000 to what SGPS students get out of it. They also get a safety service – where they can go around Kingston and Queen's community; operating for 30 years. Undergraduate students spend nearly \$300,000 for operations to run smoothly, because we are so popular, especially when they are concerned about walking home unsafe. January 22nd Board meeting – well within the campaign period.

OPIRG: What is OPIRG? What do you do? What is the fee increase for?

OPIRG is the Ontario Public Interest Research Group – mostly based out of campuses. Focus on environmental and social justice issues. Focusing on sexual assault policy at the University, both within the greater Kingston community and at Queen's. Run training sessions – safe space training, anti-oppression training. You may recognize that more of half of the community gardens at Queen's, Reelout Film Festival, Yellow Bike – all start as working groups; give funding. Students could apply for funding. We also do the People's History project, working with Queen's History department to give students credit for social history projects.

Why the fee increase?

We want to return to things we used to be able to do – last year we were disqualified for an error in the qualification period, so we'd like to return to this. Social justice and environmental issues – things that may not be represented at Queen's, especially those that may not get funding. Put on more workshops.

Adam: OPIRG is one of the most important community organizations we have. They advocate for students of colour on an hourly basis. The research they do is imperative.

We usually do an alternative frosh week for those who do not enjoy attending. We have a new coordinator, so transition needed – ran a January Alt Frost session. Ran a chill in – more than 100- students attended. Queer sex workshop tonight. Film screenings, workshops, progressive happy hour.



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Leo: I understand that Walkhome is a safety service. You price undergraduates and graduates at \$20.16. With that % - it's about 20% for the \$80,000. We reserve 15% for 1st year students. Though not individuals that are 1st year students applied, we could put that policy in place, 20% for SGPS is fairly low, considering the amount of staff we have. I think that's a fair consideration.

Question to OPIRG: What is the fee going to – mostly to funding student groups: Yellow Bike, Reelout Film Festival, Community Gardens...etc. that wouldn't exist without OPIRG funding and working groups. We want to continue to run workshops, training. We would like to have an office and have several employees.

Leo: Given the history with OPIRG at Queen's, in particular the funding of staff members – a big part of NOPIRG. Is that going to be raised in your campaign? Funding a staff member, who is not an elected representative. The primary contention was not NOPIRG. That may have been something that was a part of the campaign, but that was not the primary issue. Our staff person does not get paid much. Our Board is all volunteer.

Motion carries.

D. Policy Changes to P.10.4. Rector Elections – Campaigning **MOTION 16/01/18:7**

The following changes have been made to reflect changes made with the AMS regarding Rector Elections. These will be grandfathered into the next Rector elections.

P.10.4 Campaigning

- a. Campaigning shall not commence until the end of the validation period and the beginning of the campaign period.
- b. All campaign materials and promotions are subject to the approval of the Rector Election Team. A sample of all campaign materials shall be submitted to the Rector Election Team to be kept on file for the duration of the campaign. All posters must be stamped to indicate approval.
- ~~e.~~ Candidates shall publically release a platform-in-full no later than 24 hours prior to the beginning of the debate. The platform-in-full shall also be submitted to the Rector Elections Team at the same time.
- ~~c.~~
- d. There shall be a limit of 100 posters per team of candidates. Any poster larger than 11" x 17" shall be deemed a banner. There shall be no more than two banners per team of candidates.



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- ~~d.~~ Campaign posters shall be no larger than 11 inches by 17 inches. Any signs exceeding this size shall be defined as a banner.
- ~~(0)~~ There shall be a limit of 250 posters approved per candidate.
- ~~(0)~~ There shall be a limit of four banners approved per candidate.
- ~~g-e.~~ All posters must be printed on 100% recyclable paper and recycled after the end of the campaign period.
- ~~h.f.~~ Placement and distribution of Posters and campaign material must adhere to the Elections Policies of both Societies, as well as all university and building policies.
- ~~g.~~ Candidates must book table space for use during the campaign period in the following campus buildings through the Rector Election Team: The Student Life Centre, Macintosh Corry Hall, ~~The Biosciences Complex~~ and any other building specified by the Rector Election Team prior to the campaign period. The Elections Team will also co-ordinate the booking of banner space in the JDUC. The allocation of table and banner space will be done through a lottery process.
- ~~(1)~~ Candidates shall be entitled to a maximum of 45 hours of table space for the duration of the campaign period.
- ~~(2)~~ Boothing hours shall be restricted to the hours between 9:00AM and 6:00PM
- ~~i.h.~~ Campaign tables or booths must be staffed by the parties involved at all times. Promotional materials may not be left unattended.
- ~~j.i.~~ Any classroom appearance must be cleared through the instructor in advance of the scheduled time. This contact may be made during the nomination period. Arrangements for classroom talks shall be the responsibility of the candidates election team. All content shall be consistent with all approved material, in accordance with both AMS and SGPS Policy on Elections and Referenda.
- ~~k.j.~~ No form of off-campus campaigning shall be permitted. Candidates shall not place campaign materials on trees or utility poles either on or off campus. This includes banners strung from utility poles.
- ~~l.k.~~ All campaigning in Residence must conform to Residence policies. No room-to-room campaigning in Residence shall be permitted.
- ~~m.l.~~ No candidate may campaign inside campus pubs or cafeterias. Campaigning shall be permitted in line-ups but shall not occur past the point where patrons are requested to provide identification for entrance. Campaigning in line-ups shall also be subject to any applicable residence or university regulations.
- ~~n.m.~~ Campaign materials shall not be distributed in campus pubs, cafeterias, AMS offices and AMS services. In addition, no AMS or SGPS employees may display campaign materials while on duty.
- ~~o.~~ All email content shall be consistent with previously approved campaign material and shall be above reproach. Candidates may request an individual with reasonable level of authority within an organization to forward an email to their organization using a mass email list. Use of AMS and SGPS mass email lists is prohibited.
- ~~p.~~ Candidates may request an organization to forward an email to their members using a mass email list. Use of AMS and SGPS mass email lists is prohibited.



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- ~~q-n.~~ Candidates are responsible for the conduct of their campaign organization and its members. Any violation of elections policy by said members shall be regarded as a violation by the candidate. Individuals who are not members of a specific campaign organization and who are found to have violated elections policy may be referred to their respective society's non-academic discipline system.
- ~~r-o.~~ No candidate shall seek endorsement from any University faculty or staff member.
- ~~s-p.~~ All candidate websites and other online campaign materials, including content on social networking sites shall be approved by the Rector Election Team. All updates shall be closely monitored by the Rector Elections Team.
- ~~q.~~ All campaigning shall cease by 11:59 pm of the day preceding the first day of voting. Each candidate or team of candidates will be required to remove all campaign material produced on their behalf for the purposes of the election by 8:00pm on the day preceding the first day of voting. Websites and other online content may continue for the duration of the voting days. Candidates or teams will not be allowed to physically campaign on campus during the voting days. ay remain available, but may not be altered after the 11.59pm deadline.
- ~~t-r.~~ Candidates are responsible for providing the Rector Elections Team with an up to date list of all individuals associated with their campaign within 8 hours of notice from the Rector Elections Team
- ~~u-s.~~ No polls or surveys of public opinion regarding Rector elections shall be published or broadcast on the day(s) of voting.
- ~~v-t.~~ AMS Council Members and Officers, SGPS Executive Members, SGPS Commissioners and Coordinators, and SGPS Officers of Council shall remain neutral at all times. They may not publicly support any individual candidacy whether on or off-duty nor shall they be permitted to take a leave of absence to do so. AMS and SGPS offices, email addresses and other office resources shall at no time be used for any purpose relating to an individual campaign. All other AMS and SGPS salaried staff shall be permitted to support an individual candidacy while off-duty but shall not be eligible to take a leave of absence to do so. Off-duty campaigning by AMS or SGPS salaried staff may not occur in the vicinity of any AMS or SGPS service.
- ~~w-u.~~ A student holding a position within either the AMS or SGPS nonacademic discipline system shall be required to take a leave of absence in order to participate in a rector election in any capacity. Any student nominated to sit on the Rector Election Appeal board may not have participated in the rector election in any capacity.
- ~~x.~~ ~~Any student holding a position on the AMS Judicial Committee shall be required to resign their position in order to participate in a rector election in any capacity.~~
- ~~y-v.~~ The AMS Assembly and SGPS Council shall be neutral forums. No promotional materials shall be displayed or distributed at these meetings and all questions shall be directed to all candidates.
- ~~z-w.~~ During the Campaign Period, an All Candidates Debate will be organized by the Rector Election Team for all students to attend.

Motion carries.



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E. Special Referendum: February 2018

MOTION 16/01/18:8

BIRT the SGPS hold a special referendum for a mandatory, non-reviewable student fee to support the redevelopment of the John Deutsch University Centre.

BIFRT February 5-11 constitute the campaign period of the special referendum and February 12-13 constitute the voting days of the special referendum.

Adam Grotzky: Moving to hold a special referendum for the JDUC redevelopment fee.



Other Business



Notices of Motion & Announcements

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30 PM (McLaughlin Hall, JDUC).
Motions for the February Council meeting are due by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, February 6th.



Adjournment

A. Adjournment

Motion 16/01/18:9

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.

Motion carried