



Hi Everyone,

It has only been two weeks since our last meeting, so I only have a few updates. Please take the time to look at my [September Council report](#) and I would be happy to field any questions pertaining to it as well.

Marketing Officer

The SGPS has begun its search for its first ever marketing officer. This position will lead the SGPS' online presence and be responsible for producing all the graphics and media required by the society. The Marketing Officer will report directly to the myself and work closely with Isabel and the commissioners. If you or anyone you know are interested in applying please click here for [more](#) details.

University District Safety Initiative

I want to give a very brief update regarding statistics from move in weekend. Kingston Police in conjunction with Kingston By-Law issued approximately 140 court summonses, including 1 for the new nuisance party by-law. 17 summonses were issued for "Loud Noise". As explained in previous reports these 140 individuals will have to go to court to plead guilty and pay their fine or plead not-guilty and proceed to trial.

While I share the City and University's motivations to ensure Queen's and the surrounding area remain a safe space for all students, I believe that this initiative fails to strike an adequate balance between its goals and the potential consequences to students. I have expressed these concerns to both the City and the University and both parties have acknowledged that this is a pilot program and if the correct balance has not been properly struck they will work with all stakeholders to ensure they get it right.

I look forward to continuing consultation with Community Partners in the lead up to Homecoming and will update this council throughout the consultation process.

CRFC Campus Beat

Stay tuned to CRFC and the Campus Beat where the SGPS Executive recently sat down to discuss all things Graduate and Professional Student related and ways in which you can get involved in the SGPS.

Strategic Plan

As promised the SGPS Executive has brought forward our strategic plan for the 2018-2019 year. Please review the plan and we would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you,

President
Tyler Morrison



Hello Council

I hope everyone has had an excellent first few weeks back on campus and is getting adjusted to the new Fall Term schedule. I have a meeting with the Dean Scheduled for September 24th and will be presenting an Oral Report on what was discussed for the general membership. In the short two weeks since council a few updates can be found below.

Thesis Thursday

Our first thesis Thursday event was a smashing success with students learning the basics to graduate student writing and I would like to thank Valerie from Student Academic Success Services (SASS) for running the event for us. Please remember that this is still a space for you to write and develop your skills so feel free to come at anytime and work on anything! Our next Thesis Thursday event will be September 27th in JDUC 352 where we will be running our follow-up event to the school of graduate studies' session on grant writing. Those who are working towards Trudeau, Vanier or Tri-Council awards should look to come to this session to gain tips and tricks on how to write grant proposals. We will have our usual drop in office hours during the session so please bring some writing or ideas with you to discuss with our staff at Thesis Thursdays. Also, a big thanks to Larkin our Athletics and Wellness commissioner who has organized Thesis Therapy to run in connection with this event which will be from 11am-1pm in McLaughlin Hall just one floor below!

Graduate Peer Mental Health

The Graduate Peer Support Center (working title) is moving full steam ahead as we have received the green light to formally propose the service to the School of Graduate Studies and the University's administration this November. We will be starting our consultation phase this month to ask students what they would like to see from the service and what they feel are the space needs for the center. This new service will provide students with new paid and volunteer opportunities on campus which will follow a two-term hiring schedule like the one recently adopted by the Student Advisor Program. For any questions about this service please let me know and I will be happy to answer them!

Student Advisor Hiring

Student Advisor Hiring has now been completed and with over 100 applications over two rounds we have completed our five-member team with the addition of Logan Barr and Peter Rayls. Please join me in welcoming them to the Student Advisor Team and their training schedule has begun. The advisors this year will be forward facing and offering new insights on student advocacy working with students and departments on university issues.

Council Membership Review

We are beginning our review of the SGPS council and we will not be taking this task lightly. Currently, SGPS council is not working at full capacity as we have nearly 85 members designated for council membership and have a little over 25 attend each meeting. Due to the substantial growth of the SGPS over the past few years and due to fact that a number of departments have been historically underrepresented on campus, we will be consulting with students and other campuses to find the best possible representation model for our society. I will make this promise now **we will consult with every department on campus** before any report is compiled and presented to November council. All students will have a say in what our legislative body will look like in

the future and myself and Lauren will see to this. I invite all members of the society to reach out at vp.graduate@sgps.ca if you are interested in joining this important committee.



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Vice President Professional
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Dear SGPS Members,

Leo, our VP Graduate, and I have been working with Collette Steer in the SGS office to plan a joint SGPS-SGS Careers Week to be held the week of October 15th.

In addition to classic programming held by the SGS office on writing resumes and cover letters, how to prepare for interviews and upgrading your LinkedIn profile, the SGPS is looking into hosting new skills-based training like excel, outlook and SPSS sessions. As in past years, we again will be hosting headshots and NEW this year we will have multiple locations and dates across campus, including west campus, to best serve the needs of all SGPS members.

Stay tuned for more information to come!

That's all for now,

Lauren Peacock
VP Professional
Society of Graduate & Professional Students (SGPS)



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Vice President Finance & Services
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Council,

There is nothing to report other than that I am revisiting our grants and bursaries application process to see where we can introduce efficiencies for upcoming applicants. Whether this means restructuring the layout of the application form or introducing an active web script to make the application process more straightforward, I am still exploring ways this could be done. Other than this, I am still maintaining

The Finance Committee is still in good standing and the auditors will be presenting the midterm financial report to Council.

Abel Hazon
VPFS



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the VP Campaigns & Community Affairs
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Dear SGPS Council,

I hope you're all starting to feel settled and ready to dive into this new year. I don't have too many new updates for this council report as much of it was covered already in my September report to council. I did attend the Annual Meet & Greet at Ann Clachan on Saturday September 15th and I was happy to be able to speak to some graduate students living there about the SGPS. Applications for the Social Commissioner role have closed and so by the General Meeting we will hopefully have a new Social Commissioner hired.

Other news from me –

Deputy Commissioner Hiring

We will be hiring four Deputy Commissioners this fall, one for each of the SGPS Commissions: International, Equity & Diversity, Social and Athletics & Wellness. These are support roles that will assist in organizing and facilitating events run by our Commissioners. The deadline for applications for the position is Monday October 1st at 5pm. For more information, check out our website: <https://sgps.ca/jobs/> and feel free to send me an email as well at vp.community@sgps.ca with any questions or email the specific commissioner you would like to apply to be deputy for (though actual applications need to be send to apply@sgps.ca).

SGPS Podcast with Campus Beat on CFRC

On September 12th, the SGPS Executive Team sat down with Dinah Jansen of CFRC's radio show Campus Beat to talk about what we do at the SGPS, the services we offer and what you should know. The interview will be divided into two parts and we'll be sure to post it across our social media once it goes live.

SGPS Lounge Opening

Community space for Graduate and Professional students is much needed – some departments have their own lounges but there isn't a space (beyond the Grad Club) where students across disciplines can gather. With this in mind, I'm happy to announce that we have renovated **room 237** in the JDUC (a previously unused space) into a bookable and/or drop in space for graduate and professional students to use over this academic year called **The SGPS Lounge**. The room booking calendar will be added to the SGPS website, and as long as you're an SGPS member, you will be eligible to book this space. I'll be posting on social media more information about how to use this space, and we've already got one booking for October 1st to be a Cozy Reading Nook (1:30pm-5pm) for the Queen's Reads program.

Sincerely,

Isabel Luce
SGPS VP Community



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Council Speaker
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Dear Members of the SGPS,

Let me begin by introducing myself; my name is Simon Gollish and I am third-year student of the Faculty of Law. I was elected as SGPS Speaker at the previous Council Meeting held on September 11. It was an honour and privilege to have received the confidence of Council and I look forward to serving you as Speaker.

At the next Council meeting (schedule to be approved), I will do a brief presentation surrounding Robert's Rules and how I will be running the meetings of the SGPS. I encourage all members to attend as well as Council.

Please let me know if you any comments, questions, or concerns. I can be reached at Speaker@sgps.ca.

I look forward to the year ahead,

Simon Gollish



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Graduate Student Senator
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

None Submitted



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Trustee
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

None Submitted



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Athletics Commissioner
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Dear Council,

During the past month I have participated in Orientation Events and confirmed the Athletics and Wellness September Events.

September Events:

Learn to Row Evening: On October 2nd we have partnered with the Kingston Rowing Club to host a “learn to row” event. Tickets will be 10 dollars or less and everyone will get the chance to try out the sport and meet some of the individuals rowing for Queen’s Varsity Team.

Thesis Therapy: This event will run (assuming no flooding) September 27th, in partnership with Thesis Thursday. SGPS has partnered with St. John’s Ambulance Therapy dogs. The event will be drop-in style and we will offer a coffee and cookies. After speaking with Leo, we are going to try to make this a monthly partnership holding a Thesis Therapy partnered with Thesis Thursday also on November 1st and November 29th.

Terry Fox Run: There is no organized event associated with the Terry Fox Run however we will be promoting any SGSP members to come join the Kingston event. There will be a media promotion and we welcome any of you to join us! It will occur Sunday September 16th.

Semester Events

Intramurals: I have created one soccer. This team is welcome for SGPS members to join (yourselves all included).

Sports Hour: Sports Hour will occur 5-6pm on Mondays evening in MacBrown Gym. This event will occur bi-weekly beginning on Sept 25 until the end of fall term classes (skipping Thanksgiving Monday). Sports will change weekly – open to requests for some of the later weeks.

Cooking Class: We have started monthly cooking classes in collaboration with the Healthy Cooking Club on campus (through the Peer Support Center). These events will be the October 31st and November 28th.

Events to look out for next month will include SGPS Crossfit, Rock climbing, SHRC Chat, and a Queen’s Game Day. Additionally, I have set up meetings with the ARC staff to continue to grow our relationship. We have discussed repeating events such as the Free For All week and collaborating to create a “Get Active” or “Step” challenge.

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 wellness for graduate students. I can be reached at athletics@sgps.ca.

Sincerely,

Larkin Davenport Huyer
Athletics and Wellness Commissioner, SGPS



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Equity & Diversity Commissioner
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Dear Council,

Though not much has changed since the September Council Meeting, I would like to remind you all of the goals I have set out for this year: Consultation, Awareness, Outreach, and Support. I would also like to remind you all that we will be hiring Deputy Commissioners, and the applications are available on the SGPS website. This is a great opportunity to get involved with the SGPS. Please feel free to email me at equity@sgps.ca with any questions regarding the Deputy Equity and Diversity Commissioner position. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns.

In Solidarity,

Catrina Mavrigianakis
Equity and Diversity Commissioner
2018-2019



Dear Council,

Compliments of the season to you all.

This month, I have had meetings with staff from Career Services, QUIC, and SGS. I have also reached out to Student Wellness for their support and collaboration for workshops and events for our members. I am working on a final list of workshop and events that I will share with you shortly. With support from SASS, we (Leo and myself) are organizing Thesis Thursday workshops for our members. We have had multiple meetings with SASS team to include the topics relevant to international students within the workshops. A detailed schedule will be shared with you soon by Leo.

Regarding SGPS Orientation events this year, we did a fascinating project in collaboration with SGS and CFRC where we have our own SGPS podcasts or public service announcement for orientation events. We recorded a 90 sec podcast for each orientation day event and that is being aired on the respective day for our members. The SGPS Orientation podcast features various voices from around the campus, including the Principal, our Dean, and members of the SGS staff and SGPS Executive running down each day's activities and sharing exclusive insider tips on living, studying and working at Queen's. We invited Principal Woolf and Dr Fahim Quadir, Dean, SGS We also took this opportunity to publicize our SGPS services in the PSA. More information on this SGPS podcast series is available here – <https://podcast.cfr.ca/category/sgps-orientation/> We hope you had a chance to listen to it and be part of the events. **Search and subscribe** by looking for "SGPS" on Google Play, Stitcher or Apple Podcasts, or visit the CFRC website at <https://podcast.cfr.ca/category/sgps-orientation/>. Here is the schedule of the PSA.

- Day 0 (Sept 3) – Principal – Welcome to Queens ([Podcast link](#))
- Day 1 (Sept 4) – SGS Dean – Welcome to SGS resource fair ([Podcast link](#))
- Day 2 (Sept 5) – SGPS President - Welcome and orientation to SGPS events on Sept 5 (Look for SGPS orientation on Google Play, Stitcher or CFRC website)
- Day 3 (Sept 6) – VP-Community - Welcome and orientation to SGPS events on Sept 6
- Day 4 (Sept 7) – Athletics Commissioner - Welcome and orientation to SGPS events on Sept 7
- Day 5 (Sept 8) – Equity Commissioner – Welcome and orientation to SGPS events on Sept 8
- Day 6 (Sept 9) – International Commissioner - Welcome and orientation to SGPS events on Sept 9

I assisted our team at orientation events - starting Sept 4 (SGPS booth at Resource Fair), Student ID pick up day, Haunted Walk, Boat Cruise, and Kingston Multicultural event. There was a 9th Kingston Multicultural Arts Festival organized at Confederation Park in downtown Kingston on Sept 9 (Sunday). Being a representative of SGPS on the planning committee, I am involved in logistics, volunteer recruitment, and promotion of the event on campus among our members.

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 - 2018-2019



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Social Commissioner
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Position Vacant



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the University Rector
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

None Submitted



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Chief Returning Officer
Special General Meeting
September 25, 2018

Position Vacant