



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Representatives
September Council Meeting 2018

[No reports submitted.]



Hi Everyone,

It has not been long since our last meeting and therefore I don't have much to share beyond my last report, but I will give a brief update on a couple of things.

Orientation Week

As I write this we are in the middle of Orientation Week, but it has already been an outstanding success. I want to thank Isabel Luce for organizing the week!

OHIP+

I just wanted to write a quick update about the status of OHIP+ becoming second payer to private plans such as ours. The Ontario government has not announced this change officially as of yet and there is currently no reason to believe this change is coming anytime soon. For now, OHIP+ continues to be first payer for those eligible.

Strategic Plan

The Executive is in the process of creating our strategic plan for the next 8 months. We will be presenting the Strategic Plan at the September 25th General Meeting. If you believe some initiative, event, or advocacy goal should be included in our plan please email me at president@sgps.ca.

Graduate NAM Process

For a quick background the SGPS does not have an equivalent body to the AMS' Judicial Committee who deals with level 1 NAM procedures. This means grad students go through the general NAM procedure which consists of a panel that includes a student. At this point we are under the impression that this student would likely be an undergraduate even if the student who allegedly committed the violation is a graduate student.

I recently spoke with Tom Harris, the interim Provost, who indicated to me that it should not be a problem at all to ensure the randomly selected student on the NAM panel would be a graduate student. I will report back when I know for sure that it has been implemented in their policy.

Thank you,

President
Tyler Morrison



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Vice President Graduate
September Council Meeting 2018

Hello council I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and wish those celebrating the Jewish New Year an excellent holiday. Thank you to all the departments that I spoke with during orientation week, welcome to Queen's. There is very little to add to my August council report, student advisor hiring will be completed September 14th with training to follow. Thank you to all of those who applied for the position, we hope to keep you engaged in the future.

We are moving forward with our plans to establish the graduate peer support center for the winter term and will be introducing policy to do so in the coming weeks. Two salaried positions will be posted along with other volunteer positions. For those interested in service I am happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Finally, a thank you to Isabel Luce our Vice President for planning our Orientation Week, the week was an excellent start to the new year.

Shana Tova
Leo



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Vice President Professional
September Council Meeting 2018

Dear Council,

I'll be working with Leo, our VPG over the next few weeks to plan an October joint Careers week with the School of Graduate Studies.

Members of the SGPS Executive sit on numerous committees with some committees having multiple executive members. The VP Professional currently sits on the following committees:

- Residence Budget Committee
- Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Working Group (with the Equity Commissioner)
- Academic Integrity Subcommittee
- Grad Club
- Sexual Health and Resource Centre (with VP Community)
- Graduate Student Life Advisory Group (with VP Community & VP Graduate)

Well some committee positions must be held by certain executive members (i.e. President on certain senate committees), who sits on each committee is largely decided on scheduling availability and interests of executive members.

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
September Council Meeting 2018

Council,

I hope everyone has had a good transition back and is excited for the start of the Fall term. I know it's a busy first few weeks for most of us and I wish you well and good luck at this time. The SGPS is in full-gears with orientation events and activities while the Finance Committee, in particular, continues to operate.

There have been more than ten rounds of bursaries and four rounds of grants as of September 4th, 2018. I continue to work on implementing our auditor's recommendations on our fiscal practices. I am working closely with Tyler on the creation of a Sponsorship-specific policy as per last council's recommendations.

Nothing significant to report this time around.

Abel Hazon
VPFS



Dear SGPS Council,

Welcome back to campus! I hope you've all been able to take some time off this summer and are enjoying this beautiful weather (if you haven't yet, make sure to head over to the new Gord Downie Pier to take a swim!). As I'm writing this report, it's the third day of Orientation and I'm in the middle of a whirlwind of activity, but am really enjoying seeing the events that we've worked so hard on over the summer come to fruition! Game N' Greet on Tuesday night and our two 1000 Island Boat Cruises on Wednesday night (last night) were a ton of fun! There's still trivia, haunted walks, our corn maze, a photo hunt and trolley tours to come. I'll be sure to give you a more in-depth update on these events after they happen, but I'd just like to share how thankful and appreciative I am for the help of the executive team, the commissioners and our volunteers this week! They've been amazing!

This week I was also at the Resource Fair run by SGS and got the opportunity to welcome incoming graduate students by giving a brief presentation of important things to know. This morning I was also at Graduate Student card pick up day answering questions about what we do at the SGPS and about our Health and Dental Plan. This week has been a really great opportunity to meet some new faces and to share with them all the things we do here at the SGPS!

As for non-Orientation related updates from me -

Social Commissioner Hiring

Among several other positions, we're currently hiring a new Social Commissioner for the SGPS. The deadline for applications for the position is Friday September 14th 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 (though actual applications need to be sent to apply@sgps.ca). Stay tuned for Deputy Commissioner hiring which will happen later on in September.

SGPS Orientation Podcast and future collaborations with CFRC

Under the lead of our International Commissioner Atul, we collaborated with the Queen's radio station CFRC this year to hold daily podcasts about the SGPS O-Week events! You can find out more about it in Atul's report! The SGPS executive team will also be meeting with Dinah Jansen from CFRC next week to be interviewed for her half hour radio show Campus Beat and to discuss further opportunities for collaborations. We'll be sure to share links throughout SGPS social media when it goes live.

SGPS Summer Events Survey Report

This past summer, the Commissioners and I have organized a total of 11 events. As I mentioned in my last report, I have introduced an event feedback survey that we send out to attendees after each event in order to get a better idea of what events graduate students enjoy and would like to see more of. This information is very helpful for the commissioners. I've compiled the survey information into the Summer Events Survey Report that will be attached after my council report. If you have any comments, suggestions or additional feedback regarding the report or events we run, please email me at vp.community@sgps.ca. I will be making another report on how the Orientation events fared, and each school term, so keep an eye out for those!

Graduate Community Space in the JDUC

As part of my platform I want to ensure that more community space is available for graduate and professional students. While there will be another undergraduate vote on the JDUC revitalization project, there is an immediate need for space our graduate students this year before our building is renovated. This month I'm in the process of turning the currently unused room 237 in the JDUC into a bookable and/or drop in space for graduate and professional students to use this

year. It is my hope that this space will be open before the end of the month, so stay tuned for more updates about this project!

Queen's Reads Books Have Arrived

As I mentioned in my last report, this is the second year that the SGPS will be a part of the Queen's Reads program, where students are given a free book that addresses a topical issue in society. Copies of this year's book *Scarborough* by Catherine Hernandez have arrived at the SGPS office! Come get your own free copy and I'll be updating you on social media about the upcoming events associated with the program.

It's been a fun week so far and I'm looking forward to giving you more of a re-cap on Orientation during council!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Isabel Luce".

Isabel Luce
SGPS VP Community



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Council Speaker
September Council Meeting 2018

Oral report to be presented at Council.



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Graduate Student Senator
September Council Meeting 2018

I have nothing to report.



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Trustee
September Council Meeting 2018

[No report submitted.]



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 September 25th 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 two teams, soccer and ultimate frisbee. These two teams are welcome for SGPS members to join (yourselves all included).

Sports Hour: I have penciled in the timeslot of 6-7pm on Tuesdays for a continuation of last year’s Sports Hour. This event will occur bi-weekly beginning on Sept 25 until the end of fall term classes. Sports will change weekly – open to requests for some of the later weeks.

Cooking Class: We are in the process of starting monthly cooking classes in collaboration with the Healthy Cooking Club on campus. These should be finalized before next council meeting.

Events to look out for next month will include SGPS Crossfit, Rock climbing, SHRC Chat, and a Queen’s Football game. 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
September Council Meeting 2018

Dear Council,

For the first meeting of this school year I wanted to lay out some overarching goals that I will be working to achieve - Consultation, Awareness, Outreach and Support.

(1) Consultation: I will be organizing the SGPS Equity Issues Standing Committee as it is essential to have diverse input and insights into issues faced by Graduate and Professional Students. The Equity & Diversity Commissioner alone cannot be responsible for advocating for these issues and speaking for the student body, particularly as I can only speak from my individual background and set of experiences, it is always beneficial to bring in more voices, and empower others who have an interest in getting involved in addressing equity issues. This council will also assist in the organizing and planning of the annual Equity & Diversity Conference that is run by this commission. **If you are interested in participating in this committee please send me an email at equity@sgps.ca.**

(2) Awareness: There are a number of offices, individuals and groups on campus and in the community who work to support graduate students (from Andrew Ashby, the Accessibility Coordinator at the Accessibility Hub to Lavie Williams, the Inclusion and Anti-Racism Advisor at the Human Rights Office), and it is important that graduate and professional students are aware of the resources that they have access to. This upcoming year, I will be running a series of workshops in coordination with these offices and individuals to connect our students with these resources. These workshops will run in collaboration with the Human Right's Office, the Equity Office, the Sexual Health Resource Centre, QUIC and more will be on a range of topics possibly including: micro aggressions, unconscious biases, healthy relationships, suicide alertness, cultural competency. As these workshops are finalized I will bring more information to council and will be posting them on our website and social media accounts.

(3) Outreach: I have been connecting with various equity seeking group members on campus and organizations to see how we can collaborate. Out of this outreach work with AMS I am engaged in a campaign for our Food Bank. Outreach will also be a priority for the SGPS Equity Issues Standing Committee, and the annual Equity & Diversity conference.

(4) Support: Much work is already being done by our students and in our community as can be seen in the work that UCARE has accomplished and is continuing to work on. As part of my commission, I would like to do more to support these initiatives throughout the year so stay tuned for more information on how I intend to do so.

I am looking forward to an engaging and exciting school year, and as always, I welcome any questions, comments, or concerns – I am also more than happy to chat over coffee about your ideas, or experiences on campus!

In Solidarity,

Catrina Mavrigianakis
Equity and Diversity Commissioner
2018-2019



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the International Student's Affairs Commissioner
September Council Meeting 2018

Dear Council,

Compliments of the season to you all.

This year, I am trying to build on to my previous work as commissioner and add more meaningful opportunities for our members. 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. 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 encourage you to share this podcast information with your peers and new members of SGPS.

Here is a little blurb to share - 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. **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 am assisting our team in various orientation events starting Sept 4 (SGPS booth at Resource Fair) to Sept 9 (Kingston Trolley tours). There is a 9th Kingston Multicultural Arts Festival to be 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
September Council Meeting 2018

[No report submitted.]



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY AT KINGSTON

Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the University Rector
September Council Meeting 2018

[No report submitted.]



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the Chief Returning Officer
September Council Meeting 2018

[Position not filled.]