



Agenda

February 11th, 2020 - 5:30pm
McLaughlin Room, 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. Announcements

A. Councillor Survey

On Behalf of Mike Dungey: This survey has been put forward by the Biology department in order to assess the status of graduate student involvement and voting rights within departmental hiring committees across the university. Recently, our own graduate representative has had their voting rights removed during hiring committees. We would like to know if similar events have happened in other departments across campus, and what the opinions are of the SGPS on the voting right of graduate students for new faculty hires.

Leo: I will put you in contact with Monica and we can have that conversation that way. If you have questions about that, I sit on hiring committee at university and this is a question of governance that your department may be violating



II. Adoption of the Agenda

A. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION 02/11/20:01

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the February 11th, 2020 Council Meeting.

Moved by Jeremy
Seconded by Courtney
Passes unanimously



III. Minutes

A. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

MOTION 02/11/20:02

BIRT the SGPS adopt the minutes from the January 14th, 2020 General Council Meeting.



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Moved by Liam
Seconded by Leo
Passes unanimously



Executive & Speaker Reports

A. Executive Reports

- a. President – Jeremy Ambraska (report attached)

This will be a rehash of my written report. Senate undergraduate student senators amended to change fall reading week break time. Confusion about whether SGPS members have access to this fall break. We want to increase access to the fall break for graduate students.

Go to grad games – open to every faculty.

Congratulations to new execs. Transition went well.

Student choice initiative update: going back to mandatory fees. You will be able to see all info on fees.

Thank you to everyone involved in debate on divestment.

Coronavirus party and issues on campus regarding racism. There is work being done on this.

Question: what work is being done on this?

Jeremy: Committee meeting on how to address this: events workshops or studies being looked into. QUIC has been asking students if they want to share anything on this. Currently in the consultation phase. Not an easy fix, multifaceted approach necessary.

Claudia: Also value in SGPS exec responding to people who have these concerns.



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- b. VP Graduate – Leo Erlikhman (oral report)

Consulted with just under 300 members for council reform

- c. VP Professional – Ryan Adlem (report attached)

Professional headshots were a success with a turnout of about 200. May be holding another professional headshot event in late March. Excel workshops will be taking place in early March: beginner and advanced workshops. Transition this weekend went well. Congratulations to John, who is the incoming VP Professional. Continue to work to transition him.

- d. VP Finance & Services – Abel Hazon (report attached)

Business as usual. Happy to take questions.

- e. VP Community – Uchitta Vashist (report attached)

N/A

B. Speaker Report

- a. Speaker – Laura Culleton (no report)

C. Approval

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Executive and Speaker Reports.

MOTION 02/11/20:03

Moved: Morgan
Seconded: Mike
Passes unanimously



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Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

A. Senator Report – Graduate Student Senator – Courtney Bannerman (report)

We successfully attached fall reading week onto Thanksgiving weekend. Survey this Spring on reading week – please fill that out when it comes around. There has been a new graduate diploma in the law faculty on immigration and citizenship law.

Morgan: Any place that we can find bylaws on Fall Reading Week?

Courtney: Laura sent around an email; more information will be coming out.

Leo: We know this will be a slow process around the university. This proposal will formalize a reading week that includes graduate students but does not ensure that we get it.

Jeremy: Will be up with Councilors here to work with SGS to flag programs that don't comply with the reading week.

B. Trustee Report – Graduate Student Trustee – (no report)

C. Commissioner Reports

- a. Equity & Diversity Commissioner – Penny Zhang (report attached)

N/A

- b. Indigenous Graduate Liason – Paige Van Tassel (report attached)

On Behalf of Paige: I am pleased to be your new Indigenous Graduate Liaison for the SGPS. For the month of February, I am working on establishing connections and advertising my position throughout the university and wider Kingston community so that, moving forward, I can effectively fulfill the duties of this position in attending to the needs of Indigenous graduate students.



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- c. International Students Affairs Commissioner – Claudia Hirtenfelder (report attached)

Everything is going well according to plan. Podcast is going well. Let me know if you or anyone else within your departments want to be interviewed on the podcast. We have now been doing it for 6 months and it is gaining traction.

Conference is happening this month Feb 29. 19 responses overall. We have raised \$1,450 in cash and \$5,000 in in-kind donations.

- d. Social Commissioner – Anthony Lomax (oral report)

The first day of the conference there will be a DJ party at Grad Club. SGPS is sponsoring this event.

Thank current executive on transition: very useful and fun. Excited to start work.

Winterlude day trip event went very well.

Grad Games will have an SGPS Got Talent event at the end of March so if you or your friends are talented, please perform/ display your art.

March 28 we are doing a trip: hiking, etc. Invite your friends.

SGPS awards given out each year: teaching excellence, etc. You can nominate people for these. Deadline to nominate in March 18. We need committee members for that committee.



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D. Committee Reports

E. Department Reports

F. Other Reports

a. University Rector – Alex da Silva (no report)

b. Chief Returning Officer – Matt Ireneo (report attached)

Thanks to all candidates for participation. We had lower engagement this year. We should look into incentives for increasing voter turnout in future years.

c. Supervisor – position vacant (no report)

G. Approval

MOTION 02/11/20:04

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

Moved by Katherine
Seconded by Caroline
Passes unanimously



VI. Question Period and Departmental Issues



VII. Business Arising from the Minutes



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VIII. Main Motions & Discussion

A. Referendum Ratification

MOTION 02/11/20:05

BIRT the SGPS ratify the following referendum results, all of which received a majority support:

A mandatory student fee of \$3.00 for the SGPS Graduate Peer Support Centre.

A mandatory student fee of \$1.40 for Centre for Teaching & Learning. This fee is subject to triennial review.

A mandatory student fee of \$5.00 for Queen's Legal Aid. This fee is subject to triennial review.

A mandatory student fee of \$3.00 for Ban Righ Centre. This fee is subject to triennial review.

A mandatory student fee of \$0.50 for Campus Observation Room. This fee is subject to triennial review.

A mandatory student fee of \$63.35 for Student Wellness Services. This fee is subject to triennial review.

An optional student fee of \$1.00 for Camp Outlook. This fee is subject to triennial review.

An optional student fee of \$1.00 for HIV and AIDS Regional Services. This fee is subject to triennial review.

An optional student fee of \$1.00 for Queen's Daycare. This fee is subject to triennial review.

An optional student fee of \$1.80 for Reelout Arts Project. This fee is subject to triennial review.

An optional student fee of \$1.25 for Sexual Assault Centre Kingston. This fee is subject to triennial review.

An optional student fee of \$0.75 for Telephone Aid Line Kingston. This fee is subject to triennial review.

An optional student fee of \$3.00 for Union Gallery. This fee is subject to triennial review.

Moved by Leo

Seconded by Courtney

Passes unanimously



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B. Election Results

MOTION 02/11/20:06

BIRT the SGPS ratifies the following SGPS 2020 General Election results:

- President - Justine Aman
- Vice-President Graduate - Courtney Bannerman
- Vice-President Professional - John Jeyaratnam
- Vice-President Finance - Tamara Mitterer
- Vice-President Community - Anthony Lomax
- Graduate Student Trustee - Ali Saghari

Moved by Leo
Seconded by Matthew
Passes unanimously



Other Business



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Notices of Motion & Announcements

A. SGPS Award Selection Committee

As per SGPS policy (specifically all of P.6, which can be found on page 68 & 69) it is time for the Awards Committee to be formed and, as per policy, it is the responsibility of the Social Commissioner to chair this committee.

The following is a timeline of important dates:

- Tuesday, March 10, 2020 – Council ratifies the committee
- Wednesday, March 18, 2020 – Nomination period opens
- Monday, March 23, 2020 – Committee decisions due
- Wednesday, March 25, 2020 – Winners informed
- Tuesday, April 14, 2020 - Awards presented to the winners at April Council

If you would like to volunteer to be a member of the selection committee, please notify the Social Commissioner, Anthony Lomax at social@sgps.ca

Leo: Note about sexual violence policy. As TA, you have duty to disclose/ be support. We are still negotiating an amendment on this. We find this problematic regarding privacy/ forced disclosure. Also, alcohol policy still; going ahead as planned.



Adjournment

A. Adjournment

MOTION 02/11/20:07

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.

6:17pm meeting adjourned.