



**Council Meeting - Agenda**  
August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021- 5:30pm  
Zoom

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. This land acknowledgement reminds us that rich Indigenous governances still exist, and will go into the future. This should also serve as a reminder that we are benefitting by living on this land that is a traditional territory of indigenous people.



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## I. Announcements

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### A. Rector Election Report – Laura Devenny

Hi everyone, name is Laura from AMS I am Secretariat who is the right-hand to the President. Our Rector stepped down in May, looking for a new one. Rector binds together 3 governing bodies (AMS, SGPS, Student body). Rector sits on Board of Trustees and provide student input to upper administration. Trying to make it open to the AMS, SGPS, University and looking for participation from students as many ways as possible. Having events with past Rectors to talk about what their term was like, what they have done in their careers and what it can mean to lead students like this. Information session on September 7<sup>th</sup> with nomination package, need signatures for nominations, voting is on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will have a Rector on October 3<sup>rd</sup> who will attend many of the convocations.



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## II. Adoption of the Agenda

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### A. Adoption of the Agenda

**MOTION 08/10/21:01**

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting  
Emilie Norris-Roozman moves, Philip Simpson seconds. No dissenting votes. Passes unanimously.



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## III. Minutes

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### A. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

**MOTION 08/10/21:02**

BIRT the SGPS adopt the minutes from the May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Council Meeting  
Anika moves, Ross Denny-Jiles seconds. No dissenting votes. Passes unanimously.



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## Deputy Speaker Vote

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### A. Selection of Deputy Speaker

Candidate: Monica Ayachit

Candidate not present, no vote conducted.



## Executive & Speaker Reports

### A. Executive Reports

#### a. President – Justine Aman (report attached)

Hi everyone, welcome. Sorry for being late, not much going on that hasn't made it into report, but welcome everyone for coming and spending day with council. As things unfold, things are moving quickly around COVID, back to school academics, might not have things in time for council but reach out if you have concerns or questions you want answered. Anything else I will update in my biweekly newsletter, will keep you updated as things unfold.

Q (Ross Denny-Jiles): UOttawa mandating vaccines, based on your conversations, is Queen's contemplating?

A: That's one of those things I was alluding to. As of yesterday, strong "No," as of today I can't give a strong decision either way. Friday or Monday we will hear more about policy, then wide communication to students. If interested, Devin I will send to council list. As of today, something will happen but very vague.

Ross Denny-Jiles: What is your position as our representative?

A: SGPS has not taken a position, but we have taken the education side with giving out information. We will have to see what the decision is first because there was no actual stance as of today. Once it is, I will share with council and we can discuss.

Q (Marina): Can you speak to what discussions are for accommodating students with issues that have been exasperated due to COVID, like can't take vaccine, etc.?

A: Don't want to throw Rohit the ball if he isn't ready, but they crafted the advisory committee on student accommodations. Not sure if Rohit is here and can give any updates, but I will debrief with him and can disseminate. Been hearing good things from student wellness to maintain accommodations, make it easy, etc. Should be easy process, there will be discussions on accommodations for students who can't attend in person and have to go online. My position is no one should have to choose courses based on what is online, accommodations have and can happen.



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Rohit Shukla: I am here, just wanted to inform a bit. I didn't hear about COVID accommodations, but they note categorizing based on level 1, 2, 3 where they go in decreasing priority and, for example, level 1 will have documentation and will last the longest. Level 2 is a moderate amount, and level 3 is based on good faith if someone asks for it. A letter of accommodation can be submitted on Prentis, there you have to update LOA and if you want any accommodations. There is also the notetaker program where if someone wants to volunteer for another student to take notes, does not guarantee it but it helps.

Q (Caroline Bonta): What about outcome of SCI?

A: Decision has been made. I think Anthony has a lot more information than I do. Is he in the meeting right now? (not present) Okay so the SCI was struck down, perhaps since I don't want to say anything incorrect can I send everything to people by email? Because it was sent to us by groups so I can send those directly.

Q (Mohammed): Are Departments allowed to plan and host meetings in person?

A: As it stands, the university is only entertaining events for the month of September if they are orientation events. So anything that welcomes first year students to campus is allowed, but nothing else. Because our sanctioning has to go through Queen's approving from COVID safety standpoint, there is no intention there. They are not planning to re-look at event planning until November, but hoping to persuade them to look in October. Hopefully, events so far will be safe and we can show that there are no outbreaks. It's a lot of fear from the community that is trickling down and making the university more risk averse than usual. The student experience means we need to gather socially, but I will keep everyone posted as that evolves.

b. VP Graduate – Rohit Shukla (report attached)

Good evening everyone, I don't have much apart from my report. If you have any questions apart from that you can ask me by email or right now.

c. VP Professional – Jennifer Li (report attached)

Hello, thank you all so much for meeting here today. Hope you all had a good summer. Per my colleagues before me I don't have much to add to my report, but I can expand on HR hire. We have now hired an HR professional, which is exciting because that's something that the SGPS has been looking to do for a while now. Under current SGPS policy, HR is a joint role between myself and the executive director, but keeping it internal was not a good idea in a lot of ways. Taking on this external HR person is helpful for avoiding that so excited. Any questions please ask now or send me an email.

d. VP Finance and Services – Courtney Bannerman (report attached)

Not in attendance, email included in Zoom chat



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- e. VP Community – Anthony Lomax (report attached)  
Not in attendance, email in Zoom chat and in his report

**B. Speaker Report**

- a. Speaker – Devin Fowlie (oral report)  
My report is pretty brief, my summer has been focusing on bylaw and policy review, hopefully nearing the end of that. Sending it off to HR and external people to make sure everything is solidified and hopefully get those changes approved at the General Meeting

**C. Approval**

**MOTION 08/10/21:04**

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Executive and Speaker Reports.  
Ross Denny-Jiles moves, Monica Garvie seconds. No dissenting votes. Passes unanimously.



**VI. Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports**

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**A. Senator Report** – Graduate Student Senator – Emils Matiss (no report)

Not in attendance.

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

**C. Commissioner Reports**

- a. Athletics & Wellness Commissioner – Kassandra Coyle (report attached)  
Hi everyone, hope you had a great summer. Nothing to add outside of written report, been working on orientation events for September. Hope to see you all there.
- b. Equity & Diversity Commissioner – Monica Garvie (report attached)  
Similar to others, nothing to discuss or report beyond what is written. If you want any additional information or have any questions, feel free to email [equity@sgps.ca](mailto:equity@sgps.ca).
- c. Indigenous Graduate Liason – Brittany McBeath (report attached)  
A lot of what I've been up to is written, a few exciting orientation events coming up in the fall and events for Indigenous students. My email is in the report if anyone has any questions.
- d. Social Commissioner – Emilia Ganslandt (report attached)  
Hope everyone had nice summer, also not much to add aside from written report. Busy with orientation, suggest everyone check out the events. Hope to see some of you there, happy to answer questions now or by email.
- e. International Students' Affairs Commissioner – Sabrina Masud (report attached)



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Been building on existing framework laid out by Rohit, attending once weekly meetings with Vice Provost, also collaborating with anti-racism, housing issue, and HIEO committees. Also representing Queen's at international and domestic peer support meetings, and organizing the sharing circle taking place this week at 6. That's all for me, if you have suggestions or want to collaborate get in touch.

**D. Committee Reports**

**E. Department Reports**

**F. Other Reports**

- a. University Rector – (no report)

**G. Approval**

**MOTION 08/10/21:05**

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

Ross Denny-Jiles moves, Carolyn Bonta seconds. No dissenting votes.

VII.  Question Period and Departmental Issues

VIII.  Business Arising from the Minutes

VIV.  Main Motions & Discussion

**A. 2021-22 Council Schedule**

**MOTION 08/10/21:06**

BIRT the SGPS Council will meet according to the proposed 2021-22 Council Schedule.

Emilie Norris-Roozman moves, Carolyn Bonta seconds. No dissenting votes. Passes unanimously.

**B. Selection of 2021 Awards Committee Chair**

**MOTION 08/11/21:07**

Whereas P.2.2.3.b.5 of SGPS Bylaw and Policy states that the Social Commissioner is responsible for “submitting a motion annually at January Council to choose a Committee Chair for the SGPS Awards”



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Whereas P.6.1.2.a of SGPS Bylaw and Policy states that the "Social Commissioner shall serve as the [Awards] Committee Chair"

Whereas the SGPS Awards process had to be postponed this year due to many extenuating circumstances

Whereas the Social Commissioner's term for 2020-2021 ended on April 30, 2021

BIRT that Anthony Lomax be instated as the chair of the SGPS Awards Committee for 2021.  
BIFRT that this instatement is temporary with the understanding that the 2021-2022 Social Commissioner will submit a motion to Council in January 2022 to select a new Awards Committee Chair as required by P.2.2.3.b.5.

Cassandra Koyle moves, Carolyn Bonta seconds. No dissenting votes. Passes unanimously.

X.



**Other Business**

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Jennifer Li: I wanted to request something quickly. Because of the lack of in-person events, I was hoping to host some events. If the presidents of the LSS and LGSS have any comments and want to reach out, I would be more than happy to do that, or if anyone has any other questions or comments or events that they want please reach out to VP Professional.

XI.



**Notices of Motion & Announcements**

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**Adjournment**

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**Adjournment**

**MOTION 08/10/21:08**

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.

Chloe Robinson moves, Maria Saborito seconds. No dissenting votes. Passes unanimously.