



society of graduate & professional students
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS LOCAL 27

AGENDA

Society of Graduate and Professional Students' Council

Local 27 of the Canadian Federation of Students

May 13, 2008 5:30 p.m.

McLaughlin Room, JDUC

1. Presentations

2. Action

3. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

a) MOTION 05/13/08:1

Moved _____ / _____ BIRT the agenda for May 13, 2008 be adopted.

b) MOTION 05/13/08:2

Moved _____ / _____ BIRT the minutes for April 8, 2008 be accepted.

4. Executive and Speaker Reports

- a) President – Jeff Welsh (report attached)
- b) VP Internal, Graduate – Sean Tucker (report attached)
- c) VP Internal, Professional – Jamie Kneen (report attached)
- d) VP External – Mark Rosner (report attached)
- e) VP Operations – Vicky Bae (report attached)
- f) Speaker – VACANT

MOTION 05/13/08:3

Moved _____ / _____ BIRT Executive and Speaker reports be accepted.

5. Committee, Senator, Board of Trustee and Other Reports

- a) Senator – Peter Ralevic
- b) Board of Trustees – Lindsey Love-Forester

- c) Committee Reports
 - i) Operations and Finance Standing Committee
 - ii) External Relations Standing Committee
 - iii) Education Standing Committee
 - iv) By-Law and Policy Revisions Standing Committee
 - v) Equity Issues Standing Committee
 - vi) Graduate Students Standing Committee
 - vii) Professional Students Standing Committee
- d) Other Reports
 - i) Social Commissioner – Vacant
 - ii) Communications Commissioner – Vacant
 - iii) Equity Commissioner – Vacant
 - iv) Committee Coordinator – Vacant
 - v) Chief Returning Officer – Vacant
 - vi) Biology Department – Richard Morrow (report attached)

MOTION

05/13/08:4

Moved _____ / _____ BIRT Senator/Board of Trustees/Committee Coordinator/Committee and Other reports be accepted.

6. Question Period/Departmental Complaints

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

8. Main Motions

MOTION

05/13/08:5

Whereas Council has set \$5,000.00 for the Professional fee line in the annual 2007-2008 budget; and

Whereas Council has set \$2,850.00 for the Insurance line in the annual 2007-2008 budget;

MOVED Bae/_____ BITR that SGPS goes over-budget on the professional fee line by \$1,287.00 to a total of \$6,287.00 and the insurance line by \$97.83 to a total of \$2,947.83.

MOTION

05/13/08:6

Whereas SGPS has extended the SGPS Health and Dental plans to RMC and post-doc students for the past several years without any negative impact on its membership with regards to the plan;

MOVED Bae/_____ BIRT to continue to extend the SGPS Health and Dental plans to RMC and post-doc students for 2008-2009.

MOTION

05/13/08:7

MOVED Welsh/_____ BIRT that Diala Habib (Social Commissioner), Cheryl Sutherland (External Equity Commissioner), Shauna Shiels (Internal Equity Commissioner) and Joellen Lin (Committee Coordinator) be ratified as appointees of Council.

MOTION

05/13/08:8

MOVED Welsh/_____ BIRT that Sean Richards be temporarily appointed as Interim Communications Commissioner until a suitable candidate can be found. This position is to be extended at the same rate of pay with a pro-rated honorarium.

MOTION

05/13/08:9

WHEREAS the SGPS faces increasing difficulties representing Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows as workers on the Queen's University Campus; and

WHEREAS working conditions for Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows on the Queen's University Campus continue to deteriorate; and

WHEREAS a group of Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows who are SGPS members have organised under the name Teaching Assistants and Fellows Association (TAFE) for the purpose of unionizing Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows at Queen's University;

MOVED Cole/_____ BIRT the SGPS recognizes that a unionized working environment for Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows is preferable to a non-unionized working environment and that a unionized working environment would give Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows at Queen's University the protection of a collective bargaining agreement and expert representation with regard to their working conditions;

BIFRT the SGPS fully supports the unionization efforts of TAFE.

9. Other Business

10. Notice of Motions/Announcements

Reports and Motions for next meeting due Tuesday August 5, 2008

Next SGPS Council meeting will be Tuesday, August 12, 2008

11. Adjournment

MOTION

05/13/08:10

Moved _____ / _____ BIRT the SGPS Council meeting be adjourned.

05/13/08
JAS
CFS-27
Attached:
President's Report
VPIG's Report
VPEX's Report
VPIP's Report
VPOP's Report

Appendix A – TA/TF Survey



society of graduate & professional students
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS LOCAL 27

MINUTES

Society of Graduate and Professional Students' Council

Local 27 of the Canadian Federation of Students

Tuesday, April 8th, 2008 5:30pm

McLaughlin Room, JDUC

5:35pm

1. Presentations

Gender-Neutral Washrooms (SHRC; see Appendices I and II)

Surveyors went through buildings on Queen's and looked at all the washrooms to see gender accessible washrooms. Out of 471 washrooms 117 were gender neutral. A lot of the gender neutral washrooms were at Queen's houses. New buildings on map don't have gender neutral washrooms. LaSalle, OCI have best washrooms. Gender equal washrooms only found in areas with low traffic. Moving forward, want to look at traffic numbers and newer buildings take this into account. Contact 4mjf1@queensu.ca for more information.

Pilger-The ones that were gender neutral in other campuses were accessibility washrooms for physically disabled. Queen's campus is old and they will not take this into consideration. Grad Club does have a gender neutral washroom so results are inaccurate.

Marvin-Not in the most accessible location. We're not trying to eliminate male/female washrooms.

Vanek-If you work in one of these buildings and noticed we missed a location, let us know.

2. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

a) MOTION

4/8/08:1

Moved **Pilger / Cossette** BIRT the agenda for April 8, 2008 be adopted.

Carries

b) MOTION

4/8/08:2

Moved **Ralevic / Sattelmayer** BIRT the minutes for March 11, 2008 be accepted.

Carries

3. Executive and Speaker Reports

d) President – Jeff Welsh

SONAD has drafted a new Code of Conduct. Draft was brought to the last senate meeting where amendments were made. Moved that amendments be sent back to SONAD for

consideration and brought back to Senate on the 24th with each proposed amendment. SONAD has recommended to pass some and refuse others. Up to senate whether to pass those amendments. Will be up for vote by senate on the 24th.

Discussed at SONAD was committee membership to expand to include Dean of SA, delegate and another faculty member. Having a student majority was appropriate. Disagreement about adding another faculty member.

SCAD committee reviews new programs, or program changes. Degree changes that will affect some members. In psychology a MA is now an MSc. Budget cuts anticipate 4% next year due to changing numbers in relation to other universities depending on % of students we have compared to total students in Ontario.

SGSR beginning internal financial review. Hiring a financial officer that will examine internal funding for the next year. How money used and spent and how funding packages are designed.

TA rates have gone up and a lot of that from QGA funding. Paying taxes on larger portion of funding packages so not better off financially.

SRC-graduate residence in JDUC will be going after next year when that part of JDUC taken down because of Queen's Centre. As it stands, there are no plans to replace it. The interim solution is to designate ground floor of Hartness Hall and the rest at West Campus. 91% respondents want to remain on Main Campus. Dean Laker open to ideas to housing including family housing. Committee residence life has been operating in deficit over the past years because of delayed maintenance issues.

TA consultation committee-change to TA grievance procedure. Will send to senate. If TA can't work out something with professor, there's supposed to be a departmental member but this is not always the case.

Committee for campus development-Queen's Centre \$40 million under budget after Phase I, want financial contribution from us. Goodes Hall has another major expansion, \$36 million budget item and most from outside continue. New Medical Research building, funding from province.

Queen's is in good financial situation because of low student: debt ratio so we can borrow as much as we want.

Reappointment of principal-still meeting. Met a week ago. Did not reach an agreement for a recommendation so will be meeting again. I am not sitting on that committee, Arash still sitting on that.

JDUC council meeting happening on Thurs afternoon.

Pilger-In reference to another faculty coming on board for SONAD, will they be relevant to the issue being discussed?

Welsh-Want to add another faculty member on the SONAD committee, not for individual hearing. Adds balance to committee.

e) VP Internal, Graduate – Sean Tucker

TA committee had meeting today. Slight change to grievance procedure with dispute resolution. Talked about survey sent out to department heads. Whether departments following policies set out for TAs. Want to get information back late May so that will go out in the next week.

- f) VP Internal, Professional – VACANT
- d) VP External – VACANT
- e) VP Operations – VACANT
- f) Speaker – Michele Richards

MOTION

4/8/08:3

Moved **Pennimpede / Adam** BIRT Executive and Speaker reports be accepted.

Carries

4. Committee, Commissioner, Senator, Board of Trustee and Other Reports

- a) Graduate Student Senator – Peter Ralevic (report attached)
Student code-13 amendments, 5 rejected. Students free to lead own personal lives (accepted), adding discrimination statement (accepted). Amendment to emergency powers (rejected). Showing a real causal connection (rejected)
- b) Board of Trustees – Alfonso Nocilla
- c) Committee Reports
 - i) Operations and Finance Standing Committee
 - ii) External Relations Standing Committee
 - iii) Education Standing Committee
 - iv) Bylaw and Policy Revisions Standing Committee
 - v) Equity Issues Standing Committee
 - vi) Graduate Student Standing Committee
 - vii) Professional Students Standing Committee
 - viii) SGPS Special Awards Standing Committee
Have selected individuals who are getting awards.
Student Award -Alisha Kelly
TA Award-Tracey Pennimpede
Staff Appreciation Award-Sean Richards
 - ix) Social Events Standing Committee
 - x) SGPS Appointing Standing Committee
 - xi) AntiThesis Production Standing Committee
 - xii) International Students Standing Committee (report attached)
- g) Commissioner Reports
 - i) Social Commissioner – Jamie Kneen
 - ii) Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards
 - iii) Equity Commissioner – Morgan Vanek
Working on equity resource package ready for orientation.
- h) Other Reports
 - i) Committee Coordinator – Alisa Yocom
Nominating committee met last week and still a bunch of positions available on senate.
Customer service working group needs a graduate representative. International Standing Committee needs members.
 - ii) Chief Returning Officer – Neal Pilger

Turnout was only 59 votes. Referendum question was passed by 2 votes.
Quorum was
not received. Encourage a good relationship with The Journal.
iii) Rector – Leora Jackson
iv) Departmental Reports

MOTION

4/8/08:4

Moved **Pilger / Cossette** BIRT Senator/Board of Trustees/Commissioner/Committee Coordinator/Committee, and Other reports be accepted.

Carries

5. Question Period/Departmental Complaints

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

MOTION (as amended at AGM)

4/8/08:5

Whereas, for over half a century, federal funding has been crucial to the maintenance, growth, and diversification of programs at Canadian universities; and

Whereas the federal government has recently proposed an influx of 163 million dollars into Canadian universities, and targeted this funding toward its 'Centres for Excellence for Commercialization and Research.'; and

Whereas all university programs are under-funded, and any and all investment in post-secondary education is welcomed, these 'centres for excellence,' deal only with a few narrow areas--including 'Environmental Science and Technologies, Natural Resources and Energy, Health and Life Sciences, and Information and Communication Technologies'—and thus do not represent the breadth and diversity of graduate programs at Queen's University nor the breadth and diversity of actual and potential student interest at Queen's University; and

Whereas, through these actions, the federal government has expressed its commitment to the assumed commercial value of the applied sciences, and its lack of commitment to other areas of study deemed less commercially viable, including the social sciences, the liberal arts, the humanities, and non-commercial, discovery based scientific research. The graduate and undergraduate experience at Queen's and other universities will suffer as a result; and

Whereas, if this funding model continues to be followed, it has the potential to dismantle traditional liberal higher education in Canada, by aligning public higher educational research with private, commercially-based interests.

Moved **Cole/Pilger** BIRT the SGPS will draft letters expressing its opposition to these initiatives to the Federal Minister of Industry, Jim Prentice; the Ontario Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities, John Milloy; the President of NSERC, Suzanne Fortier; the President of SSHRC, Chad Gaffield; the president of CIHR, Alan Bernstein; the Principal of Queen's University, Karen Hitchcock; the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research, Janice Deakin; and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

BIFRT the SGPS will express its support for the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations, an organization similarly concerned with issues of university funding and program diversity.

Cole-Have taken into account how the experimental sciences are affect this. More inclusive now. Speaks to a broader range of departments.

Pilger-It's a requirement that more funding be made for life sciences because their research shapes the world.

Carries

7. Main Motions

MOTION

4/8/08:6

Moved **Pilger / Pennimpede** BIRT Council ratify the following 2008 By-Election referendum result:

YES to the question: "Do you agree to the creation of a \$3.50 Class A mandatory fee for the Queen's Journal, Queens University's student newspaper?"

Kneen-Has the advertisements conflict been resolved?

Anna-As far as we're concerned, the conflict has been resolved.

Carries

MOTION

4/8/08:7

Moved **Pilger / Adam** BIRT Council ratify the following 2008 By-Election acclaimed positions: Jamie Kneen to the position of VP Internal Professional, Mark Rosner to the position of VP External, Victoria Bae to the position of VP Operations, and Ray Saiedi to the position of Graduate Student Senator.

Carries

8. Other Business

Election of a new Speaker. No one chosen. Send out email to members of council asking if they want to be Speaker. Does not have to be departmental representative, but a graduate student.

9. Notice of Motions/Announcements

Reports and Motions for the next regular Council meeting are due Tuesday May 6th, 2008. The next regular SGPS Council meeting will be on Tuesday May 13th, 2008.

There is a spot on The Journal BOM for SGPS member. Application is this Friday.

10. Adjournment

MOTION

4/8/08:8

Moved **Ralevic / Pilger** BIRT the SGPS Council meeting be adjourned.

Carries

6:42 pm