



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
Wednesday, November 12th, 2008 5:30pm
Bioscience 2109

1. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

MOTION

11/12/08:1

Moved _____ Welsh _____ / _____ BIRT the agenda for November, 2008 be adopted.

MOTION

11/12/08:2

Moved _____ Welsh _____ / _____ BIRT the minutes for October, 2008 be accepted.

2. Executive and Speaker Reports

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

MOTION

11/12/08:3

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

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

- a) Graduate Student Senator – Ray Saeidi
- b) Board of Trustees – Alfonso Nocilla
- c) Committee Reports
- d) Commissioner Reports
 - i) Social Commissioner – Diala Habib (report attached)
 - ii) Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)
 - iii) Equity Commissioner: Internal – Shauna Shiels (report attached)
 - iv) Equity Commissioner: External – VACANT
- e) Other Reports

- i) Committee Coordinator – Joellen Lin (report attached)
- ii) Chief Returning Officer – VACANT
- iii) Rector – Leora Jackson (report attached)
- iv) Departmental Reports

MOTION

11/12/08:4

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

4. Question Period/Departmental Complaints

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

6. Main Motions

MOTION

11/12/08:5

Whereas there is currently no organized body to enable members of the SGPS to interact with their peers while engaging in Trivia competition and training, and to facilitate the ability of Club Members to participate in Trivia Activities within the Queen's Community and within the larger academic community; Moved Joellen Lin Committee Coordinator / _____ BIRT Council ratify the SGPS Trivia Club.

MOTION

11/12/08:6

Whereas, Sean Tucker, former Vice President Internal (Graduate), resigned at the beginning of October, and the bylaws and policies permit Council, at their discretion to recognize a new Executive member without election, provided that there is less than six months left in the term.

Moved Jamie Kneen / _____ BIRT the Council accept the recommendation of the hiring committee for the acceptance of a new candidate for Vice President Internal (Graduate), candidate name to be disclosed on November 12, 2008 at the Council meeting.

7. Other Business

Graduate Funding
Judicial Committee
Bylaws and Policies Committee

8. Presentation

Amanda Leonard, the President of the Education Student Society

9. Notice of Motions/Announcements

Reports and Motions for the next regular Council meeting are due Tuesday December 2th, 2008. The next regular SGPS Council meeting will be on Tuesday December 9th, 2008.

10. Adjournment

MOTION

11/12/08:7

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

11/12/08

SI

CFS-27

Attached:

Oct 2008 Minutes

Reports

Council Orientation Package



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

October Minutes

Society of Graduate and Professional Students' Council

Local 27 of the Canadian Federation of Students

Tuesday, October 14th, 2008 5:30pm

McLaughlin Room, JDUC

Called to order 5:33 p.m.

1. Presentations

TAFA – Maki – Update on union drive. TAFA is working towards improving working conditions at Queens. We are card signing right now under the auspices of PSAC and informing TAs and TFs about unionization. The next step would be to apply to the labour board.

Nelson – the six reasons why unionization is a good thing is: 1) pay security; 2) benefits to supplement the sgps plan; 3) formal grievance procedure; 4) formal definition of work; 5) ta training should be tailored to specific departments; 6) TA and TF allotment procedures, clarity and transparency. We are looking for departmental reps to inform and help sign cards and to join the steering committee in order to participate. Also, we are free to come and talk to your respective grad student associations if you are interested (an informal meet and greet).

Maki – There is a meet and greet in Education and Engineering tomorrow and the Languages are next week and we will be happy to participate if you're interested. Two upcoming events are: a lunch and learn at grad club on Oct. 29th, put on by PSAC to discuss unionization. Also there is the one year TAFA anniversary party to celebrate TAFA and to thank volunteers.

QUMSA – President of MUSA – Our objectives include provide religious services to students and staff and to represent students on campus. There have been recent events of islamaphobia at Queen's in the past month – harassment of women wearing the hijab as well as defacement of a poster calling for death of muslims. After we publicized this event, other have come forward to inform us of other islamaphobic events, showing that the majority of these events go unreported. Our club space was broken into – the intruder observed the comings and goings of the club – and stole money, both charity and club funds. Many students feel concerned for their safety. Thank the SGPS for support in this time. While the campaign is only in the beginning, we want to raise awareness Don't of islamaphobia at Queen's and make contacts with interested parties both on and off campus. Want to increase media attention and through other universities. Also will initiate educational campaigns at queen's. Hoping to get administration to try and educate queen's community – victims shouldn't be responsible for educating everyone concerned. Our funds have gone towards the islamaphobia campaign and have submitted our budget and are seeking support for our work in the future. We are interested in collaborating with other student groups and we are looking forward to working with the sgps in order to further the goals of the campaign. Please also visit our website (qumsa.net) in order to sign our petition.

Ten minute talk with Dean of Student Affairs Jason Laker

Laker – Introduce myself and get to know one another, so you know who I am and where you can find me. This is my 3rd year at queen's, oversea division of student affairs, ex. Residence, food service, partnership for JDUC, international centre, town gown, etc. we have an assessment coordinator who tests how students are receiving and experiencing the services that we offer. Community outreach coordinator who works with off campus students, based on Aberdeen, very nice space, relaxing, may show up at your door with some goodies in order to engage with you. Just some examples of programs and services – we are interested in your development as a human being which contributes to success in school. If you run into trouble while here, there are possibilities for support – both recreational and spiritual. All of these things contribute to personal development and academic development. There are about 300 people involved with student affairs. Also, the student initiative fund is there – students have great ideas, for conferences, etc. (queensu.ca/studentaffairs) please go to student initiative centre. Help with costs associated with costs of implementing ideas, ex. Displays for activities or costs associated with conferences.

Bae – Would that include such activities as QUMSA campaign?

Laker – Yes

Someone – where is this house?

Laker – 11 aberdeen

Welsh – Two questions – for sgps and for departmental orgs issue is finding funds for social events, departments have trouble finding money for social events, especially considering budget cuts. could they use this fund to help them put together with this issue? second, from event services under student affairs, they have been planning social ebevnts over the year, but the costs are quite prohibitive organizing events throug event services. The costs of one event that we wanted to have this month for Oktoberfest was \$3000...

Laker – the coke fund, there are some ethical concerns with this. The student initiative fund – if there are events just for one department, probably not, but if open to all students, probably. As for other, room reservations, there are real costs associated with space - we have to pay union wages in order to have these events.

Tucker - \$3000 to hold the event and pay wages?

Laker – no, but there are costs associated with the event. We can't not charge you, but I can negotiate with student initiative fund to offset some of the costs. On the particulars, we can follow up. Student affairs is interested in helping you have a good time, if there are bureaucratic dilemmas, please get ahold of my office. We are next to career services. 3rd floor Gordon hall. Please

2. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

MOTION 10/14/08:1

Moved _____ Welsh _____ / _____ Morrow _____ BIRT the agenda for October, 2008 be adopted.
Carries

MOTION 10/14/08:2

Moved _____ Welsh _____ / _____ Bae _____ BIRT the minutes for September, 2008 be accepted.
Carries

3. Executive and Speaker Reports

a) President – Jeff Welsh (report attached)

Welsh – one follow up – some more info on programs being considered for changes to qga funding in review of grad student program funding. The dean of grad school is having working group give recommendations by end of this term regarding program funding. The list of programs have been divided into categories. 1st research based, to prepare for doctoral studies. 2nd category is for other career paths aside from doctoral (ex. Mdeds – 898, meng, mac, etc.). category 3 is same as two except there is no phd and one year only with no 898 option (ex. Mir and mpa). The reason for the categories is

to provide some basis for the grad school council is to prioritize funding for some programs. Leaning to give funding to category one, others maybe not. No decisions have been made but this is the discussion on the table. If you're not in a program not in ma, phd, msc, or one other, please talk with grad students and faculty because the qga funding could be affected. Please let me know if you have any ideas on this issue.

Jackson – what would happen for students next year with outside funding.

Welsh – won't do anything to jeopardize external funding.

Welsh – looks as though grad res will be retained and renovated and not demolished and the ground floor of jduc which is now club space will be given over as sgps space. The sgps space committee will be meeting Friday at 3pm to discuss what to do with that space and discussing renting new space while queens centre under construction.

b) VP Internal Graduate – Sean Tucker (report attached)

tucker – go and vote before 9:30. two things – we've hired a third student advisor. Full slate now. The ta committee met last week and we discussed the mandate of the committee given the union drive, the committee agreed to carry on as business as usual. They will follow up on the survey they did last year. I will now be stepping down as vpig given that I had my first child three months ago. Thanks.

Cole – Please expand on the role of the ta committee.

Tucker - Ta committee is a sub committee. It reviews and makes recommendations. My concern is what the committee is going to do during the union drive. The committee felt it can continue with business as usual. I put forward a motion that committees activities be kept confidential, since hr in past has influenced union drive, by using the committee as a smokescreen. The motion didn't go through. I put forward another motion that the committee recommend that queen's hr would not report on any of the committees activities and that failed.

Cole – the work of the committee will be made public then?

Tucker – yes – but because of its small status in the bureaucracy, its suggestions will not likely result in any actual changes to the way tas relate to the university.

c) VP Internal Professional – Jamie Kneen (report attached)

d) VP External – Mark Rosner (report attached)

Rosner – Day of Action – Nov. 5th. Please contact me at vpex@sgps.ca if you're interested. Federal Election and academic integrity.

e) VP Operations – Vicky Bae (report attached)

Bae – I'd like to highlight the council's discretionary fund. This was not touched last year. We should advertise it better. It is easy to access. Please use it. Also, I'm hoping to restructure the financial systems at sgps, there is the possibility that as programs are developed and become more focused, some applicants may find it more difficult to access funds. The discretionary fund would be a good opportunity to access some monies if this happens.

f) Speaker – Seth Irwin

MOTION 10/14/08:3

Moved _____Morrow_____ / _____Habib_____ BIRT Executive and Speaker reports be accepted.

Carried.

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

a) Graduate Student Senator – Ray Saeidi

b) Board of Trustees – Alfonso Nocilla

c) Committee Reports

d) Commissioner Reports

i) Social Commissioner – Diala Habib (report attached)

Habib – Oktoberfest! At Amadeus German Restaurant on Princess. Couldn't have it on campus cause wasn't cost effective. It starts at 5pm, I've heard good things about the resto. Specialty beer available and meat and veggie options.

Finlay – how much are tickets?

Habib - \$10 – includes food and one non-alcoholic beverage.

Lin – is space limited?

Habib – max capacity is 70, and we've reserved the whole spot.

ii) Communications Commissioner – Sean Richards (report attached)

iii) Equity Commissioner: Internal – Shauna Shiels (report attached)

Shiels – three things – cfs is relaunching the stolen sisters campaign and I'm participating in it to discuss the missing aboriginal campaign in Canada. Also, working with ams social issue commish to launch a report card of professors dealing with racism in classroom (launch date is towards the end of next semester).

iv) Equity Commissioner: External – VACANT

e) Other Reports

i) Committee Coordinator – Joellen Lin (report attached)

Lin – working on updates to webpage, please check it out. Attended the queen's daycare board meeting. Many people want to use the service. The wait list is almost 350 children for 120 spaces. Encourage students to claim spots when they know they are pregnant. The daycare board is going ahead with referendum to ask sgps for an optional fee, something in range to \$1, similar to what they've asked of ams.

ii) Chief Returning Officer – VACANT

iii) Rector – Leora Jackson (report attached)

- Jackson – any questions? Issues related to queen's centre.
- Rosner – statement of responsible investing?
- Jackson – has prepared a statement regarding investing. Complaint based program that's been set up. The university would invest as usual unless they decided to take special action, spurred by the queen's community through petition. The petition is non-binding.
- Cole – could you make some copies of that available at the sgps office.
- Jackson - yes

iv) Departmental Reports

- Biology Department (report attached)
- Morrow – not too much to add to the report. I went to the tafa open house, informative, disappointed with lack of grad student turnout, well publicized event, not enough dialogue about tafa. Some of the tafa reps have gone into labs where there are serious safety concerns. Are there ways for the sgps to ask tafa for them to ask not enter our workspace while students are working?
- Welsh – should always inform people about safety issues.
- Morrow – some bio students that it would be good to learn more about tafa in a less aggressive way.
- Derby – I'll bring it up the concerns about safety. And if we can talk with bio students about the best way to inform students about tafa, that would be great.
- Bae – what was the concern? About safety or working hours?
- Morrow – both – we'd like to facilitate tafa coming and to talk to departments so that our students can hear the issues without it interrupting their studies.
- Silva – I've had people complain that tafa was bothering them in office space while they were trying to get work done.
- Bae – just trying to clarify things
- Morrow – also, we have no social funding. Will report back regarding the student initiative fund.

MOTION 10/14/08:4

Moved _____ bae_____ / _____ scholz_____ BIRT Senator/Board of Trustees/Commissioner/Committee Coordinator / Committee, and Other reports be accepted.
carries

5. Question Period/Departmental Complaints

Welsh – just take the issue raised in biology. What might work best is to try and contact tafa in order to get around issue of people interfering with people working in labs.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

7. Main Motions

MOTION 10/14/08:5

Moved ___ Joellen Lin Committee Coordinator / _____ Rosner_____ BIRT that Matthew Shuster, Meghan Brook, Majid Malekan, and Brian Bencze be ratified as members of the SGPS Equity Issues Standing Committee.
Carries

MOTION 10/14/08:6

Moved ___ Joellen Lin Committee Coordinator / _____ Morrow_____ BIRT that Jaime Denike and Laura Kinderman be ratified as members of the SGPS Space Standing Committee.
Carries

MOTION 10/14/08:7

Whereas Council suspend the motion passed during August Council meeting regarding to title change of SGPS VPs (8/12/08:8), and

Whereas the motion passed during August Council meeting regarding to the title change of the committee that VPs chaired (8/12/08:9) is now in effect (since no suspension of this motion was brought up), and

Whereas even though the committee title change was not affected by the position title change suspension, nonetheless, the committee title should be in keeping with the "spirit" of the title change,

Moved ___ Joellen Lin Committee Coordinator / _____ Welsh_____ BIRT Council approve for the title of the

committee that VP Internal (professional) chaired be changed back to SGPS Professional Students Standing Committee (instead of SGPS Internal Affairs Standing Committee); and

Lin – at last council meeting, council suspended title of vps. There is some confusion regarding the committee titles that they chair. But since there were two separate motions, even though the vp title changed, the committee stayed the same. However, we want to keep professional in the title of the committee. As for the rest, the title for the committee is best reflected in the new titles.

Es (?? - Math) – just want the professional name in title?

Lin – yes . Jamie will also chair another internal affairs committee.

Carries.

8. Other Business

SGPS Judicial Committee

Welsh – the committee hears non-academic discipline affairs. It consists of 7 people, majority of whom must be non-executive. The workload is minimal. Any people interested in volunteering, please contact us if you are. Any questions?

Rideout – are there any responsibilities for committee?

Welsh – have to read over the material, and if the committee decides to take further action, the committee would have a hearing. The committee can decide to acquit the person or impose a penalty. In a case a couple of years ago, the student forged a parking pass and was

Rosner – also, committee would have to investigate facts.

Welsh – the committee would have to elect a chair who would be responsible for this.

Departmental social funding/fundraisers

Welsh – echoing concerns about problems for student social activities in terms of funding. We do have a social budget line, that is open to all sgps members, but to find money for all departments, that would add up to a lot of money. Want to work with council and see if we can find some seed money to start a fund. Or we could organize fundraisers, use some sgps money as seed money for fundraiser, and the moneies could use the money for their individual departments initiative. Just trying to get some ideas and see what people think. Since we're trying to get some ideas.

Move to Committee of the Whole – moved by Welsh and seconded by Morrow.
Carries.

9. Notice of Motions/Announcements

Reports and Motions for the next regular Council meeting are due Tuesday November 4th, 2008.
The next regular SGPS Council meeting will be on Tuesday November 1th, 2008.

Richards - Deputy Speaker position is still open! Please see Sean Richards!

Motion to alter next meeting date from Tuesday Nov. 11 to Wed Nov 12th at 5:30 p.m.

Moved by Rosner; Seconded by Tucker

Silva – Why? Classes are in session, its business as usual.

Rosner – I didn't realize that classes were in session.

All in favour – 10

Opposed - 5

Motion carries.

Richards – please pay attention to where council will be – we haven't booked this room so it probably won't be here.

10. Adjournment

MOTION 10/14/08:18

Moved ___Bae___ / ___Welsh___ BIRT the SGPS Council meeting be adjourned.

Carries at 7 p.m.

10/14/08

SI

CFS-27

Attached:

Sept 2008 Minutes

Reports

Attachments:

Academic Integrity

Senate Motion for Academic Consideration