



**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*  
Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 5:30pm  
**McLaughlin Room, JDUC**

**1. Presentations**

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**2. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes**

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**MOTION**

**9/09/08:1**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Welsh \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the agenda for September, 2008 be adopted.

**MOTION**

**09/09/08:2**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Welsh \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the minutes for August, 2008 be accepted.

**3. Executive and Speaker Reports**

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- a) President – Jeff Welsh (report attached)
- b) VP Academic Affairs – Sean Tucker (report attached)
- c) VP Internal – Jamie Kneen (report attached)
- d) VP Campaigns and Community Relations – Mark Rosner (report attached)
- e) VP Finance and Services – Vicky Bae (report attached)
- f) Speaker –

**MOTION**

**09/09/08:3**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Executive and Speaker reports be accepted.

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

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

**MOTION**

**09/09/08:4**

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

**5. Question Period/Departmental Complaints**

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**6. Business Arising from the Minutes**

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**7. Main Motions**

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**MOTION**

**09/09/08:5**

Whereas the SGPS Final Report on the TA/TF Survey was distributed to Council on August 12 and released to all SGPS members via the SGPS website on August 25, 2008.

Moved \_\_\_ Tucker VPAA / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT that Council accept the findings and recommendations contained in the Final Report on the TA/TF Survey.

**MOTION**

**09/09/08:6**

Moved \_\_\_ Joellen Lin Committee Coordinator / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT that Mark Hoidas be ratified as a member of the SGPS Appointing Standing Committee.

**MOTION**

**09/09/08:7**

Moved \_\_\_ Joellen Lin Committee Coordinator / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT that Mohamed Hefny be ratified as the chair of the SGPS Campus Sustainability Standing Committee and Mathieu Garand, Atef Mohamed, Suzie Ellwood, and Jessica Hawryshyn be ratified as members of the SGPS Campus Sustainability Standing Committee.

**MOTION**

**09/09/08:8**

Whereas the SGPS must secure adequate office space in the Queen's Centre or elsewhere on campus, and

Where as the university has set goals to improve graduate student life on campus, and

Where as the graduate students don't always have adequate space for their academic works, and

Where as the graduate student residence in JDUC will be torn down next year but the plan for the new

residence at the Queen's Centre has not been finalized, and

Whereas SGPS members have indicated in recent surveys that they would like more Graduate Student social space.

Moved \_\_\_ Joellen Lin Committee Coordinator / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Council establish the SGPS Space Standing Committee; and  
BIFRT the SGPS Space Standing Committee be Chaired by the SGPS President or his/her delegate; and  
BIFRT the SGPS Space Standing Committee consist of as many SGPS members as the Committee Chair deems proper.

## **8. Other Business**

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## **9. Notice of Motions/Announcements**

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Reports and Motions for the next regular Council meeting are due Tuesday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008.  
The next regular SGPS Council meeting will be on Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## **10. Adjournment**

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MOTION

**09/09/08:09**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the SGPS Council meeting be adjourned.

09/09/08

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CFS-27

Attached:

August 2008 Minutes

Reports

Appendix I – Budget Guide

Appendix II – 2008/2009 Budget Draft – Second Reading



**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*  
Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 5:30pm  
**McLaughlin Room, JDUC**

**1. Presentations**

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Called to order at 5:44 p.m by Welsh.

Welsh – Explained situation with the speaker, that Chen Liang has resigned. Propose that Sean Richards act as interim speaker, just for this meeting. The will of the room was to approve Sean as interim speaker.

Richards – TAFE reps ask to amend the agenda to make a presentation.

Carries.

TAFE (Marcel Nelson, Krystle Maki, Andrew Stevens) – Nelson – Update on past and future activities. Make case for unionization for TA's.

Maki – Organizer. This summer activities have touched on outreach and education. Involved with community and art orientated events (eg. Kingston Pride and WOLF Island music festival). QUFA and SGPS have supported our drive. TA union at Western have also sent letter of support. In early June held an organizing meeting, well attended. Another workshop next week, spots open if interested. Held open house bbq in July at Grad Club – well attended, over 100 people. Another bbq on Sept. 17 in city Park across from Grad Club (free food), all welcome. Orientation week is the next big event, talking with SGPS and others seeing as how we can be involved.

Stevens – new TAFE information available, responding to questions and concerns (some handouts passed around). Queen's one of few campuses in Ontario not organized. TA consultative committee ineffective, no executive authority, hence the need for a union and collective agreement at Queen's. The committee actually resulted from a previous union drive. TF agreements are quite disparate between departments. But the TA committee does not deal with any of the TF issues. TAFE thinks that a union for TA's and TF's will have more authority in their working conditions, grievance procedures, etc.. Union will better represent the needs of TA's and TF's and would replace an inefficient system. So unionization would be good for both principled and pragmatic reasons. 3 goals for campaign 1) allotment procedures – consistency between departments; 2) ta training – general lack of training; 3) definition of work; 4) real grievance procedure; 5) wage security; etc.

Nelson – Hope to have departmental reps and steering committee members. Hope that SGPS reps could also be TAFE departmental reps, or recommend other interested peoples. There are common concerns between the SGPS and TAFE and we hope that we can work together to address these concerns.

## **2. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes**

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### **MOTION**

**8/12/08:1**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Welsh \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Irwin \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the agenda for August, 2008 be adopted.

**Carries.**

### **MOTION**

**8/12/08:2**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Welsh \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Morrow \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the minutes for May, 2008 be accepted.

Morrow – last name spelt wrong in minutes

Carries.

## **3. Executive and Speaker Reports**

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a) President – Jeff Welsh (report attached)

Welsh – Nothing new. Informed that Bob Burge has resigned and that John O’Shea has resigned, two of three important people in JDUC have resigned. There will be a meeting tomorrow to address this, in order to see who to hire for the Queen’s Centre. In the meantime, someone must take care of JDUC. Chatted with AMS, who are happy with having AMS people take over in the meantime. Anyone have an opinion on this? Also, orientation week, 1<sup>st</sup> week of Sept., there is one on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, a general orientation activity, info and resource fair, with representation from on and off campus, useful for grad students, please try and make this know to grad students. Also, please attend departmental orientation at your departments so that the new students have a face to put to a name for the SGPS.

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

Tucker – If have any questions about the TATF survey, please let me know. Survey will be posted on website. Will bring a motion at Sept. meeting to accept the report. Student advisor hiring is now on, please forward interested candidates to apply. In regards to funding, tuition is increasing by 4% and 8% and there has been no increase in the minimum phd stipend for three years now, no increase in ra funding but there has been a change in ta wage to take into account cost of living. Also, international students in 5<sup>th</sup> year used to pay domestic rates; sgps fought it, and sgpr changed it for people this year, but next year, the will pay international rates. The overall funding situation for grad students is worsening.

c) VP Internal, Professional – Jamie Kneen (on leave for the summer)

d) VP External – Mark Rosner (report attached)

Rosner – talked about CFS, day of action, activist assembly, and copyright legislation.

e) VP Operations – Vicky Bae (report attached)

Bae – no new items, highlight the annual budget and the guide for the budget, both have been updated. Please let me know if there are any questions or concerns. The ops committee has been quite active. Most members are leaving, so if you are interested please let me know.

f) Speaker –

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:3**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_Welsh\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_Morrow\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Executive and Speaker reports be accepted.

Carries

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

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- 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)

Richards – The SGPS orientation guide has been mailed out; please put up the info sheet in your department if you can.

- iii) Equity Commissioner: Internal – Shauna Shiels
- iv) Equity Commissioner: External – Cheryl Sutherland (report attached)

e) Other Reports

- i) Committee Coordinator – Joellen Lin (report attached)

Lin – two important vacancies, Queen’s Daycare Board. Many graduate students use this service; if interested or know someone who is a parent, please let me know. Next meeting is next Tuesday. Also, we are revamping the Committee website, if you would like to participate, please let me know.

- ii) Chief Returning Officer – VACANT
- iii) Rector – Leora Jackson
- iv) Departmental Reports

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:4**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_Bae\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_Irwin\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Senator/Board of Trustees/Commissioner/Committee Coordinator/Committee, and Other reports be accepted.

Carries

**5. Question Period/Departmental Complaints**

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**6. Business Arising from the Minutes**

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**7. Main Motions**

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**MOTION**

**8/12/08:5**

Moved **Welsh**/\_\_\_\_\_Bae\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Council ratify the following Council meeting dates:

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September 9th @ 5:30PM  
October 14th @ 5:30PM  
November 11th @ 5:30PM  
December 9th @ 5:30PM  
January 13th @ 5:30PM  
February 10th @ 5:30PM  
March 10th @ 5:30PM  
AGM - March 24th @ 5:30PM  
April 14th @ 5:30PM  
May 12th @ 5:30PM

Main motion carries.

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:6**

Moved \_\_Welsh\_\_/\_Morrow\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the ballots from the 2008 General Election be destroyed in accordance with the SGPS Bylaws and Policies.

Irwin – will there be an issue with the Journal.

Richards – Won't matter, as there was a second referendum, so these ballots don't matter.

Carries

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:7**

Whereas Sean Richards has been hired as the new SGPS Executive Director by the SGPS Executive following an extensive search.

Moved \_\_Welsh\_\_/\_Morrow\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Council ratify Sean Richards to the position of Executive Director.

Richards – Any concerns with me being speaker with this motion? No.

Carries.

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:8**

Whereas the titles of VP Internal (Graduate), VP Internal (Professional), VP External, and VP Operations within the SGPS are vague and/or do not denote a particular function or portfolio.

Whereas clearer SGPS Executive titles would make their functional portfolios more apparent to SGPS members and others.

Whereas new SGPS members might be confused by SGPS title changes mid-year.

Moved \_\_Welsh\_\_/\_Rosner\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Council ratify the following changes to SGPS Executive titles effective immediately:

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Vice President Internal (Graduate) to Vice President Academic Affairs;  
Vice President Internal (Professional) to Vice President Internal;

Vice President External to Vice President Campaigns and Community Relations; and Vice President Operations to Vice President Finance and Services.

Welsh – some discussion about the names and function of the vice-presidents, i.e. vp external. The executive had a general discussion about how to make titles more relevant and transparent to members. This is the reason why we want to change the titles.

Morrow – Are the roles actually changing?

Welsh – No

Richards – We will have to change this at AGM as well.

Carries

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:9**

Whereas the SGPS Executive seeks to streamline the functions of SGPS Committees.

Whereas the SGPS Executive seeks to clarify the functions of SGPS Committees.

Whereas the SGPS Executive has requested changes to the VP titles in order to clarify their responsibilities.

Moved \_\_Welsh\_\_/\_Bae\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Council ratify the following changes to the names of SGPS Committees:

The Graduate Standing Committee and Education Standing Committee be merged as the Academic Affairs Standing Committee;  
The Professional Standing Committee be changed to the Internal Affairs Standing Committee; and  
The External Relations Standing Committee be changed to the Campaigns and Community Relations Committee.

Welsh – Similar reasoning for this motion as the last one. Many students question as to what the committees actually do, thus making it difficult to engage students on committees on which they might be otherwise interested. The changes are trying to avoid concurrence. To avoid repetition we will combine some of the committees. The vp professional is responsible for HR matters, but also interdepartmental and faculty roles, so the name change will better reflect this.

Carries.

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:10**

Whereas the Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre is organizing the Second Annual Queen's Educational Pow Wow.

Whereas Four Directions provides support and services to our Aboriginal members.

Whereas Four Directions expects attendance to exceed last year's approximately 2,000.

Whereas Four Directions is seeking contributions from the Queen's community.

Moved \_\_Welsh\_\_/\_Tucker\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Council donate one thousand dollars to Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre to sponsor the Annual Queen's Educational Pow Wow.

Welsh – Queen's hosted a first annual pow wow last year, nearly 2,000 people attended as participants and spectators, and this year will potentially be bigger, and are seeking support. The admin and AMS have also donated money, and have asked us to be a sponsor. And we have a right to have a table at the event as well.

Council has a discretionary funds, our budget ends at the end of the month, we thought we could use this money to help the

Morrow – Would money roll over into next year.

Welsh – No.

Morrow – How many grad students might attend this? Would our table be effective in reaching grad students?

Welsh – difficult to tell, but there have been many grad students involved with the planning.

Carries.

#### **MOTION**

**8/12/08:11**

Whereas over the past 40 years, hundreds of Indigenous women have gone missing or been murdered across Canada and North America; and

Whereas Walk4Justice is a coalition of Indigenous women that left Vancouver June 21 marching to Ottawa for September 15, 2008 to request a response from the Government on the lack of action to prevent violence against Indigenous women; and

Whereas Walk organizers are seeking support for the walk, organizing welcome and send-off breakfasts for the marchers, and organizing logistics for city stop-overs; and

Whereas the marchers will be passing by Kingston during Orientation Week 2008; therefore

Moved \_\_Welsh\_\_/\_Tucker\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the SGPS demonstrate support for the marchers by endorsing their effort to raise awareness; and

BIFRT Council contribute \$250 to the Walk4Justice.

Welsh – This is a national campaign, some people are walking all across Canada, in order to ask the government why so few indigenous have been found or their disappearances investigated. We thought this small contribution would go towards a good cause.

Irwin- Would this be reflected in the budget.

Welsh- This would come from the 07/08 budget.  
Carries.

#### **MOTION**

**8/12/08:12**

Moved \_\_Bae\_\_ / \_\_Morrow\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT Council approve the 2008-09 budget (first reading; see Appendices I and II for details).

Bae – Any questions or comments on budget?

Carries.

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:13**

Moved \_\_Bae\_\_ / \_\_Lin\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT that Sam Hetz and Gareth Stackhouse be ratified as members of the Operations and Finance Committee.

Carries.

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:14**

Whereas Council has set \$800.00 for the Executive Internal line in the annual 2007-2008 budget;

Moved \_\_Bae\_\_ / \_\_Tucker\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT that SGPS goes over-budget on the Executive Internal line by \$170.51 to a total of \$970.51.

Bae – why did we go over the budget? We under-budgeted, given that we have one more exec that the last year's exec did not have. So bumping this up just reflects the actual state of things.

Carries.

**MOTION**

**8/12/08:15**

Whereas affordable public post-secondary education benefits all Canadians; and

Whereas increasing tuition fees are a significant financial barrier to post-secondary education; and

Whereas student debt has skyrocketed by over 350% over the past fifteen years; and

Whereas the SGPS acknowledges the usefulness of a strong student effort to increase financial support for post-secondary education; and

Whereas the SGPS, in conjunction with the Ontario component of the Canadian Federation of Students, has planned activities for the week of November 5th, 2008 to raise awareness about the importance of post-secondary education and to pressure government to reinvest in affordable, high-quality public education; and

Whereas the Queen's Senate has for past Days of Action encouraged all course instructors to refrain from setting academic deadlines for tests, assignments, etc. on the Day of Action; therefore

Moved \_\_Rosner\_\_ / \_\_Komolova\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the SGPS declare November 5th, 2008 to be a day of student protest in support of the CFS Provincial Day of Action; and

BIFRT the SGPS encourage the Queen's Senate to pass a motion of academic amnesty for all Queen's students on the Provincial Day of Action, November 5th, 2008; and

BIFRT the SGPS encourage the Queen's Senate to communicate the provisions of the amnesty to all administration, faculty, students and staff; and

BIFRT the SGPS endorse activities, such as the Provincial Day of Action, to increase awareness of the need for the Federal and Provincial governments to reinvest in affordable, high-quality public education at the post-secondary level, and that all members of the university community be encouraged to participate in these events.

Sattelmayer – Do we advertise in departments?

Rosner – We can work together on the external relations standing committee to organize outreach for the day.

Andrew Stevens – Use wording senate used in past. Also, this is a great event and it makes a difference to the public. Encourage people to get involved.

Irwin – How is transportation organized?

Welsh – CFS will take care of transportation.

Carries.

## **MOTION**

**8/12/08:16**

Whereas on March 20, 2008, over forty students & allies staged a peaceful sit-in against tuition fee hikes at the University of Toronto; and

Whereas the peaceful sit-in was broken up by campus police on orders of senior administrators; and

Whereas 14 students and organizers at the University of Toronto were arrested and charged for alleged involvement in the March 20 sit-in; and

Whereas those arrested faced strict bail conditions including bans from University of Toronto property and non-association with other individuals charged; and

Whereas at least 13 University of Toronto students are also being investigated under the terms of the University of Toronto's Code of Student Conduct for protesting fee increases; and

Whereas the ability of students to freely exercise their rights of freedom of expression and association is central to the creation and preservation of a vibrant, democratic university; and

Whereas attacks on these rights stifle dissent, criminalising the legitimate political expression of students; and

Whereas the Mission and Purpose of the University of Toronto states that "the most crucial of all human rights are the rights of freedom of speech, academic freedom, and freedom of research...these rights are meaningless unless they entail the right to raise deeply disturbing questions and provocative challenges to the cherished beliefs of society at large and of the university itself."

Moved \_\_Rosner\_\_/\_Tucker\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the SGPS declare its solidarity with the 14 University of Toronto students charged for protesting increases to post-secondary tuition fees; and

BIFRT the SGPS call upon the University of Toronto to immediately drop all criminal charges and to cease to investigate the students under the terms of the Code of Student Conduct; and

BIFRT the SGPS contribute \$300 to the legal defence fund of the 14 University of Toronto students.  
Irwin – Could we offer more? Say \$500?

Bae - \$500 would be within our limits.

Amendment – Move that \$300 be altered to \$500. Move by Morrow, seconded by Tucker.

Carries.

## **MOTION**

**8/12/08:17**

Whereas the recycling systems on campus differ from location to location (if at all exist); and

Whereas most of the food and laboratory waste on campus go the landfill; and

Whereas AMS has established a sustainability committee for undergraduate students, and are seeking partnership with graduate students to promote and create a more environmentally friendly campus.

Moved \_\_\_Morrow\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_Welsh\_\_\_\_\_ BIRT SGPS establish SGPS Campus Sustainability Standing Committee to work with other related organizations in order to initiate, promote, and contribute to sustainable practices on campus.

BIFRT Council allocates funds to support sustainable projects proposed by the committee.

Lin – there are many issues on which queen’s campus could improve on environmental issues. This committee.

Morrow – Great idea. Bio department has been moving to this for a while. Many people interested in participating.

Carries.

## **8. Other Business**

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Motion - BIR that council accept the resignation of Chen as SGPS speaker.  
Moved by Welsh and Seconded by Bae

Carries.

Election of a new speaker.

Irwin – I would be more than happy to be speaker.

BIRT that Council ratify Seth Irwin as Speaker for 2008-09  
Moved by Morrow, Seconded by Bae.

Carries.

## **9. Notice of Motions/Announcements**

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Reports and Motions for the next regular Council meeting are due Tuesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.  
The next regular SGPS Council meeting will be on Tuesday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## **10. Adjournment**

MOTION

**8/12/08:18**

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Tucker \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Irwin \_\_\_\_\_ BIRT the SGPS Council meeting be adjourned.

Carries at 6:43 p.m.

8/7/08

SWR

CFS-27

Attached:

May 2008 Minutes

Reports

Appendix I – Budget Guide

Appendix II – 2008/2009 Budget

Appendix III – TA/TF Survey

Appendix IV – TA/TF Survey Report (Draft)