



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

March 15, 2011

MESSAGE TO SGPS MEMBERSHIP

The recent controversy surrounding the Rector has drawn a great deal of attention both within the Queen's community and elsewhere. We have received a number of questions and concerns from our members regarding this issue and want to take this opportunity to clarify the situation.

First, we want to clarify that the upcoming referendum through the AMS to be held on March 22-23, 2011 is intended only for AMS members and will result in a recommendation to University Council on behalf of only the AMS. We recognize that some of our members went to speak at the AMS Assembly or signed the petition, but it is important to distinguish this from action that can be properly said to represent our membership. It is our firm position that the AMS cannot unilaterally trigger a referendum that would represent both societies.

The SGPS Executive is currently conducting a careful evaluation of its options and holding discussions with its membership. We do not know at this time what will emerge as the desired course of action, nor is that a matter for the Executive to decide.

The SGPS is able to make its own recommendation to University Council. We will discuss what recommendation we wish to make, if any, at our **Annual General Meeting**, which will be held on **March 22, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the Robert Sutherland Room in the JDUC**. At this meeting, all SGPS members have a vote and can express their opinions and perspectives on the issue. The agenda for the AGM will be available at:

<http://www.sgps.ca/council/documents.html>

We strongly encourage those members interested in attending the AGM to inform themselves of the facts and issues at stake, as well as any specific proposals contained in the agenda.

Questions, comments etc. should be directed to SGPS President, Jawad: president@sgps.ca.