



# E-NEWSLETTER

## **ISIC Card Day - Thurs. Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

The SGPS will be hosting an ISIC card day. We will be making ISIC cards for all our members (new and returning students). This dedicated ISIC booth will be just outside the SGPS office in the JDUC. If you can't make it to our ISIC Card Day that's no problem, we make ISIC cards at our office every day of the year.

## **OPT-OUT PERIOD ENDS SEPTEMBER 19TH**

If you have comparable health or dental coverage, you may opt-out of the SGPS Health and Dental Plan. You must complete the opt-out process by September 19th (no exceptions). Full details are available on our website:

<http://www.sgps.ca/health/opt.html>

You may opt-out of optional activity fees by coming to the SGPS Office by September 19th (no exceptions). We are located in room 021 in the JDUC.

## **FREE TOTE BAG FOR SGPS MEMBERS**

If you have not received your tote bag, you can come to the SGPS office to get your free bag! The reusable tote bag contains a lot of great information about Queen's and Kingston. It also contains your free day-planner and handbook.

## **TOWN HALL ON TA/TF UNIONIZATION**

Come hear what unionization would mean for TAs and TFs at Queen's from a panel of representatives. Hear the facts and get your questions answered! Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Tuesday, September 23rd 5:30-7:30 - Ellis Auditorium**

## **FINAL REPORT ON SGPS TA/TF SURVEY**

The SGPS has prepared a report summarizing the results of the recent TA/TF survey. You can find a copy of this report at <http://www.sgps.ca/events/downloads/TA-TF-Report.pdf>. All SGPS members are encouraged to read the report.

## FINAL CALL OUT FOR THE ACTIVIST ASSEMBLY!

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is organizing an Activist Assembly in Toronto on Sept. 26th and 27th of 2008. The Assembly is open to all students (Undergraduate, Graduate, Professional and International students) and is all expenses paid by the CFS (transportation, lodging, etc.). The aim of the Assembly is to provide students and youth with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully organize activities on their home campuses. The Assembly will be arranged around a series of workshops that will address issues ranging from the state and structure of our post-secondary education system and questions of environmental justice to partnerships between students and non-governmental organizations. For a complete list of the Assembly workshops or for an application form, go to [dropfees.ca](http://dropfees.ca) or please contact VP External, Mark Rosner, at [vpex@sgps.ca](mailto:vpex@sgps.ca). For questions about transportation please also contact Mark Rosner.

**The deadline for submission of applications is Sept. 17 so don't delay!**

## GOODLIFE CORPORATE DISCOUNT

### SGPS Members Get More Than 50% Off!

The SGPS is pleased to announce that starting October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008, a ONE year corporate discount with GoodLife Fitness Clubs is available to ALL graduate students and their significant others.

#### **GoodLife Fitness Plus Membership Includes:**

- Access to all GoodLife Fitness Club locations across Canada (EXCEPT Platinum and Platinum Plus facilities).
- Complimentary towel service.

#### **The Details:**

Duration of membership: **Oct 15, 2008 to Oct 14, 2009 inclusive**

Fee: Over 50% off the regular student membership rate!

Email [sgps.goodlife@gmail.com](mailto:sgps.goodlife@gmail.com) for more details. (We cannot post the fee publicly, sorry.)

[Click here for complete details.](#)

## TAFA BBQ

TAFA is hosting a free barbecue on Wednesday, September 17th from 5:00 PM to 8:00PM at City Park - Picnic Area (across from the Grad Club) with an after-party at the Grad Club (located at the corner of Barrie and Union streets) from 8:00PM to 12:00AM. Stop by and have a free burger, pop and salad (vegetarian and vegan options will be available), ask some questions, meet our steering committee and learn how a union can benefit you! Contact [info@qtafa.com](mailto:info@qtafa.com) or check out our website, [www.qtafa.com](http://www.qtafa.com), for further information.

## QUEEN'S 2ND ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL POWWOW

### Honouring The Drum

September 20th, 2008 - Agnes Benedickson Field

#### FREE ADMISSION

Sunrise Ceremony - 6:00am

Grand Entry - 12:00 pm

Closing Ceremonies - 5:30pm

Feast for participants and volunteers to follow

For more information, go to:

<http://www.queensu.ca/fdasc/news/Powwow.html>



## QUIC PRESENTS UNION INFO WORKSHOP

Want to know more about unions and how they work in Canada? If you are new to Canada, you might have questions or concerns about what it means to be a member of a union and what it might mean to people who are temporary residents (on a study permit). To prepare you for making an informed decision regarding unionization of graduate students, we have organized an information session to be held in the **Queen's University International Centre (QUIC), Rm. 108, JDUC on Thursday, September 18 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm.** The guest speaker is Prof. Robert Hickey who teaches in the School of Policy Studies.

For more information, contact Susan Anderson at [susan.anderson@queensu.ca](mailto:susan.anderson@queensu.ca)

## CFRC 101.9 FM WANTS YOU!

Hey there graduate and professional students! CFRC 101.9 FM Queen's Radio wants you! We are looking for volunteers to get involved with news and sports broadcasting, production and promotions. Though if you happen to have a unique show concept or project, please get in touch. To download an application or for more information please visit [www.cfrc.ca](http://www.cfrc.ca). Applications are due Monday September 22nd, 4pm in the basement of Carruthers Hall. We look forward to hearing from you. CFRC 101.9 FM: This is your signal.

## STAFF RECOGNITION AWARD NOMINATIONS

This Award recognizes staff members who consistently provide outstanding contributions during their workday, directly or indirectly, to the learning and working environment at Queen's University at a level significantly beyond what is usually expected (e.g. improving the workplace efficiency, quality of worklife, customer service, problem-solving, etc.) Information and nomination forms are available from <http://www.hr.queensu.ca/workandcareer/awards-procedure.php> or the office of the Vice-Principal, Human Resources, Room 133A, Dunning Hall. **Deadline: October 17, 2008.**



Would you like to...

- have a faculty mentor on campus?
- have someone who will offer advice on working, living and studying at university?
- meet an encouraging advocate?
- establish academic relationships with faculty mentors?
- receive information about campus life?
- receive information about professional influences relevant to your field of study, research opportunities, and fellowship/scholarship opportunities?

The Queen's University Coalition Against Racial and Ethnic Discrimination (QCRED), in collaboration with the Office of the University Advisor on Equity (OUAE) and Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL), invite you to apply for Faculty-Student Mentorship Program for Self-identified Racialized Students. The Faculty-Student Mentorship Program was developed to help self-identified racialized students at Queen's achieve their full academic potential. This program aims to make Queen's a more welcoming and supportive learning and working environment for all.

The Queen's Faculty-Student Mentorship Program for Self-identified Racialized Students promotes frequent faculty-student communication which is a major factor in improving student motivation, campus involvement, and retention. One objective of the program is to provide self-identified racialized students with a faculty mentor on campus who will encourage, offer guidance and advice, and provide resources to help students manage their university experiences. Another objective is to increase faculty familiarity and understanding of racialized students' experiences and perspectives at the University.

As a student in the program, you would be paired with one faculty mentor. You are encouraged to meet with the mentor at least twice a month. However, the program aims to be flexible so that it meets both your needs and those of the faculty mentors. Meetings are an opportunity for you to discuss your concerns and experiences that arise from working, living and studying at university.

If you are interested in participating in this program, please follow the link below and complete the online registration before September 22, 2008.

<http://www.queensu.ca/ctl/programs/programsworkshops/qcred/index.htm>

If you have any questions about the program, please feel free to email the coordinator at: [faculty.mentorship@queensu.ca](mailto:faculty.mentorship@queensu.ca).

## SGPS COMMITTEES

### Standing Firm for Our Rights!

#### **Campaigns and Community Relations Standing Committee**

The SGPS Campaigns and Community Relations Standing Committee is currently focusing on organizing Queen's participation in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) Provincial Day of Action. The Provincial Day of Action is November 5th, 2008, and consists of marches across various cities in Ontario, calling on the provincial government to reduce and freeze tuition fees (for all students) at 2004 levels. The expiration of the current funding framework, the 'Reaching Higher Plan', makes this an opportune time to lobby for reduced fees. The committee will also be examining copyright reform issues, particularly with respect to the 'fair dealing' of academic material. The committee is currently seeking members, who are encouraged to bring other potential issues of interest for consideration.

The Ontario Component of the CFS is organizing an Activist Assembly in Toronto on September 26th and 27th, 2008. The Assembly is open to all students with expenses associated with the Assembly (transportation, lodging, etc.) paid. The aim of the Assembly is to provide the students with knowledge and skills to hold a successful campaign. Issues ranging from environmental justice to NGO partnerships to the state of higher education will be address in the form of workshops. For a fuller list of the workshops or for an application form, please contact VP External, Mark Rosner, at [vpex@sgps.ca](mailto:vpex@sgps.ca) ASAP.

#### **SGPS Equity Issues Standing Committee**

Attention Graduate and Professional Students interested in social issues and accessibility! Come out for the first meeting of the SGPS Equity Issues Committee on Wednesday, September 24th 6:30-7:30pm, 2nd Floor Grad Club. Can't make it but interested to know more about the committee and the current projects? Contact the committee chair, Shauna Shiels at [equityinternal@sgps.ca](mailto:equityinternal@sgps.ca)

#### **SGPS Professional Student Standing Committee**

This year, the Professional Student Standing Committee will be working on ways of improving the relationship of the SGPS with professional faculties (including law and theology). In addition, the committee will be working closely with the SGPS Space Standing Committee to review ideas regarding graduate and professional student presence in post undergraduate residence (grad res, ideas of new facilities). The committee is now seeking dedicated members to bring forth issues of professional students in an effective manner. The committee meets twice a month. Interest SGPS members please contact committee chair, VP Internal Professional Jamie Kneen, at [vpip@sgps.ca](mailto:vpip@sgps.ca). Jamie also holds offices hours on Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30a.m. Feel free to stop by the SGPS office located at 021 JDUC!

## LET KINGSTON CITY COUNCIL HEAR YOUR VOICE

The City and Queen's University have joined forces to create a student survey aimed at identifying how students learn about and use City services. The 10 question survey at [www.cityofkingston.ca/mynewhome](http://www.cityofkingston.ca/mynewhome) asks students to identify their year and area of study, where they live relative to the student village, where they hang out and how they prefer to access information, such as through online sources, Facebook, direct email and/or student government. The survey is designed to take no more than five minutes to complete and contains a comment field offering them opportunity to give the City suggestions.

**Comments will be accepted until Sept. 19.**

## WELCOME JEAN PFLEIDERER

The SGPS is pleased to join the Human Rights Office at Queen's in welcoming Jean Pfleiderer to the position of Sexual and Gender Diversity Coordinator.

Jean brings an eclectic background to her new role. Most recently, she has taught courses in Sexual and Gender Diversity for the Women's Studies Department at Queens, while also working in such areas as literacy and the environment with Community Consulting, a Kingston area community services consulting team. She helps coordinate the annual Pride Interfaith Gathering held before the Kingston Pride Parade each year, and feels honoured to be serving at present as President of the Canadian Unitarian Council, an organization that has been at the forefront in support of Equal Marriage. She holds both a Ph.D. in English and a law degree from the University of Colorado. She practiced law in Boulder, Colorado, for a number of years and has taught at the University of Maryland and the University of Colorado, as well as at St. Lawrence College here in Kingston.

## TAFAs HIRING 2 ORGANIZERS

TAFAs requires committed organizers who are capable of devoting time and energy to the organizing campaign above and beyond that expected of regular Steering Committee members and departmental representatives. TAFAs Organizers' primary responsibility shall be to actively participate in campaign card signing initiatives. TAFAs Organizers will also be required to coordinate activities among other Organizers, the Steering Committee, Departmental Representatives and various TAFAs Sub-Committees. TAFAs Organizers must possess superior time-management and organizational abilities, and remain committed to their responsibilities throughout the Fall term.

Preference will be given to graduate students in the natural or applied sciences. All applications must be submitted by 5:00pm on September 26th, 2008. Pay is \$23/hr for 10 hours/week.