



E-NEWSLETTER

SGPS Student Advisors

The Student Advisors provide information, advice and advocacy for all graduate and professional students on any issue they may face while studying at Queen's. Student Advisors have office hours Monday 2:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. in JDUC room 203. You may also contact them via e-mail: studentadvisors@sgps.ca (checked weekdays only).

NOVEMBER 5 STUDENT DAY OF ACTION

On Nov. 5th join students from across Ontario to defend access and quality in post-secondary education. The SGPS is organizing for students from Queen's (Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional) to take free buses to Ottawa to participate in the Day of Action march. We will meet at the SGPS office on Nov. 5th at 8:45 am and return to Kingston for 5pm the same day. For more info on the Drop Fees campaign go to www.dropfees.ca or contact Mark at vpex@sgps.ca.



FLU SHOT CLINICS ON CAMPUS

Flu vaccine is now available at Health, Counselling and Disability Services (146 Stuart Street). Book an appointment for your flu shot by calling 613-533-2506.

Flu shot clinics for all students will be held on:

1) Friday, November 14 from 2 to 4 pm

Upper Common Room, Victoria Hall (Bader Lane)

2) Friday, November 21 from 2 to 4 pm

Health, Counselling and Disability Services (146 Stuart Street)

3) Wednesday, November 19 from 10 am to 5 pm

Wallace Hall (in the John Deutsch University Centre)

n.b.: this clinic is open to all members of the Kingston community.

Bring your provincial health card with you, and advise us if you need a private space to get your flu shot when you arrive at the clinic.

Remember: frequent hand-washing is an important way to reduce your risk of influenza. If you are ill, stay at home do not spread your germs to others.

EXECUTIVE PROFILE: VP EXTERNAL

Hey SGPS Members,

I'm Mark Rosner and I'm the SGPS Vice President External. I'm a second year PhD student in the Philosophy department. Originally I'm from Winnipeg where I did my undergrad degree in French literature and Philosophy.

As VP External my responsibilities are to represent and communicate the interests of Queen's graduate and professional students to any and all external organizations. On issues that affect graduate and professional students, whether it be copyright reform, the federal election or a proposed bylaw on housing licensing in Kingston, I and other members of the SGPS executive ensure students' voices are heard. To that end, I always welcome any comments or concerns you may have – and the Campaigns and Community Relations committee which I chair is always seeking new members.

A large part of my portfolio is devoted to liaising with the provincial and national components of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). Through the CFS, the SGPS can offer a number of unique services to its members. Our health and dental plan, the student planner, access to Travel Cuts and free use of U-File tax software are all made possible through our membership in the CFS.

In addition, the SGPS participates in a number of campaigns that are also run by the CFS. The UHIP campaign, for example, calls upon the Provincial Govt. to relist international students on the Ontario Health Plan, so that they can have proper access to health care during their studies. The Drop Fees campaign calls upon the Provincial Govt. to reduce tuition fees and to reinvest funds into post-secondary education.

As part of the Drop Fees Campaign the SGPS is organizing buses to go to Ottawa on Nov. 5th to participate in a Day of Action march. Queen's students have academic amnesty for this day – you can talk with your professor and make other arrangements if you plan on missing class that day. We'll meet at 8:45 am at the SGPS office in the JDUC and return from Ottawa at approximately 5pm. You can get more info on the Day of Action and its goals at www.dropfees.ca. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you're interested in coming out.

I have my Office Hours at the SGPS every Monday from 2pm to 3pm and Thursdays from 3pm to 4pm.

Best regards,

Mark Rosner

vpex@sgps.ca



GOODLIFE CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS

10 month corporate memberships with GoodLife and the SGPS are now available for \$315.

Payment deadline: Friday, November 21st, 2008 (for memberships starting Dec 15, 2008)

To sign up, you must send an e-mail to the Athletics Coordinator (sgps.goodlife@gmail.com) with your name and student number. Cheques MUST be delivered to the SGPS office by 4:30pm on November 21st. Please bring current student card to confirm your SGPS member status. Proof of same residence is also required for those signing up their significant other. Membership cards will be ready for pick up one week prior to the start date. For additional information contact the Athletics Coordinator at sgps.goodlife@gmail.com.

If you signed up for a membership starting Nov 15th, your card will be at the SGPS Office November 9th.

FREE MONEY FOR STUDENTS

This year the Ontario Govt. has instituted a new textbook and technology grant worth \$150 for students.

The sole qualification for the grant is that you must be a full time registered student. Details of the program can be found here:

<http://www.queensu.ca/registrar/awards/toolbox/TextbookTechnologyGrant.htm>

If you have applied for OSAP, you have already been automatically enrolled in the grant program and do not need to do so again. Otherwise you can find the application form here:

https://osap.gov.on.ca/eng/not_secure/ttg_12.htm

The application is quick and easy to use.

STUDY ABROAD

Interested in studying abroad next year? Ever dreamed of getting an international job? Want to teach English overseas? Then come out and explore your international opportunities at the 2008 Crossing Borders Study & Work Abroad Fair!

Friday, October 31, 2008 from 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

John Deutsch University Centre

Coordinated by the Queen's University International Centre (QUIC)

For more information, visit

<http://www.queensu.ca/quic/wsa/advising/crossingborders.htm> or call the International Centre at (613) 533-2604.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT 5TH YEAR TUITION

The memos that the A.V.P./Dean of SGSR sent to all graduate departments overseeing a PhD program, about 5th year International Student tuition fees, on June 2, 2008 and June 13, 2008 are pretty clear that in May 2008 the V.P. Academic decided that there is no longer any policy that permits doctoral students who held tuition bursaries for the first 4 years of study to be assessed tuition fees at a lower rate in their 5th year of study. Those who are currently being assessed a lower rate under the that policy, have been permitted to have the same lower tuition assessment until August 31/09. Those who entered their 5th year in September 2008 and who were former TB holders, were also assessed the reduced rate of tuition from September 2008 until August 31, 2009. So, after August 31, 2009, all international graduate students will be assessed tuition fees at the International graduate tuition fee rate.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FEE DISCUSSION

Vice-Principal (Academic), Patrick Deane, invites Queen's international students to join him and Associate Vice-Principal (Academic and International) John Dixon, Associate Vice-Principal (Graduate Studies) Janice Deakin, and University Registrar Jo-Anne Brady for a discussion on undergraduate and graduate tuition fees and other issues of concern to Queen's international students.

Wednesday, November 12, 2008 - 8:30am - 10:00am

Queen's University International Centre (QUIC) John Deutsch University Centre (JDUC)

WINTER INTRAMURALS

Intramurals are a GREAT way to meet fellow grad students!!

Winter Leagues offered: Basketball (M/W) - Volleyball (Co-Ed) - Indoor Soccer (Co-Ed) - Innertube Waterpolo (Co-Ed) - Curling (Co-Ed)

All FALL teams wishing to continue during the WINTER term must resubmit an entry form and pay the bond. Need help finding more players for a team? Want to join a league but can't find anyone interested? Send an email to sgps.intramurals@gmail.com with the following information:

League - Name - Student ID - Program/Grad Yr - Email - Willing to act as captain? (Y/N):

If there is enough interest for a certain sport league, an email will be sent to all participants. Alternatively, you can sign up as a free agent at the PEC Customer Service desk.

Please note: The SGPS does not perform team registrations; interested participants must nominate a captain to submit the entry form and pay the team bond.

Deadline for registrations is Friday, Nov 28, 2008. Don't delay, sign up today!!!!

For more information visit www.gogaelsgo.com click on the "Intramurals" link on the left.

SGPS COMMITTEES

What's more fun than lots of candies?

School of Graduate Studies and Research—Division Representatives Needed

Part of the School of Graduate Studies and Research Council consists of a graduate student representative from each of the five divisions within the school. The Council meets monthly for one to two hours discussing/voting on issues and policies concerning the school. Some examples include approval of requirement changes leading to a graduate degree in a certain department, approval of thesis requirements, approval of new courses and programs etc. The SGSR Council is now seeking a graduate student representative from each of the Division II to V. Interested individual please apply to the committee coordinator, Joellen Lin, at committee@sgps.ca, with a few sentences commenting on why you are interested in the position. The SGPS Appointing Committee will start reviewing the application on Wednesday, November 12th, 2008.

Notes:

Divisions of the School of Graduate Studies and Research

Division I-- Life Sciences

Division II— Humanities

Division III— Engineering and Applied Sciences

Division IV— Mathematics and Physical Sciences

Division V— Social Sciences and Professional Schools

(Still not sure which Division your department or program belongs to? More info here: <http://www.queensu.ca/calendars/sgsr/pg33.html>)

SGPS Social Standing Committee—Want to Go Ski!

The SGPS Social Committee is planning a ski trip next term for our members and would love to hear from you! Please e-mail Social Commissioner, Diala Habib (social@sgps.ca), any suggestion for the locations and duration (a day? a weekend?) or any other ideas for a great ski trip!

Hum.....I am thinking.....a weekend to Québec City would be nice.....

SGPS International Standing Committee Update

The SGPS International Committee recently had a focus group meeting with international graduate students and their spouses discussing issues such as international graduate student job search, language, culture, and child care. To help the students and their family making transition and adopting life in a new country, the committee is now working on cooperating with the Career Service to design workshops specific for the international graduate students. SGPS International Committee is always welcoming new members. Any suggestions or questions or concerns about international student related issue please contact the committee chair Miao Li at international@sgps.ca.

GRAD STUDENT GETAWAY

Hello! We at the S.G.P.S. are in the process of planning a trip to a currently unknown destination at currently unknown date. Why so ominous you ask? Because we want your input before we go ahead and plan this trip! This is a vacation for you, so you should get a say in how it goes down! So take a few minutes, fill out this survey, and get it back to us so what we know what you would most like to do for our Grad Student Getaway! (You can either bring a hard copy of the filled in survey to the front desk of the SGPS office in the lower JDUC, or just email your responses to each question to Jordan at events@sgps.ca!) Please check out www.breakawaytours.com for information on each destination. Pricing will be given to us after date and location has been selected.

- 1) What time of year works best for you?
 - a. Reading Week (Mid-Late February)
 - b. March Break (Mid March)
 - c. Spring (April)
 - d. Early Summer (June)
 - e. Late Summer (July)
 - f. Other _____
- 2) How long?
 - a. Overnight
 - b. Weekend (Friday-Sunday)
 - c. One week
 - d. Two Weeks
 - e. Other _____
- 3) Fly or Bus it?
 - a. Fly
 - b. Bus
- 4) Where to? (The most exciting question!)
 - a. Cancun, Mexico
 - b. Cayo Coco, Cuba
 - c. Mayan Riviera, Mexico
 - d. Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic
 - e. Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
 - f. Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
 - g. Acapulco, Mexico
 - h. Montreal, Canada
 - i. Daytona Beach, U.S.A
 - j. Quebec City, Canada
 - k. Panama City Beach, Florida
- 5) Anything else?

Please feel free to send any ideas/comments/concerns/questions to Jordan at events@sgps.ca.

SOUL SHAKEDOWN: "DIA DE LOS MUERTOS"

Just a reminder about The BEST dance party in Kingston!

Date: Saturday November 1st

Time: 9 pm-2:30 am

Where: Modern Fuel Art Gallery 21 A Queen St

Tickets: \$10 at Door, \$8 in Advance. Tickets at Brian's Record Option and Q-CRED Office 343 JDUC

Soul Shakedown parties aim to bring the best in rare dance grooves from funk, soul to Latin, Brazilian, Pan-African, Disco, Arabic, Asian Dub, Bhangra and more. The party also raises funds for organizations doing social justice work and groups that challenge the status quo of neoliberal capitalism and colonization. We strive to construct a safe space where diverse peoples can shake it out and get away from the same old music and pub scene

Let your host DJs (and Queen's Grad Students!) Fictitious Commodity, Redfoot and DJ E take you on a journey through the best the world has to offer in dance music.

This party is a fundraiser for the Queen's Coalition Against Racial and Ethnic Discrimination. The organization is doing some amazing, grass-roots organizing to help manage the seriously reactionary climate that exists on the Campus of Queen's University. QCRED fosters an anti-racist perspective and addresses concerns about racism and diversity in the Queen's environment.

Come out and dance and support QCRED!

RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Copies of the statement on responsible investing are available at:

<http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/SRI.pdf>

The invitation for feedback is available here (deadline for submissions is November 8th):

<http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/SRIinvite.pdf>

PARTICIPANTS WANTED

- Are you a woman who is a member of the Queen's University community (student, staff, or faculty) who would like to take part in a research project using photography?
- Are you interested in exploring issues of discrimination and racism within the context and space of Queen's University campus?
- Do you self-identify as being a member of a racialized group ("visible minority", person of colour, or First Nations/Aboriginal)?

If you would like to learn more about this project and to find out when an "Information Session" will be held, please contact Cheryl Sutherland at: cj_sutherland@hotmail.com or by telephone at: 613-533-600 (ext. 75936)