

Society of Graduate Students
May 28, 2015 Council Meeting
UCC 56

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SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS COUNCIL MEETING

**May 28, 2015
6:00 pm**

AGENDA

- 1. Ratification of Agenda**
- 2. Guest Speaker -**
- 3. Announcements**
- 4. Reception and Ratification of the SOGS Council Minutes**
- 5. Elections - Committees (Internal & External)**
- 6. Health Plan Committee Presentation (Separate report)**
- 7. Orders of the Day**
 - a. Motions arising from the President/Executive
 - b. Motions arising from Other Committees
 - c. Other Motions
 - d. Tabled Motions
- 8. Executive/Committee/Councillor Reports**
 - a. President
 - Policy Committee
 - b. VP Academic
 - Academic Committee
 - GSTA Awards Committee
 - WGR Editorial Board
 - c. VP External & Communications
 - Equity Committee
 - Graduate Student Issues Committee
 - d. VP Finance
 - Bursary Committee
 - Finance Committee
 - Grad Club Committee
 - Sustainability Committee
 - e. VP Student Services
 - Health Plan Committee
 - International Graduate Student Issues Committee
 - Orientation Committee
 - f. SOGS Commissioners' Reports
 - Disabilities Commissioner
 - Pride Commissioner
 - g. Councillor Reports
 - h. Senator and Board of Governor Reports
- 9. New Business/Open Forum**

SOGS Council Attendance Report April 23, 2015

Represents (Dept)	Name	In	April Notes	Out
Aboriginal & Indigenous Commissioner	Paulina Johnson			
Academic Committee	Lizhen Guo	6:06		
Anatomy & Cell Biology	Kate Dillon	6:06		7:51
Anatomy & Cell Biology	Ryan Wong			
Anthropology	Amy St. John	6:06		7:12
Anthropology	Hallie Tennant	6:06		7:12
Astronomy & Physics	Amanda Dicarlo	6:06		7:56
Astronomy & Physics	Neven Vulic	6:06		8:40
B & S Committee	Eric Diehl			
B&C Committee	Martin Lefebvre			
Biochemistry	Susanna George	6:06		7:11
Biochemistry	Lizhen Guo			
Biology	Tin Cheng	6:06		
Biology	Morag Dick	6:06		
Biology	Catherine Dieleman	6:06		7:19
Biology	Caryn Dooner	6:06		
Biology	Katherine Mathers	6:06		8:09
Biomedical Engineering	Zarah Hosseini			
Biomedical Engineering	Sarah Kiros	6:20		7:20
Board of Governors / Senator	Thomas Sutherland	6:06		7:56
Business - PhD	Patrick Shulist	6:06		9:37
Chemistry	Balsam Ibrahim	6:06		8:40
Chemistry	Joseph Paquette			
Chemistry	Tyler Pinter	6:06		8:34
Computer Science	James Hughes			
Computer Science	Ethan Jackson			
CSD	Janet Kim	6:06		7:10
CSD	Khalil Surahyo	6:06		7:12
CSD	Sarah Watson	6:06	time short	7:03
Deputy CRO	Martin Lefebvre			
Disabilities Commissioner	Melanie Stone			
Earth Sciences	El-Mahadia Ibrahim			
Earth Sciences	Derek Kouhi			
Education	Amani Elrofaie	6:06		9:16
Education	Michael Karas	6:06		8:39
Education	Jane Qi	6:06		8:41
Education	Azar Rabbani Zavarzadeh	6:06		7:12
Education	Eric Smiley	6:06		7:12
Engineering Science	Mohammad Bhuiyan			
Engineering Science	Brandon Chaffay	6:06		7:21
Engineering Science	Amal Elawady	6:06		7:10
Engineering Science	Yamen Elbahy			
Engineering Science	Kyle Fricke	6:06		8:30
Engineering Science	Mohamed Hamada	6:06		7:10
Engineering Science	Mir Hasan			
Engineering Science	Mahmoud Kassem			
Engineering Science	Chio Lam	6:06		7:10

Represents (Dept)	Name	In	April Notes	Out
Engineering Science	Craig Langford	6:06		7:20
Engineering Science	Masoud Moghani	6:06		7:10
Engineering Science	Dibakar Mondal			
Engineering Science	Anastasia Pasche	6:06		7:21
Engineering Science	Fuad Shamieh	6:06		7:18
Engineering Science	Tammeen Siraj	6:06		8:36
Engineering Science	Mohammed Zourob			
English	Madison Bettle	6:06		
English	Lisa Templin	6:06		9:45
Environment & Sustainability	Alexandria Armstrong			
EPI & Biostatistics	Rhiannon Rose	6:06		8:38
EPI & Biostatistics	Jasmine Tung	6:06		7:22
Equity Committee	Mayme Lefurgey			
Finance Committee	Jill Veenendaal	6:06		9:22
French	Massimiliano Aravecchia	6:06	Alt. Josee Dufour	
French	Emilie Pilon-David	6:06		
GC Committee	Stephanie Dorman			
Geography	Amber Gall	6:06		
Geography	Martin Lefebvre			
Geography	Emily Lipkowski	6:06		
GradCast	Alexander Moszczynski			
GSI Committee	Tennison Yu			
Health & Rehab Science	Dylan Brennan	6:06		8:00
Health & Rehab Science	Vinh Hieu Ly			
Health & Rehab Science	Alana Maltby	6:06		7:58
Health & Rehab Science	Emily Ready	6:06		7:52
Health & Rehab Science	Kristen Reilly	6:06		7:52
Health Information Science	Jennifer Tran			
History	Alison Brown			
History	Ryan Stevenson			
HP Committee	Clayon Hamilton	6:06		
IGSI Committee	Isioma Elueze			
Kinesiology	Matt McDonald	6:06		7:21
Kinesiology	Zack Nickels	6:06		7:22
Kinesiology	Ahmed Shuriye	6:06		7:21
Kinesiology	Bryn Zomar	6:06		7:22
Law	Anandita Ghosh			
LGBT Commissioner	Kirstyn Seanor	6:06		
Linguistics	Meghan Hayes			
LIS - Master's	Heather Jewell			
LIS - Master's	Kirstyn Seanor	6:06		
LIS - Master's	Kevin Tanner	6:06		9:02
LIS - Master's	Emily Woodcock			
LIS - PhD	Mark-Shane Scale	6:06		
Media Studies (MA)	Stephanie Ritter			
Media Studies (PhD)	James Steinhoff			
Microbiology & Immunology	Holly Laakso	6:06	Alt. P. Lac	7:10
Microbiology & Immunology	Melissa Loyzer	6:06		7:22
Music	Matthew Becker	6:06		
Music	Mary B.Bonn	6:06		

Represents (Dept)	Name	In	April Notes	Out
Music	Chantal Lemire	6:06		
Music	Kristen Wallentinsen	6:06		
Neuroscience	Ramina Adam			
Neuroscience	Daniel Cameron	6:06		
O & S Committee	Valerie Orr			
Occupational Therapy	Kevin Howe			
Occupational Therapy	Lorna Majed	6:06		7:10
Occupational Therapy	Milad Shajari			
Pathology	Nikoleta Tellios	6:06		
Pharmacology & Physiology	Alexandra Blake	6:06		7:10
Pharmacology & Physiology	Michelle Noonan	6:06		7:10
Pharmacology & Physiology	Neil Tenn	6:06		7:10
Philosophy	Daniel Booth	6:06		
Philosophy	Adam Koberinski	6:06		8:44
Physical Therapy	Jordan Bytelaar	6:06		7:43
Physical Therapy	Autumn Crisafulli	6:06	time short	6:53
Physical Therapy	Clare Donaldson	6:06	time short	6:52
Physical Therapy	Adriana Richard	6:06	time short	7:00
Policy Committee	Anandita Ghosh			
Political Science	Christopher Rastrick	6:15		8:40
Political Science	Daniel Schloss	6:06		9:00
President	Kevin Godbout	6:06		
PSAC 610 Representative		6:06	Dave Blocker	9:05
Psychology	Joel Armstrong			
Psychology	Anjana Balakrishnan			
Psychology	James Boylan	6:06		8:31
Public Health	Sarah Davidson			
Senator	Tom McMurrough			
Senator	Shannon Mischler			
Senator	Paul St-Pierre	6:06		
Social Work	Paula Watts	6:06		9:18
Sociology	Cliff Davidson			
Sociology	Christina Treleaven	6:06		
Speaker	Christopher Shirreff			
Statistics	Shiqing Chen			
Statistics	Erin Lundy	6:06		9:20
Theory & Criticism	Grant Dempsey	6:06		
Theory & Criticism	Sarah Warren			
Visual Arts	Mark Kasumovic	6:06	Alt. R. Skinner (no form)	7:40
VP Academic	Eileen Wenekers	6:06		
VP External & Communications	Alison Shott	6:06		
VP Finance	Indranil Chakraborty	6:06		
VP Student Services	Tamara Hinan	6:06		
Women's Studies	Andrea Shabbar			

SOGS COUNCIL MEETING
Draft MINUTES
April 23, 2015
6:06 – 9:45 pm

Speaker: Christopher Shirreff
Recording Secretary: Martin Lefebvre

Speaker: Christopher Shirreff
Recording Secretary: Martin Lefebvre

1. Mission Statement

The Society of Graduate Students is made strong by colleagues striving together to improve our working and learning environment and to preserve the rights that we have struggled to achieve. Mutual respect is the cornerstone of this cooperation. Every member of the Society is entitled to be free from discrimination and harassment on the basis of age, sex, gender, class, colour, national or ethnic origin, race, religion, creed, marital status, ability, sexual orientation, language, or political belief. Members are entitled to be free from personal harassment in the form of bullying. This may include, but is not limited to adverse treatment, inappropriate gestures, remarks intended to intimidate or degrade, and exclusion based on discriminatory grounds. If any of us experience harassment at this Council meeting, let those of us who are involved seek an informal resolution through direct and peaceful discussion. If this initial approach is unsuccessful, then, please, contact the Speaker to discuss the situation and possible responses in keeping with By-law 18. If this is not successful or possible, the Constitutional and policy mandates on the issue of harassment will be fully and quickly enforced. Harassment in all its forms detracts from and weakens our common purpose. Every member of our Society is responsible for fostering an environment free of discrimination and harassment. Let us treat each other with dignity and respect.

2. Ratification of Agenda

Move Health Plan Committee report to after Elections
Move VP Finance report first
Mark-Shane Scale – Motion –
Patrick Shulist – Motion
VP Academic, M.E. Wennekers – Motion
Senator T. Sutherland – Move Senate report to front of reports.
Moved –
Seconded –
unanimous

3. Announcements

- Welcome to all Councillors to the April SOGS Council Meeting. I would like to extend a special welcome to new Councillors.
- Quorum is 24.
- When addressing Council, Councillors are asked to stand up and speak loudly.
- The meetings for the summer term will be as follows:

a.	May 28 normal	UCC 56	
b.	June 25	normal	UCC 56
c.	July 23 long weekend	UCC 56	
d.	August 27	normal	UCC 56
- **Starting May 1 SOGS Summer Office hours will be Monday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm and Friday 9 am – noon. The office will close at 12 noon on Friday.**
- Bus passes for the summer term are available. Remember you must have your student card.
- Subsidy applications are due next week on Friday by 4 pm in the SOGS office.
- There is a Poutine Bar tomorrow at the Grad Club, tickets are \$3 and can be purchased in the SOGS office.
- Next Wednesday, there is an International Graduate Student end of year party in the Grad Club. International students should have received a reminder email about it earlier today.
- A reminder, that if you leave the Council meeting prior to the meeting being adjourned, you must indicate the **correct time** on the sign out Council Attendance Sheet. If you leave once the meeting has been adjourned there is no need to sign out.

4. Presidential Oath

The Presidential Oath was administered without error.

5. Reception and Ratification of the SOGS Council Minutes

K. Seanor – amend minutes to restore Tabled Motion from last meeting.

Lemire – Restore time short Councilors

Motion passes

Abstention – Danny Booth

6. Elections:

K. Seanor – acclaimed VP External & Communications

M. Bettle – acclaimed VP Student Services

HPC – Asad Lone

BCC – K. Godbout; C. Lemire

GSTA – I. Diaz, K. Nicholson, E. Lipkowski

GSIC – M.B. Bonn

Fuad Shamieh

Speaker - Since both new VPs have other positions, they open up on May 1st; therefore we will have a by-election next month.

7. Health Plan Committee Presentation

Richard Harris, HPC Co-Chair, presented the recommendation from the Committee.

Questions:

M.S. Scale – Appreciate diligence – how many voted for the report? (A) Unanimous, except one abstention.

D. Booth – What's the current Price? (A) VPSS gave answer.

D. Booth – Why such a narrow range over Price? (A) If we gave 0 to the highest price, they would be eliminated.

VP Finance – Did Networks make the difference? (A) Yes.

Lemire – Were any efforts done to follow-up unknowns? (A) During the interviews, we tried.

? (Philosophy) – Question about discount

M.S. Scale – if we award the new contract it would be \$80 more expensive, can we negotiate lower? (A) yes

K. Godbout – when we negotiated last time, we negotiated -> struggled over lawyer, but not price

D. Schloss – additional benefits (A) they are extra

C. Hamilton – put forward a motion to add Chair of HPC to negotiation. (A) recommend to add motion during New Business.

VP Finance – Do these include administration cost? (A) not off the top of my head.

VP Finance – might be needed to look at to see if it made a difference.

? What about Trust's idea? (A) Council's idea.

D. Booth – What's the fully loaded price?

Booth – I did the Math

ACL - %562.50

Trust - \$465.38

Shield - \$555.94

S Care - \$585.84

M.B. Bonn – Could Flex be considered as an alternative to the fully loaded option? (A) All providers could, but it was ACL's speciality.

VP Academic – What's the premium effect of a flex? (A) not much, but don't know, think that there shouldn't be.

VP Student Services – Flex doesn't change use rate that much.

Move to debate the report – unanimous consent

Motion

Moved – HPC

Seconded – VP Student Services

VP Student Services – congratulated committee

- my bid problem was with the promised coverage
- going for

K. Godbout – move amendment – change Student Care to Green Shield.

Seconded – M. Lefebvre

- to be clear, I quit CFS position on April 12.
- also, I don't think that I am in a C.O.I as has been explained.
- major difference between two bids, was price and network. I think that price is more important than network.
- if you are enrolling more people, that \$20 becomes more important

M. Lefebvre – I seconded since I thought this was worthy of debate

M.S. Scale – I want to respect the work of the committee

D. Booth – I don't think that using their great document to discuss the different providers is disrespectful to the Committee, since without their work, this would not happen

Agree with President

D. Schloss – networks are overstated since were time limited and thus it's worth while to debate.

A. Gauld – I'm new here, I think that we should get additional services. Pro Green Shield

P. Shulist – is it possible to go forward without deciding de

Speaker – on this amendment – no, once we're done with the amendment – yes

VP Academic – does Student Care have point of sale discount? (A) Yes.

VP Finance – wants more weight on dispensing fee

D. Schloss – how hard was it to get coverage when somebody was with Green Shield? (A-Speaker) I had it during MA years. They were not in my network in 08, and had comparable services.

J. Veenandall – list from StudentCare wasn't always updated

VP Academic – had good experience with Green Shield in Calgary

M. Bonn – against motion – trust HPC

M.S. Scale – against motion

D. Schloss – make clear that likes HPC work; wants debate over weighting criteria; this debate doesn't denigrate their work.

C. Lemire – against amendment

Call Question – pass

Vote – pass by one vote

Booth and Koberinski

C. Lemire – against amended motion

K. Godbout – It was the committee's sterling work that let me make a choice

Ficke – Any guarantee on promises? (A-R. Harris) no guarantee

Fricke – that's why I am against the motion

M. Bonn – against motion as amended – puts trust in committee

M. Lefebvre – motion to suspend the rules to allow Senate Rep. Sutherland before he has to leave
- unanimous consent

Report from Senate Rep Sutherland

Councillor Schloss – What do you think your mandate is? (A) it is an at large election. Not all the grad student senators vote in lock-step

D. Schloss – do you acknowledge that was a divisive motion among graduate students (A) since I was a dissenting voice for grad students, I wanted to explain my rationale.

C. Hamilton – do you see yourself as taking part of post residency fees campaign? (A) I want to make sure that post rez doesn't come at a cost of guaranteed funding

VP Finance – why don't we have a vote for new vice dean, but USC does? (A) Don't know/ 30K vs 5K

C. Lemire – congratulate on diplomacy (A) I try to advance small things

Lockner – How did the other three vote? (A) don't know; 2 both for non-confidence; 1 split against C for BoG

K. Godbout – Are you willing to advocate on behalf of SOGS to meet with Chakma? (A) I am willing to help.

VP Academic – was the budget debated? (A) Clarifying why investment income wasn't main budget

VP Academic – can we use capital budget for post-residency fees? (AA) It's based on interest rate.

L. Guo – disappointed with vote – out of order – sustained

P. St-Pierre – I am comfortable being in a different vote than you

J. Veenandall – Are you open to info from outside Ontario – Yes

Return to Main Motion

Tellos – Amendment – add the following after “HPC in favour of Student Care” but award

K. Seanor – Procedure – could we go to a referendum (Speaker) yes, but we are looking at Mid June;

K. Godbout – is that enough time? (A-KG) not really because of layer delays

Speaker – procedurally yes, but not feasible time-wise

M. Bonn – what happens if voted down? (A-Speaker) sent back to committee and it's brought back to council next meeting.

D. Schloss – the concerns of my constituents aren't reflected in the methodology.

K.

Linyou – for amended motion – hard work of committee – think that \$25 is a significant difference. – had good experience with Green Shield in Toronto

P. Shulist – I would like answers on \$20 difference and network coverage

Motion to refer – P. Shulist

Seconded – L. Templin

VP Finance – As with budget, Council is the ultimate decision maker

M.S. Scale – for referral – respect recommendation

C. Hamilton – HPC has said nothing

VP Student Services – do we need to add instructions to allow the committee to gather more information? (A-Speaker) it would be up to the committee to decide on how to go forward.

C. Hamilton – we could investigate preferred issues such as family options

P. Shulist – can we amend motion to allow more information (A-Speaker) against SOGS procurement policy.

K. Seanor – asking for a re-weight in light of previous survey.

Rose – return to committee

? Weighting – can it be changed? (A-RH) we can't re-weight absolutely, but we can re-weight within categories.

D. Schloss – against – rather reconsider with constituents rather than committee, since it creates a more democratic accountability

Speaker – not an either-or it can be reworked with constituents

C. Treleavan – should follow recommendation of HPC – they have been the most scrutinized committee at SOGS.

M. Bettle – agree with hard work of committee

VP – Finance – objection sustained

Motion is voted on

Referral passes

Abstentions – A. Koberinski, T. Siraj, K. Godbout, M. Lefebvre

Motion from P. Shulist

Seconded – M.S. Scale

M.S. Scale – Opportunity to explain

Temp Speaker – K. Godbout

VP External – good idea

Return of Speaker

VP Academic – agree with motion

Approach is tactically sound

Amedment –

BIRT SOGS Councillors contact their constituency with two weeks

- unanimous consent

- D. Schloss
Amendment – SOGS publish results on website
Amendment by Lefebvre – unless prejudicial – unanimous consent
C. Hamilton – we should take notes to be consistent across departments/faculties
VP Student Services – agree with C. Hamilton
K. Godbout – please use the @sogs emails
C. Hamilton – does constructive bar protest? (Speaker) broadest interpretation, the best way is good faster
VP Academic – councillors should be on point
Unanimous consent

Executive/Committee/Councillor Reports

a. *President, Kevin Godbout*

b. *VP Academic, Eileen Wennekers*

c. *VP External & Communications, Alison Shott*

Fairwell

d. *VP Finance, Indranil Chakraborty*

Thinking of creating an adhoc committee to evaluate BoG

C. Hamilton – where does the money go from the Administration Fee? (A) Admin fee started in 90's; will have a detailed report next council about how we administer the work in the office.

e. *VP Student Services, Tamara Hinan*

f. *SOGS Commissioners' Reports*

g. *Senator and Board of Governor Reports*

8. Orders of the Day

a) Motions arising from the President/Executive

VP Academic Motion 1

Whereas the VP Academic has not been able to accomplish a substantial mobilization around the issue of post-residency fees

BIRT the Society strike an Ad-Hoc Committee to pursue this aim.

VP Academic – motivates

D. Schloss – why is there apathy? (A-VPA) I think that there isn't an on-the ground motivation. I haven't been able to do so, hence the committee.

M.S. Scale – wonder if an ad hoc will work?

VP Student Services – I don't think that this will hurt and will only help moving forward.

VP Academic Motion 2

Whereas concrete data reporting the financial and academic position of upper-year PhDs is not available through any other channels on campus

Whereas the University's budget is publicly available but does not specify the amount of tuition revenues collected from PhD students outside the guaranteed funding period

BIRT the VP Academic prepare a survey that will capture data on the financial and academic experiences of PhD students enrolled at full tuition rates outside of the guaranteed funding period to submit to next month's Council for approval

BIFRT upon capture this data be integrated into a Western specific report on the urgent necessity of post-residency fees

Eileen moves the motion

Bargaining tool; SGPS agreed to release data to help correlate with survey data on Post-Year 4

K. Godbout – agrees

Carries unanimously

b) Motions arising from Other Committees

Bylaws and Constitution Committee (BCC) Motion 1

BIRT Bylaw 18 be struck and replaced with the following:

18.1 Members of the Society and its employees are entitled to be free from discrimination and harassment. This may include but is not limited to discrimination or harassment on the basis of age, sex, gender, class, colour, national or ethnic origin, race, religion, creed, marital status, ability, sexual orientation, language, political belief medical condition(s), and criminal record or charges for which a pardon has been granted.

18.2 Activities considered to be harassment or discrimination may include, but are not limited to, adverse treatment, inappropriate gestures, remarks intended to intimidate or degrade, and exclusion based on discriminatory grounds.

18.3 The preference of the Society is to seek an informal resolution where ever possible. This may consist in direct discussion between the parties or, failing this, the parties may request the Ombudsperson to act as an informal mediator. (If the Ombudsperson cannot act as the mediator, a request may be may to the Speaker to act in their stead).

18.4 If an informal resolution is not successful or possible a formal complaint may be filed with the Ombudsperson for investigation and resolution as described in the SOGS disciplinary manual.

BIFRT Bylaw 19.1 be altered to delete references to Bylaw 18.

BIFRT references to Bylaw 18 in the SOGS disciplinary manual be removed.

BIFRT Bylaw 2.7.2 be struck.

K. Godbout – for change since it closes loopholes.

D. Booth – when it was first written, ombudsperson didn't exist – wanted to keep ombudsperson to act informally if needed.

BCC Motion 2

BIRT the following be added to bylaws as committee member recall procedures:

7.2.5 . Committee Member recall shall not have a petition threshold for recall.

7.7: Recall of Committee Membership

7.7.1 The members of the all SOGS committees (with the exception of the BCC Chair) are recalled by a 2/3 majority motion of those present at a council meeting.

7.7.2. Nominations for the position vacated by recall will open immediately after a successful recall vote.

7.7.3. The position vacated by recall shall be filled according to the appropriate by-election procedures.

Shulist – what is a petition? (A-Speaker) reads bylaw

Treleavan – for the motion – not usually aware of the ins an outs so a good idea to have more info

Lemire – thank BCC for timely manner on response

Seanor – I don't think this covers.

K. Godbout motion to omnibus committee honorarium

K. Seanor: included new business – yes

Pass unanimous

Abstention – M. Lefebvre

BCC Motion 3

Whereas the Bylaws and Constitution Committee chair under the Speaker's portfolio has done excellent work and;

Whereas all member of the committee believe the chair has earned his honorarium

BIRT Martin Lefebvre receive \$291.67 for chairing the committee (March-November 2014)

Note: Council approved paying the BCC chair/Deputy Speaker at the rate of a Commissioner starting December 2014.

Policy Committee

Whereas the Policy Committee chair under the President's portfolio has done excellent work and;

Whereas all members of committee believe the chair has earned her honorarium:

BIRT the Policy Committee approves the \$500 honorarium for the chairperson, Anandita Ghosh.

Equity Committee

Whereas the Equity Committee chair under the VP External and Communications portfolio has done excellent work and;

Whereas all members of committee believe the chair has earned her honorarium:

BIRT Mayme Lefurgey receives \$500 honorarium for successfully chairing the committee.

Graduate Student Issues Committee

Whereas the Graduate Student Issues Committee chair under the VP External and Communications portfolio has done excellent work and;

Whereas all members of committee believe the chair has earned his honorarium:

BIRT Alex Yan receives \$500 honoraria for successfully chairing the committee.

Health Plan Committee

Whereas the Health Plan Committee chairs under the VP Student Services portfolio have done excellent work and;

Whereas all members of committee believe the chairs have earned their honorarium:

BIRT Clayton Hamilton receives \$479 and Richard Harris receives \$21 honorarium for successfully chairing the committee.

International Graduate Student Issues Committee

Whereas the International Graduate Student Issues Committee chairs under the VP Student Services portfolio have done excellent work and;

Whereas all members of committee believe the chairs have earned their honoraria:

BIRT Guanyi Sun receives \$83 and Isioma Elueze receives \$417 honorarium for successfully chairing the committee.

Orientation and Social Committee

Whereas the Orientation and Social Committee chairs under the VP Student Services portfolio have done excellent work and;

Whereas all members of the committee believe the chairs have earned their honorarium:

BIRT the honorarium be dispersed as follows: Kemi Ola (\$167); Fuad Shamieh (\$83); Madison Bettle (\$125); Valerie Orr (\$125).

c) Motions Arising From Individuals

Lizhen Guo (Biochemistry)

Whereas a former constitution article (previously 6.5) limiting the terms of the president and other executive and non-executive officers was struck in the 2014 Annual General Meeting,
Whereas currently there is no term limit of the president, so in an unlikely event the same president could be appointed for the third consecutive term,

BIRT the following be added to the Constitution as article 6.2.5

6.2.5.1. No individual shall serve as a president for more than two consecutive terms even if one of the terms is a partial term

6.2.5.2. No individual shall serve more than 24 months as a president in their lifetime

6.2.5.3. No individual who has already served as a president for two consecutive terms or a total of 24 months, whichever is earlier, shall be eligible to stand for election as a president.

Seconded – M.S. Scale

- incumbency is an unfair advantage for too long a term; can stifle new voices

M. Bettle – for the idea if there was a problem with dictatorship; if dictatorship was a problem, but current president ran unopposed

D. Booth – my motion repealed the old term limits; old motion was too restrictive, this one is okay.

K. Godbout – two years is a long time

M.S. Scale – incumbency is a hard advantage

M. Bettle – not against motion, but against tone

Abstentions – Booth, Godbout, Becker

Melanie Stone (Disabilities Commissioner)

Whereas, the Society of Graduate Students has an interest in expediting the Society's business while encouraging concise debate and while respecting the unique accessibility and language needs of our members,

BIRT that the following be adopted by the Society as part of our standing rules, as well as added to the Rules section of the Rules of Decorum/Debate at the end of every Council Package and AGM package:

When recognized by the Speaker, each member shall be requested to keep their comments to three minutes in instances where they are able to do so.

BIFRT SOGS recognizes that due to a disability or a result of facing other barriers, some members may face difficulty keeping to the three minute minimum.

BIFRT that as a result, no member shall be interrupted or required to disclose their need for more time.

Seanor – needs an enforcement mechanism.

Pass

Abstentions – Becker, Lefebvre

Motion from M.S. Scale

NO MOTION

P. St-Pierre – object to loaded language

D. Booth – Amendment -, Remove “x”

Unanimous consent

d) Tabled Motion

9. Adjournment – 9:46 pm

unanimous consent

Orders of the Day

a) **Motions arising from the President/Executive**

Motion 1

Whereas the VP Academic has been tasked to prepare a survey of the membership of the Society of Graduate Students in order to prepare a report on Post-Residency Fees
BIRT Council approves the Society of Graduate Students Membership Survey on Postresidency Fees (Appendix C)
BIFRT all data collected by this survey be subject to the Society's protocols and privacy protection protocols, and that it be circulated through a secure platform

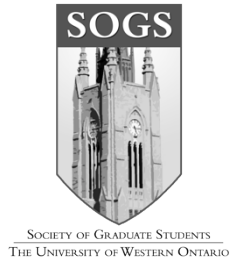
b) **Motions arising from Other Committees**

HPC Motion 1

Whereas StudentCare received the highest score on the evaluation criteria,
BIRT the SOGS Council accept the recommendation of the HPC and award the 2015-2017 SOGS Extended Health and Dental Plan contract to StudentCare Networks.
BIFRT contract negotiations with StudentCare Networks include the implementation of a flexible plan, under the condition that it does not increase the offered premium price.

c) **Motions Arising From Individuals**

d) **Tabled Motions**



**President
May 2015 Report to Council
Tamara Hinan (president@sogs.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

Hi all,

Unfortunately, my first report as President will have to be a written one, as I am currently out of the country conducting interviews and archival research for my dissertation. Please know that I am attending meetings by Skype whenever possible, and that I continue to work on SOGS business and coordinate with the executive while abroad.

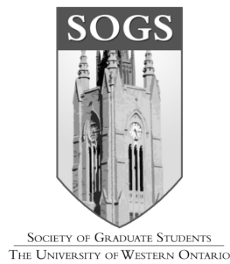
We continue to work towards arranging a meeting with Dr. Chakma, but have not had any communication with him since the end of April. As we requested last week, any information that you can collect from graduate students in your respective departments will be valuable in ensuring we communicate the priorities of the graduate student population to Dr. Chakma. Please send any and all feedback to sogs.executive@uwo.ca.

I have reached out to the executive and to SGPS to begin working on allowing access to SOGS services for members who go on medical leave. Services like the bus pass can be essential for members in times of crisis, and it is important that we support our members in vulnerable times. I will draft a report outlining what this could look like, and I hope to have this report prepared for June Council.

A call for members for the post-residency fees ad hoc committee is going out this week. The committee will need a chair, and will need to develop terms of reference before beginning its important work on this campaign. Please email me at president@sogs.ca if you are interested in joining this committee!

If you have any questions or concerns about anything that I've mentioned in my report, or anything else, please feel free to email me anytime at president@sogs.ca.

Happy Summer!
Tamara



**VP Academic
May 2015 Report to Council
Mary Eileen Wennekers (sogs.academic@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

Vice President Academic Report to Council May 2015

Hello everyone! I apologize for my absence this evening. Here's what has happened in the last month:

Western Research Forum Journal

The Academic Committee sent out calls to the conference participants seeking full length papers for a print publication of the Western Research Forum proceedings. Eight people responded! We are waiting on receiving the papers to compose review teams to suggest revisions to the submitted articles. I've also had a conversation with the Public Humanities@Western about collaborating on a journal launch in the beginning of the new academic term.

GradCast

The awesome folks at GradCast are hosting a social at the Grad club Friday May 22 from 3:00 – 7:00 pm. There will be refreshment-tickets available for the first 50 people who show up. Go to this! It's a great chance to find out about the official radio show of SOGS and to hopefully get excited enough to set yourself up for an interview.

Graduate Student Teaching Awards

This year we kept the nomination portal open year round, resulting in an incredible 750 nominations received. Those of you in Council last month will remember that I had only received two statements of interest for the GSTA Committee by last month, but when I sent a call-out for a committee to assess the awards on May 4th on April 29th, it received a huge response, as in over 20 people in 24 hours. Thanks so much to the Committee members who helped assess the nominations over a period of several hours:

Ileana Diaz, Arman Didandeh, Anish Engineer, James Hughes, Celina Kacperski, Leila Kelleher, Craig Langford, Emily Lipkowski, Maja Milojevic, Kathryn Nicholson, Joe Paquette, Huamin Qui, Jessical Reilly, Pegaph Saermirad, Avital Sternin, Maryam Tabeshian, Aycha Tammour, Ian Tobias, Michelle Tran, Roberto Ulloa, Ryan Wong

And congratulations to the winners:

Alena Antipova, Anirban Banerjee, Matthew Betti, Lindsay Carey, Jade Da Costa, Robert Green, Susan Ibdah, Ayelet Ishai, Chantal Lemire, Ryan Marinovich, Nicole McMahan, Kevin McPhillips, Alelie Ocampo, Manuella Oliviera, Katherine Rabicki, Bruna Reis, Kaila Rose, Reza Ashouri Talooki, Kristy Townshend, Christopher Yiu

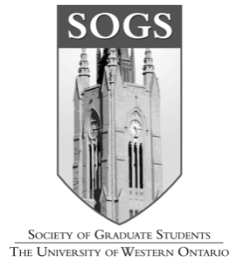
Post-Residency Fees Campaign

You'll note a motion in this month's package to approve the draft of the survey that I've prepared to send out to the membership. The survey is designed to get the sort of data that I can incorporate into both qualitative and quantitative analysis – some of it will be numerically represented, some allows people to address in more subjective detail their experiences with Western's fee and funding structure. It will be delivered in the same manner as the Health Plan survey, and with the same privacy protections. I regret not being able to motivate this motion in person, but I wanted to note here that any friendly amendments would be welcome. I hope to get it out and back in by June's end so that we can present it to President Chakma during his listening streak.

Joint Fund

There's about enough left in the Joint Fund for one more successful application (successful applications are the ones which aren't explicitly seeking money for food and beverage expenses).

Until midsummer,
Mary Eileen Wennekers



**VP External & Communications
May 2015 Report to Council
Kirstyn Seanor (external@sogs.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

Fellow Councilors;

May has been an interesting month as I have begun to settle into my position. I appreciate the support and patience the SOGS Executive, fellow SOGS members, and others have offered as I learn the ropes.

WEBSITE

Preliminary research will be presented at the meeting. Core objectives are:

- Bringing the entire development of the website in-house to expedite updates and changes.
- Change the way emails are displayed to increase accessibility.
- Collect and respond to user feedback to improve the website accordingly.
- Develop a better system for managing/archiving documents.
- Improve visibility of Councilors and Commissioners, including publishing a list of Councilors to the website.
- Work to make the website mobile compatible.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Access to social media platforms have been shared with more of the Executive to increase expediency of responses and to help avoid the issue of bottlenecking access to social media. I am looking into freeware to help track social media interactions, specifically so that we might assign tasks and ensure better accountability of responses.

SOGS ONLINE FORUM

I am proposing we test out an online forum for SOGS matters. It could serve an FAQ resource, a way for Councilors and members to interact, and be a familiar platform for members to access/share information. At the moment, this would just be to test the viability of engaging in a forum and adequately moderating discussion. Council’s input is requested regarding which platform to use: OWL or Reddit.

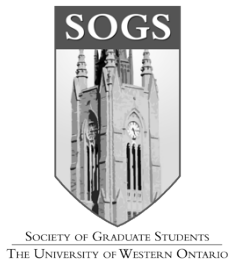
As always, comments, concerns, questions, and vegan recipes are welcome at external@sogs.ca.



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

VP Finance
May 2015 Report to Council
Indranil Chakraborty (sogs.finance@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>

Report to be delivered orally



**VP Student Services
May 2015 Report to Council
Madison Bettle (sogs.services@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

Orientation Social Committee:

Summer Events:

Reminder: First Board Game Night of the Summer - May 20 at the Grad Club @ 6pm.
Free food!

Board Game Night will happen every THIRD Wednesday night at the Grad Club! Come on out and join the fun.

June Events: Film Screening and Let's Go to the Beach!

July Events: Canada Day Outing and Wonderland!

August Events: Rib Fest Outing!

Fall Orientation: September 16 - 18! More information to come.

All events are tentative and in the planning stages. For the most up-to-date information, please email Vice President Student Services, Madison Bettle:
vpstudentservicessogs@gmail.com.



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

**Aboriginal & Indigenous Commissioner
May 2015 Report to Council
Paulina Johnston (sogs.indigenous@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

Report unavailable at time of publication



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

**Disabilities Commissioner
May 2015 Report to Council
Melanie Stone (sogs.disabilities@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

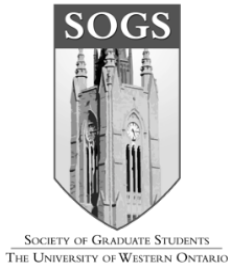
Report unavailable at time of publication



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

**LGBT Commissioner
May 2015 Report to Council
vacant (sogs.lgbt@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

Position currently vacant



**Women's Issues Commissioner
May 2015 Report to Council
Taniya Nagpal <wcc@sogs.ca>
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>**

Hi Everyone!

The Women's Concerns Commission hosted their first discussion group (What is Feminism) last month and it was a success. Approximately 25 students attended and the discussion was well received. AnnaLise Trudell PhD student in Women's Studies, and Program Coordinator at the Sexual Assault Centre of London facilitated the discussion. Dinner was provided by Grad Club. At the end of the discussion all attendees indicated that they would like to have more opportunities to have safe spaces for discussions. The commission is working on hosting another discussion group that will take place this summer term.

Additionally, at the discussion group we provided free childcare. Alison Shott generously volunteered her time during the discussion group to child watch. By doing this, student parents were able to attend the event. We are now working on putting forth a future proposal to include a childcare option during SOGS meetings/events increasing accessibility for students who also have parental responsibilities. This will allow our students to get more involved with SOGS and other events/activities available during their graduate studies. An update on this will be available at the next SOGS meeting.

Next, I am currently sitting on the Sexual Violence Prevention Education Committee (SVPEC) and its sub-committee working on planning a fall forum. The fall forum will be focused on consent and how Western University can adopt a consent culture. Graduate students will be invited to this forum. Additionally, we are working on a sexual violence prevention education piece that will be graduate specific and will be included next fall during orientation week. More updates on both of these upcoming projects will be provided in future SOGS summer meetings, we are currently in the beginning stages.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, ideas or concerns please email me. I would love to hear from you!

Hope you are all enjoying the great summer weather!

Best,

Taniya Nagpal
SOGS Women's Concerns Commissioner
wcc@sogs.ca



Committee Reports/Minutes
May 2015 Report to Council
<<http://www.sogs.ca>>

Orientation Committee Minutes

Orientation Social Committee Agenda – Tuesday, February 10

Attendance

Soroush, Nick, Miguel, Fred, Tamara, Madison

1. Adopt last meeting's minutes next meeting.
2. Stoplight event – To Do or Not to Do?
 - a. Postpone – ask Sophie if she's willing to run it potentially second/third week of March.
 - b. Will need to re-book Grad Club and re-do tickets.
3. Movie Screening (Feb 27) – Grand Budapest Hotel
 - a. Room booked
 - b. Madison will rent movie (free for Arts student).
 - c. Miguel will make poster to put on Facebook Event page (Tamara made this and will put link in newsletter).
 - d. Prize (Miguel will make quiz): year subscription to Netflix (\$90).
 - e. Marketing: Like/Share (generate winner): Netflix (\$30).
4. Board Game Night during Reading Week? After Reading Week?
 - a. Yes, depending on who is still here. Need at least a few people to run event.
 - b. March 18 Board Game Night.
5. Dodgeball Tournament
 - a. April
 - b. Looking into booking gym and how much it costs (ask Olga if we ever have before).
 - c. After date is set, can start advertising.
 - d. \$5 to register plus drink ticket.
 - e. Madison has contact with Campus Recreation: look into co-hosting.

Orientation Social Committee – March 17, 2015

Attendance

Soroush, Valerie, Shelly, Fred, Miguel, Tamara, Nick, Sophie, Madison

1. Call Meeting to Order at 1:05.
2. Will adopt Feb 10 minutes via email; will attach these (March 17) minutes to the next email.
3. Those staying for this summer: everyone is staying.
4. Board Game Night is tomorrow night.
 - a. Valerie will purchase more board games. Roughly \$50/each.
 - b. Permission to use \$200 to purchase new board games.
 - c. Double check with Marc.

5. Accounting error: we have \$2111 left.
6. Movie Night once a month. Potentially do Karaoke once a semester instead.
 - a. Movie Night on Friday, April 10.
 - b. Will think about movie.
 - c. 6pm movie; book tables for Grad Club at 8pm.
 - d. Facebook: asking for suggestions.
7. London Knights
 - a. Madison emailing back requesting 50 tickets for March 27. The committee will offset the price. Sell tickets for \$25.
8. Dodgeball Tournament
 - a. Blue Gym at the Rec
 - b. Booked April 15, 7-10pm
 - c. Facebook Event: need to send around.
 - d. Event Bright
 - e. Need to reserve tables for SOGS 8:30pm
 - f. Order food
9. End of Year
 - a. Poutine Bar
 - b. Sell tickets - \$2
 - c. Friday, April 24 – 7pm
10. Summer Event
 - a. Capture the Flag
 - b. Ultimate Frisbee
 - c. BBQ
 - d. Beach Trip
 - e. Ice Cream Bar – July
 - f. Wonderland trip
11. Next Fall: Sophie and Soroush not here; might potentially need new members.
12. Handbook RFQ
 - a. The committee is most interested in AE: need to follow up about an In-House Graphics person.
 - b. If there is an issue, Tamara will scan the other RFQs and we will vote by email.

OSC Agenda – April 24, 2015

Attendance: Sophie, Nick, Fred, Valerie, Madison.

Assigned Proxies: Shelley, Jess, Miguel.

1. Handbook Editor
 - No applications.
 - Committee decided to send out a second call: due May 8.
 - Will send out email and post on social media.
 - Committee has granted Madison the final sign off for the Editor.
 - Worst case scenario: Madison will head the project; committee potentially willing to take on some of the breakdown of the work.
2. Orientation Week
 - Meeting in late May to discuss O-Week. Dates need to be finalized so they can go into the Handbook.
 - Marketing campaign.

- Val: Beavertails (ask Health Plan to sponsor event?)
 - Returning student party: more than games
 - Working with Marc to do microbrew tasting again
 - Val: Board Game place can customize monopoly boards to give away as prizes.
3. Outstanding budget money
- Only have a bit of time left to spend what remains from this year's budget.
 - Raquel suggested we accrue money to carry over.
 - Three suggestions:
 - i. Val will get invoice for 5 monopoly boards.
 - ii. Tamara will get NetFlix and Grad Club gift certificates (\$20) for prizes.
 - iii. "First Board Game Night of the Summer"
4. "First Board Game Night of the Summer"
- Grad Club booked for May 20, 6pm – Board Game Night.
 - Ordered Nachos and Waffle fries. Money accrued.

Will send out Doodle Poll for next meeting.

SOGS HEALTH PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING
Draft MINUTES

April 10, 2015
UCC 260
3:00 pm– 4:34 pm

Present: Clayon Hamilton (Co-chair), Richard Harris (Co-chair), Tamara Hinan (VP Student Services),
Vanessa Cox, Wilson Luo, James Hughes, Isabela Reiniati, Asad Lone
Proxy: Yohannes Soenjaya <Isabela>
Regrets: Deepa Jeevanantham
Recording Secretary: Vanessa Cox

1. **Call meeting to order; Roll call of members:**

- 3:03 pm call to order
- Khalil Dayekh has resigned
- New member: Asad Lone

2. **Reading, Amendment, approval of minutes:**

- Remove letter from appendix (March 13th HPC meeting)
- Motion by Clayon to omnibus minutes (seconded by Isabela); Carried
- Motion to accept minutes (Seconded by James); Carried

3. **Consolidate information from the proposals and interviews:**

- 3:10 pm Richard presented worksheet re: consolidate information re: all of the bidders
- 3:16 pm handed out notes from interviews
- Clayon left to retrieve notes from original meeting on bids, proxy given to Richard (returned at 3:36 pm)
- 3:16-3:45 HPC worked on form designed by Richard
- 3:45 Discussion: Network promises for September or what they have now? How do we compare?
- 3:58 Motion by Richard to extend meeting by 30 minutes (Seconded by Isabea); Carried
- Discussion: Discrepancy between 10% or 20% life brand products, product discounts

4. **New business:**

- 4:30pm Motion to approve Clayon's full honorarium for 11 months, split the 12th month between co-chairs (Richard and Clayon to receive half Clayon's monthly honorarium). Moved by Wilson (seconded by Asad); Carried. Richard and Clayon left room for this.
- Plan for next meeting (Monday): To agree on method of evaluation with goal of agreeing on recommendation (due 5pm Tuesday)

5. **Adjournment:**

- Motion to adjourn by James (seconded by Asad); Carried

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 pm.

**SOGS HEALTH PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

April 22, 2015
UCC 260
12:30 - 1:50 pm

Present: Richard Harris (Co-Chair), Vanessa Cox, Tamara Hinan (VP Student Services), James Hughes, Asad Lone, Isabela Reiniati
Proxy: Clayon Hamilton <Vanessa>, Wilson Luo <James>
Absent: Brandon Chaffay, Yohannes Soenjaya
Regrets: Kevin Godbout, Raquel Rodrigues
Recording Secretary: Olga Sauer

1. Call meeting to Order, Roll Call of Members
2. Amendment to Agenda
Addition under New Business – Libyan graduate students
Approved
3. Reading, Amendment, and Approval of Minutes
Minutes approved with addition of “Seconder – James”.
4. Review of presentation to SOGS Council
Richard made the presentation and the committee critiqued it for clarification.

Motion to extend the meeting 20 minutes
Moved – Richard
Seconded – James
Carried

5. New Business
The Libyan government has terminated the health plan and extended health plan for all their students, starting May 1.
MOTION:
BIRT all Libyan students and their dependents will be able to opt into the SOGS Extended Health and Dental plan during the month of May.
Moved - Richard
Seconded – James
Carried

Appendix A – LGBT Commissioner Statement: Sarah Morrison

I would like to put forward my statement of interest for the role of Pride Commissioner for the Society of Graduate Students (SOGS) at Western University. As I enter my last term in the MLIS program I would like to get involved with the larger graduate student experience, and the role of Pride Commissioner is a way that I can apply my professional and lived experiences to making the graduate experience excellent for all SOGS members.

On a personal level, I am a bisexual cisgender woman who is striving to be an activist within my field for anyone within the LGBTTIQQ2SA communities. I also believe strongly in examining my own privileges so I can be an ally to people of colour, those in trans communities, and persons in communities to which I do not belong. We don't live in a vacuum, and I must be aware of this. As Pride Commissioner I am cognizant that I would be both speaking for and working with people to which I am an ally. I take that responsibility seriously to not marginalize or perpetuate aggressions and microaggressions.

I see this summer term as a perfect time to reflect and look forward. My program is one that runs year round, but many don't. This can be an excellent opportunity to keep running the Discussion Group that Kirstyn Seanor started. It is a way to involve the graduate students that are on campus, but also to set a starting course for where the next Pride Commissioner and Executive will go in the new academic year. In addition to providing a sense of community on a campus with far less graduate students around, we can also look back to what we liked and didn't like last year, and look forward to some ideas for the new academic year.

In this vein, I can use my skills from my time at Indigo Books & Music to do the set up work for fall programs and initiatives. In my role as manager of an IndigoKids department, I was given free rein to reach out to the local community for events, program ideas, and to spread the word about what we offered. This often takes time, and is hard to do once things have started. This is a perfect opportunity to use my previous experience in outreach and networking during this slower time. Though the new Pride Commissioner will have their own ideas and goals, I can have some things ready for them when they start.

We cannot just look forward, however. We need to have some fun now! London Pride is also running in July 2015, and that's an excellent rallying point for an event during this term. Beyond marching in the parade I would love to reach out to the Pride organizers to see if there are opportunities for SOGS to have a presence in some of their other events.

Though I would only be in the position for a term, I don't see this as a bad thing. As things slow down a bit on campus, I think we can use the time wisely to ensure that the fall starts strongly for returning and new graduate students at Western University. Please feel free to take a look at my resume on my blog¹ and I hope to speak with you all soon!

Sincerely,

Sarah Morrison

¹ <http://www.sarahamorrison.net/experience/>

Appendix B – CRO Candidate Statement: Kevin Godbout

Dear Councillors,

My name, as you likely all know, is Kevin Godbout. I am a PhD Candidate in Comparative Literature, and the past President of the Society. I am running for the position of Chief Returning Officer.

My knowledge of our Bylaws and Policies, my long term service on Council (since 2009) and on the BCC (since 2011) makes me, I believe, an ideal candidate to become SOGS's CRO. Should a Presidential election (unlikely) or a referendum (possible) be called, I will work with the DCRO to ensure a smooth process, in keeping with proper procedure.

I look forward to answering any questions at Council.

Thank you.

Kevin Godbout
PhD Candidate, Comparative Literature

Appendix C – Post-Residency Fees Survey

Society of Graduate Students Membership Survey on Postresidency Fees

Dear Members,

In 2014, over 1400 Western graduate students participated in a referendum that asked whether or not the Society of Graduate Students should pursue the implementation of post-residency fees at Western. The answer was a resounding “Yes.” We are continuing to strive to achieve this mandate.

Post-residency fees are common practices at most universities in Canada. The implementation of this tuition structure varies, but the general principle is that once students have completed their coursework and have defended their dissertation prospectus they no longer pay full tuition.

Western is one of the very few universities in Canada that has no provisions whatsoever for either the funding of or reductions of tuition for students who are in their fifth or sixth year of study. Our funding ceases after the fourth year. However, 2013 data indicates that the mean time of completion for a PhD in Canada is between five and six and a half years.

Paying full time tuition for two years once your academic funding has run out is not sustainable. It impedes our academic progress, puts us in a difficult position vis a vis graduate students in comparable programs, and devastates international students who for circumstances that are often beyond their control find themselves in the position of the “Year X” student.

In order to make a strong case to Western's administration during this period of “listening,” we need clear and recent information about how the lack of post-residency fees are affecting our membership. Please take the time to fill out this brief survey. The results will remain completely anonymous and the raw survey data will not be publicly released. You may indicate whether or not you are willing to allow verbal responses to be quoted in the report that the VP Academic, Mary Eileen Wennekers, has been tasked with providing to communicate the survey results.

Thank you for helping us keep the campaign going!

SOGS Council

Part I

Please provide us with the following information about your fees and funding situation.

1. Which year of your program are you in?
2. Are you still in your funding period?
3. How much tuition do you pay annually?
4. How much funding do you receive annually?
5. Have you completed your coursework?
6. Have you defended your prospectus (e.g. ABD status)?
7. If you are out of your funding period do you continue to pay full-time fees?
8. If you are out of funding are you taking on debt in order to complete your program?
9. Are you currently working outside of the university in order to finance completing your program? If so, how many hours a week do you work?
10. Have you considered withdrawing from your program due to financial constraints?
11. Have you considered withdrawing from your program due to financial constraints that exist as a result of your degree taking longer than your funding was guaranteed for?

Part II

Please answer these questions on a scale from 1(not at all) to (5) absolutely.

If you are still in your funding period, are you confident you will finish your program before your funding lapses?

If you are still in your funding period but believe that you will not complete your program before it lapses, are you confident that your existing savings will allow you to pursue your degree full time after funding is no longer provided?

If you are no longer in your funding period, is paying full time fees causing it to take longer to finish your degree?

Do you feel it is reasonable to pay full time fees once you have moved on to the writing stage of your program of study?

Does your current funding and fees situation negatively influence

- a.) the quality of your research?
- b.) opportunities for scholarly/professional development?
- c.) your physical health?
- d.) your mental health?

Part III:

Please describe how the current fee and funding structure affects your well-being and academic performance.

If you have completed your coursework, please describe which university facilities and resources you continue to access on a regular basis.

If you are an international student, does the current tuition and funding structure cause you concern that you may not be able to remain at Western long enough to complete your degree? If so, how does this effect your working environment and health?

Would your quality of life as a graduate student (physical health, mental health, wellness) improve if tuition fees were significantly reduced for students beyond their funding period?

Would your academic accomplishments (quality of your research, opportunities for scholarly and professional development improve if tuition fees were significantly reduced for students beyond their funding period?

Part IV

Are you willing to have your verbal responses quoted in a report on Post-Residency Fees at Western?

Are you willing to be contacted to be interviewed in further depth about your experiences with upper-year funding structures at Western?

Elections Tables

Position	Month Elected	Date Office Taken
Speaker	June	July 1
Vice President Academic	September	October 1
Vice President Finance	September	October 1
President	March	May 1
Vice President External & Communications	April	May 1
Vice President Student Services	April	May 1

Type	Position	Nominee	Department
SOGS	Academic Committee – Western Research Forum		
SOGS	Bursary & Subsidy Committee		
SOGS	Bylaws and Constitution Committee		
SOGS	Elections Appeal Board – Arts & Humanities		
SOGS	Elections Appeal Board – Biological Sciences		
SOGS	Elections Appeal Board – Physical Sciences		
SOGS	Elections Appeal Board – Social Sciences		
SOGS	Equity		
SOGS	Finance Committee		
SOGS	GradCast		
SOGS	Grad Club Committee		
SOGS	Graduate Student Issues Committee		
SOGS	Graduate Student Teaching Awards Committee		
SOGS	Health Plan Committee		
SOGS	International Student Issues Committee		
SOGS	Orientation & Social Committee		
SOGS	Policy Committee		
SOGS	Sustainability Committee		
SOGS	Women’s Concerns Commissioner		

	Name	Thought	Action	Conditions
1	Point of Order	Council (or a member thereof) is not following correct procedure	Raise placard, state "Point of Order!" and wait to be recognized, address the issue	Speaker rules; Council does not vote
2	Point of Privilege	I cannot participate at Council under these adverse conditions	Raise placard, state "Point of Privilege and wait to be recognized, address the issue	Speaker rules; Council does not vote
3	Object to a motion	I object to this motion under consideration, it is out of order	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, address the issue	Requires a vote by council, the vote passes with a 2/3 majority
4	Amend agenda	We have adopted the agenda, but we need to address a later issue now	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest the change to the agenda order	Must be seconded; requires a vote by council, the vote passes with a 2/3 majority
5	Overturn Speaker	The Speaker's ruling on this matter is incorrect, I want to challenge the ruling	Raise placard, state "Speaker, I challenge your ruling" and address the issue	Must be seconded and can be debated; requires a majority vote
6	Amend a motion	This motion is acceptable, but it requires an adjustment	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest the change to the motion	Must be seconded and can be debated; requires a majority vote
7	Refer a motion	Council should not vote on this motion, it requires further study by a committee	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest Council refer the motion	Must be seconded and can be debated; requires a majority vote
8	Table a motion	There's another pressing matter to attend to, we should debate this motion later	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest Council table the motion	Must be seconded and CANNOT be debated; requires a majority vote
9	Raise a motion	Council should resume debate on a tabled motion	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest Council raise a tabled motion	Must be seconded and CANNOT be debated; requires a majority vote
10	Postpone debate	Council needs to postpone debate of this motion	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest Council postpone current debate	Must be seconded and can be debated only on its timeframe; requires a majority vote
11	Reconsider a motion	Council must reconsider the motion debated earlier, it's important	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest Council reconsider a motion	Must be seconded and can be debated (if the former motion was); requires a majority vote
12	End debate	We have exhausted debate, it is time to vote on this motion	Raise placard, state "Speaker, I call the question;" remember, this ENDS debate	Must be seconded; CANNOT be debated requires a 2/3 majority vote by council
13	Roll call vote	We should record Councillor votes in the minutes	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest the roll call vote to Council	Speaker rules; Council does not vote
14	Call for recess	This has been a long meeting, we need a recess	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, suggest Council have a recess	Must be seconded and can be debated only on its timeframe; requires a majority vote
15	Call to adjourn	We have completed the agenda, it is time to end the meeting!	Raise placard, wait to be recognized, move to have Council adjourn	Must be seconded and CANNOT be debated; requires a majority vote

Rules of Decorum/Debate:

Right of Council Members and Non-Council/Non-Society Members

- The Speaker has the right to deny a non-council/non-society member the right to speak. A non-society member is someone who is not a full or associate member of the Society. Only those that are full or associate members are given the right to attend and speak at any meeting of the Society according to the SOGS constitution.
- Robert's Rules state that a guest is not allowed to come to a Council meeting unless it is an open meeting, or unless they were invited to the Council to give input on an issue because that guest has special knowledge about the subject. In that case, after the guest has spoken and answered any questions, they would leave and would not be allowed to participate in debate.

Rules:

- **Direct any questions/comments to the Speaker.**
- **A member can only speak twice during the presentation. The second question will be asked at the end of the queue.**
- **Comments must be relevant to the topic and be of a general nature.**
- **Only one person speaking at a time.**

Removing an Offender from the Assembly Hall

- Anyone attending a meeting can be removed from the assembly hall. The Speaker has the power to remove a non-member at any time during a meeting, and this person has no right to appeal the Speaker's decision. (However, a member can make an appeal on behalf of the non-member.) An assembly vote is required to remove a member.
- If a person is asked to leave the assembly and refuses, the Speaker should take the steps necessary to see that order is enforced. The Speaker must carefully appraise the situation and act wisely. The Speaker can appoint a committee to escort the person to the door.
- Those escorting someone to the door must be careful how much force they use, because they can be liable for damages or be sued. If those appointed to escort the person to the door can't persuade the person to leave, they will call the police.

Though members have the right to debate, established parliamentary rules concerning the privileges of debate exist:

- A member must obtain the floor and be recognized by the presiding officer before beginning to speak. A member can't begin speaking until recognized by the Speaker, the presiding officer.
- The member who made the motion has the first right to speak to the motion. He/she does so by being acknowledged by the Speaker once the Speaker has placed the motion before the assembly for discussion.
- A member can speak twice to the motion on the same day, but he/she can take the second turn only after everyone who wishes to speak the first time has spoken. If debate on the motion is continued at the next meeting, which is held on another day, the member's right to debate is renewed.
Debate must be relevant to the motion.
- Members must address all remarks to the Speaker; cross talk between members is not allowed.
- Members must be courteous and never attack peers or question the motives of other members. In controversial issues, the discussion should be focused on ideas, not on personalities. Members must not use inflammatory statements such as "it's a lie".
- When speaking to a motion, it is important for the member to first let the assembly know which side of the issue he/she is on. If in favour of the motion, the member states: "I speak for the motion" and gives the reasons why. If opposed, the member states: "I speak against the motion" and gives the reasons why. Doing so helps the Speaker alternate the debate.
On controversial issues, the Speaker should alternate the debate between those speaking for and those speaking against the motion. After someone speaks for the motion, the Speaker asks, "Would someone like to speak against the motion?" and vice-versa.
This practice ensures that all sides are represented, keeps tempers down, and prevents one side from dominating the discussion.

- A member can't read (or have the secretary read) from part of a manuscript or book as part of his or her debate without the permission of the assembly. However, the member can read short, relevant printed extracts in debate to make a point.
- During debate, a member can't talk against a previous action that is not pending, unless one of the motions to *rescind*, *reconsider*, or *amend something previously adopted* is pending; or unless the member concludes his/her remarks with one of these motions.
- During debate, member should take care not to disturb the assembly by whispering, talking, walking across the floor or causing other distractions.

Limitations on Debate or "Call the Question"

- Only the motion to *limit debate* can limit debate; and debate can be closed only by the motion to *call the question*. These motions need a second, are not debatable, and require 2/3 vote to adopt.

To Amend a Motion

- Purpose: To change the pending motion before it is acted upon; proposed amendments must be relevant to the main motion.
- Needs a second
- Amendable, but the secondary amendment must be relevant or related to the primary amendment.
- Debatable. Debate goes only to the amendment.
- Majority vote required to adopt. If amending a motion or document that takes a 2/3 vote to adopt, the proposed amendment takes only a majority vote.
- Can be reconsidered.
- **Result:** If adopted, the proposed change becomes part of the pending motion.



Society of Graduate Students Alternate Councilor Form

Councilor Information

First and last names of Issuer (please print)

Student No.

Department, unit, or constituency of Issuer

E-mail address of Issuer

Duration of leave (dates)

Alternate Information

First and last name (please print)

Student No.

Department, unit, or constituency (for verification purposes of Alternate Councilors)

E-mail address

Authorization

Signature of Councilor

Signature of Alternate Councilor

Date

RECEIVED (FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

**Please bring the completed form to Council meeting, and
hand in at the start of the meeting.**