

## September EGSS Meeting Minutes

**Date:**

**Time:** 6:00pm.

**Location:** Graduate Student Lounge

**Present:** Jackson, Allie, Lizzie, Alice

**Not Present:** Regrets: Leena Yahia, Amir Rasooli, Maria Shaikh, Andrew Coombs;

**Minutes:**

---

### 1. Approval of Agenda

- First: Jackson
- Seconded: Britney

### 2. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

- First: Jackson
- Seconded: Britney

### 3. Business Arising

#### 1. Discussion of EGSS Welcome event.

- Sept. 19th (tentatively) 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- Tacos catered by Dianne's, dessert, drinks
- \$5 tickets (approx. 50-70 ppl estimate) (children free, but must confirm numbers)

#### 2. Discussion on Equity Training as outlined by my election statement and intention of Dr. Christou for all student councils in the faculty to have this type of training.

- Equity training with the other Executive members of Education groups (Con-Ed and ESS, RBJSE)
- On campus, Sept. 29th (Sat) Anti-Oppressive training (could change)
  - Trying to make it on a weeknight
  - Other future workshops: Positive Space and Indigenous Rights

#### 3. Discussion on By-election for Social Events Coordinators (2), Treasurer, Website and Communications officer.

- By-election? Appoint?
- Timely filling of these roles? Nominating Rep. busy right now, so easing burden right now?
- Britney, Seconded by Steve: Motion: Create a form for interested candidates to complete and submit for open positions, and advertise positions for 10 days; then Executive to decide from the applicants in a blind appointment process
  - Only Nominations Rep. will know the names (to blind it for fairness)
  - Vote: all present in favour
- In the future, we should think about adding this to the constitution- add to list of changes

#### 4. Discussion on possible new initiatives for EGSS in 2018/19 school year.

- Prioritize building a sense of community through social events → social coordinator(s) (e.g., St. Paddy's Day, Lunar New Year, paint night, corn maze, escape room)
- Create a history of the role (EGSS Dropbox, create an outline of the role, etc.)

#### 4. Executive Reports

##### **President and Vice-President Reports** (Jackson Pind and Britney Lester)

###### **President** (Jackson Pind)

- See Business Arising

###### **Vice-President** (Britney Lester)

- See SGPS section for updates on SGPS August meeting
- We should discuss a protocol for approving minutes following the meeting (online?), as this did not happen for our first meeting's minutes. This has to happen in a timely manner, as we have to distribute them to our membership soon after each meeting, as per our Constitution
  - Send a Google form with yes/no option and a link to minutes
- I will speak to someone from Faculty communications (Sara Perosa) to update our EGSS webpage

###### **RBJSE Liaison: John (J.J.) Bosica**

- Not present: Nothing to report

###### **ESMHI Liaison- Unfilled**

- Not present: Nothing to report

###### **Treasurer** [Not filled, but John (J.J.) Bosica is still processing cheques for us]

- Nothing to report

###### **Faculty Board** (Stephen MacGregor, PhD Rep.; Jackson Pind, President)

- Nothing much to report. One interesting thing to note: we are in the last year of the two-term concurrent education program. Next year all incoming B.Ed. students will be in the four-term model.

###### **Graduate Studies and Research** (Andrew Coombs, PhD Rep.; Allie McMillian, M.Ed Rep.)

- Nothing to Report. First Meeting will happen September 18th.

###### **SGPS Representative** (Emma Bozek, M.Ed Representative; Britney Lester, Vice-President)

- Updates from SGPS August meeting
  - Should highlight to our membership (especially our part-time, distance, and "off campus" students, as well as those students who might be on leave), that they can opt-in to the Health and

Dental Plan for the 2018-2019 year, but must do so in Sept. These students won't automatically be enrolled in the plan, and can choose to opt-in to the group rate we get through SGPS

- Over the next year, SGPS will be working on the flexible healthcare/dental program mentioned during the election period. Current plan expires in Aug. 2019, so this term will be looking into options (focused on companies that offer flexible plans)
- SGPS is hiring student advisors and other roles, which are paid positions. More information can be found at the following link: <https://sgps.ca/jobs/> → We should circulate this to the EGSS membership a.s.a.p., as the closing dates for applications start this Friday (Sept. 7)
- A new revamped version of Thesis Thursday is being organized by the SGPS Vice President Graduate in partnership with QSASS and the SLC. It will take place every Thursday from 12pm to 4pm in JDUC 352. It's a great chance to find support and encouragement for graduate students. More details will be circulated as the school year unfolds, but do look for these dates.
- Since we are emphasizing equity and diversity training in our own Faculty, I wanted to highlight that the Equity and Diversity Commissioner will be putting out a call for a standing committee, so look for that, and they are planning an Accessibility Cafe to be held in Sept. with details to be announced; as well, we can highlight the Kingston Multicultural Arts Festival that will take place Sunday, Sept. 9th (the SGPS trolley tour will be running that day and can drop people off at the Festival)
- Executive tasked with updating their roles' descriptions
- SGPS looking into ways to resolve the access to T4 slips issue that currently exists for students who have completed their employment contracts (lose access to HR after contract ends)
- A few new motions were carried at the August meeting:
  - "The SGPS is not able to accept cash or personal cheques as payment for financial transactions. There will be no exceptions made." (No e-transfers or cash will be accepted, only debit or credit; currently trying to figure out a way to still complete at-the-door sales for these methods)
  - The SGPS is looking for recommendations from QUIC, 4 Directions, and Ban Righ on the Aboriginal, Mature, Part-Time, and International student roles noted in the SGPS' by-laws, to find the best way to fill these roles in the future
  - At the Sept. General Meeting, the issue of the Judicial Board being removed from the by-law will be discussed; currently, the council voted in favour of this removal, and the President is going to speak to Student Affairs to see about establishing "graduate representation in level 1 cases that involve graduate students, with the AMS' Judicial Committee" (so that the randomly assigned student is a grad. student) → To do this, must be added to NAM policy
  - Executive is looking into modifying the existing by-law about external affiliations to include some sort of approval process for SGPS donations and sponsorships to other groups external to Queen's
  - To extend the current 2-week opt-in period to "up to 30 days," as insurance company allows max of 30 days, for those SGPS members who lose their current coverage
- Next SGPS Council meeting on Sept. 11th, then General Meeting on Sept. 25th (everyone is welcome, and encouraged, to attend the 25th meeting)
  - Should share this meeting date with the wider EGSS membership

#### **Nominating (Dawei Yang)**

- Will work on the appointments process

#### **Renewal, Tenure & Promotion (Amir Rasooli)**

- Not present: nothing to report

#### **Strategic Planning (Lizze Yan)**

- Nothing to report

**Good & Welfare** (Elizabeth Sharp)

- Nothing to report

**Part-Time Student Representative** (Melissa Duggan)

- Nothing to report

**Co-Academic Events Coordinators** (Alice Johnston; Rebecca Stroud Stasel)

- Writer's Retreat model -- past years 2-day fall event vs. ongoing half day events (rolling writing retreat, social environment)
- Article club focused on equity issues, invite B.Ed. students and faculty

**International Student Representative** (Maria Shaikh)

- Not present: nothing to report

**Website & Communications** (not filled)

- Nothing to report

**Co-Social Events Coordinators** (not filled)

- See Business Arising

**5. Any Other Business**

- Advertising SGPS events -- put it on the counter (people see it when they get food), see about adding it to the TVs upstairs

**6. Adjournment: Approval to End the Meeting**

First: Jackson

Seconded: Britney