

**Society of Graduate Students
January 29, 2010 Council Meeting
University Community Centre, Room 56**

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**SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 28, 2010

AGENDA

6:00 – 9:00 pm

- 1) Adoption of Agenda
- 2) Guest Speaker
- 3) Announcements
- 4) Reception and Approval of the SOGS Council Minutes for November 26
- 5) Orders of the Day
 - a) Motions arising from the President
 - b) Motions arising from Other Committees
 - c) Other Motions
- 6) Executive/Committee/Councillor Reports
 - a) President
 - Policy Committee
 - Ad Hoc Personal 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
 - Ad Hoc 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
- 7) New Business/Open Forum

SOGS Council Attendance Report November 26, 2009

Represents (Dept)	Name	IN	OUT	Notes
Anatomy & Cell Biology	TaeEun Ahn	6:10	7:01	time short
Anatomy & Cell Biology	Luis Quail			
Anthropology	Becky Ellis			
Anthropology	Dina Najjar	6:10		
Applied Mathematics	Susana Hug	6:10	7:10	
Applied Mathematics	Walid Mnif	6:10	7:11	
Astronomy & Physics	Robbie Halonen			
Astronomy & Physics	Bushra Hussain			
Astronomy & Physics	Draco Szathmary			
Biochemistry	Kathryn Garside	6:10		Alt. S. Beasley
Biochemistry	Ben Kleinstiver	6:10		
Biochemistry	Stephanie Kvas	6:10	8:22	
Biology	Bolaji Adeniji	6:10	8:30	
Biology	Tanya Berkers	6:10	8:10	
Biology	Eridan Pereira			
Biology	Andrea Pitts	6:10		Alt. D. Styranko
Biology	Sonja Teichert	6:10	8:33	
Biomedical Engineering	Erden Ertorer	6:10	7:52	
Biomedical Engineering	Corey Smith			
Board of Governors	Jonathan Berg	6:10		
Business (Ph.D)	Heather Spiegel	6:10		
Business (Ph.D)	vacant			
Chemistry	Joshua Byers	6:10	7:20	
Chemistry	Tetyana Levchenko	6:10	8:35	
Chemistry	Jessica McLachlan	6:10	7:00	time short
Chemistry	Radu Racovita	6:10	7:20	
Classical Studies	Daniel Levy	6:10	8:55	Alt. C. Kroetsch
Comp. Lit / Hisp Studies	Anirban Halder	6:10	7:00	time short
Comp. Lit / Hisp Studies	vacant			
Computer Science	Andrew Delong	6:10		
Computer Science	Md. Nazrul Islam	6:10	9:00	
Computer Science	Gaston Keller	6:10		
Computer Science	Vadim Mazalov	6:10	9:00	
CSD	Nimrit Grewal	6:10		
CSD	Bonnie Lampe	6:10	7:35	
CSD	Silvana Rotulo	6:10		
CSD	vacant			
Disabilities Commissioner	Chelsea Mohler			
Earth Sciences	Saralyn Horvath	6:10		
Earth Sciences	Sam Russell	6:10		
Earth Sciences	Reynold Sukara			
Economics	Erica Pridoehl			
Economics	Jacob Wibe			
Education	Jensen R. Caughlin	6:35		
Education	Magdalena Stepien			
Education	Zheng Zhang			
Education	vacant			

Represents (Dept)	Name	IN	OUT	Notes
Education	vacant			
Education	vacant			
Engineering Science	Ahmed Alassuity	6:10		Alt. K. Penev
Engineering Science	Reza Azarderakhsh	6:10	7:10	
Engineering Science	Stephen Black	6:10		
Engineering Science	Mohamed El Semelawy	6:10	7:05	time short
Engineering Science	Ahmed Elatar	6:10	7:12	
Engineering Science	Mohamed El-Marassi	6:10	7:12	
Engineering Science	Abdullah Hafiz	6:10	7:30	
Engineering Science	Ahmed Hamada	6:10	7:10	
Engineering Science	Md. Yahia Hussain	6:10	7:10	
Engineering Science	Chowdhury Jubayer	6:10		Alt. R. vanderZanden
Engineering Science	Mehran Mozaffari Kermani	6:10	7:15	
Engineering Science	Kai Pisters	6:10		
Engineering Science	Md. Jahidur Rahman	6:10	7:25	
Engineering Science	Ahmed Soliman			
Engineering Science	Islam Soliman	6:10	7:13	
Engineering Science	Mostafa Zaman	6:10	8:55	
English	Sally Colwell	6:10	8:55	
English	Kevin Godbout	6:10		
English	Erica Leighton	6:10	8:55	
English	vacant			
Environment & Sustainability	Jean-Louis Charette	6:10		
Epidemiology & Biostats	Candi Flynn	6:10	8:25	
Epidemiology & Biostats	Sabrina Youash	6:10	7:27	
Executive - President	Rick Telfer	6:10		
Executive - Speaker	Alison Brailey	6:10		
Executive - VP Academic	Natalie Suzdy	6:10		
Executive - VP External	Saidur Chowdhury			
Executive - VP Finance	Duncan Sutherland	6:10		
Executive - VP St. Services	Jenny Jiang	6:10		
Family Medicine	vacant			
Food & Nutrition	Jenille Hutchinson			
French & Linguistics	Michelle Andrighetti	6:10	7:20	
French & Linguistics	Traci Wai	6:10	7:20	
Geography	Matt Maltby	6:10	7:38	
Geography	Richard Sadler	6:10	7:20	
Global Film Culture	Adam Szymanski			
GTA Union Representative	Reza Azarderakhsh	6:10	7:10	
Health & Rehab Sciences	Kristen Bishop	6:10		
Health & Rehab Sciences	Lizebeth Cox	6:10		
Health & Rehab Sciences	Christine Cullion	6:10	7:30	
Health & Rehab Sciences	Charity Davy	6:10	7:35	
Health & Rehab Sciences	Sarah Woodmore-Goodwin	6:10		
History	Christopher Hum	6:10	8:00	
History	Randy Kissack	6:10		
History	Adam Rochweg			
Journalism	Lauren O'Neil			
Kinesiology	Stefanie De Jesus	6:10	7:10	
Kinesiology	Casey Gray	6:10	8:30	
Kinesiology	Carly McKay	6:10		

Represents (Dept)	Name	IN	OUT	Notes
Kinesiology	Jacqueline Simatovic	6:10		Alt. M. Davenport
L&IS-M	Gary Collins	6:10	7:15	
L&IS-M	Karen Hine	6:10	7:10	
L&IS-M	vacant			
L&IS-M	vacant			
L&IS-M	vacant			
L&IS-M	vacant			
L&IS-PhD	Lucia C. Serantes			
Law	Scott Armstrong			
Mathematics	Mohammad Hassenzadeh	6:10	8:00	
Media Studies	Kyle Asquith	6:10		
Media Studies	Maeghan Pirie	6:10		
Medical Biophysics	Udunna Anazodo	6:10	7:30	
Medical Biophysics	Timothy Yeung	6:10	8:55	
Medical Biophysics	Geoffrey Zeni			
Microbiology & Immunology	Matt Rytelowski	6:10	7:15	
Microbiology & Immunology	Jessica Tong	6:10	7:15	
Music	Leigh Allen	6:10		
Music	Richard English	6:10	9:00	
Music	Michelle Garlough	6:10		
Music	Daisy Tam	6:10	7:15	
Neuroscience	Iman Janemi			
Neuroscience	vacant			
Nursing	vacant			
Nursing	vacant			
Occupational Therapy	Kevin Li	6:10	7:00	time short
Occupational Therapy	Val MacIntyre	6:10	7:10	
Occupational Therapy	Laura Mee	6:10	7:10	
Occupational Therapy	William Tam	6:10	7:10	
Orthodontics	vacant			
Pathology	Christina Yang			
Philosophy	Mallorie Malone	6:10		
Philosophy	Nicolas McGinnis	6:10		
Physical Therapy	Stephanie Cornell	6:10	7:10	
Physical Therapy	Kelsey Maxymyshyn			
Physical Therapy	Stephanie Mills			
Physical Therapy	Chris Statten	6:10	7:15	
Physiology and Pharm.	Kim Beaucage	6:10		
Physiology and Pharm.	Jessica Osumek	6:10		
Physiology and Pharm.	Ryan Shugg	6:10	9:00	
Physiology and Pharm.	Sonia Volante	6:10	6:40	time short
Political Science	Robert Maciel			
Political Science	Chad Pilkington			
Psychology	Caroline Bennett-AbuAyyash	6:10	8:45	
Psychology	Paula Brochu	6:10		
Psychology	Pralle Kriengwatana	6:10	6:40	time short
Psychology	Neil McMillan	6:10	8:30	
Public Administration	Carolina Oteiza			
Senate	Jonathan Berge	6:10		
Senate	Jenny Jiang	6:10		

Represents (Dept)	Name	IN	OUT	Notes
Senate	Brent Sherar	6:10		
Senate	Rick Telfer	6:10		
Social Work	Blaire Courville	6:10	7:11	
Sociology	Julie Peters	6:10		
Sociology	Victoria Sit	6:10		
Stats & Actuarial Sciences	Paul Nguyen			
Stats & Actuarial Sciences	vacant			
Theology	vacant			
Theory & Criticism	vacant			
Theory & Criticism	vacant			
Visual Arts	vacant			
Visual Arts	vacant			
Women's Studies	Elizabeth Leinveer	6:10	8:30	

SOGS Council Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

November 26, 2009

6:10 – 8:57 pm

1. Adoption of Agenda

Change - move Sustainability motions to after Speaker's Note.

Amended

Moved – Kyle Asquith (Media Studies)

Seconded – Meaghan Pirie (Media Studies)

2. Announcements

- a) Councillors were welcomed to the November Council Meeting, with a special welcome to new Councillors.
- b) Quorum is 30.
- c) This is the last Council meeting for 2009. The next meeting will be January 28th, the room will be posted on the SOGS website.
- d) Winter bus passes will be available around the 15th of December. Please check the website for exact date and let your peers know. With the new paperless fee bill, students must have their UWO student card.
- e) Child Care, and Travel Subsidies are due to the SOGS office by 4 pm on Wednesday, December 23.
- f) A Bus Pass Distributor is required for the SOGS office for the next two terms. Anyone interested should send an email to sogs@uwo.ca.
- g) We have had a request from King's College for Proctors. Anyone interested in applying should contact Lisa Tocker (ltocker@uwo.ca).
- h) The SOGS' office will be closed from December 23 – January 3 inclusive.
- i) The SOGS Staff and Executive wish all Councillors a safe and restful holiday season.
- j) Please leave your placards when you leave the meeting.
- k) Just a reminder, that if you leave the Council meeting prior to the meeting being adjourned, you must sign out on the Attendance Sheet. Please do not take your name tags away, but leave them at the front. If you leave once the meeting has been adjourned there is no need to sign out.

3. Reception and Approval of the SOGS Council Minutes for the October 29 Council Meeting

Minutes received and approved as written.

4. Elections

Academic Committee	– Ying Wang (Mathematics)
Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee	– Meghan Laturney (Biology)
Equity Committee	– Kalin Penev (Engineering)
Personnel Policy Committee	– Kelly Bairos (Education)
	– Brent Sherar (Chemistry)
Policy Committee	– Kelly Bairos (Education)
Social Science Council	– Julie Peters (Sociology)
	– Rebecca Williams (Sociology)

5. Speaker's Note

Ex-officio members have all the rights of Councillors, except they cannot vote. They may send and second motions.

Engineering Councillor question was investigated and a ruling made. The ruling upheld the second election.

Issue regarding voting by email – Robert’s Rules of Order is against using emails for voting. Until Society develops it’s own ruling, this will continue to be forbidden. Any committee that has used this form of vote, cannot use this form of outcome.

R. vanderZanden (Engineering) - Can a Committee Chair supersede this? (A - Speaker) – No, they cannot.

6. Executive/Committee/Councillor Reports

a) President

- Presented report.
- J. Dechene (Chemistry) – elimination of tax credit will hurt grad students.
- R. Telfer (President) – This is a complex issue – tax credits benefit those students who receive scholarships. The Federations wants to see a shift to upfront grants to students, this would be more equitable. Tax credits only help a small number of students.
- B. Sherar (Senator) – Who will represent us at the CFS meeting? GSIC selected three members to attend the meeting but weren’t allowed to attend.
- R. Telfer (President) – October 16 was the registration deadline. The GSIC meeting and election of representatives was well past the deadline for registration. Due to the complexity of the national meeting the late registrations could not be accommodated.
- K. Pisters (Engineering) – self-nominated to attend before deadline, but wasn’t considered.
- R. Telfer (President) – was not aware of timelines.

b) VP Academic

- Presented report.
- Ombudsperson office may be physically moving. Will keep us informed.

c) VP External & Communications

- K. Penev would like to join Equity Committee

d) VP Finance

- Presented report.
- Renovations to the SOGS office are scheduled for February.
- P. Baiden – how many graduate students benefit from the bus service?
- K. Asquith (Media Studies) – Even though Finance Committee is okay with paying for alternate transportation costs, will this still come to Council?
- R. Williams (GSIC Chair) – What do the flyers look like?
- R. Kissak (History) – Why do the Board of Governors have any ruling over SOGS fees?
- Rick Telfer (President) – Board of Governors have the right to look over the numbers of all organizations within the University.

- S. Russell (Earth Science) – Has the Board of Governors ever refused a budget?
- D. Sutherland (VP Finance) – not in recent memory.
- S. Beasley (Biochemistry, former VP Finance) – They expressed some concern when several years ago the Grad Club was experiencing financial problems.

e) VP Student Services

- Presented report.
- A. Braley (Speaker) – Orientation Committee Report cannot be submitted into record because it was voted on via email. Report was ruled out of order.

- C. Hum (History) – Van drivers may cause problems – they may be considered scab labour.
- R. English (Music) – not everyone is in support of the strike. Is this service fully supported by the GTA Union?
- Speaker – this did come up at the Union.
- R. Telfer (President) – this is not the place to discuss this. Transit Union doesn't like this, but haven't asked that it be stopped. The GTA Union hasn't taken a position.

f) SOGS Commissioners' Reports
Disabilities Commissioner
Pride Commissioner

g) Councillor Reports

h) Senator and Board of Governor Reports

Jonathan Berge, Jenny Jiang, Brent Sherar and Rick Telfer are Senators and can bring forward concerns. Jonathan Berge is the SOGS representative on the Board of Governors.

7. Unfinished Business

MOTION #4:

BIRT the Society's bylaws be revised to prohibit the practice of voting by proxy within the Society.

MOTION #5:

BIRT SOGS bylaw 15.2.4 be amended to read:

Notice of a general meeting, including an agenda showing business to be transacted, shall be advertised in university publications and on campus bulletin boards at least one week in advance of the meeting. Business which has not been included in the advertised agenda ("new business") requires a two-thirds majority in order for the new business to be added to the agenda. New business may not be added to the agenda following the adoption of the agenda. Any motion arising from new business shall require a two-thirds majority in order to be adopted.

BIFRT SOGS bylaw 15.3.11 be amended to read:

Business arising at a meeting of Council that was not included on the agenda within the Council mailout ("new business") requires a two-thirds affirmative vote for adoption. New business may not be added to the agenda following the adoption of the agenda.

Motions 4 & 5 were sent to the BCC for consideration.

BCC:

WHEREAS nothing in the bylaws currently compels parties to co-operate with election and referendum appeals; and

WHEREAS the fairest outcome of an election or referendum depends upon effective investigations of election and referendum appeals; and

WHEREAS the scope in which SOGS members should be compelled to act should be limited to their duties as elected or potentially elected officers:

BIRT Section 4.9 (Campaign Impropriety and Appeals) be amended to include:

4.9.4.1 Should a candidate/referendum group receive a request from the Deputy CRO to provide factual information which wholly pertains to an investigation of campaign impropriety, the candidate/referendum group must respond and must respond with a factually correct answer, if such an answer can be reasonably determined, within one half of the length of the investigation time.

BIFRT Section 4.9.8 be amended to include:

4.9.8 Violations of the following nature will result in automatic disqualification of the candidate:

4.9.8.4 failure to provide factual and relevant information to the Deputy CRO during an investigation of campaign impropriety.

BIFRT the bylaws be renumbered as appropriate.

Moved – S. Russell (Earth Science)

Seconded – B. Sherar (Senator)

- R. Telfer (President)– strongly opposed, to pass this motion is a terrible mistake. Must have a process of appeal. This is a piece meal approach.

- R. vanderZanden (Engineering) – there is a mechanism to appeal.

- B. Sherar (Senator) – is the word relevant a problem?

- R. Telfer (President)– multiple problems – who determines relativity.

- J. Caughlin (Education) – against

- J. Peters (Sociology) – against – refer back to committee

Motion to refer back to Committee

Moved – J. Peters (Sociology)

Seconded – J. Caughlin (Education)

Passes – motion referred back to BCC

- S. Beasley (Biochemistry) – If people have specific concerns, they should contact the BCC.

Motion 1 (Kai Pisters, Engineering):

Whereas members of the Society have submitted a petition, with more than 10% of the membership's signatures, delivered on Tuesday September 29th to the Canadian Federation of Students Ontario office, and Monday October 19th to the Canadian Federation of Students National office and

Whereas the required CFS bylaws in order to hold a referendum on the continued membership in the CFS were followed

BIRT Council officially endorses a no position on the question of the proposed referendum on continued membership with the CFS

BIFRT Council direct the Executive to officially announce that SOGS does not support any side of the proposed referendum

BIFRT Council support the rights of its membership to hold a democratic referendum according to CFS bylaws.

Moved – K. Pisters (Engineering)

Seconded – D. Sutherland (VP Finance)

- R. Telfer (President)– by not having a motion by default shows a neutral position.

- N. McGinnis (Philosophy) – against – CFS has a lengthy reform package that may change our minds about membership.

- R. vanderZanden (Engineering) – for – interference from Executive – President with letter to McGill

- K. Penev (Engineering) – for – can be adopted now and reversed later.

- K. Asquith (Media Studies) – against – it won't make a difference.

- B. Sherar (Senator) – for – Executive can have personal options, but they should not be expressed as those representing SOGS. Remaining neutral shows a responsible position.

- J. Caughlin (Education) – is this for SOGS Council or just the Executive? Why should the Executive be silenced?

- K. Godbout (English) – against – why are we voting to take a position, if later we will restate our position?

- S. Russell (Earth Science) – for – it doesn't say an individual can't express their own opinion.

- S. Colwell (English) – against – be neutral

- S. Black (Engineering) – for – Council should adopt, so that the entity will remain neutral.

- D. Sutherland (VP Finance) – for – more than 10% want to leave the CFS

- R. English (Music) – against – if this passes, has to maintain consistency

Call the question – K. Godbout (English)

Seconded – G. Zeni (Medical Biophysics)

Question called

20 – for
25 – against
4 – abstained
Motion fails

Motion 2 (Kai Pisters, Engineering):

Whereas the CFS will appoint referendum overseers who do not support de-federation of SOGS members of the pending referenda, as per CFS bylaws
BIRT SOGS Council be the governing body who elects two individuals who support the de-federation of SOGS members from the CFS (national and Ontario) to act as overseers for the referendums to be held, according to CFS bylaws.

Moved – K. Pisters (Engineering)

Seconded – B. Sherar (Senator)

- K. Pisters – If there is a referendum, there will be a committee made up of two representatives for CFS and two should be from the de-federation group.
- R. Telfer (President) – against – this is premature, parameters are not needed
- G. Zeni (Medical Biophysics) – for –
- S. Colwell (English) – against – language is adversarial.
- C. Gray (Kinesiology) - with two people from each group, how are discrepancies solved?
- R. Telfer (President) – decide on logistics – should not be an adversarial relationship.
- K. Penev (Engineering) – When does the committee have to be formed?
- R. Telfer (President) – if a referendum is called, the committee has to be called within a month.

- B. Sherar (Senator) – Amendment proposed

Seconded – K. Pisters

BIRT SOGS Council be the governing body who elects two individuals from the SOGS membership to act as overseers for the referendums to be held, according to CFS bylaws.

- K. Pisters – for new motion
- S. Beasley (Biochemistry) – for – Council will be making an informed decision
- R. Telfer (President) – for – makes it clear – people will be chosen
- D. Sutherland – is there any
- R. Telfer (President) – federal members – local appoint two people
- M. Davenport – would it be the Executive or Council to chose the representatives?
- R. Telfer (President) – they would come from Council

Call the question - K. Asquith (Media Studies)

Seconded – R. Telfer (President)

Question called

Amendment passes

8. Orders of the Day

Motions arising from the President

MOTION #1:

BIRT the Society of Graduate Students invite all graduate student representatives to the University's Senate and Board of Governors to declare and/or discuss their individual positions with Council regarding the University's proposed tuition fee increases at the January 2010 meeting of the Society's Council.

Moved – R. Telfer (President)

Seconded – R. English (Music)

D. Sutherland – to omnibus Motions 1 and 2.

Seconded – R. Telfer (President)

MOTION #2:

BIRT the Society of Graduate Students initiate an e-mail campaign directed at the University's President, Dr. Amit Chakma, to oppose increases to the tuition fees of international students in accordance with the Society's position as adopted by Council on October 29, 2009.

BIRT the Society circulate/publish an open letter within the university community opposing increases to the tuition fees of international students (in accordance with the Society's position as adopted by Council on October 29, 2009) and that the letter be sent to all members of the University's Senate and Board of Governors.

BIRT the Society's Vice-President External, together with the Society's President, be assigned responsibility for fulfilling this directive.

- K. Pisters (Engineering) – good idea
- S. Beasley (Biochemistry) – for
- B. Sherar (Senator) – Senators and Board of Governors graduate student representatives cannot be forced to discuss their views.
- R. Telfer – initiated email campaign to send emails to President.
- R. Kissack (History) – what power does he have? Why target him specifically?
- R. Telfer (President) – informally informed that it is the President who wants to raise international tuition fees.

Call the question - K. Asquith (Media Studies)

Seconded - M. Pirie (Media Studies)

Question called.

Motions 1 & 2 pass

MOTION #3:

BIRT the Society of Graduate Students invite the Canadian Federation of Students' Task Force on Campus Racism to visit and hold hearings at Western prior to the end of January 2010.

Moved – R. Telfer (President)

Seconded – J. Peters (Sociology)

- R. Telfer (President) – take in a lot of different people
- J. Peters (Sociology) – good idea
- G. Keller – what will happen if they can't make it by the end of January?

Amendment :

BIRT the Society of Graduate Students invite, prior to the end of January 2010, the Canadian Federation of Students' Task Force on Campus Racism to visit and hold hearings at Western.

- B. Sherar – for – who will incur cost of this visit?
- R. Telfer (President) – CFS will cover costs.

Call the question - S. Russell (Earth Sciences)

Seconded - S. Horvath (Earth Sciences)

Question called.

Motion passes

MOTION #4: - motion withdrawn by President

BIRT the Society of Graduate Students hire an independent reviewer to examine the Society's policies and procedures in relation to elections and referenda in order to make recommendations for improvement aimed at ensuring fairness and impartiality in the Society's electoral process.

BIRT all records pertaining to the 2009 presidential election, including e-mails sent to and received by the e-mail account of the Speaker/Chief Returning Officer, be made available in order to assess whether the integrity and neutrality of the electoral process was jeopardized or compromised by collaboration or communication among or involving officials of the Society.

BIFRT the Executive together with the Speaker nominate an independent reviewer, and also propose parameters for the reviewer's work terms, for Council's approval at the January 2010 meeting of Council.

Motions arising from Other Committees

Sustainability Committee

1) Whereas The Sustainability Committee is committed to economic, social and environmental sustainability

Whereas Sustainability is a growing concern among graduate students

BIRT The Society endorse the promotion of sustainability through the Sustainability Committee

BIFRT The Society endorse the addition of sustainability material to the SOGS website.

Moved – Tanya Berkers (Biology)

Seconded – Ahmed Alassuity (Engineering)

Motion passes

2) Whereas the sustainability of SOGS office and the Grad Club is a complex issue

Whereas an in depth analysis would require a large investment of both time and skills.

BIRT the Society endorse a sustainability audit of both SOGS office and the Grad Club in collaboration with the Masters in Environment and Sustainability program.

Moved – Tanya Berkers (Biology)

Seconded – Kai Pisters (Engineering)

Motion passes

Health Plan Committee

Whereas the current Extended Health & Dental Plan (EHDP) opt-in/opt-out period allows students to add/remove themselves or add family members to the plan, and

Whereas the opt-in/opt-out period runs for one month, (e.g., students starting in September can opt in/out from September 1-30) and

Whereas new post-doctoral fellows and special circumstance graduate students can begin contracts/studies at any time in the academic year,

BIRT SOGS adopt a new policy giving post-doctoral fellows and special circumstance graduate students 30 days (from new contract start date) to opt-in/out of the EHDP, so as to be consistent with the current practice for graduate students starting during the first month of a new term (Sept./Jan./May).

Moved – J. Jiang (VP Student Services)

Seconded – R. Telfer

Call the question - D. Sutherland (VP Finances)

Seconded – J. Caughlin (Education)

Question called

Motion passes

Other Motions

9. New Business/Open Forum

K. Penev (Engineering) – would like to propose a motion that directs BCC to create a motion that will allow SOGS Committees to use emails to

BIRT Council direct BCC, or Policy Committee, to develop a bylaw, or policy, that will allow SOGS Committees to vote via email, if required due to time constraints.

Moved – K. Penev (Engineering)

Seconded – S. Horvath (Earth Sciences)

2/3 needed to pass

Motion passes

Motion to Adjourn – 8:57 pm
Moved – D. Sutherland (VP Finances)
Seconded – J. Peters (Sociology)

Orders of the Day

a) Motions Arising from the President

b) Motions Arising from Other Committees

BCC Motions

Allowing committees to submit motions to Council Meetings

WHEREAS it is important that committees of the Society have the ability to submit motions for Council's consideration; and

WHEREAS it should not be necessary for the official liaison of a committee to sponsor a motion arising from a committee; and

WHEREAS the BCC does not even have a member of the Executive as its liaison; and

WHEREAS not every committee member or committee chair should be expected to be a Councillor; and

WHEREAS a motion submitted for Council's consideration arising from a committee should be approved by that committee, which is currently not required if a liaison brings forward a motion on their behalf; and

WHEREAS while nothing currently prohibits dissenting opinions within a committee from being brought to Council, an explicit procedure for doing so is preferred; and

WHEREAS Bylaw 15.3.5 currently reads:

15.3.5 Members of the Society wishing to submit business for consideration at council must do so through their department representative or the Society Executive and

WHEREAS no other bylaw allows the submission of business to Council; and

WHEREAS the same problem does not arise with General Meetings since any member may submit business to a General Meeting and every member of a committee is necessarily a member of the Society:

BIRT Bylaw 15.3 (Council Meetings) be amended to include 15.3.X, positioned between 15.3.5 and 15.3.6 to read:

15.3.X Committees of the Society wishing to submit business for consideration at Council must approve the business in question as a committee and must have it submitted by the chair of the committee.

15.3.X.1 Committees of the Society wishing to submit a report to Council must approve the report as a committee, clearly marked as a "majority report of the committee", and must have it submitted by the chair of the committee.

15.3.X.2 Members of a committee of the Society wishing to submit a report to Council dissenting the opinion or business of that committee must submit the report, clearly marked as a "minority report of the committee", endorsed by at least one named member of the committee.

BIFRT the bylaws be renumbered appropriately.

EAB Hearings

WHEREAS the Election Appeal Board currently does not have the ability to gather information which is vital to an appeal of an election or referendum; and

WHEREAS it is vital that all members of the Election Appeal Board be informed for all votes in which they participate:

BIRT Bylaw 4.9.10 be amended to read as follows [amendment given in bold]:

4.9.10 Appeals regarding sanctions **or disqualifications** levied by the Chief Returning Officer shall be made in writing to the Election Appeal Board, care of the Society's office, within 48 hours of the **announcement**. The Election Appeal Board shall render a decision and make such a decision public within two days following their meeting.

BIFRT Bylaw 4.2 be amended to include 4.2.X, positioned between 4.2.1 and 4.2.2, to read as follows:

4.2.X The Election Appeal Board must abide by the following when making rulings:

4.2.X.1 The onus is on the appellant to demonstrate the charge of impropriety was not correct. Consequently, showing a mere balance of probabilities is insufficient for appeal.

4.2.X.2 The appellant has the right, but not an obligation, to appear before the Election Appeal Board at an Election Appeal Hearing to present argument or evidence.

4.2.X.3 The Election Appeal Board has the right to hold an Election Appeal Hearing of its own initiative for an appeal under consideration.

4.2.X.4 An Election Appeal Hearing is a meeting at which the Election Appeal Board may ask questions pertaining to an appeal of people external to the Election Appeal Board.

4.2.X.4.1 The Election Appeal Board has the right to demand the presence of the Chief Returning Officer and/or the Deputy Chief Returning Officer at an Election Appeal Hearing.

4.2.X.4.2 The Election Appeal Board may request, but not demand, the presence of any person not mentioned in Bylaws 4.2.X.4.1 at an Election Appeal Hearing.

4.2.X.4.3 The procedure and handling of evidence at an Election Appeal Hearing is governed by the Policy Manual of the Society.

BIFRT Bylaw 4.2.5 be amended to include:

4.2.5.1 Should a member of the Election Appeal Board be unable to attend a meeting, the highest ranked member of the Election Appeal Board waiting list of the same division, and who has attended all meetings of the appeal under current consideration, will take his or her place for the duration of the appeal.

BIFRT Bylaw 4.2 be amended to include 4.2.Y, positioned after 4.2.6:

4.2.Y Quorum for a meeting of the Election Appeal Board shall be 5.

4.2.Y.1 Any member on the Election Appeal Board waiting list must attend all meetings of the Election Appeal Board and shall be forbidden to speak or vote during meetings.

BIFRT the Bylaws be renumbered appropriately.

Email voting

WHEREAS some committees require emergency votes that do not allow for deliberation; and WHEREAS the use of votes over email when deliberation cannot be done should be at the discretion of the committee chair:

BIRT committee chairs be allowed to hold official committee business and votes via email.

BIFRT if any voting member of a committee expresses the need to discuss a particular motion at a meeting, within two business days of the call for the email vote, email voting for that motion be disallowed.

Motion to amend contract signing

WHEREAS the VP Finance is required to sign all cheques regarding loan agreements; and WHEREAS two signatures, one being the President's or VP Finance's, and one being another VP's, are required to withdraw funds from the Society's bank account; and WHEREAS in the interest of consistency and accountability two signatures should be required to enter into agreements; and

WHEREAS Bylaw 12.5 currently reads:

12.5 The President shall sign all contracts on behalf of the Society, unless otherwise determined by Council.

The President and Vice-President Finance are required to sign any agreements relating to the long-term investments of the Society, unless otherwise determined by Council.

BIRT 12.5 be struck and replaced with:

12.5 The President and one other member of the Executive shall sign all agreements on behalf of the Society, unless otherwise determined by Council. The President and the VP Finance shall sign all agreements relating to the long-term investments of the Society and to all agreements requiring the withdrawal of funds from the Society's bank accounts, unless otherwise determined by Council.

Finance Committee

Motion 1:

BIRT Council adopt the 2010-2011 budget.

(Budget will be available online by January 26 and presented to council.)

Motion 2:

Whereas The University of Western Ontario provided alternative transportation during the transit strike and

Whereas this transportation aided graduate students in fulfilling their academic requirements.

BIRT the Society fund a portion of the van program with the refund provided by the LTC.

BIFRT the remainder be refunded to graduate students.

Financial Details available at Council.

Motion 3:

Whereas the Graduate sponsorship line item is intended to support non-academic initiatives directly benefiting graduate students

BIRT two hundred dollars of the graduate sponsorship line item be used for one time funding of the Indian Graduate Students Association's Diwali Event

Motion 4:

Whereas the Graduate sponsorship line item has had interest from religious/cultural events that benefit graduate students.

Whereas the Society promotes a climate of diversity.

BIRT Council refer the Graduate sponsorship line item policy to the Policy Committee to determine appropriate conditions for religious/cultural event funding.

BIFRT the formulation of this policy be brought back to Council by March 25, 2010.

b) **Other Motions**

SOGS Council Motion – Brent Sherar

Whereas, a petition containing > 10% of the graduate student body at Western has been submitted to the CFS National and CFS Ontario organizations to hold referendums regarding our affiliation;

Whereas, members of the SOGS Council during the November meeting wanted more information regarding the CFS' response to our petition prior to deciding Council's participation in the referendum;

Whereas, should there be a referendum, Council needs to know the date in advance of the referendum and needs sufficient time to appoint two (2) members to act as overseers for the referendums, as per CFS bylaws;

BIRT all correspondence (including letters, email, and all forms of telecommunication) between the CFS National, CFS Ontario, CFS Services, or agent/entity acting in good faith of the three branches of the CFS organization and any SOGS Executive, since October 1, 2009, be posted on the SOGS website within five (5) business of it being received/transmitted (telephone transcripts within fourteen [14] business days) and included in the preceding Council package for discussion.

c) **Tabled Motions**



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

**President
January 2010 Report to Council
Rick Telfer (sogs.president@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors & Members,

At the time of compilation and distribution of this month's Council package, I was in the midst of preparing for and traveling to an overseas destination for research-related purposes. Such preparations and travel necessarily took precedence and, regrettably, a shortage of time meant that I was unable to complete and submit my report on schedule. Thus, I will instead present a detailed report at the time of the Council meeting. Your understanding is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rick Telfer



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

**Vice President Academic
January 2010 Report to Council
Natalie Szudy (sogs.academic@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors,

Western Research Forum:

The 2010 Western Research Forum will be held on **Saturday February 27th, 2010** at the Wave. Thank you to all who have submitted an abstract. An invitation is also extended to anyone who would like to attend both the oral and poster presentations in support of the presenters. A schedule of the research day will be posted online (SOGS website) by early February.

Joint Fund for Graduate Research and Scholarship:

The Joint Fund for Graduate Research and Scholarship was created to support on-campus events (conferences and lectures) that offer opportunities for Western graduate students to present and discuss their research. To date, the committee has received several applications, but is still accepting more. If you are interested in submitting an application, the form can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/Programs/jointFund.html>.

Graduate Student Teaching Awards (GSTA):

The fall term nominations closed on December 18th, 2009. There were over 400 nominations for the fall term!

The Graduate Student Teaching Award nominations for winter and full term courses are now open. Students and faculty are able to acknowledge outstanding graduate student teaching assistants by nominating them for a teaching award.

The deadline for winter and full year nominations is March 31st, 2010.

Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) Pilot Project:

The Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) project is a collaborative effort between the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and Western Libraries. The goal of the project is to collect all graduate research through one electronic portal. The pilot phase for project (for doctoral students) was set to begin in January 2010, but has been pushed back to March. Information about the project will be dispersed once the pilot phase has final approval to begin.

Thank you,

Natalie Szudy



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

**Vice President External and Communication
January 2010 Report to Council
Saidur Chowdhury (sogs.external@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors:

Thanks and welcome back to school. Here is an update of what has been happening under my portfolio since November, 2009.

SOGS Executive meeting:

I attended all SOGS executive monthly meetings and presented committees' as well as external reports.

GSIC:

GSIC met on 4th January, 2010 to select nonexecutive delegates (from SOGS members) for upcoming CFS Ontario Semi Annual General Meeting. In addition, Whistle blower policy was also briefly discussed at that meeting. GSIC assigned Saidur, VP external, to present the significance of Whistle blower policy during SOGS-SGPS meeting. GSIC will meet on 5th February, 2010 at 5:00 pm to discuss more on that issue.

Please visit www.cfs-fcee.ca for more information about *Whistleblowers: Defending Academic Freedom*.

SOGS-SGPS Meeting:

Meetings were held on 14th December and 11th January to discuss proposed tuition fees as well as other agenda items. Here is a brief report:

1) An assessment of Western's tuition rates in comparison to other G13 universities showed that University of Western Ontario are still below the average in both domestic and international student fees. The proposal for both a 4% (domestic) and 8% (international) increase was discussed. SGPS does not want to see Western's fees surpass other universities (would like to continue to remain below the average).

2) A brief discussion on "Whistleblowers" was discussed at SOGS-SGPS meeting. At present, university has started to raise money from different organizations specially corporation. Whistleblowers i.e. policy on safe disclosure, is very important to protect graduate student from academic misconduct, misconduct in research, corporate influence on any innovative research, commercialization of research, improper activity and financial misconduct meaning misuse of funds or property that belongs to the university. SOGS-SGPS members have agreed to review all university current policy and will discuss again at the upcoming SOGS-SGPS meeting.

CFS-National:

CFS national general meeting was held in November, 2009. The meeting involved discussion and adoption of different motions regarding post secondary education, campaign and OSD. Member locals elected CFS National Chairperson, Vice chairperson and Treasurer for 2010-11. I attended Graduate Caucus meeting during NGM and made questions about the present status of our motion (Tri-Council Policies On Maternity And Parental Leaves For Graduate And Post-Doctoral Fellows). Chairperson, National Graduate Caucus, CFS national office, replied that three letters were sent to

the president of NSERC, SSHRC and CIHR. Council members (NSERC, SSHRC and CIHR) are in the process of a review and that they will be releasing that soon.

CFS Ontario Executive meeting:

The CFS-Ontario Executive meeting was held on December 5th-6th in Toronto. The meeting involved review and discussion of CFS services as well as on-going and future campaigns. Additionally the following CFS meetings are coming up:

CFS Ontario Semi-Annual General Meeting: January 21- January 24, 2010

CFS Ontario Annual General Meeting: August 18- August 22, 2010

Upcoming CFS Ontario Executive meeting: March 27- March 28, 2010

Ontario Skills Development Symposium: June 11- June 13, 2010.

In addition, they adopted some campaigns and important reports released by Task force on campus racism.

CFS Ontario Lobby week:

Lobby events were held on December 7-10, 2009 and had demonstrated the continued momentum of CFS campaign for a fully accessible, high quality, public post-secondary education system. At CFS last Ontario general meeting, members local resolved to hold a week of provincial lobbying as part of the Drop Fees for a Poverty-Free Ontario campaign. Students from Locals 1, 19, 24, 25, 27, 30, 32, 41, 47, 48, 54, 68, 78, 82, 93, 98, 105 and 110 participated in over 60 lobby meetings with Members of Provincial Parliament. In these meetings, members local advanced student's demands regarding tuition and ancillary fees, student financial assistance, funding and quality, a province-wide credit transfer system and research and innovation. A lobby document was created outlining CFS demands that can be accessed on CFS website: www.cfsontario.ca/english/campaigns.php?id=29.

In addition, students from across the province who were in Toronto for lobby week participated in the delivery of over 90,000 postcards that students collected, calling for more investment in affordable post-secondary education. This is a milestone in CFS organising capacity and represents a broad-based support for accessible education that the provincial government can no longer afford to ignore.

If you have any question, contact me at sogs.external@uwo.ca.

Cheers

Saidur R Chowdhury

VP of External Affairs & Communications



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

Vice President Finance
January 2010 Report to Council
Duncan Sutherland (sogs.finance@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>

Dear Councillors,

The office will be closed February 15 to the 19 for renovations. The majority of the work will be done in this time period. It is strongly suggested that you plan for this interruption of service.

Finance (January 19):

I have been in contact with Vice-President (Resources & Operations) about refunding students for the bus strike through a credit to student fees. This would save a significant amount of both time and money by eliminating the need to issue cheques. Additionally, the university is requesting that we provide some financial assistance for the various programs that Western ran to support students during this strike. I am meeting with university officials to determine the appropriate funding levels pending approval by Council (January 22, exact numbers will be provided in Council).

Currently the Finance Committee is reviewing the budget. Budget will be available online by January 26 and presented to Council.

Grad Club:

I have met with both the chairs of the finance and the grad club committees to determine if it is possible to increase Grad Club bursaries in the coming year. A funding model involving a percentage of revenue was put forward as the optimal solution. In this model, the Grad Club will utilize a percentage of its yearly revenue to fund bursaries. In addition to this there will be a base amount of money provided regardless of the current year's revenue. This model has the advantage of not overextending the establishment in unprofitable years. The committee itself will look into incorporating it into the next Grad Club budget.

The Health & Safety System Manual has been completed and will require one year of training for full implementation.

Over the break, the staff painted the grad club to improve overall appearance. Marc Lalonde (General Manager) and myself are currently looking into replacing patio tables & refinishing the inside tables to improve the overall look of the establishment.

The Grad Club committee needs members.

Sustainability (January 19) :

The proposed audit of SOGS by a Masters in Environment and Sustainability was not selected and they will be looking into alternative methods of obtaining an audit.

Bursary:

The Bursary Committee awarded 50 bursaries for the fall 2009 term at a total of \$40,000. Later this month both Child Care Subsidies and Travel Subsidies will be awarded.

Executive (Met January 18):

Discussion included the Donor Agreement between the Society of Graduate Students (see attached agreement) and The University of Western Ontario. Concern has been raised over students funding students, with a gift of \$1,035,235.40 dollars in March of 2011, which represents the expected

revenue from graduate student levies from 2012 to 2018. Both the President and I will be arranging a meeting with the university to determine exactly how this money will be collected.

A motion has been forwarded to the council concerning an application under Special Projects/Sponsorship/Grant Application in order to fund a Diwali event held at the Grad Club this past year. I strongly support this application as it demonstrates SOGS commitment to diversity. Currently the graduate sponsorship line item has one thousand eighty dollars at its disposal.



**Vice President Student Services
January 2010 Report to Council
Jenny Jiang (sogs.services@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors,

I'd like to welcome all the new Councillors for this new winter term! SOGS is growing increasingly, and so is our reputation.

Due to an important family matter, I will not be present during this January council meeting (Jan 28, 2010). Hence, please allow me to address your concerns/questions at our February Council meeting. Feel free to email your questions to me in between: sogs.services@uwo.ca

Orientation Committee:

The Orientation Committee is currently in the process of planning an Olympic bash (mid-February, 2010) at the Grad Club. More information will be sent out to all graduate students during Feb. We welcome any ideas/suggestions. Interested graduate students should consider joining the committee.

The OC committee is currently recruiting new members. Any interested members should contact me if they would like to get involved.

IGSIC Committee:

In collaboration with UWO's Student Development Centre, IGSIC Committee will host an "Evening of Bowling" at the Fleetway on Feb, 9, 2010. Tickets will be \$5/each student. Proceeds from ticket sales will be used to purchase non-perishable food items which will be donated to the local food bank on behalf of SOGS. Limited tickets are available, so make sure you get yours early! More information about the event will be sent out via email closer to the date.

Health Plan Committee:

The Health Plan Committee has evaluated special cases of graduate students wishing to opt-in/out after the September 30th deadline. The HPC bursary allocation has been discussed and appropriate candidates are considered.

Student Services Committee: I will be attending a meeting on Jan 26, 2010 on behalf of SOGS to discuss ancillary fees for the UWO student body. I will provide more information from this upcoming meeting in my Feb report.

That's all for the month of Dec & Jan!

Cheers,

Jenny



SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

Commissioner for Students with Disabilities
January 2010 Report to Council
Chelsea Mohler (sogs.disabilities@uwo.ca)
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>

Elections Table Executive

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

Elections Table Committees – Internal / External

Type	Position	Nominee	Department	Email
SOGS	Academic Committee			
SOGS	Bursary & Subsidy Committee			
SOGS	Bylaws and Constitution Committee			
SOGS	Elections Appeal Board			
SOGS	Equity and Social Justice			
SOGS	Finance Committee			
SOGS	Grad Club Committee			
SOGS	Graduate Student Issues Committee			
SOGS	Graduate Student Teaching Awards Committee			
SOGS	Health Plan Committee			
SOGS	International Graduate Student Issues Committee			
SOGS	Orientation Committee			
SOGS	Personnel Policy Committee			
SOGS	Policy Committee			
SOGS	Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee			
SOGS	WGR Editorial Board			
Other	Helmuth Prize 2010 http://www.uwo.ca/research/docs/programs/GuideSp-Hellmuth_Award.pdf			
Other				
Other				
Other				

Robert's Rules at a Glance

To do this	You say this	May you interrupt the person speaking?	Must you be seconded?	Is the motion debatable?	Is the motion amendable?	What vote is required?
Object to incorrect procedure being used	Point of order	Yes	No	No	No	No vote required, chair rules
Object to something which prevents your continued participation (e.g., excessive noise)	Point of personal privilege	Yes	No	No	No	No vote required, chair rules
Object to a motion being considered	I object to consideration of this motion	Yes	No	No	No	2/3 Majority
Considered something out of its scheduled order	I move the agenda be amended in order to deal with the following item...	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 Majority
Overturn the ruling of the Speaker	I challenge the Speaker on...	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
Change a motion	I move that the motion be amended to read...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Have a motion studied more before voting on it	I move that the motion be referred to...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Postpone further discussion on a motion until later in the meeting	I move that the motion be tabled until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Postpone consideration of a motion until future meeting	I move that the motion be postponed until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Raise a matter previously tabled	I move that motion... be lifted from the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Reconsider a motion already voted on earlier in the meeting	I move that motion... be reconsidered	No	Yes	Yes (if original motion was)	No	Majority
End debate on a motion	I call the question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 Majority
Ask that everyone's vote on a particular motion be recorded in the minutes	I call for a roll call vote	No	No	No	No	No vote required, Speaker rules
Recess the meeting	I move that the meeting recess until...	No	Yes	Only to time	No	Majority
End the meeting	I move that the meeting adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority

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.

Appendix A



**Donor Agreement between the
Society of Graduate Students
and
The University of Western Ontario**

The following agreement relates to gifts and pledges, which are OSOTF II eligible, made by the Society of Graduate Students (hereinafter referred to as "SOGS"), on behalf of graduate students, using the proceeds of the graduate student levy, to The University of Western Ontario (hereinafter referred to as "the University").

Specifically, this agreement outlines the details of SOGS' cash donation of \$134,859.44 and an outstanding pledge commitment of \$2,070,471. A portion of this pledge, or \$1,035,235.40, represents the expected revenue from graduate student levies from ~~2012 to 2018~~. This will enable SOGS to take full advantage of the OSOTF II matching program and bring the total OSOTF II eligible gift to \$2,205,330.

Purpose of the Donation:

SOGS' gift will be endowed at the University in a fund named the *Society of Graduate Students OSOTF II Bursaries Fund*. The income from this fund will support bursaries with criteria that match the existing Society of Graduate Students OSOTF Bursaries.

As endowment income is generated, it will be added to the total amount available for the Society of Graduate Students OSOTF Bursaries. If SOGS' pledge of \$2,020,471 is paid in full and the entire OSOTF match is secured, it is anticipated that approximately \$198,500 will be available annually for bursaries from the ~~*Society of Graduate Students OSOTF II Bursaries Fund*~~.

Donation Amount and Timing:

SOGS' cash gift of \$134,859.44 is eligible for matching through the OSOTF II program. In addition, SOGS pledges \$2,070,471 to be paid before March 31, 2011. This pledge amount is based on an annual estimate of \$147,890.78 in proceeds from the graduate student levy from 2004 to 2011. It also includes an additional lump sum payment of \$1,035,235.40, which represents the anticipated revenue from graduate student levies from 2012 to 2018.

SOGS' gift qualifies for the Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund (OSOTF) program, which provides a dollar for dollar match for endowed gifts directed to student bursaries or financial need based awards and scholarships. The Province of Ontario will provide matching funds based on the total gift of \$2,205,330 that will create an endowment of \$4,410,660.

Use of the Donation:

The endowment will be held at The University of Western Ontario. The University seeks to maintain the real value of the endowment in the long run by capitalizing a portion of the investment revenue each year.

The amount available for spending each year will be a percentage of the average value of the endowment over the most recent three-year period. In any particular year, should accumulated investment returns be insufficient to fund the amount made available for spending, endowment capital will be used, with the expectation that such amounts will be recovered from future investment returns. Actual investment returns are subject to the University's fund management fees. The above is in accordance with the University's Investment Payout Policy (Policy 2.11, as may be amended from time to time).

Donor Reporting:

The University agrees to report annually to SOGS' President and SOGS' VP Finance regarding the financial status of the endowment.

Donor Recognition:

A mutually agreeable date shall be established by the University and SOGS to announce this donation formally. It is agreed that no public announcement or media release concerning the agreement or the participation of the parties involved shall be made without the prior consent and approval of all parties.

The University is pleased to offer the following recognition benefits as a result of SOGS' generous gift:

- Continued membership in one of The University of Western Ontario's 1878 Societies. Named to reflect the year of the University's founding, the 1878 Societies represent the most generous individual donors giving \$10,000 or more and corporate and foundation donors giving more than \$100,000 to the University. Members receive benefits including listing on a donor wall in Alumni Hall, newsletters updating the donor on University affairs, and invitations to donor events.

Recognition of this gift in donor listings will be in the name of the **Society of Graduate Students**, unless otherwise indicated by SOGS.

Permission to Alter:

If through the passage of time it becomes impossible for the University to distribute the income from this fund following the established provisions, or if the students or the University could be better served by altering the established provisions, the University will seek permission of SOGS, or any successor organizations, to use the fund for an alternate purpose. If SOGS, or any successor organizations, are unable to be contacted, permission is granted to alter the use of the fund adhering as closely as possible to SOGS' original intent.

Sole Agreement:

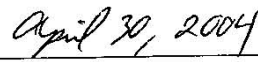
This instrument is the sole agreement among the parties with respect to this donation.

Authorization:

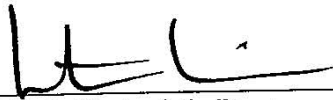
Executed as of the dates set forth opposite the signatures of each of the parties hereto:



Daryl White, President
Society of Graduate Students



Date



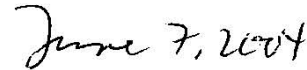
Martin Kreiswirth, Dean
Faculty of Graduate Studies



Date



Ted Garrard, Vice-President (External)



Date

Appendix B

2010-2011 Proposed SOGS Budget

Will be added to the Council package by January 27th.

