

**Society of Graduate Students  
May 26, 2011 Council Meeting  
UCC Room 37**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

SOGS Council Meeting Agenda	Page	2
SOGS Council Attendance Report – April 28, 2011	Page	3
SOGS Council Minutes – April 28, 2011	Page	7
SOGS Executive Minutes – April 27, 2011	Page	10
Orders of the Day	Page	12
SOGS Executive Report – President	Page	13
SOGS Executive Report – VP Academic	Page	14
SOGS Executive Report – VP External & Communication	Page	16
SOGS Executive Report – VP Finance	Page	18
SOGS Executive Report – VP Student Services	Page	19
SOGS Report – Disabilities Commissioner	Page	20
Elections Table	Page	21
SOGS Committees	Page	21
Graduate Education Committee	Page	21
Robert’s Rules at a Glance	Page	22
Rules of Decorum/Debate	Page	24
Appendix I – Candidacy Statement – Desiree Lamoureux	Page	25
Appendix II – Report on Signing of the Profit Participation Plan	Page	26
Alternate / Proxy Form for Councillor	Page	27

# **SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS COUNCIL MEETING**

**May 26, 2011  
6:00 pm**

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Ratification of Agenda**
- 2. Presidential Oath**
- 3. Announcements**
- 4. Reception and Ratification of the SOGS Council Minutes April 28, 2011**
- 5. Elections - Committees (Internal & External)**
- 6. Orders of the Day**
  - a. Motions arising from the President
  - b. Motions arising from Other Committees
  - c. Other Motions
  - d. Tabled Motions
- 7. 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
- 8. New Business/Open Forum**

## SOGS Council Attendance Report April 28, 2011

Represents (Dept)	Name	In	Out	Notes
American Studies	Laura McGee			
Anatomy & Cell Biology	Scott Findlay	6:05		
Anatomy & Cell Biology	Steven Greening			
Anthropology	Mark Dolson	6:05		
Anthropology	John Moody	6:05		
Applied Mathematics	Piers Lawrence	6:05		No alternate form
Applied Mathematics	Jin Xu	6:05		
Astronomy & Physics	Nikolaj Jensen			
Astronomy & Physics	Teznie Pugh			
Astronomy & Physics	Chris Racknor	6:05	8:00	
Biochemistry	Lance DaSilva	6:05		
Biochemistry	Keith Horwood	6:05		
Biochemistry	Ben Kleinstiver			
Biology	Robert Arsenault	6:05		
Biology	Jason Brown			
Biology	Jordan Epstein	6:05		
Biology	Sonja Teichert	6:05	7:26	
Biology	Mathew VanKoughnett	6:05		
Biomedical Engineering	Erden Ertorer	6:05		Alt. Ryan Amos
Biomedical Engineering	Corey Smith	6:05		
Board of Governors	Michael Dietrich			
Business (Mgmt)	Adam Kauppi			
Business (Ph.D)	Foad Hassanmirzaei	6:05		
Business (Ph.D)	Yves Plourde	6:05		
Chemistry	Melissa Lewis	6:05	7:20	
Chemistry	Mohtashim Shamsi	6:05	7:20	
Chemistry	vacant			
Chemistry	vacant			
Classical Studies	Simeon Ehrlich			
Comp. Literature	Kevin Godbout	6:05		
Computer Science	Mohammad Hassan			
Computer Science	Marjorie Locke	6:05	7:20	
Computer Science	Anthony Pagnotta			
CSD	Alasdair Cumming	6:05	7:20	Alt. Jen Allen
CSD	Julie Herczeg	6:05	7:20	Alt. Jenna Coady
CSD	Bonnie Lampe	6:05	7:20	Alt. Sherry Peter
Disabilities Commissioner	Chelsea Mohler	6:10		
Earth Sciences	Kegan Farrick			
Earth Sciences	Laura Sanchez	6:05	7:25	
Earth Sciences	Reagen Unrau	6:05		
Economics	Aaron Gertz	6:05		
Economics	Brandon Heard	6:05		
Education	Jensen Caughlin	6:05	7:23	
Education	Gayle Gibson			
Education	Jane Gichuru			
Education	Alicia Lapointe	6:05		

Represents (Dept)	Name	In	Out	Notes
Education	Magdalena Stepien			
Engineering Science	Nedal Mohamed	6:05	8:00	
Engineering Science	Ahmed AbdElaziz	6:05	7:20	
Engineering Science	Mumin Abdul	6:05	7:20	Alt. Diego Velasquez
Engineering Science	Ahmed AlAssuity	6:05	7:20	
Engineering Science	Jenna Allan	6:05		
Engineering Science	Reza Azarderakhsh	6:05	7:30	
Engineering Science	Ahmed Eldyasti	6:05	7:19	
Engineering Science	Abdullah Hafiz	6:05	7:27	
Engineering Science	Ahmed Hamada	6:05	7:34	Alt. Chowdhury Jubayer
Engineering Science	Tanvir Hassan	6:05		
Engineering Science	Mona Jabehdar			
Engineering Science	Mehran Kermani	6:05	7:35	
Engineering Science	Tingjie Li	6:05		
Engineering Science	Jahidur Rahman	6:05		
Engineering Science	Seyed Yardi			
English	Yuri Forbes-Petrovich			
English	Erica Leighton	6:05		
English	Mary Eileen Wennekers	6:05		
Environment & Sustainability	Steve Allingham			
Epidemiology & Biostats	Michael Lebenbaum	6:05		
Epidemiology & Biostats	Sabrina Youash	6:05	7:29	
Executive - President	Duncan Sutherland	6:05		
Executive - Speaker	John Nater			
Executive - VP Academic	Fiona Simpson	6:05		
Executive - VP External	Saidur Chowdhury			At Conference
Executive - VP Finance	Jordan Harel	6:05		
Executive - VP St. Services	Christopher Hum			
Family Medicine	vacant			
Food & Nutrition	Simendeep Atwal			
French	Elena Grigorescu	6:05	7:30	Alt. Lisa Kadoury
French	Désirée Lamoureux	6:05		
Geography	Malgorzata Milczarek	6:05		Alt. Andrew Barnes
Geography	Mariama Zaami	6:05	7:22	
Global Film Culture	Zoran Maric	6:05	7:20	
Graduate Education Council	Philip Baiden (Social Sciences)			
Graduate Education Council	Dan Dechene (Engineering)	6:05		
Graduate Education Council	John Diogenous (Ivey)			
Graduate Education Council	Stephanie Dorman (Schulich)			
Graduate Education Council	Richard English (Music)	6:05		
Graduate Education Council	Katie Fulford (A&H)			
Graduate Education Council	Gaston Keller (Science)			
Graduate Education Council	Vincent Manzerolle (I&MS)			
Graduate Education Council	Chelsea Mohler (Health Sci.)			
Graduate Education Council	Brent Sherar (Science)			
Graduate Education Council	vacant (Education)			
Graduate Education Council	vacant (Law)			
GTA Union Representative	Reza Azarderakhsh	6:05	7:30	
Health & Rehab Sciences	Simak Bashardoust Tajali	6:20	7:40	

Represents (Dept)	Name	In	Out	Notes
Health & Rehab Sciences	Kristen Bishop			
Health & Rehab Sciences	Amanda McIntyre	6:05		
Health & Rehab Sciences	Kristina Miller	6:05	8:00	
Health & Rehab Sciences	Eric Sadowski	6:05		
Hispanic Studies	vacant			
History	Dave Blocker			
History	Caitlin Dyer			
History	Christopher Schultz	6:05		
Journalism	Cara Campbell	6:05	7:20	
Kinesiology	Stefanie DeJesus			
Kinesiology	Cameron Edgar			
Kinesiology	Chantelle Nielson	6:05		
Kinesiology	Alexandra Williams			
L&IS-M	Nariel Davis	6:05		
L&IS-M	Joanna Kerr	6:05		
L&IS-M	Joanna Lennox			
L&IS-M	Monica Rhee			
L&IS-M	Georgia Stone			
L&IS-M	Jesica Bailey Urso			
L&IS-PhD	Matthew Griffis	6:05	8:00	
Law	John Magyar	6:05	8:10	
Linguistics	Sorina Dragusanu	6:05	8:10	
Mathematics	Seyed Mousavi	6:05		
Media Studies - MA	Gabriel Elias	6:05	7:23	
Media Studies - PhD	Henry Svec	6:05	7:20	
Medical Biophysics	Udunna Anazodo			
Medical Biophysics	Amanda Khan	6:05	7:35	
Medical Biophysics	Timothy Yeung	6:05		
Microbiol & Immunology	Mateusz Ryteleuski	6:05	7:20	
Microbiol & Immunology	Jessica Tong	6:05	7:15	
Music	Maxime O'Bomsawin-Begin			
Music	Jessica Todd	6:05		
Music	vacant			
Music	vacant			
Neuroscience	Michaela Holmes	6:05		
Neuroscience	Bridget Valsamis	6:05		
Nursing	vacant			
Nursing	vacant			
Occupational Therapy	Jen Brewe			
Occupational Therapy	Bronwyn Cormack	6:05	7:00	
Occupational Therapy	Johnny Duong	6:05	7:20	
Orthodontics	vacant			
Pathology	Manoj Hariharan			
Pathology	Matthew Riopel	6:05	7:20	
Philosophy	Saad Anis	6:05		
Philosophy	Emerson Doyle	6:05	:	
Physical Therapy	Joselyne Bellamy			
Physical Therapy	Stephanie Cornell			
Physical Therapy	Juliana Greene			

Represents (Dept)	Name	In	Out	Notes
Physical Therapy	Chris Statten			
Physiology and Pharm.	Emily LeBlanc	6:05	7:30	
Physiology and Pharm.	Karolina Piorkowska			
Physiology and Pharm.	Ryan Shugg	6:05	7:27	
Physiology and Pharm.	Nicole Watts	6:05	7:30	
Political Science	Amanda Stuart-Ross	6:05		
Political Science	Amanda Vyce	6:05		
Psychology	Justin Feeney	6:05	7:40	
Psychology	Brigitte Hanna	6:05		
Psychology	Kathleen O'Connor	6:05	7:18	
Psychology	Karen Zhang	6:50		Alt. Paul Conway
Public Administration	Joe Nethery	6:05		
Senate	Gaston Keller			
Senate	Brent Sherar			
Senate	Duncan Sutherland	6:05		
Senate	Rick Telfer			
Social Work	Christeen Howe	6:05	7:20	
Sociology	Aisha Birani	6:25	7:40	Alt. Godfred Chongatera
Sociology	Pamela Glatt	6:05		Alt. Rick Telfer
Stats & Actuarial Sciences	Weibin Jiang	6:05	7:20	
Stats & Actuarial Sciences	Yanyan Zang	6:05	7:20	
Theology	vacant			
Theory & Criticism	David Janzen	6:05	7:20	
Theory & Criticism	Katherine Lawless	6:05	7:20	
Visual Arts	Emma Arenson			
Visual Arts	Colin Miner	6:05	7:40	no alternate form
Women's Studies	Sarah Saska			

**SOGS COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Draft MINUTES**  
**April 28, 2011**  
**6:05 – 8:15 pm**  
**UCC Room 56**

**Speaker: John Nater (Interim Speaker – Dan Dechene)**

**Recording secretary: Olga Sauer**

- 1) **Dan Dechene** introduced himself as the BCC Chair and Interim speaker for the beginning of the meeting until such time as John is able to attend.
- 2) **Ratification of Agenda**  
Reports from Councillors, Senator and Board of Governors are to be moved to immediately after reception and ratification of minutes.  
Amended agenda ratified
- 3) **Announcements**
  - a) Welcome to all Councillors to the SOGS April Council Meeting with a special welcome to new Councillors. There are new Councillor packages available.
  - b) Quorum is 30.
  - c) When addressing Council, Councillors are requested to stand up and speak loudly.
  - d) Please complete the survey that was distributed and leave at the front of the room when completed.
  - e) Light refreshments available at the front of the room.
  - f) Council meetings for the summer term are as follows:

May 26	UCC 37	normal
June 23	UCC 56	early to accommodate long weekend
July 21	UCC 56	early to accommodate long weekend
August 25	UCC 56	normal
  - g) Starting May 6, SOGS Summer Office hours will be Monday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm and Friday 9 am – noon. The office will close at noon on Fridays.
  - h) Bus passes for the summer term are available. Remember you must have your student card. We apologize for the disruption caused by the SGPS server crash.
  - i) Subsidy applications are due tomorrow at 4 pm in the SOGS Office.
  - j) Remember you **MUST** sign in at the beginning of Council with your signature and time and if you leave before the meeting is 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) **Reception and Ratification of the SOGS Council Minutes March 31, 2011**  
Minutes received and ratified.
- 5) **Access Copyright Update from John Magyar**  
John elaborated on his written report.  
Reagan Unrau (Earth Sciences) Thanked John for his hard work on behalf of all graduate students.  
John also requested, on behalf of GSIC, that any area that is having water problems, should contact GSIC for that a more complete picture of the water situation on campus can be formulated.  
  
**Sustainability Committee Report**  
Sonja presented her written report. Rick Telfer and Jordan Harel thanked Sonja for her hard work on the committee, as the Chair.
- 6) **Elections**  
  
**VP Student Services**  
**Desiree Lamoureux** presented her platform (included as Appendix I).  
**Eric Sadowski** presented his platform (included in April package).

## **VP External & Communications**

**Jahidur Rahman** presented his platform

**Kai Pisters** sent his regrets. He was attending a conference in Ireland.

**Desiree Lamoureux and Jahidur Rahman** were elected.

**MOTION:** BIRT Council ratify the election results.

**Moved:** Duncan Sutherland

**Seconded:** Amanda Stuart-Ross

**Carried**

**MOTION:** BIRT the election ballots be destroyed.

**Moved:** Emerson Doyle

**Seconded:** Kevin Godbout

**Carried**

## **Bursaries & Subsidies Committee**

Duncan Sutherland (Chemistry)

## **Bylaws & Constitution Committee**

Christopher Hum (History)

Eric Sadowski (Health & Rehab Sciences)

## **Finance Committee**

Duncan Sutherland (Chemistry)

## **Grad Club Committee**

Duncan Sutherland (Chemistry)

Bridgett Valsamis (Neurosciences)

## **Graduate Student Issues Committee**

Eric Sadowski (Health & Rehab Sciences)

## **Health Plan Committee**

Christopher Hum (History)

## **Sustainability Committee**

Eric Sadowski (Health & Rehab Sciences)

Duncan Sutherland (Chemistry)

Bridgett Valsamis (Neurosciences)

Jenna Allan (Engineering)

## **Working Group for Information Security**

***Anyone interested should contact the SOGS office.***

**Moved** – Reagan Unrau

**Seconded** – Amanda Stuart-Ross

**Carried**

## **6) Orders of the Day**

### **a) Motions arising from the President**

Whereas the university is looking to expand graduate enrolment

Whereas SOGS has seen a 33% increase in graduate enrolment since 2006

Whereas funneling **all** official SOGS communication through a single VP is becoming unreasonable.

BIRT the BCC review the communication strategies of comparable Universities (GG13)

BIFRT the BCC submit a report to council outlining the communication strategies observed and their recommendations (3)

BIFRT should the addition of a communications officer be necessary, both the BCC and the FC take steps to amend the bylaws and alter the budget, respectively, for the 2012-2013 academic year to accommodate the additional position(s).

**Moved:** Duncan Sutherland

**Seconded:** Amanda Stuart Ross

**Carried**

**b) Motions arising from Other Committees**

Following motions were omnibused:

Moved: Fiona Simpson

Seconded: Duncan Sutherland

**Carried**

BIRT the chairs of the Equity and GSIC committees receive their honoraria.

BIRT the chairs of the Finance, Grad Club, Sustainability and Bursary and Subsidies committees receive their honoraria.

BIRT the chairs of the Health Plan, and IGSIC committees receive their honoraria.

**Moved:** Amanda Stuart Ross

**Seconded:** Mary Eileen Wennekers

**Carried**

**7) Executive Reports**

**Commissioner – Students with Disabilities**

Chelsea outlined her activities for April.

**Senators & Board of Governors**

Rick Telfer reported that Senate has approved the tuition fees for next year. He voted against them.

**President – Duncan Sutherland**

Duncan presented his report and thanked the Executive for their hard work throughout the year.

**VP Academic – Fiona Simpson**

Fiona offered her report.

**VP External – Saidur Chowdhury**

Saidur is at the GG13 conference. If anyone has questions regarding his report, they should email him directly.

**VP Finance – Jordan Harel**

Jordan will like the BCC to investigate the possibility of having a Sustainability Commissioner.

**VP Student Services – Christopher Hum**

Chris thanked everyone for making his year a success.

**8) New Business**

Desiree informed Council of the Skills Development Seminars offered by CFS-Ontario and asked that anyone interested in attending should submit their name.

Adjourned – 8:05 pm

Moved – D. Sutherland

Seconded – R. Unrau

Carried

**SOGS EXECUTIVE MEETING**  
**Approved MINUTES**  
**April 27, 2011**  
**11:00 am - 12:45 pm**  
**UCC 260**

---

**Present:** Duncan Sutherland, President  
Fiona Sutherland, VP Academic  
Saidur Chowdhury, VP External  
Jordan Harel, VP Finance  
Jacklyn Chang, Interim Accounting Manager  
Olga Sauer, Office Manager

**Regrets:** Christopher Hum, VP Student Services

**1) President**

**Maternity Leave for Raquel Rodrigues**

Current maternity leave for Raquel should be looked at separately from under /over payment of President and VPs.

**MOTION 1:**

BIRT the Executive direct the Finance Committee to compensate Raquel Rodrigues for her maternity leave according to the UWO PMA/UWOSA policies.

BIFRT this is a one time decision that should not affect maternity leave policy decisions in the future.

Moved – Duncan Sutherland

Seconded – Fiona Simpson

Unanimous

**MOTION 2:**

BIRT the Executive, in consultation with the BCC, review the Personnel Policy.

BIFRT they develop a comprehensive maternity/paternity leave policy.

Moved – Duncan Sutherland

Seconded – Saidur Chowdhury

Unanimous

**MOTION 3:**

BIRT the whole personnel policy manual be reviewed.

Moved – Duncan Sutherland

Seconded – Jordan Harel

Unanimous

**MOTION 4:**

BIRT the Finance Committee be directed to review the issue of pay discrepancy for the Executive and bring their recommendation to Council.

Moved – Jordan Harel

Seconded – Saidur Chowdhury

Unanimous

**2) SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE**

Duncan suggested that the SOGS website should be updated by Olga, with consultation from the Executive. This would not involve the creation of new pages, but rather upkeep of existing pages, to ensure accuracy.

Create a contact list for the President and each VP.

Saidur suggested having Olga be assigned to compile “trivia” contest winners. It was difficult to get this information when he was trying to organize the Newsletter.

Saidur also would like more input from VPs and President as to updating the website content. It was difficult for Saidur to motivate committees.

Fiona suggested the Western Research Forum date should be changed and speakers should be booked well in advance, by the outgoing VP.

Comprehensive reports are needed in order that there is some continuity from year to year.

GSTA awards need to be looked at – timelines, submissions, etc. Perhaps nominations should be limited to one TA per nominator. This would alleviate multiple nominations by one student. SOGS should review taking on the major role in the adjudication of these awards. Should all students contribute when only TAs benefit.

Joint Fund partnership needs to be looked at. Attention should be given as to how to process the applications. Guidelines for submissions need to be reviewed.

Western Graduate Review needs to be looked at.

Exact timelines should be clearly set out for portfolios, especially Finance.

Sustainability should be removed from the VP Finance portfolio and a Commissioner position should be created. This is a growing committee that is very active. BCC should be directed to look into this.

Duncan suggested swapping the Health Plan Committee for Sustainability in the Student Services portfolio.

Bursary evaluations should have their process reviewed.

Duncan wanted it recorded that the lawyer who worked with SOGS to bring about the Referendum was John McNair. Both John and Erin McDermid, his associate, would be good to retain for future use.

Parting words from one President to another: trust your Vice Presidents – rely on the people in the Office.

Pizza from the Grad Club was served.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:45**

## Orders of the Day

a) **Motions arising from the President**

b) **Motions arising from Other Committees**

**BCC**

BIRT Council recommends the following amendment to the Constitution at the next General Meeting:

"The resultant figure shall then be rounded up to the nearest whole number, which will be the number of Councillors that each department will elect to Council." in 6.1.3 be replaced with: "The resultant figure shall then be rounded down to the nearest whole number. In any instance where this result is zero (0), it shall be set to one (1). This shall be the number of Councillors that each department will elect to Council."

c) **Other Motions**

d) **Tabled Motions**



**President**  
**May 2011 Report to Council**  
**Saidur Chowdhury (sogs.president@uwo.ca)**  
**<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors:

Thanks. It's an honor to serve as your President of the Society. Here is an update of what has been happening in May, 2011.

**1) Committee meetings**

I met Bylaws and Constitution Committee. They discussed tendering policy and the restructuring of councillors' number.

I also participated in the Finance Committee (FC) meeting. Duane Jacques, Committee chair, updated me some important financial Status of the Society. At present, we are working on Maternity leave policy.

**2) Orientation Session in Engineering**

I participated in the faculty orientation events; and presented SOGS activities and services to new-grad students.

**3) City Hall Meeting**

Duncan and I attended the City Hall meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The City Mayor introduced us to his team. We presented our Society's activities to the City Councillors. They assured us to work together with all important issues.

**4) Executive meeting**

Executive meeting will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am in the SOGS office.

**5) SOGS Investment**

SOGS made investment strategy with UWO. These monies will be used to improve the quality of graduate services and life.

**6) SOGS-SGPS**

The regular monthly meeting will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011. I shall present you orally at the council meeting if any important discussion comes up from the SOGS-SGPS meeting.

**7) GG 13 Conference**

The GG13 Conference was held on April 28 to May 1, 2011 at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. This year's conference discussed two themes: 1) how graduate societies can help students plan for graduate research in post/non university and 2) other cooperative environments, and leadership strategies for graduate student managers.

If you have any questions about SOGS, feel free to contact me at [sogs.president@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs.president@uwo.ca).

Sincerely,  
Saidur R. Chowdhury  
SOGS' President



**VP Academic**  
**May 2011 Report to Council**  
**Fiona Simpson (sogs.academic@uwo.ca)**  
**<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors,  
 I'm pleased to announce the winners of this year's **Graduate Student Teaching Awards**.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
Jeff Hepburn	Anatomy and Cell Biology
Christina Castellani	Biology
Kari Everett	Biology
Mathew Vankoughnett	Biology
Jeff (Hsien-Chi) Wu	Computer Science
Mike Hamilton	Earth Science
David Allison	Engineering
ASM Jaihrul Islam Mazumder	Engineering
Md Jahidur Rahman	Engineering
Paige Beck	English
Fatima Patel	English
Magdalena Kubow	History
Jeremy Marks	History
Tyler Groves	Kinesiology
Marcela Otalora	Modern Languages and Literature
Felipe Quintanilla	Modern Languages and Literature
Michael Fitzpatrick	Music
Livia Veselka	Psychology
Sarah Driessens	Sociology
Donald Hickerson	Sociology

**SUPR-G**

The Subcommittee on Program Review – Graduate has been discussing the requirements for the submission of new programs to the committee. They hope to develop standardized submission requirements for all new programs.

**The Joint Fund for Graduate Research and Scholarship**

The Joint Fund has awarded \$10,000 thus far this year. There is \$5000 remaining in the account.

<b>Department</b>	<b>Event Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Support Awarded</b>
Anthropology	Conference	Franz Boas: Ethnographer, Theorist, Activist, Public Intellectual	December-2-5- 2010	\$600.00
Anthropology	Conference	How Video Can Be Used to Present Anthropology to the Public	February-21-11	\$600.00
Biochemistry	Conference	Research Showcase for Biochemistry Students	January-21-11	\$600.00
History	Conference	Medical History, Museums, and Material Culture Workshop	February-07-11	\$600.00

Microbiology and Immunology	Conference	2010 Infection and Immunity Research Forum	November-05-10	\$600.00
Physiology and Pharmacology	Conference	2010 J.A.F Stevenson Memorial Lecture and Research Day	November 9-10, 2010	\$600.00
Physiology and Pharmacology	Conference	Where are they now?	March-28, 2011	\$650.00
French Linguistics	Conference	Western Interdisciplinary Student Symposium on Language Research	March 4-5, 2011	\$480.00
Hispanic Linguistics	Conference	Emergences/IES	March 17-19, 2011	\$600.00
Biology	Conference	Earth Day Colloquium	April-15, 2011	\$500.00
Philosophy	Conference	PhilMiLCog 2011	May 14-15, 2011	\$600.00
Education	Conference	2nd Annual Research in Education Symposium	April-20, 2011	\$700.00
Health and Rehabilitation Science	Conference	Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Forum 2011: 'Stories worth Sharing'	February-09, 2011	\$539.00
Philosophy	Conference	Graduate Conference in the Philosophy of Logic, Mathematics, and Physics	May 8-9, 2011	\$600.00

Sincerely,  
Fiona



**VP External & Communications  
May 2011 Final Report to Council  
Jahidur Rahman (sogs.external@uwo.ca)  
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors,

Firstly I would like to thank you for electing me VP External Affairs and Communications of our society. It's a great pleasure to serve you. I look forward to working with all of you during my term.

A few updates on my portfolio.

**Graduate Student Issues Committee (GSIC):**

Committee has been focused to review the whistle-blower policy of Western. A call-out to consult with the membership will be included in this month's newsletter. Please inform your constituents about this call-out and encourage them to share their experiences or suggestions with GSIC. GSIC will schedule a meeting later this month.

**Equity Issues Committee:**

Equity committee scheduled a meeting on Friday, May 13, but failed to meet the quorum. Committee is looking for potential members. You can find the mission and goals of the committee in our SOGS website, <http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/Committee/Equity%20Issues%20Committee.html>. Those who are interested in joining equity committee, please contact committee chair Chelsea Mohler (cmohler@uwo.ca) or VP External ([sogs.external@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs.external@uwo.ca)).

**SOGS Website:**

SOGS website has been updated with the latest information. If you have any questions or suggestion about SOGS web site, please feel free to email me.

**CFS-Ontario Executive Meeting:**

CFS-Ontario executive meeting was held from Friday, May 6-Sunday, May 8, 2011 in Toronto. I attended the meeting and submitted a report outlining our local campaigns and post-secondary issues. The meeting involved review and discussions of CFS services as well as on-going and future campaigns. A recent report on "Campaign and Government Relation" has been uploaded to the SOGS website: <http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/CFS/OEM-11.04-CGR.pdf>.

**CFS-National General Meeting:**

National general meeting of the CFS will be held in Ottawa from Tuesday, May 31 to Friday, June 3, 2011. I shall attend the meeting.

**Students' Right to Organize – Bill 184:**

CFS has been campaigning to enshrine all aspects of students' right to organize in legislation. In April 2011, MPP Yasir Naqvi and MPP Rosario Marchese tabled Bill 184, *An Act respecting student associations at post-secondary institutions in Ontario*, which would formally recognize college and university students' unions' legal right to exist as autonomous organizations from their respective administrations. A copy of this bill is uploaded to our website. Please follow this link: <http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/CFS/2011.04-Bill%20184-Student%20Associations%20Act.pdf>

**Update on ISIC card re VIA Rail discounts:**

On March 1, 2011 without notice or consultation with the CFS, VIA Rail replaced its discounted fares with youth fares. VIA immediately received backlash from ISIC holders on this unexpected change and have now restored to continue with the previous discount until December 31, 2011. In the meantime, CFS will be launching a petition drive to call on VIA Rail to maintain the students' discounts for ISIC

holders. VIA Rail is owned by the people of Canada, operated as a Crown Corporation and should be providing affordable transportation service to everyone in Canada.

**iPhone App for ISIC benefits:**

There is an iPhone app available for ISIC benefits and it's free. You can find all ISIC discounts near you on your iPhone. Please follow this link: <http://tinyurl.com/4h4kz23>. As an ISIC cardholder you can get several exciting benefits e.g., 25 per cent discount on Greyhound bus trips, a free voucher of 60 minutes call to landlines and mobile phones from Skype, up to 35% off Toronto Raptor tickets. Please visit [www.isic.org](http://www.isic.org) for a full list of benefits.

**Discount Solicitor:**

CFS is looking for hiring a discount solicitor for our local 47. The federation remunerates discount solicitors on a commission basis. Anyone who is interested in joining as a discount solicitor for our local, please contact me.

Sincerely,  
Jahidur Rahman



**VP Finance**  
**May 2011 Report to Council**  
**Jordan Harel (sogs.finance@uwo.ca)**  
**<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors,

The following is an update from my portfolio for the month.

First, I would like to thank everyone who filled out a survey for our Grad Club pilot questionnaire, as a lot of work went into producing the first draft you received last month. Our response rate was terrific, and we will be going through them all in the coming months in order to create a final product to disseminate in the fall.

Further, the Grad Club conducted its annual inventory which I had the privilege of taking part in as well. I would like to extend a big thanks to both Marc and Mark for all their hard work and dedication.

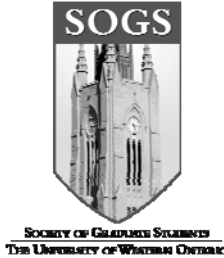
Also this month, the Finance Committee met to review the final results of the internal compensation audit, as well as discussing and recommending a motion to the Executive regarding the SOGS parental leave policy.

The Bursaries and Subsidies Committee met this month to adjudicate childcare and travel subsidies. In total, we were able to give out \$8395 in travel subsidies and \$3250 in child care subsidies. Congratulations to all our winners!

The Sustainability Committee will be meeting later in the month as well.

Sincerely,

Jordan



**VP Student Services  
May 2011 Report to Council  
Désirée Lamoureux (sogs.services@uwo.ca)  
<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

Dear Councillors;

I would first of all like to thank you for electing me to the position of VP Student Services. I will work as hard as I possibly can for you in this capacity.

Health Plan

The Health Plan tendering process has been ongoing since I came into my functions as VP Student Services. We held interviews with five different providers, one of them being our current provider: Student VIP. We should all thank Jenna Allen for her hard work as Health Plan Committee Chair and for organising these interviews. Now that we have completed the interview process, the HPC must now deliberate and decide which company or companies to recommend to Council. We hope to be able to present this recommendation to Council on May 26th 2011. Therefore, there will be more information on this issue at Council.

Handbook

The Handbook for the 2011-2012 academic year is now underway. As you may have noticed in the May Newsletter, we are once again asking amateur photographers to submit their best pictures of UWO in a contest. The winner's picture will be on the front cover of the Handbook and will receive an exciting prize!

I am also in the process of hiring a handbook editor. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact me with a CV at [sogs.services@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs.services@uwo.ca).

Grad Club and Open Mic:

I have been meeting with our former VP Student Services, Chris Hum, in order to get the Wednesday night Open Mic events back up and running. I will be meeting with Marc, the Grad Club manager, to talk about making these a permanent staple of the Grad club. I hope to have them back up and running by the first week of June. As I have not yet had the chance to meet with Marc, I will provide more information on this issue at Council.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me at [sogs.services@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs.services@uwo.ca).

Sincerely,

Désirée Lamoureux



**SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO**

**Commissioner for Graduate Students with Disabilities**  
**May 2011 Report to Council**  
**Chelsea Mohler (sogs.disabilities@uwo.ca)**  
**<<http://www.uwo.ca/sogs/>>**

## 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	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 Committee	Eric Sadowski	H&R Science
SOGS	Policy Committee		
SOGS	Referendum Oversight Committee		
SOGS	Sustainability Committee		
SOGS	WGR Editorial Board		

### Graduate Student Representation GEC

Faculty	Student	term starts	term ends
Education			
Law			

The role of the Graduate Education Council of the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies is to:

- serve as a central forum to propose academic policies to be approved by Senate,
- guide the development of graduate and postdoctoral studies at Western, and
- provide a representative and open forum to give advice on any aspect of graduate education.

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

### Désirée Lamoureux Candidate for Vice-President Student Services of SOGS

---

#### **EXPERIENCE**

- U of O departmental GSA: VP Social
- U of O GSAÉD: Chief Returning Officer
- SOGS Councillor
- SOGS GSIC member.

#### **GOALS**

- more **Information**
  - especially to Council from committees
  - transparency on decision-making and contracts
  - improved record-keeping and reporting
- more **Input**
  - especially from Councillors and also from general membership
  - faculty-based roundtable discussions: two sets per year
  - calls for submissions and deputations to committees
- more **Involvement**
  - especially of Councillors on committees and in orientation outreach activities
  - promotion of social events
- new **Initiatives**
  - change Orientation Committee (OC) to Services and Orientation Committee (SOC)
  - create new Social and Athletics Committee (SAC)
  - Partnerships with GTA Union:
    - Food bank expansion
    - Health coverage coordination

#### **PLAN**

##### **Summer: May-August**

- Health plan renewal/wrap-up
- Handbook production
- Proposals for new committees
- Recruitment to committees
- Preliminary planning/scheduling of social and athletic events for the year
- Summer social/party (BBQ for councillors, committee members, etc.)
- Orientation preparations

##### **Fall: September-December**

- Orientation outreach activities
- New students' social/party
- Handbook distribution
- Health plan oversight/administration
- New councillors' social/party
- Recruitment to committees
- First set of roundtable discussions
- Discussions with GTA Union regarding food bank and health coverage
- Winter holidays social/party

##### **Winter : January-April**

- Health plan oversight/administration
- If deemed beneficial with GTA Union:
  - food bank expansion
  - health coverage coordination
- Second set of roundtable discussions
- Ancillary fees discussions and decisions
- Health plan review/renewal
- Handbook review/preparations

## Appendix II

May 4th, 2011

### Report on Signing of the Profit Participation Plan

Prepared and Approved By: The Bylaws and Constitutions Committee

#### Preface:

During the March 2011 Council meeting, the BCC was directed examine whether the SOGS President (Duncan Sutherland) and SOGS VP Student Services (Chris Hum) were within their authority to sign the Profit Participation Plan (PPP) with the Health Plan broker (C&C Insurance, "the Broker").

#### Finding of the Fact:

- The PPP simply returns a portion of the surplus of premiums paid in any given year
- The PPP is not a request for goods or services (as defined in the SOGS Tendering Policy)
- The PPP is not an investment and therefore does not fall under Investment related bylaws (1.6.8 and 12.5)
- The PPP is not a loan agreement and therefore does not fall under Loan related bylaws (12.4)
- SOGS requires two signatures for any agreement (12.5), where the agreement was signed by both the President and one additional VP
- Bylaw 1.1.13 requires SOGS Executives to further the long-term interests of the Society
- Bylaw 1.2.1 places responsibility of the overall affairs of the Society in the portfolio of the SOGS President
- The model of the SOGS health plan including discussing the PPP (return of premium surplus) was discussed in the May 2009 SOGS Council meeting (see minutes).

#### Final Opinion:

It is the opinion of the BCC that the SOGS President and SOGS VP Student Services were acting in good faith, within the SOGS bylaws in the best interests of SOGS, and within their duties in signing the PPP.



## Society of Graduate Students Alternate Councillor/Proxy Form

The purpose of this form is:

**Alternate Councillor Designation**

or

**Proxy Designation**

---

*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)*

*Only applicable to Alternate Councillors*

### **Alternate Councillor/Proxy Voter**

---

*First and last name (please print)*

*Student No.*

---

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

---

*E-mail address*

### **Authorization**

---

*Signature of Issuer*

---

*Signature of Recipient*

---

*Date*

---

**RECEIVED (FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)**

Please return completed form to the SOGS office before the next meeting of Council.  
Room 260, University Community Centre • Fax: (519) 661-3374