

AGSIP Meeting Minutes Jan 31, 2018

Present: Alison, Kat, Dan, Alexandra, Lindsey, Meghan, Laura, Caitlin, Geoff

Regrets:

Agenda items: update from SGPS president, grad club trivia, TA committee update

Update from Adam (SGPS President)

- Proposal to redevelop JDUC
- Built in 1940s, no other main updates to building
- Should be a place for students, but it isn't
- There is a lack of community among grad students → has negative effects on mental health, belongingness etc.
- A lot of bodies at queens are on board with this
- 64\$ million project
- If we support a student fee, we get a grad student wing (4000 sqr feet) → Restrict access just for us with social space, study space, break rooms etc.
- Undergrad fee = 89\$ per year
- Grad students fee = won't be the same, not fair, now asking 40\$ per year towards building
 - Will amount to 4\$ million in total out of 64\$ million project
 - Sill get to be equal partners in project so we get an equal say at the table IF this fee passes
- Fee won't start until 2019 because that's when construction starts → paying it forward even if current students don't get a chance to experience it
- Not sure how enrolment will change over the years so that's why there isn't a set number of years we will pay, it'll just be enough to amount to \$4 million
- Referendum campaign period will run next week (early Feb)
- Both fees have to pass for us to have a say, the project will still likely go forward so we may as well be a part of it now
- If we pass this fee, university will give 20\$ million up front and they will cover financing (costs will be covered up front as we collect the money from students over time) → 50% students and 50% university funding it
- Adam will send info to Dan to send out to AGSIP list serve
- SGPS fees did not pass so we NEED to make sure people vote and that they understand the questions and what they're voting for in referendums
- Now as a TA we get 3% added to our pay checks instead of health plans because the SGPS did not end up getting money from PSAC
- Some sort of adjustment to the plan will be made

Grad club trivia

- Thinking of going next week
- Send out an email week before (Feb 1)
- Text social committee if you'll be going – very casual

TA committee update

- Meetings will be weekly
- It's a working committee so discussions are ongoing
- Deadline to submit revised contract decisions will be around May
- Alexandra has ongoing document with aggregated and anonymized TA issues brought to her from students
- All 5 members have a vote
 - Main concerns: TA application process – info we get about pay, job descriptions; actual roles students ended up doing (i.e., writing exams, designing course material = not okay); matching process of professors to students (i.e., do prof requests trump other situations), concerns re TAing for supervisors (i.e., students feeling like they can't say no, dual relationships), email deactivation issue over the summer
- Alexandra will send out a newsletter to students at the end to communicate info
- Add in one hour where TAs summarize their role, duties, and hours from the previous year so we can aid the department aggregating data to help describe TA roles → department does not have resources to do this themselves so they are looking to AGSIP to help with this

Miscellaneous

- Open house March 9th