

**Office of the Rector**  
**Report to Assembly**  
**Niki Boytchuk-Hale**  
**April 7, 2026**  
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Hello Presidents,

Congratulations on another year at Queen's as students and in busy leadership positions. I hope you are walking away feeling proud of the work you've done and, more so, grateful for the relationships formed and skills learned through the highs and lows.

**Office** | The Tricolour Award reception occurred on March 27 and we look forward to sharing a recap video that highlights the heartfelt speeches and celebrates our newest inductees. Thank you to everyone involved in making the event a success, from those who attended, volunteered, and sponsored. We also rented out the JDUC Polson room for April 1-3 open study, in response to an apparent need for more spaces on campus, and successfully worked with the university to allow for students to use classroom spaces during the exam period. Since the AMS Assembly and SGPS Council approved the new Rector's Election Policy (2025), my team applied the approved edits, cleaning up grammar errors and updating with the current AMS policy format standards, and handed it off to the AMS Information Management Specialist. The document can now be found online at the [AMS Policy Bank](#).

**Community Engagement** | Beyond the Tricolour Award reception, I've also been celebrating other campus awards run by the Division of Student Affairs and the AMS. I had the pleasure of judging the School of Graduate Studies and Post-Doctoral Affairs 3-minute thesis competition and was blown away by the level and diversity of research being done by master and PhD students. I helped kick off the 20th annual [Relay for Life](#), which raised an astonishing \$250,000 for cancer research. And, to cap off [SDG month at Queen's](#), I attended a remarkable event with Dr. Alaa Murabit – I encourage you to watch the [recording here](#).

**Board of Trustees** | The next meeting of the Board is in May, and I look forward to providing an update after our session.

The Board has regular Open Session meetings four times per year, and community members can request to join in-person or online by sending an email to [trustees@queensu.ca](mailto:trustees@queensu.ca). Anyone can also access the [Governance Portal](#) to view the agenda by clicking on the calendar date of the meeting.

**Committees** | Many committees are wrapping up for the year. Here are all of my updates.

- **Joint communications working group:** staff from Queen's, AMS, SGPS, the City of Kingston, Kingston Police, and the local public health unit meet throughout the year to plan communications and harm-reduction for orientation, homecoming, and St. Patrick's Day. I put out a [video](#) to inform students of the March UDSI, and it organically reached over 27,000 accounts.
- **Margret Hooey Governance Award:** Senator Sakura Koner is this year's deserving winner for her service and leadership.
- **Michael Condra Outstanding Student Service Award:** Congratulations and thank you to Jenna Kring, Academic Advisor for Indigenous Students and Dr. Arunima Khanna, Psychologist and Cross-Cultural Advisor.
- **Board-Senate Advisory Committee:** the annual retreat planned by this committee was very fruitful. The theme this year was "interdisciplinarity". Senators and Trustees heard success stories from a panel of faculty members and then discussed current challenges with our system and opportunities to improve and expand upon interdisciplinary work.

**Rector's Digest** | My last column of Volume 153 took a look back at the history of the small group of [women who have been the Rector](#).

That's all for now! Please reach out to me if you have any questions, need support, or would like to share an experience that can help me convey student voices to the administration. If you'd like to book a meeting or send an event invitation, please contact [rector.assist@queensu.ca](mailto:rector.assist@queensu.ca)

At your service,



**Niki Boytchuk-Hale** (she/her)

**University Rector**  
Office of the Rector

*Princeps Servusque Es (Be a Leader and a Servant)*

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