



Society of Graduate and Professional Students
Report of the University Rector
May 13, 2025

REPORT TO THE SGPS COUNCIL

Hello Councillors,

Welcome to SGPS Council and to your roles with the SGPS. I thank you for your dedication to supporting Queen's students and look forward to working together.

This is my second year as Rector and therefore my second year with SGPS Council. I have been elected by the student body to be a strong advocate and steady facilitator for our best interests. Learn more about the role by checking out [this video](#).

I have previously completed a Bachelor of Fine Art and Bachelor of Education. I am now perusing a Master of Education while I serve my term as Rector. During my now six years at Queen's, I have worked for the Alma Mater Society, Undergraduate Admissions, University Relations, and the Human Rights and Equity Office. Prior to joining the Queen's Board of Trustees, I served as the Vice Chairperson of the AMS Board where I chaired the Governance Committee and was appointed to the Queen's Journal Advisory Board to oversee their finances and do a mass overhaul of their governing policy.

Office | My Office team includes a First Year Intern, Communications and Engagement Officer, and Multimedia Producer. Their support this year has enabled me to work on my election campaign platform goals. We now officially work out of the JDUC in room 224. This summer, we will be conducting two review committees, for the Rector Election Policy and Tricolour Award Selection Process. As well as some other projects relating to the Rector's Bursary, website updates, and preparing for the second annual Student Leader Development Conference.

Community Engagement | We helped get students out to vote for the Federal Election through [social media promotion](#) of the on-campus booth. I presented the Jeffrey McCarthy Award for outstanding contributions to the club community at the AMS Awards Gala to Joey Lauer.

Board of Trustees | At the time of writing this report, the Board is just about to meet. I can provide an oral update during Council. For now, I can let you know I have coordinated another meeting for the AMS and SGPS exec to meet with myself and the Board Chair to discuss important student issues and ask questions in an informal environment.

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@ams.queensu.ca. Anyone can also access the [Governance Portal](#) to view the agenda by clicking on the calendar date of the meeting.

In collaboration with the outgoing Undergraduate and Graduate Student Trustees, Reem Al Rawi and Kana Ogawa, we created a 3-part video series of 'Board Basics' to provide students with information on how the Board functions and how they can get involved. All videos can be viewed here on the Rector YouTube channel:

- [Overview of the Board of Trustees at Queen's University](#)
- [Committees on the Board of Trustees at Queen's University](#)
- [Getting Involved with the Board of Trustees at Queen's University](#)

Committees | I have no major committee updates since last month other than I have recently joined the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (NDTR) working group. Currently, we are in the very early stages of planning for programming and engagement initiatives for the month of September.

Convocation | Spring convocation season officially starts at the end of this month and goes through till mid-June. I have the pleasure of conferring degrees and awards on stage so during this time I am focussed on celebrating and will be less responsive. If you are graduating this spring, please refer to the [Registrar's webpage](#) for information.

I want to emphasize that I am here to support you, both in your respective roles and as ordinary students. The Rector is a unique [role](#) and I encourage you to become familiar with it so you can effectively guide fellow students or utilize the resources available within my office when needed.

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.

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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