



November 17, 2009

Ms. Georgina Moore
Secretary to the Senate
Queen's University

FACULTY OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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SUBJECT: Report to the Senate on the Fall 2009 Education Orientation

There were some changes to student governance for the final year concurrent B.Ed. students and consecutive B.Ed/DipEd students, in that the 2008-2009 student body voted to secede from the Alma Mater Society (AMS) and join the Society of Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS). Thus there were a few changes in how the orientation activities were organized and run for the 2009/2010 year.

This year's orientation committee was made up of members from the SGPS Social Committee and a group of former Concurrent Education Students' Association (CESA). General supervision was provided by Associate Dean Stephen Elliott, with assistance from Elspeth Morgan of Education Career Services, Faculty of Education. As in previous years, it has been our custom to monitor the activities "in house", given the relative maturity of fifth year and post-degree students.

The SGPS initiated contact with the incoming students in late summer by email and provided an on-line registration system for several events. The SGPS hosted an opening day barbecue, and a wine and cheese event mid-week. In addition, the former CESA students hosted an event featuring a tour of main campus and downtown Kingston, followed by an evening gathering at a local establishment.

Staff and faculty also presented a welcoming assembly and workshops, including a workshop for mature students, and a workshop for students who are new to Kingston and/or new to Queen's, and a workshop on teaching internationally. Another presentation was given by the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association. There was also a mandatory program for location and program orientation throughout the week for both primary/junior and intermediate/secondary program streams.

All events were successful, and no problems have been reported to date.

Yours truly,

Stephen Elliott, PhD
Acting Dean and Dean Designate

November 16, 2009

Ms. Georgina Moore
Secretary of the Senate
Queen's University
Dear Ms. Moore:

RE: Report to Senate on 2009 Faculty of Law Orientation

The 2009 Faculty of Law Orientation was without incident and very successful. Orientation Committee Chair Brienne Brannagan worked closely with myself, Assistant Dean of Students Jane Emrich and Helen Connop, Manager, Education and Equity Services.

Ms. Brannagan and her executive selected QC leaders who represented the diversity of the law school. I participated in a training session conducted by student members of the Orientation Committee and Ms Connop that included discussion of equity issues, emergency measures, consumption of alcohol by student leaders, the level of interaction expected and prohibited with the incoming class, and the roles and responsibilities of QC leaders in general. The Orientation Committee sought advice and was responsive to suggestions made by myself, Ms. Emrich and Ms. Connop.

In terms of activities, the Orientation Committee organized a number of events including a family barbecue that was attended by students and their families. Other activities included bowling, a scavenger hunt, a boat cruise, a pancake breakfast, an evening on Wolfe Island, and an Orientation Gala at the Portsmouth Olympic Harbour. Faculty, staff and upper year students were invited to and did attend several of the events. In a continuation of past efforts, transfer, exchange and graduate students were formally and successfully included in activities. From the feedback Ms. Brannagan has received, the Class of 2012 appears to have enjoyed the orientation activities, which helped to integrate this class into our culture of community and collegiality.

The students and the administration at the Faculty of Law remain committed to ensuring an enjoyable, yet safe and appropriate Orientation for its students.

Yours truly,

Stan Corbett
Associate Dean (Academic)
Chair, Orientation Committee

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
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UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION MEMORANDUM

To: Ms. Georgina Moore, Secretary of the Senate

From: Dr. Anthony Sanfilippo, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education

Date: October 9, 2009

Re: ORIENTATION REPORT 2009 – School of Medicine

Attachments: Orientation Week 2009 Student Feedback Survey Results

The orientation week for the Class of Meds 2013 was very successful. As in previous years, the orientation was organized and run by a group of second year medical students. The activities were designed to facilitate new students getting to know each other, while providing an introduction to the profession and an orientation to the campus and city.

The students attended an Orientation-Introduction to Faculty session on September 2nd where they were introduced to many key Faculty as well as a representative from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario and the President of the Aesculapian Society.

There were a number of events for our students to take part in throughout the week. Events included a lunch provided by the Kingston Economic Development Corporation; a dinner and dance; a barbeque at Dean David Walker's house; a Movie Night; a Mentor luncheon where the class was introduced to their mentor groups; a boat cruise of the 1000 islands; a dinner with the Doc groups; and cardboard boat races.

On Friday morning, the Department of Anatomy had a memorial service at which students are made aware of their privilege of working with cadavers as part of their education in human anatomy.

The students each paid \$125.00 for the week's events (including a T-shirt). Any remaining funds were deposited into the class account.

All student participation was voluntary and there were no adverse comments or criticism by the first year students. It appeared that everyone had a very enjoyable time without serious incident. This year's orientation provided a successful introduction of new students to the Queen's campus, to the city, and to each other.

Orientation Week 2009
Student Feedback Survey (Meds 2013)
September 2009
59 out of 100 incoming students responded

1. Did you find Orientation Week overwhelming?

- a) Overwhelming **11.9%**
- b) Just right **83.1%**
- c) Not enough content/activities **5.1%**

2. Did you like the Orientation Week scheduled before classes began?

- a) yes **100%**
- b) no **0%**

3. Was the Dean's BBQ successful at informally introducing you to some of the faculty members?

- a) Yes **89.8%**
- b) No **10.2%**

4. On Thursday morning of the 1st week (Sept 3), you had presentations by three faculty who spoke about their different career paths in medicine.

Did you find it useful to hear their stories?

- a) Yes **88%**
- b) No **11.9%**

5. Referring to question 4, did the session make you think differently about what you might like to pursue in medicine?

- a) Yes **27.1%**
- b) No **72.9%**

6. Referring to question 4, did the session make you feel welcome?

- a) Yes **96.6%**
- b) No **3.4%**

7. Did the "PEARLS OF WISDOM" session make you feel welcome?

- a) Yes **100%**
- b) No **0%**

8. How would you rank the overall "Orientation Week" experience?

- a) Had a great time **79.7%**
- b) It was OK **20.3%**
- c) Got bored **0%**



SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
AND RESEARCH

Memo

TO: Georgina Moore, Secretary of Senate

FROM: Janice Deakin, Associate Vice-Principal and Dean,
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DATE: October 26, 2009

RE: **Report to the Senate on the fall 2009 School of Graduate Studies Orientation**

This year marked a very active and involved suite of orientation activities in support of graduate students at Queen's:

- Associate Dean David Rappaport participated in the International Graduate Orientation organized by the Queen's University International Centre (QUIC) where some of the following questions were discussed: What is the environment in the classroom? What are the roles of teaching assistants and academic supervisors? How are students evaluated? What services are available to assist Teaching Assistants to do their job well?
- The School of Graduate Studies partnered with the Society of Graduate and Professional Students and Student Affairs to mount the Second Annual Welcome Orientation event on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 for all incoming graduate students. The event was held at the Biosciences Atrium and is the result of evaluative efforts indicating that graduate students have a low level of awareness about academic and non-academic support services and have feelings of isolation. In addition to offering the social opportunity of a free lunch, the event featured information booths from various on-campus support services as well as the City of Kingston and Immigrant Services. Staff and faculty from various graduate departments, as well as Principal Woolf, AVP/Dean Jason Laker and AVP/Dean Janice Deakin met informally with new graduate students during the event. More than 800 new graduate students participated.
- Incoming students in the School of Urban and Regional Planning (SURP) participated in a variety of events organized through the School and its Student Orientation Committee. Second-year SURP students establish a Facebook group for the incoming students in mid-summer, which is used for communications and advice on housing. The School ran a four-day orientation period in the week following Labour Day. Returning graduate students lead the program, which also included group advising on the Master of Urban and Regional Planning program by the school's Director, personal academic advising with faculty, orientation to the library and assistance with registration. Social events include a pizza dinner at a faculty home, a potluck dinner among the students, urban planning trivia, team sports and a community service event. There was also a walking tour of the campus and downtown.

- Incoming students in the School of Policy Studies were engaged in special academic and social activities designed to introduce them to their professional programs and Queen's rich research resources as well as each other and the School's faculty with whom they will be working closely over the coming year. The Master of Industrial Relations (MIR) program provided an Alumni Roundtable when seven alumni returned to speak to the incoming students regarding personal experiences since graduating. MIR students also tested their team-building and negotiation skills in a "rock-climbing" exercise at Kingston's *Boiler Room* while Master of Public Administration students were introduced to policy-writing by preparing a "briefing note" for a policymaker with a tight overnight deadline, and attended a math refresher course. Both groups attended a special showing of the movie, "Food, Inc." and a special speakers' event with Ontario's Environmental Commissioner.