The following items were reported as business conducted over the summer on behalf of GSEC:

Several proposed new programs received Pre-approval:
Diploma, Master’s and PhD in Health and Aging
Doctorate in Physical Therapy,
Occupational Therapy Doctorate
Executive Doctorate in Business Administration

A major modification to the Master of Planning program to add a coursework Master’s pattern was approved.

Dean’s report
- With the Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) signed, our focus is on expanded credentials as a means of increasing enrolments and new opportunities for students. New graduate spaces were allocated through the SMA process giving Queen’s room to grow.
- Recruitment is a priority. Boilerplate presentations, facts about Kingston and Queen’s were distributed to programs and we put out a call to all departments for proposals of recruitment strategies they want to implement to deepen their applicant pools.
- The form to hold an PhD oral thesis examination has been revised to mitigate conflicts of interest
- Graduate coordinator orientation was held on Sept. 22 and was well attended (notes from the session are on SGS website)
- Sept 8th saw the launch of 18 online graduate professional skills modules including academic and research integrity, avoiding plagiarism, intellectual property and several on entrepreneurship & career development (including the versatile graduate) and others. See www.MyGradSkills.ca
- Career week for graduate students and post-docs will be held Oct 14-17, 2014. Career Week features workshops by graduate alum, experts, and employers about translating skills acquired in graduate work to various career opportunities. A session for supervisors: ‘How can we supervise PhD students in the real world’ – Paul Yachnin (McGill) asks how we can go on supervising PhD student as if all were going to become professors. A capstone panel session (The employable you) features Jim Banting (PARTEQ), Chad Gaffield (past SSHRC president), and Science 2 Business representatives will be followed by a networking reception.
- SGS brought 32 Globalinks (MITACS) sponsored international students to Queen’s to meet with graduate students, faculty and staff in the hopes of recruiting them into our graduate programs.

Reports from Faculty Graduate Councils/Committees and SGPS:
Nothing to report from faculties. The SGPS reported that they now have 4 student advisors (up from 3). They commented on the importance of students having clarity about thesis expectations and they will run elections for graduate student representatives for certain councils.
GSEC approved:
1. Omnibus Report September 2014
2. Report of the Fellowship Committee

Items for Discussion:
 a. School of Graduate Studies Action Plan in support of Timely Degree Completion (in response to Working Group recommendations)
b. Report on Graduate degree completion times, attrition and financial support

Item for information: Overview of Roles and Responsibilities of GSEC