



Biology Graduate Caucus

June 30th, 2010 – 3:30PM, B9242

In Attendance: Stephanie Green, Isabelle Raymond, Janey Lam, Jennifer Trowell, Dhani Kalidasan, Matt Huntley, Jenn Sunday, Thomas Unsoeld, Rob Greenland, Muhammed Arshad, Samineh Deheshi, Brian LaBore

1. Welcome
 - a. Additions to agenda - none

2. Claim meeting expenses:

Motion to reimburse Stephanie Green \$15 [chips] from BISC Grad Caucus funds. Motioned, seconded.	Carried
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3. Reports from committees

- i. DGSC – Jenn Sunday, Emily Darling
 - committee assessment forms for annual reports being redone to include a wider array of options for assessors as well as a timeline form for students and supervisors
 - guideline document introduced by Margo Moore ('A guide to the graduate program') in order to reduce conflict and smooth transition for new grad students
 - Faculty of Education wanting to introduce a Masters of Science Educator but concerns within the department about the details of the program
- ii. GSS – Thomas Unsoeld
 - details about movement of GSS to the Halpern Centre. No apparent funding increases for individual students
 - new student orientation ideas (which our department already does)
 - new grant application forms
- iii. TSSU – Brian LaBore
 - discussion about G20 statements
 - discussion of donation issues
 - issues of non-reporting of workload reviews in the Biology departments to the Union – individuals can look at the back of

TUGs for some of the triggers, the rest should be in the logbooks
 - discussions about workload reviews and possibly a survey passed around in an attempt to internally resolve the situation

- iv. Faculty Mole – Samineh Deheshi
 - discussion of student/supervisor forms
 - recruitment of quality students discussed email Stephen_price@sfu.ca with ideas
 - Dr Christine Bishop voted in as adjunct professor
 - external examiners and their importance discussed, talked about using partnership funds and other ways of bringing in external examiners

- v. DSC – Samantha Franks, Rian Dickson
 - graduate fellowships not sent out yet
 - new award for people with NSERC and CIHR (apparently to encourage grad students to come to SFU)
 - New awards to support staff and faculty introduced

- 3. DSC scholarship discussion – Reforming the DSC system
 - Rian explained the details of the ranking system, primarily for NSERC and GFs
 - instructions for GFs were discussed, especially with concern to requirements
 - more guidelines for the rankings were proposed to increase the consistency between committee members
 - Ron Ydenberg previously said he'd be willing to come to the caucus meeting to discuss scholarship issues

Meeting running overtime

Motion to prolong meeting	
Motioned, seconded.	Carried

4. Note the need for event planners

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting	
Motioned, seconded.	Carried