



## Biology Graduate Caucus

September 15, 2010 – 3:30PM, B9242

**In Attendance:** Brett Favaro, Matt Huntley, Rowan Trebilco, Steph Green, Aleks Maljkovic, Jenny Linton, Alex Chubaty, Thomas Unsoeld, Samineh Deheshi, Natalie Dinsdale, Dhani Kalidasan, Jesse Taylor, Rob Greenland, Simon Goring, Jennifer Trowell, Isabelle Raymond, Cassandra Carroll, Juliana Yeung, Toby Cheung, Willow English, Emily Darling, Samantha Franks

1. Welcome
  - a. Additions to agenda - none
  - b. Claim meeting expenses

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Motion to reimburse Brett \$10.07 [chips] from BISC Grad Caucus funds. | Carried |
| Motioned by Alex   |         |
| Seconded by Aleks  |         |

### 2. Housekeeping

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Motion to reimburse Steph \$192.03 [beer], Brett \$14.00 [propane], Alex \$9.37 [nametags] from BISC Grad Caucus funds. | Carried |
| Motioned by Thomas  |         |
| Seconded by Aleks   |         |

- b. Discussion of meeting times
- Vote** to keep current meeting time  
– the vast majority of those attending voted in favour of keeping the current meeting time

### 3. Reports from committees

- i. DGSC – Jenn Sunday, Emily Darling  
nothing to report
- ii. GSS – Thomas Unsoeld
  - many GSS members received the U of Regina handout which had wrong information about our Medical payments
  - GSS looking for a chair, would receive a \$50 stipend, contact Thomas or GSS president
  - Oct 1 workshop for food safe certificate, those wanting to attend should contact GSS or Thomas
  - GSS volleyball team started, looking for players
  - Looking for people for advocacy committee and electoral

- committee for which there is a stipend
- GSS Sustainability policy going to council for goods, services, charities etc – point brought up about issues with cost of sustainable options and re-imburement issues
- Sustainability committee starting documentary movie series followed by discussion Oct 1, 12:30-2:30pm, King Corn is the first movie – also asking for speakers
- G20 letter passed council – about G20 independent investigation
- Lawsuit against GSS about a social event, GSS won – questions about if and what expenses to claim back from the court case
  - Question put to the caucus to pursue reclaiming the full amount for the court expenses–
  - Vote:** 16 for, 3 opposed, 2 abstain
- surplus in travel fund money, questions on how to disperse it. Recommended sending in requests for the surplus
- Vote:** GSS distribute funds versus caucuses distributing funds – all but one are for GSS distributing funds

iii. TSSU – Brian LaBore  
nothing to report

iv. Faculty Mole – Samineh Deheshi  
nothing to report

v. DSC – Samantha Franks, Rian Dickson

- requesting Ron Ydenberg to come in to discuss the process of GF awardments
- NSERC date hasn't been set yet, explanation of NSERC process followed
- Explained awards that were available to apply for

4. Welcome party planning review – Clarification about new liquor license rules.

- need to apply with GSS 3 weeks before event
- discussion about liquor license issues and options, insurance may also

play a roll

a. Discussion: Should the caucus oppose the “no alcohol on Thursdays” rule?

- GSS has had discussions about this rule
- a call to revoke the specific rule - discussion ensues
  - suggest waiting for GSS to discuss issue
- **vote:** write a letter opposing GSS ban on thurs no drinking –

unanimously yes

5. Note the need for event planners –

- Julianna volunteered to be event planner

6. Note – In one year, someone needs to organize welcome party

-small workload but need to start early (June?)

7. propose to extend meeting to 4:40

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Motion to extend meeting to 4:40 | Carried |
| Motioned by Alex                 |         |
| Seconded by Thomas               |         |

8. Committee report: Planning for the upcoming Publishing workshop

-1-1.5 hr workshop about publishing of papers with senior grad students as the seminar leaders for beginning/ less experienced grad students in late Nov with social to follow

-it may be possible to have GSS partially fund the event due to its academic nature

- possibly bring in faculty to offer publishing suggestions

- possible advanced topics in future workshops

7. Adjournment

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Motion to adjourn  | Carried |
| Motioned by Alex   |         |
| Seconded by Thomas |         |