



## Biology Graduate Caucus

March 16, 2011 – 3:30PM, 7000 level grad lounge

Chair: Brett Favaro  
Associate chair: Stephanie Green

Attendance: Steph Green, Samineh Deheshi, Alex Chubaty, Cassandra Carroll, Isabelle Raymond, Juliana Yeung, Nicole Gerbrandt, Jesse Taylor, Dhani Kalidasan, Brett Favaro, Janey Lam, Jenn Sunday, Matt Huntley

1. Welcome
  - a. Claim meeting expenses - None
2. **Notice: Election date April 20, nominations open immediately (March 16).**
  - all positions but 1 DSC, 1 DGSC
3. Publishing Workshop 2 – Planning – Stephanie Green
  - needs to happen before May if it's going to happen
  - have funding but need to get on it
  - Steph will send out an email for a planning meeting
  - still only our department but possibility of including other departments next time
4. Grad hosted speaker update – Stephanie Green
  - Juliana – department will cover the majority of the cost of Don Mackay's visit as long as Juliana gets the receipts
  - Janey – went over the itinerary for the grad hosted speaker
  - Jenn - grad symposium presentations to be sent in
    - all is in order for the symposium
  - prizes: gift certificates to Club Iliia, Subway, Renaissance, Nature's Garden
- a. Motions to reimburse or pre-authorize organizer expenses

Motion to reimburse Brett Favaro - \$468.83 for liquor from core funds, caucus funding  Motioned by Alex  Seconded by Jenn	Carried-unanimous
Motion to provide Dhani Kalidasan \$40.00 for IRMACs room booking from core funds, caucus funding  Motioned by Alex Seconded by Janey	Carried-unanimous

<p>Motion to reimburse Janey Lam for Don Mackay gift (book) from core, caucus funding (\$36.75) and Renaissance gift cards from Trust account (\$25) = \$61.75</p> <p>Motioned by Alex Seconded by Jenn</p>	<p>Carried-unanimous</p>
<p>Motion to reimburse \$225 to Steph Green for door prize expenses from Trust account</p> <p>Motioned by Alex Seconded by Thomas</p>	<p>Carried-unanimous</p>
<p>Motion to reimburse \$300 to Steph Green for pizza (symposium social), \$200 from GSS grant, \$100 from Trust Account</p> <p>Motioned by Jenn Seconded by Janey</p>	<p>Carried-unanimous</p>
<p>Motion to reimburse \$325 to Cassandra Carroll for symposium food, \$300 from GSS grant, \$25 from core, caucus funding</p> <p>Motioned by Alex Seconded by Jenn</p>	<p>Carried-unanimous</p>

5. Discussion of trust fund – what to buy.

- Email grads in department, about what should/shouldn't we be buying

Ideas:

1. HD projector mounted in the ceiling – would need to double check with department

2. invest in t-shirts for rec activities

3. renovating B9242 – would need to know more details

Bring in Felix for grad symposium/recruitment combination but also pick his brain for trust fund ideas

Straw man poll: in favour of emailing grads in department: almost all

6. Committee updates

a. DSC update – Samantha Franks, Rian Dickson

i. PRS activities (draft letter)

- Brett summarized grad funds meeting

- draft letter has been bouncing around grad execs for edits, to come up at next meeting

- can ask for explanations of activities if people want to run for a position

b. DGSC – Emily Darling, Erica Jeffrey

No update

c. TSSU – Brian LaBore

No update

d. Faculty Mole – Samineh Deheshi

Felix will spend another 2 years as Department Chair

e. GSS – Thomas Unsoeld

- travel grants now called GSS professional development grants as they apply to more than travel expenses – coming up April 1 - \$500 – guide online, 3 guidelines: merit based, financial need based, related to research, again rankings of these criteria are all online
  - restrictions on grants: MSc students can only get one, PhD students can get 2
- surplus discussion - council discussed an advocate position straw poll – yes 10
  - no 1
  - abstain 1
- GSS elections are ongoing
- TSSU endorsed candidates – an issue as specifically sent out emails from an email list
- investigate if a violation of rules was actually broken
- voting for alternate at GSS council next month - Brett

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn	
Motioned by Steph Seconded by Chris	Carried- unanimous