

Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus Meeting Agenda

March 19th, 2014 – 3:30 to 4:30 PM, 7000 level lounge



Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus March 19th 2014 – 3:30 to 4:30 PM

In Attendance: Jen Scholefield (Chair), Emily Helmer (Secretary), Janie Dubman (Treasurer), Mike Hrabar (GSS Rep), Chris Mull (Associate Chair), Marlene Wagner (Events Committee Officer), Matt Hepp (Events Committee Officer), Amanda Kissel (Member at Large), David Hope (Webmaster), Sarah Thomsen (DGSC Rep), Antonia Musso (TSSU Steward), Karen Lo, Franz Simon, Fiona Fracis,

Absent: Mike Beakes (DGSC Rep), Jesse Taylor (GSS Rep), Rowan Treblico (Faculty Mole), Annie Ellison (Events Committee Officer), Catherine Scott (TSSU Steward), Mohamed Sherifdeen (TSSU Steward), Kyle Artelle (Scholarship Committee Rep), Lindsay Davidson (Scholarship Committee Rep), , Marinde Out (International Students' Rep) , Tim Forrester (TSSU Steward)

1. Welcome

- a. Attendance
- b. Meeting called to order at 3:33 by Jen Scholefield.
- c. Additions to Agenda
 - i. Grad Hosted speaker wrap up
 1. Event was a success, the time and effort put into the professional development workshop made a difference overall more successful. Marcus was a great speaker as he has relevant experience regarding what discussed in the workshop.
 2. Chris will compile notes of feedback from workshop.

Motion to reimburse Mike Beaks \$79.38 for scotch purchased as gift for grad hosted speaker from the Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus Core account.

Moved by: Jen Scholefield

Seconded: Franz Simon

Decision: **motion carries unanimously 1 abstention (Mike Beaks)**

Motion to reimburse Jen Scholefield \$451.95 from the Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus Core account

Moved by: Janie Dubman

Seconded: Franz Simon

Decision: **motion carries unanimously 1 abstention (Jen Scholefield)**

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Motion to reimburse Janie Dubman \$260 from the core account for catering lunch and coffee for the grad host speaker.

Moved by: Jen Scholefield

Seconded: Franz Simon

Decision: **motion carries unanimously 1 abstention (Janie Dubman)**

- ii. Grad student symposium- Marlene, Karen & Marinde
 - 1. Nicole and John will judge, we should probably seek out at least one more judge.
 - 2. Symposium will be held April 4th, students should arrive at 2:30pm, and our judges will arrive at 4:30pm.
 - 3. In the future, we should go to our department for funding before the dean of science, Elizabeth has said she will provide funding. The GSS underfunded us, so ask department for whatever is left.
 - 4. For prizes, we have 2 aquarium tickets and two Club Illia certificates, and have requested prizes from the yogurt place and science world. We may also ask for museum passes from UBC.
 - 5. Projectors are still needed for the symposium.
- iii. Publishing workshop -Amanda
 - 1. April 11th, will be part of the professional development workshops. This will be modelled after a workshop done a few years ago, topics will include authorship, choosing a journal, going through submission process, publicizing etc.
 - 2. Three post-docs will be speaking, if anyone knows of any others that may be interested they should ask.
 - 3. Talks will be 20min with questions after.
 - 4. Will budget for drinks/social to thank post-doc speakers
 - 5. Suggestion to have a panel discussion afterwards
- iv. Photo contest for grad lounge display – Jen
 - 1. Suggestion to run a photo contest, vote on photos and replace the two framed photos in the grad lounge.
 - 2. We will need ~\$60 to print the winning photos.

Motion to reimburse up to \$200 for printing photos for contest from the Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus Trust account.

Moved by: Jen Scholefield

Seconded: Amanda Kissel

Decision: **motion carries unanimously**

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- v. Upcoming caucus elections
 - 1. Next meeting we will be electing new caucus positions. If you want to stay on the exec or if you have any questions please email Jen or email current exec member whose position you are interested in.
 - 2. Emails will be sent out next week.

- vi. Coastal Connections
 - 1. Coastal connections is aimed at helping students network.
 - 2. Will be held at Science World, April 15th.

Motion to fund up to \$200 for Coastal Connections from the trust account.
Moved by: Jen Scholefield
Seconded by: Janie Dubman
Decision: **motion carries unanimously**

- d. Motion to approve minutes from last month's meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from the February 19th, 2014 Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus meeting.
Moved by: Jen Scholefield
Seconded: Emily Helmer
Decision: **motion carries unanimously**

2. Treasury update

- 1. Current BISC grad caucus balances:
 - i. Core Account: \$1335.96
 - ii. Trust Account: \$1307.70

3. Committee updates

- 1. DGSC
 - i. Interested in making BISC800 a required course due to low enrollment. A survey will be sent out relating to what would make the course more beneficial to students.
- 2. DSC - absent
 - i. Grad fellowships (GF) applications are due April 14th, private award applications will be due in May.
- 3. GSS
 - i. Campaigns for officers, elections in March 25-27th. Check out the webpage for proposals. An email will be sent out.
 - ii. AGM was held today, old bylaws will stay, new execs will decide if they want to try to amend them for next year.

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4. TSSU
 - i. TSSU
 1. Trying to put in “flexible education” - putting distant education into new courses (e-tutorials, people skypeing or e canvassing in) to expand enrolment.
 2. TSSU wants to know how this may potentially increase workload for TAs. A research assistant has been hired to look into how this will impact teaching and make sure it does not result in wage reduction etc.
 3. According to a recent survey, 40% worked more than hours on their TUG, but 0 workload reviews have indicated this. TSSU will have wage calculator on webpage to determine if you're going over. If you're not getting paid on time, let TSSU know.
5. Faculty Mole – absent

4. Adjournment – 4:21pm

Motion to adjourn March 19th, 2014 meeting of the Biological Sciences Graduate Student Caucus at 4:21pm.

Moved by: Jen Scholefield

Seconded by: Amanda Kissel

Decision: **motion carries unanimously**