



## **Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus**

**May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – 3:30 to 4:30 PM**

**In attendance:** Heather Coatsworth (chair), Kyle Bobiwash (associate chair), Jayme Lewthwaite (treasurer), Marinde Out (secretary), Nicholas Salcedo (TSSU steward), Richard Johnston (TSSU steward), Vanessa Guerra (webmaster), Joyce Leung (events committee), Kolitha Halangoda (events committee), Dan Greenberg (Faculty mole), Pauline Deschodt (DSC rep), Jenny Bigman (DSC rep), Colin Bailey.

**Absent:**

Allannah Biega (GSS rep), Leon Li (GSS rep), Mike Hrabar (GSS rep), Adrienne Berchtold (TSSU steward), Tanya Procyshyn (TSSU steward), Pascale Gibeau (member at large), Leslie Saunders (DGSC), Kevin Hegeman (DGSC), Eveling Taverna Fernandez (international student rep).

**1. Welcome** -- Meeting called to order at 15:30 by Heather Coatsworth

- a. Attendance
- b. Additions to Agenda
  - i. Grad Hosted Speaker Search

The Caucus will nominate a speaker in spring 2016. Everyone can nominate their favourite scientist! The chair is going to send an email to launch the Grad Hosted Speaker Search.

ii. Open call for Events Committee Member

There is still an open position in the caucus on the events committee. Contact the chair if you are interested. An email will be sent out.

iii. Website Amalgamation

Our new webmaster (Vanessa Guerra) proposed to upgrade the old website. Currently it consists of two websites, which will be combined into one. The caucus members proposed to include a calendar with future meetings, defences and other events, and adding fieldwork photos and maybe a discussion forum.

iv. General Summer Discussion Items

The chair proposed to use the BBQ over the summer. Propane will be payed from petty cash. The BBQ will be used on Fridays on non-payday coffee days, from 12:00-1:30 pm.

c. Motion to approve minutes from last month's meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the April Biology grad caucus meeting.  
Moved by: Heather Coatsworth  
Seconded by: Dan Greenberg  
Decision: Motion carries unanimously

d. Motion to approve nominees for caucus elections

Marinde Out is nominated to be TSSU steward as well as secretary.

Motion to approve the appointment of Marinde Out as TSSU Steward.  
Moved by: Heather Coatsworth  
Seconded by: Richard Johnston  
Decision: Motion carries with abstention from Marinde Out

e. Motion to forgo June 2016 caucus meeting.

Motion to forgo the June caucus meeting.  
Moved by: Heather Coatsworth  
Seconded by: Joyce Leung  
Decision: Motion carries unanimously

**2. Treasury update**

Core account: \$162.45

Trust account: last update: \$1055,62

There might still be \$200 subtracted for the 'Professional Pest Management of British Columbia (PPMABC) Annual Meeting' in January 2016.

Cash box: ~\$150

For future events: please keep track of expenses, and **send receipts to Jayme!**

**3. Committee updates**

A. DGSC – Leslie Saunders and Kevin Hegeman

No updates

B. DSC – Pauline Deschodt and Jenny Bigman

Private awards **due June 8<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Pauline or Jenny if you encounter problems with uploading pdfs on the GA3 system. GFs were announced.

C. GSS – Allannah Biega, Leon Li, Mike Hrabar  
Update via email:

1. We discussed SFU's draft "Open Access Policy". The goal of this policy is to enable the sharing of SFU's research and creative work with the larger community by creating open-access SFU Institutional Repository. This would apply to all university authors, including us, grad students. Basically once you publish in a journal, you would also submit your article to the SFU repository which would allow ANYONE to access your work freely, and it would be searchable on google scholar. Once it was published there you could put a link to it on your personal website, etc. Some publishers will put a one-year hold on your work meaning that it would only be published in the repository after that time. There are librarians that are available to help you work out issues with publishers - for example, if you are funded by a tri-agency (i.e. NSERC), they often require you that you make your work open-access within a certain time frame. If this conflicts with the publisher's contract, you can get a librarian to help you negotiate with them. If you have more questions, you can contact our liaison librarian.

2. Call out for volunteers to join the **governance committee**. Contact [internal@sfugradsociety.ca](mailto:internal@sfugradsociety.ca) if you are interested (note you don't have to be a GSS rep to join the committee).

D. TSSU – Richard Johnston and Nicholas Salcedo  
Last round of bargaining has been cleared last month. Child bursary – may 29<sup>th</sup> deadline.  
Next steward meeting: 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2016 on Surrey Campus

E. Faculty Mole – Dan Greenberg  
Meeting is coming up.

Agenda:

- Proposal to change a course description to better reflect content of this course.
- Department put forward Bernie Crespi as the TIER 1 Canada research chair – Evolutionary Genetics and Psychology

#### 4. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting of the Biological Sciences Graduate Student Caucus at 16:10.

Moved by: Heather Coatsworth

Seconded by: Jayme Lewthwaite

Decision: Motion carries unanimously.