



Biological Sciences Graduate Caucus
August Meeting Agenda
August 15th, 2017

In Attendance:

I. Welcome – Meeting called to order at 15:34 by Kristen Walters.

II. Attendance

Elana Varner (secretary), Yonathan Uriel (DGSC Rep), Asim Renyard (TSSU rep.), Vanessa Guerra (GSS C.), Danielle Hoefele (member at large), Dan Greenberg (member at large), Heather Coatsworth (member at large), Kari Zurowski (GSS/Treasurer), Colin Bailey (temporary substitute for Faculty mole), Rachel Canham (Events coordinator), Pauline Deschodt (DGSC), Mike Hrabar (member at large).

ABSENT

Kristen is filling in for Rylee who is out of town due to field work.

III. Additions to Agenda

A. Orientation BBQ (September 7th)

Liquor License:

Ideally liquor permit obtained. Need BC responsible service certificate which requires certification # for permit.

Danielle has already take the course and has a permit from last year. Liquor license will be in her name.

How many units of alcohol will we want? – info required for permit

Budget for food:

What was previous budget? \$ 450-500 for food and alcohol – although alcohol will be SOLD so that money will be partly made back.

Games and cards can likely be found in grad lounge cabinets

Tables? Ask the office – storage at end of hall under stairs

Last year just scavenged for chairs and then returned them after

Department makes you pay money for renting chairs, so avoid this.

Heather's lab has extra tables

Volunteers:

Past volunteers helped set up and tear down

Kristen, Rylee, and Rachel will volunteer

Send out email for volunteers

Help for Costco run – Alice for card, Kristen for car to get there

Charge for alcohol – 2 bucks for one drink ticket or 3 tickets for 5 bucks

Tickets are helpful so person without a licence could just take ticket and give out drinks

New students should get free drinks

Orientation meeting – distributed tickets there last year and will do the same again this year.

Should we have BBQ or pizza?

Kyle is happy to volunteer to BBQ entire time

BBQ probably more affordable too

It will be a BBQ!

Email Ruth that we are using that space ahead of time

Requests for food?

Veggie and vegan and gluten free options

Send email asking about allergies and dietary issues

Check cash flow – make sure we have enough change – if in a pinch ask nesters

Try and sell Tshirts

Maybe sell them for 10 bucks

New version has lots of sizes – old version of shirt is only available in extremes

Include in email that we are selling stuff so people know to bring money

Be sure to check IDs

ALSO INCLUDE IN EMAIL so people know to bring them

Stamp hands once IDs have been checked

Heather will be the bouncer if needed

B. [Mentorship program for new students](#)

Send out email asking for student mentors from each stream (PhD mpm ect).

Last year we got one person from each stream

Contact new students and tell them if they have questions to contact their respective person

C. Evolution and Ecology volunteers

Looking for SFU volunteers

Take over organizing dance party and organize theme and get kegs ect

Conference was Nov/ last week of October

Pauline will spread the word and find people to volunteer

Members will generally brainstorm themes as well

IV. Motion to approve minutes from last month's meeting (June)

Motion to approve the minutes from June – Kristen started motion and seconded by Heather. Motion passed.

V. Treasury Update

End of fiscal year is approaching

Current account balances:

Core account: 446.05

Trust account: 1109.71

A. Motion to move remaining funds from core account to trust once check is cashed for bowling event

First a check will be cashed for the bowling event. Once this is deducted from the core account the remaining will go to the trust. Motion put forward by Kristen, Asim second. Kari abstained from vote. Motion passed.

VI. Committee Updates:

A. DGSC

Going thru MSc and PHD and MET applications for the Fall, not much else has happened. Seems short notice for applicants.

B. GSS

Kari

July meeting: upcoming meeting will be about the budget. Reconciliation discussed and numerous ways to incorporate indigenous history into campus

C. TSSU

Asim – went to stewards meeting. Reported that he has heard no grievances yet. Probably because it is field season for many and few are TAing this semester. He was asked at the TSSU meeting how application process was. He gave his personal experience that it was smooth.

It is important to keep an eye on people from Bisc 102 that are TAing. They only get 1 base unit for prep for class as well as lab so likely they are not getting paid properly. Has been a reoccurring problem in the past. Additionally, there often a disparity between the agreement form filled out and signed with an outline of hours and what the lab instructor asks of TAs which is often for more than is in that original agreement – This shouldn't happen

D. Faculty Mole

Sub is Colin -- Jenny didn't mention anything. They are likely on break for the summer

Additional Issues:

Pauline mentioned TMRA awards are opening in September for fall and spring. Important to keep track. Can't apply for past conferences. Can apply twice a year (feb/march was the last one). Dan Greenberg mentioned we should put in a request for the DSC that we be able to apply after. Often don't know that you are going in time to apply – will be added to the next meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Motion put forth by Kristen, seconded by guy next to Danielle.

SECRETARY APPROVAL: Elana Varner 8.15.17
(Electronic Signature & Date)
