

## **EGSA meeting minutes August 14th**

### **Welcome BBQ**

Sept 14. (Sunday) there are 500 on campus students, 100 of which will be new.

Plans for the BBQ so far:

We are going to have flags created (paper) and then create a banner of flags to hang at the BBQ. We will also solicit people to bring international music so that the entertainment can be representative of the attendees.

Name-tags will be provided for people to wear. We will contact the fire department to borrow their large BBQ (Typically you make a donation to the burn unit for this service). If the BBQ needs to be picked up Rob will take care of that. We are preparing to have 100 - 200 guests, the location will be Rob McTavish and Cher Hill's home.

There is a tent that may be available from SFU (Sports tent) we need to contact the university to enquire whether the tent is available and how we go about renting/borrowing/obtaining it, we also need to find out how we set it up (whether it needs to be set up by certain people).

We need to find out about transportation, how do we arrange for car pooling. We may also need to arrange with the university to borrow the university sports vehicles, if we do this we need to arrange a class IV driver to drive the van.

The BBQ will be from 15:00 to 19:00 hrs.

### **Symposium**

Sasamat:

We have been confirmed at Sasamat. We have received a discount of \$360.00 due to the removal of the Friday snack and only 10 people for breakfast on the Sunday. We have space for up to 82 people to spend the night, these spaces will go to graduate students first, and then to families if there is still space. Sasamat has requested another \$1500.00 deposit by Sept. 1st. There is a balance of \$1000 from grad programs after the \$500 that they paid on our behalf. We can either use this money, or some of the \$2500.00 from the Deans' Office. Balance is required on the day of the symposium. It was suggested that we ask Marcia to pay the amount that she is holding on our behalf.

Advertising:

Mahboubeh has volunteered to do some artwork for the posters, she needs some ideas for the posters and a logo. Cher told her that the topic is "Education without borders". Some other ideas for her: Community building, hearing new ideas, listening to other/new ideas, dialogue, discussions, opening up to new areas or perspectives, opening, new combinations or ideas.

Meeting

The organizing committee needs to meet soon, some people are out of town.

Liquor license:

Mark made some calls, we need a Class L Serving it Right license, not the type S which servers (restaurant) typically get. You can obtain the license online, however you need to get the license stamped by the RCMP. It is much easier if we are providing the liquor rather than selling it. We may want to ask Sasamat to provide a Type L certified person. Kumari is going to contact Sasamat to determine exactly what they need, she will then contact Mark to let him know what she has learned.

Entertainment:

Mark needs to know when we need the entertainment for (Saturday Night). Last year Allan Mackinnon and Michael Cummings provided the music which was a jazzy-blues jam session. One idea is to keep the border crossing theme. Mark will discuss various ideas with the entertainment committee. He wanted to know what processes we had in mind, are we wanting entertainment to be topical, or for fun only, involve the kids? The idea that we contact Heesoon to ask about what ideas she had to involve the children for a Sunday morning discussion. Mark suggested that an international sing along of songs that people from many cultures are familiar with (ie. Abba, The Beatles).

Meals:

We are going to ask for a nice Saturday dinner (salmon) in lieu of a Sunday lunch. A good breakfast on the Sunday rather than a lunch on Sunday was agreed upon, this will ensure that people have a good meal to start off the day.

We need to get going on the registration out as soon as possible.

**SFSS Meeting**

Cher and Hartley attended the SFSS meeting, however SFSS did not have quorum. It appears that Hattie can authorize up to \$1000.00, which she has recommended. We can hopefully assume that we will get \$1000.00 of the \$1500.00 requested.

**Buddy Program**

No news on the program, Ida is going on vacation soon. International programs has a program that we can look into using as a template for developing our own. We want to team up experienced students with new students and then arrange for some social events such as a night

out. We can also put things into place for the buddies to help with academic needs such as using university services such as the library. Marella suggested that we put guidelines in place such as what the buddy is there for, ie. not to deal with conflicts with faculty. We need to be very what the buddy is there for so that problems do not arise. Kumari suggested that there are various types of students, such as international students who are new to the country, university and faculty, and then those who are new to the university. We need to make sure that we support both types of students but in order to so we need to know their needs. It is possible we need a buddy orientation to ensure that they are both aware of all the services and also that we are providing consistent information to all "buddies". Kumari suggested that we aim for simplicity and that she will provide a set of buddy guidelines for the next meeting.

Next Symposium Organizing Committee Meeting is tentatively planned for 16:00 on August 27th.

Agenda Items for that meeting:

- Registration, advertising, funding
- EGSA Website

Isabelle suggested that we look into an EGSA web presence. This would be a good space to list all the available resources. Isabelle volunteered to look after getting this website together. Isabelle will contact Carson about creating a site and getting a link to the SFU Grad site.

### **Graduate Student Room**

The decision to renovate the room went forward as the plans had been in place for some time. Kelleen is confident that another option will become available. We now have a position on the Education Space Committee, we need volunteers for this position. This person will need to inventory graduate space available in the department. TSSU has offered to support EGSA if we wish to grieve the loss of our space.

### **GIC Update**

There is plan to boycott September fees, pay your deposit and not your other fees. Students can be fined \$40, but that is all. The loss of the grad space will be discussed at the next GIC meeting.

Other items were discussed but it was agreed that Hartley needs to bring them forward for clarification.



### **GPC Meeting Notes**

The number of students admitted to grad programs was discussed at the GPC meeting. There is confusion of the information that has come out from GPC as there are less students overall admitted, but more PhD students than last year.

The next GPC meeting will be September 18, 2003.

The next EGSA meeting will be held concurrently with the orientation meeting.