**Date: Feb 26 2016**

**Attendence:** Mike Ting, Eric Fedosejevs, Howard Teresinski., Sarah Hasnain, Leslie Holmes, Amanda Tracey, Dylan Sora, Shakira Azan

**Mike Ting (Chair)**

1. Will send out email reporting the available positions for the next BGSC election. Interested candidates will submit a written notification of their candidacy along with 5 signatures from supporting grad students.

**Irena Peychev (Sports Coordinator)**

1. (absent) no update

**Howard Teresinski (Graduate committee rep)**

1. MSc. biotech program has been preapproved and is moving forward for next year. The details of the program are still in the works, but tentatively will either be a full thesis based program or a certificate based program that can be completed in 1-2 terms.
2. Another reminder for ALL grad students to schedule their committee meeting. Currently, 10/97 students have not had their committee meeting yet.

**Howard Teresinski, Irena Peychev (Academic coordinators)**

1. no update

**Amanda Tracey (QUBS rep)**

1. QUBS recently got $180,000 which will be put towards QUBS outreach. Looking into hiring a full time outreach personnel.
2. Currently no new updates for the position on the new QUBS manager.

**Leslie Holmes (Social Coordinator)**

1. Will talk to Sharon about end of term BBQ.

**Eric Fedosejevs (SGPS rep)**

1. Officially resigning from SGPS Rep. since he will soon be graduating (congratulations). The next SGPS meeting is the second Tuesday of next month for anyone who's interested in taking over the position.

**Shakira Azan (Treasurer)**

1. Currently have 414.81$

**Dylan Sora (Union Rep)**

1. PSAC meeting was cancelled - bylaw committee meeting coming up.

**Sarah Hasnain (Faculty Rep)**

1. Staff meeting was yesterday and they talked about the future of the PhD program. Faculty thought the seminar that was held earlier in the month about PhD student concerns was good.
2. Brought up the topic of the BGSC wanting to switch the grad teaching award (administered by biograds) into a mentorship award. Every student can nominate one faculty member (excluding their own supervisor) who they feel has helped them in any way throughout their grad degree. The faculty were happy/neutral with the idea THUS

BGSC members took a vote and the motion passed by majority vote. Howard Teresinski (Academic coordinator) will write up the details for this new mentorship award. We will likely do an online vote at the end of the year where we will award the certificate to the winning faculty member.

1. Sent out the email for bio grad students to OPT OUT of having their pictures taken and no one responded SO all biograds will have their pictures taken and emails posted online. The time for taking pictures will likely be set up sometime next week by Dr. Sharon Regan. It will be a drop in basis during office hours. Will send out an email to notify biograds to come in and get their picture taken.
2. Starting this upcoming week, seminars will be given by new potential faculty candidates. Biograds are encouraged to attend these talks.

**Nick Cairns (RTP Rep)**

1. (absent) no new update - will be stepping down from RTP Rep position in the upcoming year.