

Biology Graduate Student Council - Meeting Minutes

October 15th, 2018

- I. Approval of the agenda for October 15th, 2018
 - a. Approved by Mike, seconded by Aly
- II. Approval of the minutes from September 24th, 2018
 - a. Approved by Carmen, seconded by Cale
- III. Motion to Appoint Danielle Greco as the QUBS Representative for the 2018-19 term
 - a. Approved by Regan, seconded by Lily
- IV. Motion to Appoint Nell Libera as the Secretary, Treasurer, and IT Representative for the 2018-19 term
 - a. Approved by Aly, seconded by Regan
- V. Motion to Appoint Monica Fisher as the BGRS Coordinator for the 2018-19 term
 - a. Approved by Cale, seconded Mike
- VI. Update from Social Coordinators - Elbow Lake Retreat Reminder (2 minutes)
 - a. Elbow Lake coming up (Nov 3rd). Potluck dinner, brunch. Total cost will be split by attendees. ~\$25/person for meals and lodging.
 - b. Goal is to get 30 attendees
 - c. People can bring a +1
- VII. Update from Academic Coordinator - Tutoring Program, Standardized TA Evaluation Forms and Academic Development Workshop (2 minutes)
 - a. Building Teaching Dossier workshop; early next semester?
 - b. Standardized TA forms; basing off York University. Will have course-specific and position-specific forms.
 - c. Tutoring program - little response so far. Hold back until next term and focus on advertising this term. But we do have one tutor/tutee pair set up
- VIII. Committee Representative Updates
 - a. Faculty and RTP Representatives
 - i. Update from Staff Meeting and Systems Biology Hire
 1. No staff meeting since last BGSC meeting
 2. See email from Brian for details about potential hires; lunches and dinners coming up
 3. Lunches will have 8-10 people. Update with dates and times for the lunches coming soon!
 4. Dinners are first-come-first-serve
 - b. SGPS Representatives
 - i. Update from SGPS Council Meeting
 1. Short meeting; details can be found on their websites (calendars, agendas, etc.)
 2. Professional headshots: Oct 17th noon-4pm, Gordon Hall rm 302. Discounted price
 3. SGPS lounge: for any graduate/professional student: Rm 237 JDUC
 4. SGPS Council restructuring: in need of student input. Rep being sent to every department for discussion about proposed changes (pizza lunch). Date will be finalized soon, Biology grads will be emailed.

5. Funding for seminars? (EEB is over-budget). There may be a grant that we can apply for - update coming soon.
 - a. (Department Graduate Student Grant)
 - b. Note money will be awarded based on attendance at seminars.
 - c. Alumni and Graduate Committee Representative
 - i. No Graduate Committee meeting since the start of the year
 - ii. Update on BEERS
 1. Successful so far
 2. This week: still in the works
 3. BEERS will be postponed this week, new grads next week (Oct 24th), following week will be Halloween party & scary movie documentary (Oct 31st)
 4. All council members: recruit a new graduate student to talk next week. Especially MCIB!
 - iii. Professional development workshop - Nov 20 11:30
 1. ~1 hour, guide for after grad school, planning your life.
 2. This is the same approx time as Systems Biology candidate interviews, we will make sure there is no conflict
 - d. Union Representative
 - i. Update from Steward's Meeting
 1. Make harassment claims less difficult to file; any thoughts
 - a. Current procedure is contacting union rep (or HR)
 - b. Should make this easier to do and make sure the procedure is accessible
 2. RA bargaining update: Thursday Oct 18th at 6pm.
 - a. Union is aiming to broaden this definition, Queens aims to narrow it down.
 - b. Can also email PSAC with feedback
 - c. Example of impact on grad students: could potentially be paid more for involvements in projects not included in thesis
 - e. QUBS Representative
 - i. No QUBS Committee meeting since the start of the year
- IX. Discussion Points
- a. Holiday Party Format (5 minutes)
 - i. Instead of University Club mixer, try something less formal? (e.g. Pathology holiday party)
 1. Maybe at Grizz? Council buys pizza for everyone and there is a bar, etc.
 2. Note this will probably end up being cheaper than University Club
 - ii. Date? Dec 6/7th or Dec 13/14th
 - b. BGSC Fundraising Events (5 minutes)
 - i. We are in need of fundraising. Some ideas brought up:
 1. Compete between labs (per capita); with fun game aspect
 2. Assassin! Registration fee (~\$5?)
 - a. Also good opportunity to encourage interaction between MCIB and EEB students
 3. Darwin Day spaghetti sale?????
 - a. February
 4. Auction

- a. Tutoring, crafts, etc.
- 5. Selling beaker shot glasses or mugs
- c. BGRS committee recruitment
 - i. Went well! But we need more MCIB representation and post-docs.
 - ii. First meeting Tuesday Oct 16th. Will involve funding applications, etc.
 - iii. Traditional room is being demolished, so finding a new room is a priority.

