

## **BiGCoW Meeting Minutes – Monday February 28 2011**

Chair (Catherine Dale):

- Nothing to report

Secretary/Co-Chair (Jessica Bouchard):

- Planning for 2011-2012 elections: Election will happen Tuesday March 22 2011, nominations will be due Monday March 14 2011, Friday March 18 2011 will be a meet and greet with nominees at the Grad Club.
- Year-end reports for incoming executive members will be due at the next BioGrads meeting on Friday March 25 2011

Treasurer (Anneli Jokela):

- Still looking into setting up a bank account
- Current balance, with profit from Holiday Party, is approximately \$492.00
- Report for annual Salvation Army fundraiser done

Staff/Faculty Rep (Rhiannon Davies):

- Staff looking into graduate course marks; how comparable our grades/grading are to other graduate programs

Graduate Committee Rep (Julie Choi):

- Graduate studies open house went well, there was a good turnout

RTP Rep (Roslyn Dakin):

- Nothing to report (no RTP meeting since last BioGrads meeting)

SGPS Reps (Celia Symons and Patrick Turko):

- SGPS elections are happening
- Disability training may become mandatory, but TA union is opposed
- Union meet and greet on March 16 2011
- Transition to letter grades will occur May 1 2011. Center for Teaching and Learning will be holding workshops to help TAs adjust to new system

QUBS Rep (Ann McKellar):

- This will be the inaugural year of the QUBS Eco-Adventure camp at the Elbow Lake facility! This is a day-camp for ages 10-14 running for 5 weeks from July 11-August 12. Lots of fun activities including canoeing, hiking, kayaking, outdoor games and nature skills, etc. We have hired a camp director and one counselor, and interviews for two more counselors are currently underway. We are hoping to have a really great first year, so if you know anyone with kids in the appropriate age range, please encourage them to check it out!  
(<http://www.queensu.ca/qubs/events/summercamp.html>)
- A number of workshops have been planned at QUBS, with more underway. Check the QUBS outreach site for updates - <http://www.queensu.ca/qubs/events/workshops.html>

- The QUBS undergraduate awards (BUGS) deadline was moved forward this year (Jan 31) in order to be more consistent with SWEP/USRA deadlines. Applications were reviewed and award recipients will be announced shortly.

Academic Coordinators (Karlee Flear and Fabian Yu):

- Nothing to report (absent)

Social Coordinators (Heather Haig and Kate Turner):

- March social event potentially a 'Fanatics night'
- End of year party in April, may use profit generated from Holiday Party
- Environmental Health and Safety may be onboard to help subsidize wilderness safety training course for grad students working in the field