

## BiGCoW Meeting Minutes March 8 2013

Cat (Chair)

- Next meeting RTP amendment will be voted on
- For the upcoming elections: try to suggest to fellow students or find someone that could fill your spot
- Asked for volunteers to help on election day
- Current committee stands until the end of April

Amanda (Secretary/Co-chair)

- No news

Courtney and Steph (Social Coordinators)

- Movie night: Chasing Ice on Thurs March 14 at 7, pizza
- April 4<sup>th</sup> chili lunch for Chris Baird's EEB
- April 27<sup>th</sup>, Elbow lake weekend as a year end thing
  - Some concerns about this: field work, availability, suggested a hike around somewhere closer

Ally (Treasurer)

- No News
- Julia asked for 75\$ to cover no-show/ forfeit fees for intramurals
  - There was some debate about whether or not this was Biograds responsibility or not.
  - Suggested to get money from those who were actually on the team

Ally (Staff and Faculty Rep)

- Provost was at the last Staff meeting asking faculty about problems in the department
- Department will specialize in the future (over the next 5 to 10 years)

Julia and Sarah (Grad Student Research Day)

- April 19<sup>th</sup> 2013: trying to book rooms, met with John Topping to discuss event
- Poster session
- 20 five min seminars (10 EEB, 10 CMIB)
- Increasing attendance go to staff meeting or ask Wayne Snedden to spread the word
- \$3000 budget
- Want an external guest speaker but funding is an issue

Sarah (Academic Coordinator)

- Will go around distributing grad student teaching surveys

Eric (Grad Committee Rep)

- Committee has not met since September

Trevor and Kate (SGPS)

- Term limits debate (want to make it 2 years for an MSC and 4 for a PHD, can only go beyond with application for extension)
- Comments can be sent to the committee or Terry Bridges
- Trevor read the letter from SGPS
- There was some debate about whether this was a good idea or not
- It was agreed that the application for extension needs to be clearer
- Suggested they put a poll up to determine how they would vote at the next SGPS meeting
- Also mentioned that funding is not guaranteed on your acceptance letter (only once you sign an e contract is it)
- Week from next Tuesday is general meeting

KB (Head search committee)

- Gave us a quick update about the proceedings, is off of the committee now due to conflict of interest with the short list

Kim (RTP)

- 3 positions (University-wide) that departments can try to obtain
  - Biology wants one, not likely though
- There will be a new accounting staff positions and course coordinator position

Vanya (QUBS Rep)

- Absent