

Biograds Minutes – March 27/2015

Amanda Tracey (Chair)

- No update

Alex Ross (Co-chair/secretary)

- No update

Michele (QUBS rep)

- Elbow Lake Open House Sunday, May 24, 2015 10am–3pm
 - Grand opening of new bridge (Red Trail Footbridge, crosses the beaver pond)...funded by Township of South Frontenac and County of Frontenac
 - Release of interpretive trail app
 - Facility tour, guided nature walks and paddles, school programming demonstrations, Eco Adventure Camp displays
- Keep up-to-date on ELEEC news at elbowlakecentre.ca
 - Events for public and students
 - Events coming up:
 - Dissertation on the Lake
 - August 24–28 (Mon–Fri, one day longer than last year)
 - Put on by the SGS. See their website for details and applications (not out yet). Keep an eye out because last year it filled up and there was a waiting list.
 - \$65 last year. Includes meals, travel, and accommodation. Probably slightly more because longer this year than last year.
 - Writing workshops, goal setting, and access to activities like hiking, canoeing, swimming, bonfires, etc.
 - Fishing 101 for Women
 - Ontario Women Anglers
 - Bass Fishing for Women Weekend: July 24–26
 - Put on by Ontario Women Anglers
 - Learn bass fishing techniques, canoeing 101, guest speakers, fun fishing tournament, potluck lunch and dinner on Saturday, fish fry, free draws and prizes
 - \$80 per person with Ontario Women Anglers membership
 - Includes 2 nights accommodation (Fri/Sat), rods and reels provided. Meals not included. Fishing licence required.

- Visit www.fishing101forwomen.ca for pictures and details about the events or contact yvonne@fishing101forwomen.ca
 - Only 30 spaces available...spots are filling fast!
 - Organizers probably planning second event for August
 - “Stay Under the Shooting Stars”
 - August. Night of stargazing during the Perseid meteor shower. 7:30pm–10pm.
 - Open to anyone interested in astronomy
 - Indoor presentation, bonfire, storytelling about mythology of the constellations. Day use fees for people not staying overnight (\$8 adults, \$4 for kids) or rent a cabin for \$60 including the activities. BYO meals.
- Planning session for ELEEC workshops next week
 - Preferred times?
 - Last week of May/first week of June 2015
 - 9am–3pm
 - School groups of about 100 high school students at ELEEC
 - 40 min workshop teaching an environment/biology-related topic of your choice or research interest
 - Mentor an undergrad who can later take over
 - Get SWEP/537/undergrad students involved
- The herbarium is officially moved into the new building at QUBS. Thank you to everyone who helped out with that.
- QUBS open house Sunday June 28, 12pm–3pm
 - Cool displays and family activities at QUBS
 - Grand opening of the new library and herbarium
 - Get yourself (and your lab) involved!
 - For help or information on how to participate, talk to me or Steve Lougheed
- Call for biograds to write articles for the QUBS blog:
 - <https://opinicon.wordpress.com/>
 - Meant to be a clearing house for articles on local natural history
- Steve Lougheed also has a cool website dedicated to Canadian Field Stations, and QUBS is featured on it (among many other stations)
 - Check it out at fieldstations.ca

Leslie Holmes (Social Coordinator)

- Looking to organize an end of year event. The primary option we’re looking at is buying a block of tickets for a ‘Spring Beer Tasting’ event at the Grad

Club. We would charge the \$5 for admission to the beer tasting, but also have a barbeque at the Grad Club before hand so that people not interested in drinking are still included. Leslie will call the GC to check availability

Shakira Azan (Treasurer)

- No update

Nick Cairns (RTP)

- No update – all dealings with the RTP committee are still being held confidential

Dave Ensing (Academic Coordinator)

- Moodle site is up and running, but for anyone to gain access they must get in touch with the Academic Coordinator (Dave), or IT to procure their employee net ID (different than student #ID). Once you have your employee net ID get in touch with the Coordinator to complete Moodle access setup.
- A possible idea for next years coordinator is making a password protected Wordpress website, rather than use Moodle. With having to obtain passwords and access for IT the whole Moodle process seems somewhat prohibitive, a Wordpress website would be more straight forward.
- Just wrapping up graduate course surveys for the Grad Teaching award – will be get a plaque made for the winner

Eric Fedosejevs (Sports coordinator)

- No update

Danielle Porplycia & Courtney Holden (SGPS Reps)

- SGPS is looking to start an accelerated Masters program, where honours students could potentially roll-up from their BIO-537 into a MSc. Essentially, this means that a research-based masters could be completed in 1 yr and 4 months.
 - Undergrads could potentially take graduate level classes that would count for grad and undergrad requirements
- Mitacs partnership
 - Industrial partner program that would provide financial assistance for projects. Apparently the “industry aspect” is fairly broad, and Mitacs is quite keen to give money away.

Deni Ogunrinde (Graduate Committee Rep)

- No update

Nishka (Alumni Rep)

- No update

Adam Meyer (Union Rep & Graduate Representative for the Biology Headship Committee)

Union

- No update

Headship

- No update

James Sinclair (Staff and Faculty Rep)

- Biotech hiring has been chosen, and the candidate has been given the offer. However, at this point the University needs to secure funding for the hire to be complete
 - BioGrads were unhappy about lack of involvement in the hiring process. For most previous hiring's a BioGrad representative has always been on the hiring committee, however for this hiring we were not contacted. We are going to look into the policy to see if any rules were broken and bring our grievances to staff and faculty