

Biology Graduate Student Council - Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 18th, 2017

Participants: Kristen, Sofia, Monica, Yihan, Dylan, Cale, Russell, Lily, Ryan, Regan, Katie, Wenxi, Danalyn.

- I. Approval of the agenda for October 16th, 2017 **Approved**
- II. Approval of the minutes from October 4th, 2017 **Approved**
- III. Update from Social Coordinator – Holiday party (2 minutes)
Party at University Club, Dec. 14th 5:00 - 10:00 pm, Turnup estimation: 100 people. 15CAD general admission (5CAD discounts for bio graduates)
- IV. Update from QUBS Representative – Elbow Lake retreat (2 minutes)
 1. Already book: 6 cabins for Nov. 4th night and Pavilion on Nov. 4th and 5th
 2. Need to decide:
 - a. Expected arrival and departure time?
 - b. Number of bags of firewood needed?
 3. Ideas on QUBS youtube video promotion? Sonia is in charge of the social media for QUBS so we can contact her if we have videos.
- V. Committee Representative Updates
 - a. Staff and Faculty Representative
 - i. NONE (nothing to report: next faculty meeting October 30th)
 - b. SGPS Representatives
 - i. Updates from October 17th meeting (2 minutes)
 1. See Appendix A
 - c. RTP Representative
 - i. NONE(?)
 - d. Graduate Committee Representative
 - i. NONE(?)
 - e. Union Representative
 - i. Update from steward meeting (2 minutes)
Bargaining in process
 - f. DSC Representative (2 minutes)
 - i. Update from past two weeks
Undergraduates clothing sale ongoing
- VI. Update from Co-Chairs – Clothing sale debrief (2 minutes)
 - a. Short discussion: Clothing items for sale (5 minutes)
targets: grad students and faculty
item ideas:
 - cap**
 - polo shirts**
 - mug (possible)**
 - sweaters**
 - EEB/MCIB specific ones?**
 - order forms?****professional style for professors and funky style for students**
purpose: fundraiser/potential sale to undergraduates who might be interested

- send out email asking for ideas and designs for logos
- VII. Update from Co-Chairs – Becoming an SGPS Club and Finances (2 minutes)
Committee approved that BGSC now becomes an office member of SGPS
 - VIII. Other updates
Cale looking for three or four more people to join the Graduate Research Symposium Committee.
 - IX. Special projects (40 minutes)
 - a. To be assigned at meeting

APPENDIX A

SGPS October meeting report
Dylan Sora, Russell Turner

Queen's University Child Friendly Campus (QUCFC) Initiative

- There is now a parenting friendly/ breast feeding room for parents in the second floor of the JDUC
- QUCFC has a facebook page with the same name for parents
- There will be a survey sent out campus wide to better improve child care and parenting on campus

I Love First Peoples Initiative

- Shoebox collection for November
 - Fill a shoebox with gifts for indigenous students to help build connections between Queen's students and the indigenous community
 - <https://www.ilovefirstpeoples.ca/shoebox-gifts>
- Collection drop off center at the SGPS
- We have the option to collect internally as Biograd community

Bursary criteria changes

- Conference registration can be included now in activity bursary
 - Capped at \$150 per student
 - Need to demonstrate financial need (either OSAP or Queen's general bursary)
- International student bursary capped at \$200
 - Intended to ensure that it will be available for all international students within budgetary constraints

40 new faculty being hired (any in biology?)

Graduate Wellness Study

- Longitudinal anonymous survey on mental health
- Tailored to department (Need participation to improve)
- Will be sent out via the list serve
- BGSC can use this data after

