Biology Graduate Student Council - Meeting Minutes

November 26th, 2018

I. Approval of the agenda for November 26th, 2018
   a. Approved by lily, seconded by katie

II. Approval of the minutes from November 12th, 2018
   a. Approved by ryan, seconded by mike

III. Discussion points from Alex
   a. Recommendation to apply for SGPS sustainability grant to buy reusable cutlery, etc. for events, instead of disposable utensils! No deadline, max amount is $5000. Alex is going to apply. Thanks!
      i. Events may include: new hire lunches, committee meetings and defences, seminars, BGSC fundraising and social events. ~50 sets would be ideal
   b. Organics bins - talk to Sustainability office

IV. Committee Representative Updates
   a. Union Representative
      i. No updates
   b. Faculty and RTP Representatives
      i. Update from Assassins!
         1. So far successful, but next time we should focus more on recruitment! It seems some people who wanted to play didn’t end up signing up.
      ii. Staff meeting
         1. New Dean of Science Council (?) - priorities are student well-being, preparation for careers, diversity of graduate committee
         2. ArtSci faculty meeting - any issues should be sent to Lily to be passed onto Brian
      iii. Email Aly re candidates! (ranking and any notes)
   c. SGPS Representatives
      i. Much debate was had, will update when there is a consensus
      ii. Upcoming referendum re winter term student activity fees; Mike can send details
      iii. January 14th deadline to make changes to our student activity fee
      iv. Election dates for SGPS posted; details on SGPS website
      v. No time in meeting to bring up our concerns from our last meeting (contacting relevant departments re events, etc.)
   d. Alumni and Graduate Committee Representative
      i. Update from Careers Workshop
         1. Rough start, but attendees thought it was helpful (e.g. soft skills vs technical skills; elevator pitches)
         2. Next time maybe have someone who is knowledgeable about careers for Biology graduates... especially for students who don’t plan on doing a post-doc or continuing in academia
      ii. Update from BEERS Committee
         1. Cale will be presenting second part of his talk
         2. We need speakers for next semester - talk to lab mates and email Katie or Lily if interested
e. QUBS Representative
   i. The QUBS committee has been dissolved and now Danielle will attend staff meetings?? And follow up with Steve

f. BGRS Representative
   i. General update
      1. Funding applications will be submitted very soon
      2. Venue, speaker TBA
   ii. Fundraising ideas/conflicts
      1. Several ideas so far
         a. Art night - renting a room at Grad Club (~5pm on a Thursday?)
            50% to materials and 50% for fundraising
         b. Clothing/sticker sale - less formal. Competition and students can submit designs to competition. Specific to Biology Graduates
            i. No conflict with BGSC
            ii. Prize to the winner?
         c. Pub crawl? This might conflict with BGSC - joint fundraiser? Feb 12th (Darwin’s birthday)
         d. Bake sale with pre-order forms (to avoid waste, etc.). BGSC may have a bake sale next semester at some point but no conflict so far
         e. Movie night?

V. Special projects
   a. To be assigned at meeting (but mostly - HOLIDAY PARTY!)
      i. Note: Free ticket for sober volunteers. First come first serve, 2 max
   b.