

BGSC Exec Meeting Agenda - July 20, 2020

1. Motion to approve agenda for July 20, 2020
Allen, seconded by Mike
2. Motion to approve minutes from July 6, 2020
Kristen, seconded by Riley
3. Updates
 - a. Update from co-chairs
 - i. Working on anonymous workplace climate survey with Sam, Kristen - TBD
 - Send email on July 20th
 - Questions on departmental and lab atmosphere, sense of belonging, comfort level with attending events, harassment/discrimination, mental health
 - Talking with HR to conform to rules
 - Meant to assess situation in department, will be sent in a few weeks
 - ii. Scholarship updates
 - Shelley - university sent terms of scholarship today, has mistakes, will fix
 - Working on new name
 - Field course scholarship status unknown
 - iii. Orientation plans
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12hZx5Ynesz8iyFkHc6ZXpqf-IDYgDmX6/view?usp=sharing>
 1. Mentorship program - thanks to Hayden and Heather for organizing
 2. Orientation presentations (Dept head, head of grad studies, Joanne, Center for Teaching and Learning) - can 1-2 people volunteer to contact these people to set up brief Zoom presentations? Co-chairs will also present. September 9th, say 1pm?
 - Nell volunteered to email
 3. BGSC elections would then take place on Sept 14th
 4. List of things to do / places to go around Kingston - thanks Ryan for coordinating this
 5. Ice breaker event, games night (a volunteer to coordinate?)
 - Looking for someone to volunteer
 - Two truths one lie
 6. Right now, seems like dept BBQ and elbow lake retreat will not be happening, no real way to replace them except maybe the games night & some hikes at Elbow?
 - Sonia says a retreat is unlikely
 - Emilie - maybe camping?

4. Updates from representatives:
 - a. QUBS - n/a
 - b. Faculty and Staff - last meeting cancelled, next meeting on Thursday
 - c. Alumni/Graduate Committee - seminar series update 3 (Bronwyn Harkness) - Liz's presentation is on Wednesday this week, no other seminars lined up for now, reached out to Amanda Tracy, no response yet
 - d. SGPS - no meeting until August
 - e. RTPs - n/a
 - f. International - n/a
 - g. Union - n/a
 - h. EDI - Meetings every 2 weeks, grad students as a whole want an update, talked to Shelley about female leadership in department, EDI statement for grad student recruitment, why there's so few indigenous students, lab recruitment in undergrad, team up with outdoors club, equipment co-op (currently in talks with outdoors club), volunteering opportunities, 537 student EDI, training in decolonized course content, EDI panel in BGRS

5. Update from Social coordinators -
 - A. Ryan: I sent out an email asking for suggestions for an o-week Kingston activity guide for new grads. I've started making the list and encourage people to email me with ideas!
 - B. Somebody suggested making "how to" videos on various tasks (gardening, cooking, crocheting, etc.). Thought this may be a good way to make new hobbies more accessible, and possibly promote groups if there's enough interest. I wanted to get everyone's opinion to see if it's an avenue worth pursuing.

6. Update from Academic - TA evaluation forms for online TAships?
 - TA forms are all adapted for online TAships, basic framework the same as before
 - Mentoring program going well, many signups (27 right now)

7. BGRS update - orientation event?
 - Not enough participants right now
 - Only 8 presenters, 20 audience
 - Half day, 15 minute presentations
 - Integrate with orientation
 - Asking George Dicenzo
 - Faculty emailing about how late it is

8. Discussion - put forward a motion to introduce a post-doc rep?
 - Post-docs not in our constitution