

CGSS Meeting Agenda

Date: October 8 2024

Time: 11 AM

Location: D211

Approval status: Approved

1. **Call to Order: 11:04 am**

- Present (19): Athan, Thomas, Seja, Janice, Desiree, Hikaru, Nealan, Sean, Kaitlin, Jiayao, Ariana, Astoria, Carina, Sydney M, Lucas, William (zoom), Aubry, Jörn, Vanessa
- Missing (6): Khoushboo (class), Zoë (class), Emilie (class), Sydney H, Jason, Yejin

2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (September)**

- Approved by: Desiree
- Seconded by: Nealan

3. **Outgoing Councillors Reports and Council Changeover**

- Went over a brief summary of positions
 - i. For further detail check exit reports or contact the council
- The exit report is due this Friday
 - i. Upload any old exit reports you may have
- President is in charge of managing Slack and to contact IT about updating the cgss@chem.ubc.ca email
- Currently no vice-president (VP) this year
 - i. Usually the VP is In charge of charity events and holiday skits
 - ii. We can have by-election or internal election for a vice-president
 - If not, this year perhaps distribute the tasks to the social coordinators
- New wellness representative to organize wellness events
- New webmaster/social media coordinator to manage the CGSS website and social media
 - i. Jiayao already removed old website and linked the new website
 - ii. Perhaps look into the access for the cgss facebook and twitter page
- Same social coordinator as last year, plus 2 new social coordinators (total 3)
- Same union representatives as last year
- New treasurer to oversee cgss finances
 - i. remember to submit reimbursements, count cashbox after each event
- New sports representative to plan new sport events
- Same secretary as last year
- New international representative to plan events for international students
- New first year representative to plan events for first year students

4. **2024—2025 CGSS Budget Presentation**

- Lots of unused budget because of events that didn't happen, and we didn't have to run the Graduate Research Symposium
- New budget is similar to last year to account for new website and more events
- Lucas moves a motion to approve the budget (old council has left the meeting at this point)
 - i. Seconded: Vanessa
 - ii. In favour (unanimous): Thomas, Seja, Janice, Desiree, Hikaru, Sean, Jiayao, Ariana, Astoria, Carina, Sydney M, Lucas, Vanessa

- iii. Result: the budget is approved by the CGSS, Lucas will present this budget to Laurel

5. **Departmental Meeting Recap**

- Recently the meeting has been only faculty, but now Laurel Schafer wants a CGSS representative to attend
 - i. We need a permanent person to attend the meeting, Carina agreed to do this
 - ii. Nealan attended the October departmental meeting as a one-time thing
- New professor being interviewed
- Adding a Masters tuition award
- UBC projected to go into a little bit of a financial deficit and worsen next year
 - i. Chemistry department should be fine
- There is going to be a cap on incoming international graduate students (not sure when)
- The department is slowly increasing our GRA stipend
- Grad student focused initiatives
 - i. PIs must fill out annual student progress reports/assessment
- New money for summer grad student stipends that work for an assistant professor
- The department wants to transition away from semester-long 3 credit system
 - i. Introduce 1-credit 1-month long modules
- Graduate Matters: we have 42 new grad students, everyone with pre-arranged PIs, 11 with scholarships
 - i. New: Master defenses are going to be chaired by teaching/lecture professors instead of emeritus faculty
 - ii. New: PhD defense chairs will be chaired by the department-pick if we can't get emeritus faculty
 - We will let Laurel know our opinions
- Going to be a new department website

6. **Meeting with the Chemistry Head**

- President (and/or treasurer) has monthly meetings with Laurel Schafer
- More awards (12) will be available next summer
 - i. We are asked to think about the criteria
 - ii. Asked that we use all our donations to CGSS awards/endowment instead
 - Currently we split between charity and awards
 - We should double check where our money is going

7. **CGSS Constitution**

- Everyone should read the constitution, especially about their specific role
- Need to understand the voting system
- The monthly meetings are mandatory
 - i. Missing 3 meetings in a row (without giving a reason) could lead to being voted out
- A few roles need to email the department if they resign
- Need to update the constitution on the website

8. **Serving It Right**

- Everyone needs to help out at events at least once a semester
- Everyone needs their serving it right and special events license
- After getting the certificate, forward to the social coordinator and submit reimbursements to the treasurer

9. **CGSS Slack Introduction**

- Lucas will be given authority over Slack
 - New members will be added later today
 - Everybody must be active on Slack, regularly check messages
- 10. LMC Speakers**
- Next week the CGSS is hosting the LMC speaker
 - i. Host breakfast, lunch and dinner
 - We are asked to invite speakers with a MERCK award
- 11. CGSS Charities**
- Every year CGSS votes for which 2 charities to support
 - i. Use #charity on Slack to nominate 1-3 charities
 - ii. After a week, everyone votes
 - Charity coffee time later this week
 - i. Lucas can do the shopping and make the coffee
- 12. Changeover Dinner**
- This Friday at 7 pm at 1530 West Broadway Cactus Club
 - Reservations are under “Janice Zeng”
- 13. Social Coordinators Report**
- Welcome back stress buster recap
 - i. Went well, there is a lot of left over alcohol
 - Halloween stress buster
 - i. Has gotten liquor license for November 1st
 - ii. Sign up for about 2-3 volunteer positions if you’re coming
 - Pumpkin carving contest
 - i. Some people suggested voting during the stressbuster
- 14. Union Report**
- Nothing to report
- 15. Sports Report**
- Nothing to report
- 16. International Student Report**
- Nothing to report
- 17. GSS Report**
- Nothing to report
- 18. Wellness Report**
- Nothing to report
- 19. Miscellaneous**
- Media interviews with the glass blower during November
 - We need 3 executives to approve reimbursements: president, vice president, treasurer
 - i. If no VP, then the secretary has signing authority
 - We might have internal election (maybe on Slack) to address the vacant VP spot
 - i. The skits will be assigned to the social coordinators
 - Need by-election if we amend the constitution for the student representative role

Meeting adjourned: 12:16 Pm