

Minutes for Tuesday, August 7th, 2017 CGSS Meeting 12PM in D211

1. Call to Order: 12:01PM
 - Councillors present: Elesha, Daniel, Julie, Kelsi, Phil, Maria, Donny, Hayden, David, Mo, Lily (arrived during item 3)
 - Councillors absent: Henry, Jenn, Mostafa, Lili, Tom, Drew, Erin
 - Other members present: none
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - Comments: changed “tended to mingle” to “in the past council supported mingling”, changed “TA union approved changes” to “TA union has seen and acknowledges changes”, changed “4 months at a time” in the new TA assignments to “8 months at a time”
 - Approved by: Kelsi
 - Seconded by: Mo
3. CGSS Scholarship/Prize
 - Discussion was held with the alumni centre and they think it will be too hard to implement the mentorship award
 - The alumni centre thought the description was too broad would be difficult to adjudicate
 - Councillors thought that narrowing the description would be too exclusive
 - The alumni centre can't figure out a wording for the mentorship award that the senate will approve
 - There are currently no similar awards that can be found to provide a template description
 - The outreach award seems ok with the alumni center, so it was suggested to try to fund the outreach award first and work towards the mentorship award later
 - The alumni centre solicited council's target alumni a few years ago and only got \$4000. Therefore, council decided that alumni probably would not be able to provide enough money for a second award, so council decided to only fund one award at the moment
 - The outreach award description was shared with council and discussed
 - The definition of local activities was discussed
 - Council discussed removing the word local because digital outreach could become more common in the future, which would conflict with the "local" stipulation
 - \$1200 total was clarified to mean the total amount of money given out per year to be split between students
 - This number comes from the interest on the endowment. The number could be higher if alumni donations were added to this endowment
 - Council questioned if the number was fixed or flexible from year to year
 - Council discussed the need to solicit for money, since only one award is going to be pursued at this time.

- The awards are not supposed to be called scholarships, but will instead be called prizes because scholarships are academic
 - Prizes and scholarships are given out at different times (prizes given out in May)
 - The department will be consulted to see if the different timelines will cause an issue with their scholarship adjudication process
 - To apply, applicants must be students
 - Council discussed if the prize can be given out if the student applies, but graduates before the prizes are given out
 - Preference will be given to students who have never won before
 - Vote will be held next meeting because the wording has changed and there are more questions to ask the alumni center
 - Council discussed when this award will be in place
4. Graduate Symposium
- Preferred date (Sept. 22) is taken by alumni day
 - Speakers and awards are given to alumni on this day
 - Council discussed whether or not the alumni talks are open to graduate students
 - There are currently discussions with the department about combining the events to have better attendance
 - Council will need to coordinate really well to make sure it goes smoothly
 - Council would be in charge of the BBQ, but council needs to find out who is responsible for paying for the food and alcohol for the added alumni
 - Council discussed the logistics of when to hold the general meeting
 - BBQ should happen after the general meeting in order to keep attendance high
 - Other possible dates were discussed to avoid the conflicting day: Sept. 15th and 29th
 - Council discussed holding the poster event be held in another space
 - Even in the D-wing hallway
 - Abdul Lahda
- a) Appointment of CEO
- Maria nominated herself; nomination was seconded by Julie
 - Vote:
 - Yes: 11
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
- b) Formation of Research Symposium Committee
- Maria proposed to form the committee to exist until the end of September to plan the graduate research symposium with at least two council members and a minimum of five members; proposal seconded by Kelsi
 - Vote:
 - Yes: 11
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
 - Members interested Julie, Maria, Hayden, David, Kelsi, Phil

- Maria proposed to seat Julie, Maria, Kayden, David, Kelsi and Phil onto the committee; seconded by Daniel
 - Vote:
 - Yes: 11
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0

SoCo Report

- a) Second Trivia event was a success
 - Licensing was changed so they didn't charge for alcohol and had to cap the event at 75 people
- b) Upcoming BBQ
 - Food has been ordered
- c) Stressbusters
 - Will be held August 31st after TA training

Sports update

- a) Canadians game
 - 30 tickets were sold
- b) Sports Day
 - Instead of tournament, do a sports day with a few options for people to play
 - August 24th from 3-6PM
 - Will need help to transport equipment

GSS Report

- They are trying to change AMS dental plan because there were fewer people who applied for it last year

Union Report

- Nobody has complained about the new format for TA assignments

Additional Discussion/Misc.

- LMC has changed how the schedule is set up
 - This council will be able to choose who they want to speak at LMC next year
- Lab manual sales
 - Councillors need to sign up for at least two slots
- Reimbursements
 - Councillors thought it had been harder to get money back with people in the department away on vacation
 - Waiting for the department to approve the reimbursement can take a long time in the summer
 - Councillors thought that having a system of knowing when people are on holiday would be helpful so that people seeking reimbursements can make sure to get the reimbursement forms in earlier

Adjournment: 1:04PM