**Minutes for September 11th, 2020 CGSS Meeting**

**10:00 am via Zoom**

1. Call to Order: 10:03 am
   1. Present: Julie, Matthew, Mostafa, Kris, Lily, Olivia, Hayden, Sabrina, Abhishek, Jesse, Maria
   2. Absent: Kevin, Alyssa, Noah
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
   1. Approved by Julie; seconded by Hayden.
3. Coffee Time
   1. Coffee Fairy Summer Gift Card Giveaway
      1. We will decide with new council if we want to keep it going. People seemed to enjoy it.
4. Events
   1. Scavenger Hunt
      1. The event went well. Sabrina is finalizing numbers on winners (everyone will receive a prize).
      2. $15 raised for charity.
   2. First Year Event
      1. Sabrina and Julie met with the new students over Zoom after TA training, 10-20 people attended.
      2. Mike approved Julie’s ideas to host events off campus that follow appropriate protocols (e.g., Amazing Race, hiking, etc.), so that opens up possibilities for a first year event.
   3. Paint Night (Bob Ross)
      1. September is likely too busy for event, but early October might work well.
5. Sports
   1. Yoga
      1. Alyssa was away, but event seemed to run well.
   2. Lagree West
      1. Lagree West is offering us a discount to attend Zoom classes (around $5 per person). We would pick a week, and students would be ale to go to any class in that week that we pay for.
6. Financial Update
   1. Total budget: $24500. Of that, $16290 remains (due to lack of events as a result of shutdown).
   2. Money for charities and endowment fund (including from last year) need to be sent out soon.
7. Lab Manual Sales
   1. This event is generally required of CGSS by the department for our allotted budget.
   2. All materials are being mailed out this year, so event will not happen until perhaps January. Budget for next year will not be affected by this, but it will likely be lower due to current circumstances.
8. Graduate Research Symposium
   1. Date of event: October 1st.
   2. Julie sent out form to gauge interest. As of yet, only 2 people signed up, and 15 or so people would be needed.
   3. Tao is able to do plenary talk. Current plan is to hold oral presentations over Zoom, and posters over Twitter/another platform.
   4. Maria suggested telling Mike about the lack of entries so he can encourage PIs and students to join, as this has helped substantially in past years.
9. CGSS Election
   1. Election will occur during GRS, ideally after the plenary lecture for best attendance (as we need quorum to elect, which is 15% of the total number of graduate students). An anonymous Zoom poll will be sent out for graduate students to vote. If GRS does not end up happening, the election will still have to be held.
   2. Julie encouraged current council members to nominate themselves for positions.
   3. Julie put forward the motion to seat herself as chief election officer for the 2020/2021 CGSS election; seconded by Maria:
      1. Yes: 11
      2. No: 0
      3. Abstain: 0
10. Changeover Dinner
    1. Generally, this dinner is held for both outgoing and incoming CGSS members soon after the election. It will likely be in early October, evening or weekend.
    2. As having a large group meet-up this year is difficult, it was suggested we go to a beach or park and order food. Ideas would have to be run by Mike before confirmation.
11. Exit Reports
    1. Julie asked all outgoing council members to write an exit report for incoming members taking over their role, as it is helpful for them to have clear ideas about what their responsibilities are.
    2. These should be completed by the changeover meeting and emailed to Julie.
12. Wellness Report
    1. Alyssa away.
13. Union Report
    1. Noah away.
14. GSS Report
    1. Last meeting was mostly about finances and about discussions to enable international students not in Vancouver to opt out of healthcare.
    2. GSS is holding a BBQ for graduate students next Friday. Perhaps we can see how they do this and get some pointers.
15. Discussion/Misc.
    1. Trivia
       1. Mostafa proposed it would be a good idea to shuffle teams every few rounds and track individual scores so that teams are not required.
       2. Mostafa previously tried using Discord for this purpose, which seemed to work well for group switching.
       3. Council did a quick test on Discord, which worked well.

Meeting adjourned: 10:59 am