**Agenda for June 16th, 2020 CGSS Meeting**

**10:00 am via Zoom**

1. Call to Order: 10:03 am
   1. Present: Julie, Lily, Hayden, Maria, Matthew, Abhishek, Kris, Alyssa, Noah, Sabrina, Mostafa
   2. Missing: Olivia, Kevin, Jesse
   3. Others: 0
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
   1. Approved by Julie; seconded by Hayden.
3. Masks for Graduate Students
   1. Masks have been given out. We will wait to evaluate if we want to order another set. There are quite a few left, but there are still students who have not returned to yet, so we will hold onto them.
4. Events
   1. Ping-Pong Tournament
      1. No one has asked about it yet; will wait until Phase 2/restrictions ease.
   2. Yoga
      1. This event would be held over Zoom. Prizes and/or admission price reimbursement could be provided.
      2. Alyssa has been in contact with some studios; Julie and Alyssa will discuss options.
      3. With the current two-shift schedule, it might be best to do two sessions, which would be fine for the budget.
   3. Social Distance Pitch & Putt
      1. Some sites are reopening already. Since it is outside, it might be in line with social distancing rules.
      2. We will evaluate later and run the idea by Mike. If yes, the event would be held later in the summer.
   4. Trivia Night
      1. Julie has looked up what other have done for trivia events, and it looks like most are done over Zoom, but that is not likely to work with out large department. Other platforms (e.g., Discord) might work better.
      2. We will revisit later, as this event is probably not the best one to hold first.
   5. Scavenger Hunt
      1. Sabrina brought up the idea of a Period Table Scavenger Hunt, where students would find as many elements in their everyday/lab life, take pictures with them, and then send them to us. They would be given a certain time period to do so, and we could give prizes to the ones who found the most. Since it does not require people to be in one place, it seems like a good social distancing activity.
5. Black Lives Matter Movement
   1. Lily brought forward the idea to donate some money in the budget for the movement, but Mike confirmed it is not allowed as the money is from the department.
   2. It was suggested we look into doing fundraiser events. Sabrina suggested doing a “Coffee Fairy” type thing where we deliver coffee to people/labs that donate, but it might be difficult to do now with the strict work rules.
6. Graduate Student Initiative (GSI) Committee
   1. Mike wants to hold the grad forum with focus on COVID-related concerns (as well as the wellness data).
   2. Next GSI meeting is next week.
   3. Julie put forward the motion to add Alyssa Henderson to the GSI Committee; seconded by Hayden.
      1. Yes: 11
      2. No: 0
      3. Abstain: 0
7. Wellness Report
   1. Alyssa brought up that split shifts have essentially halved the community, which has been difficult for students, so it seems like people would be interested in wellness-related activities.
   2. Event suggestions included exercise/yoga classes, social distancing picnics/walks.
   3. Another idea was to make a sticky note wall or use the poster boards/white boards to write messages to each other and boost morale.
8. Union Report
   1. Money negotiations have ended; we received a pay raise, which we should have received already (if not, by the end of summer).
   2. Benefits reopen for negotiation in August.
   3. Jose will hold a virtual session regarding TAing in the fall.
   4. Concerns have been brought up regarding the lack of UPass in the tuition. Mike has relayed the message, but it is not something the department has control over. This could continue to be a problem in September if undergrads are not returning. Alyssa suggested looking up bike renting options for the department.
9. GSS Report
   1. Last meeting mainly concerned elections.
   2. Regarding Item 4, Mostafa remembered that GSS held a virtual paint night, where students were delivered art supplies for a 2 hour painting class held virtually. The cost is unclear, but it was agreed that it would be a fun event to hold that remains within social distancing guidelines.
10. Discussion/Misc.

Meeting adjourned: 10:46 am