CGSS Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 6, 2021

**Time:** 9:00 am

**Location:** D211 (Grad Lounge)

1. **Call to Order:** 9:03 am
   1. Present (18): Hayden, Jesse, Sabrina, Desiree, Lily, Julie, Ali, Joern, Nealan, Trevor, Naysilla, Mason, Vanessa, Lucas, Jiayu, MJ, Andrew, Olivia
   2. Missing (6): Afagh, Tanvi, Will, Don, Christine, Urmi
   3. Other: 0
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**
   1. Approved by Jesse
   2. Seconded by Hayden
3. **Introduction of New Councillors**
4. **Discussion of Roles and Exit Reports**
   1. Some exit reports missing
   2. Reminder to submit remaining reports for new councillors to learn about their roles
5. **Social Coordinator Report**
   1. Departmental social:
6. Happened on Thursday, September 16, 2021
7. Event was well received by graduate students, faculty did not attend as much
8. Event was ~$500 under budget ($1000 spent out of $1500 allotted)
   1. Spikeball tournament:
9. Many events happened in September (social, GRS, etc.) so Olivia did not pursue organization of tournament
10. Idea can be kept in mind for future
    1. Changeover dinner:
11. Olivia is currently in contact with Earls Fir Street about organizing changeover dinner
12. Idea is to hold dinner on Friday, October 15, 2021 or Friday, October 22, 2021
13. **Graduate Research Symposium**
    1. Event was well attended on Saturday, September 25, 2021, more than expected
    2. Constitutional amendments completely passed
    3. New council voted in
14. **Spin Class**
    1. Well received
    2. Julie has offered to organize something like this again in upcoming year
    3. Sabrina says that interest exists in department via word of mouth
15. **October Stressbusters**
    1. Uncertainty based on BC’s COVID Restart Plan (we are still only in Stage 3)
    2. Liquor license will not be approved at this moment, plus it is currently too late to request one in time for October Stressbusters
    3. Options: hold event at location with liquor license, or do dry stressbusters
    4. Jesse pitches Gallery, where we can buy pitchers of beer (this is suggested with feedback in mind from individuals in department who said they had hoped our last event would have alcohol)
    5. Sabrina says we could buy share platters at Gallery, good option for food
    6. Hayden brought up point that we could look into renting space
    7. Suggested date: Thursday, October 28, 2021 or Friday, October 29, 2021, but Lucas pointed out that many first year students are in nanomaterials class from 5-8 pm on Thursdays, so Friday might be better
16. **Pumpkin Carving Contest**
    1. SoCo must buy pumpkins week before Halloween
    2. Sign-up will be sent out to department for groups to register
    3. Pass out pumpkins on October 25
    4. Give 3-4 days to carve pumpkins
    5. Contest on Thursday/Friday
    6. Suggestion: two categories of (1) diorama, and (2) nothing but pumpkin
    7. Mason was concerned that split wouldn’t be even between two categories but council agreed that it would be even based on previous years
    8. Budget proposed to increase to $350 to accommodate two winners (one from each category)
17. **Mole Day**
    1. Hidden Mole Hunt again this year
    2. Winner receives gift card of $10.23
18. **Coffee Time**
    1. Will ask Mike Wolf whether we can do it
    2. Maybe not inside but rather in breezeway
19. **First Year Report**
    1. Urmi not present
20. **Wellness Report**
    1. Will not present
21. **Union Report**
    1. TA union is in contact with larger provincial union
    2. Continued encouragement to track working hours
22. **GSS Report**
    1. Desiree did not attend September meeting, so there’s nothing to report
    2. Desiree described for everyone how GSS rep position works
23. **Exit of Old Councillors**
    1. MJ, Lily, Julie left
24. **Vote on Additional Members-at-Large**
    1. Chau:
       1. In favour: 15
       2. Against: 0
       3. Abstain: 0
25. **Vacant Social Coordinator Position**
    1. Members-at-large will act as team under leadership of social coordinator
    2. Nealan can ask senior councillors for advice
26. **Budget**
    1. Jesse puts forth approval of changes to budget:
       1. In favour: 13
       2. Against: 1
       3. Abstain: 1
27. **Constitution**
    1. Jesse has prompted everyone to read section of constitution that relates to their own position so that everyone knows their roles
    2. Reminder that everyone must volunteer for at least 1 event per semester
    3. Mason asked whether summer term is included, and it is
    4. Every councillor must complete their certification for serving alcohol at future events (BC Special Event Server course) – CGSS will reimburse councillors for this
    5. Reimbursements must include receipts and reimbursement form, sent to treasurer
    6. Everyone has been added to Slack channel, reminder that constitution now allows quick votes on Slack if needed
28. **Charities**
    1. Last year, Black Lives Matter Vancouver + Ecotrust Canada
    2. Any funds raised 🡪 half go to charities, half go to CGSS endowment fund
    3. Councillors will propose charities in Slack, we will vote on which 2 we choose this year, at next month’s meeting
29. **Annual BBQ Deep Clean**
    1. BBQ was cleaned well from last BBQ but requires little extra cleaning for winter storage
    2. Sabrina proposes that whole storage locker needs to be cleaned in addition to BBQ
    3. Proposed date: October 17, 2021 at 4 pm
30. **Discussion/Miscellaneous** 
    1. Council photo taken
    2. Another photo will be taken at council dinner to include those missing at this meeting

**Meeting adjourned:** 9:54 am