CGSS Meeting Minutes

**Date:** February 3, 2022

**Time:** 3:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom meeting

1. **Call to Order:** 15:34
   1. Present (12): Olivia, Hayden, Naysilla, Lanting, Jesse, Sabrina, Ali, Jiayu, Lucas, Joern, Nealan, Desiree
   2. Missing (5): Mason, Trevor, Afagh, Vanessa, Andrew
   3. Other (0):
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**
   1. Approved by Hayden
   2. Seconded by Lucas
3. **Prospective Grad Students Meeting**
   1. Friday, February 4 at 10:00 am in D200, to discuss what the CGSS does
   2. Jesse invites council to join if they’d like
4. **Coffee Time Discussion**
   1. Plan to start up again during Reading Week (Thursday, February 24)
   2. Will run plan by Mike Wolf once schedule is set
   3. Will book Grad Lounge and adjacent room to have more space to spread out
5. **Social Coordinator Report**
   1. Valentine’s Day Candygrams
      1. Tickets can be sold next week during LMC
      2. Candy can be bought and packaged on Friday for distribution on Monday
   2. Nealan received email from outreach coordinator about National Periodic Table Day but not planning to host anything for it
6. **Wellness Report**
   1. Sock War updates
      1. Naysilla has outlined general game rules
      2. Question as to how to communicate with participants, suggestion from Hayden to use CGSS Discord channel from last year
      3. Naysilla wants a subgroup of the CGSS to act as “Gamemakers”:
         1. Naysilla
         2. Nealan
         3. Jesse
         4. Joern
      4. Miscellaneous budget has $690 available for use
      5. Suggestion for $200 for prizes: $100 top prize, 20x $5 participation prizes
      6. Jesse puts forward motion for $200 to be allotted as prize money
         1. Seconded by Desiree
            1. In favour (12): Olivia, Hayden, Naysilla, Lanting, Jesse, Sabrina, Ali, Jiayu, Lucas, Joern, Nealan, Desiree
            2. Abstain (0):
            3. Against (0):
   2. Idea for quiet room for people to go to for meetings, for taking breather if things are overwhelming, go for prayer, etc.
      1. Want to make it comfy
      2. Maybe place mini fridge
      3. Sabrina suggests asking Sabrina Fried what rooms may be available
   3. Idea for conversational panel about mentorship in graduate school
      1. Interest among 3 individuals to participate as panelists
      2. Naysilla wants to involve Drs. Montserrat Rueda-Becerril & Parisa Mehrkhodavandi
      3. Late April, after exams
   4. Idea for dog therapy
      1. In summer
      2. Can be indoors/outdoors
7. **Union Report**
   1. E-mail must still be sent out to all GTAs and UTAs, as discussed last meeting
   2. Union representative meeting was held on 31 Jan/1 Feb—not too much discussed
      1. Looking into idea of unionizing RAs across campus
      2. May be difficult since usually only done for workers with taxable income (while RAs are paid with tax-free research grants)
   3. No grievances this term so far
8. **GSS Report**
   1. Joern reports that new VP External was elected in last meeting but will only serve until upcoming elections in spring
9. **First Year Report**
   1. Snowshoeing as first year event, at Cypress
      1. Would cost approx. $20 per person to rent snowshoes
      2. Will suggest taking bus & allowing people to carpool at their own “risk”
      3. May charge small fee for people to attend to minimize chance of no shows
      4. Aim for Reading Break
10. **Sports Report**
    1. Chess tournament updates
       1. First week of tournament underway, will be 7 weeks long
       2. 10 players registered
       3. $55 was pooled for prize money
       4. Ali would like to allocate some money from ping pong to increase prize money for this event: $100 from ping pong will be moved to chess – $155 will be divided among top 3 players
       5. Ping pong budget will now be $100
11. **International Students Report**
    1. Lanting would like to host movie night
    2. It is suggested to host it online over Reading Week, can use Discord + Twitch
12. **Discussion/Miscellaneous**
    1. None

**Meeting adjourned:** 16:43