

CGSS Meeting Agenda

Date: December 1, 2025

Time: 10:03 – 11:02

Location: A233

Approval Status: Approved

1. Call to Order:

- Present: Renee, Janice, Zoe, Gurcharan, Kritika, Jae, Rodella, Vanessa, Emilie, Will H, Astoria, Oscar, Veronica, Evan, Hikaru, Reanne (zoom), Irene (zoom)
- Missing: Sydney, Lucas, William B, Seja

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (November)

- Approved by: Emilie
- Seconded by: Rodella

3. Meeting with the Chemistry Head Report

- Meeting Dec 1st
- Laurel wants feedback for 4th year meeting potential cancellation
- Laurel's new scholarship is up and running, and she is looking for us to contribute
- Clarification on roles in departmental seminars/pizza lunches/coffee chats with visiting speakers

4. Departmental Meeting Report

- External review went well, good engagement. Three key points: lack of student handbook, lack of transparency in extra fees for international students, lack of communication and lack of support person for students in the department
- Good distribution of students in different stages of grad school. More like a Q&A rather than discussions.
- Changes in Dean's office (Alan leaving, Sandra changing roles)
- Potential new building: need a better story to acquire funding
- Federal budget, new research funding opportunities
- Dr. Vaidhyanathan Ramanathan (recommended by Berlinguette to be an adjunct professor)
- Room booking issues (no cancellation / no show)
- CGSS helping with pizza lunch for guest speakers? Need to clarify our role in these
- More safety issues related to SPS, two spills recently
- Fire drill info will be sent to PI in the next two weeks. Reminder to be completed in the next two months
- 4th year meeting survey results: 56% faculty voted YES out of 10 votes, 46% (23 students) YES, 32% (16 students), 11 students abstained. No significant difference in results.
- Lack of committee members presence at imagine day poster session
- Making annual report absolutely mandatory -> still in discussion, low faculty engagement on the annual report feedback too

5. Holiday skits

- 5 groups scheduled to submit skits
- Likely no games from chemstores
- Room is booked for 1.5 hrs, first year lectures both before and after skits
- May be able to use one of the side rooms to prep and roll out the table with food to save time

6. Icicle raffle

- Two winners drawn already
- Had to it early because Brian is on a tight schedule. Might be another one in the new year
- First two rounds raised about \$150

7. Social Coordinators Report

- Potential stressbuster to get perspective students involved in February, if time and budget permitting
- Storage key is with Will and Renee

8. Union Report

- Selecting execs from CUPE
- Bargaining negotiation still ongoing, but somehow stuck (mostly GRA related issues rather than TA)

9. First Year Report

- Trivia and boardgame night (last Friday) went well
- ~\$420 spent. Future events should be cheaper

10. Sports Report

- Nothing to report

11. International Student Report

- Potential movie night in February with snacks and drinks
- Valentine's Day event?
- Beginning of March potential tax filing workshop

12. GSS Report

- Things GSS is collaborating with SFU to advocate for:
 - Tuition cap for domestic students
 - Accessible housing
 - BC translink fund
 - Skytrain to UBC
 - BC Ferries for \$10
 - Meeting with Bacon, potential increase in funding

13. Wellness Report

- Absent

14. Miscellaneous

- Board of directors selection, one candidate endorsed by the union
- Monica complained again regarding propane tanks. Fire department said we cannot store the propane tanks in the designated CGSS area in the cage
- Can rent propane tanks from UBC
- Current ones need to be taken to waste management sites. Roles of CGSS in this?

Meeting adjourned: 11:02