

CGSS Meeting Agenda

Date: January 13, 2025

Time: 1:30 pm

Location: D213

Approval status: Approved

1. **Call to Order: 1:28 pm**

- Present (20): Lucas, Sean, Janice, Zoë, William, Ariana, Emilie, Sydney H, Seja, Sydney M, Astoria, Carina, Vanessa, Thomas, Hikaru, Renee, Khoushboo, Jiayao. Yejin, Desiree (Zoom)
- Missing (0):

2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (December)**

- Approved by: Lucas
- Seconded by: Vanessa

3. **Meeting with the Chemistry Head Report**

- The meeting with Laurel is now moved to the end of the month so we can discuss in time at the CGSS meeting
- Asked Laurel about doing a brief financial talk for students to understand the breakdown of the stipends
 - i. May take a while to happen as Laurel is trying to increase our stipends
- Laurel talked to the faculty about reallocating the PAEIPA fund and we are waiting their response
- Laurel asks us to include an ongoing safety discussion in our CGSS meetings
 - i. Or we can ask the safety committee to share their meeting minutes (i.e attach to the departmental weekly newsletter)
- Mental health committee report will be available soon
 - i. Will be a hard copy in the office that we cannot take out, however we can take notes about it
- Faculty endowment fund is going well, enough to distribute small awards
- Laurel is offering administrative help to make the grad handbook
- Next year we will do the CGSS election on imagine day because this year was a bit slow to set up
 - i. May be hard to find a first-year representative in time, we would have to encourage the first years within our labs
- All the profs have submitted their grad student evaluations, but we must wait for IT to be available to forward the results
 - i. Next year Laurel will move the deadline to be sooner

4. **Graduate Student Community Award Letter**

- Focused on clarifying questions from the recap Lucas sent to Slack

5. **Holiday Skits Recap**

- Went well except was over time
 - i. next year we'll give a time limit for the giveaway and book the room for a little longer
 - ii. next year we should be clearer when the skits would start vs. When people should begin lining up
 - iii. i.e start at 12:45 pm so people should line up around 12:40 pm
- B150 is better for setting up food (has tables)
- We made \$6 from the skits alcohol sales

6. **Social Coordinators Report**

- Candygrams on February 14

- i. Sell tickets at coffee times for 2 weeks beforehand
 - ii. Increase price to \$1 per candygram
 - iii. Planning to buy candy from Costco
- Trivia night tentatively in March
- Planning another event in between: A bake-off (tentatively for February 20)
 - i. Won't need to buy as much food
 - ii. We have budget for this event from other categories
- 7. Union Report**
 - Had a meeting with Laurel about TA training grievance
 - The training was funded by a grant therefore the training cannot be mandatory
 - The training is moved to September and people that attended are given an honorarium
 - i. Laurel wants the training to be before classes start (maybe on Imagine day)
 - ii. Also asked them to re-work the training to be less than 12 hours
 - iii. Would be difficult to ask for back-pay for people that already attended
 - CGSS Union email changed to a CUPE address
 - Reminder to fill in the bargaining survey
- 8. First Year Report**
 - Nothing to report
- 9. Sports Report**
 - Interest in public skating however the only available times are in the evening
 - Met the minimum for the Sun Run team and Thomas will send the reimbursements
 - i. People are reimbursed partially based on the amount of people that signed up
- 10. International Student Report**
 - Interactive food workshop will be this Friday
 - There will be stations, people will be reimbursed \$25
- 11. GSS Report**
 - Introduced the affiliated program to organize collaborative events between events
 - i. Jiayao may try to organize something
 - ii. We would have to apply because we're not affiliated (our funding comes from the department)
 - iii. Desiree (previous GSS rep) ran an event (get to know grad students bingo) with the biology department using CGSS and GSS funds
- 12. Wellness Report**
 - Next event would be in the grad lounge such as board games or tie-dyeing lab coats
- 13. Miscellaneous**
 - Vanessa is working on a treasurer spreadsheet in the CGSS google drive to organize our expenses and budgets
 - i. Reminder to submit reimbursements right away so the spreadsheet can be updated
 - UCS has reached out about CGSS merchandise (sweaters)
 - i. Lucas will set up a poll on Slack
 - Lucas and Carina will make a schedule/spreadsheet for events to help space out our events and keep organized
 - Ways to share information with grad students (i.e. meeting minutes, townhall recaps)
 - i. Best way would be to summarize and send around
 - ii. Can also add to the CGSS website and CGSS social media (we need to update the link on the chemistry website)

Meeting adjourned: 2:23