

CGSS April Meeting Agenda

Date: April 14, 2026

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: A233

Approval Status: Approved

1. Call to Order: 2:02 pm

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

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (March)

- Approved by: Emilie
- Seconded by: Zoe

3. Departmental Meeting Report

- both VP and president attended upon Roman's request
- spring/summer awards coming up
- dry ice price is going to increase soon
- heavy safety topic from external review report
 - lack of PPE in labs, 98% cases of safety violations. Only exceptions are in teaching labs
 - difficult for some labs -> office space combined with lab space
 - PIs are concerned they will be held accountable for safety incidents from not reinforcing PPEs
 - undergrad student cheating issues regarding new technologies

4. Meeting with the Chemistry Head Report

- PIs requested to add discussion regarding safety issues during grad forum and requested Monica's attendance
- head recommended potentially reducing LMCs to just award talks
- potentially making LMCs mandatory for 1st years -> how to reinforce this?
 - sign up QR code in the middle of the talk?
 - say it's mandatory and assume people will follow
 - have a person sit by the sign up sheet to make sure nobody signs up for others
 - making it mandatory for PIs to go?
- LMC speaker nomination sheet will be out sometime this week

5. Grad Forum

- potentially last two weeks of June? Week of June 15th
- document will be sent to grad students for them to input questions
- Roman (head) and Monica (safety) will be invited
- students could potentially get more information regarding the external report
- questions from zoom:
 - Do we send a pre-survey for it? If so, could we get some feedback on our programming?
 - What I am really interested in from a student advocacy POV is hearing more about what the students want from our programming e.g. what sort of events etc? It seems like we currently go off legacy but I think it's essential to evolve more based on student wants/needs.
 - potentially includes a CGSS feedback section

- probably better as a separate survey in the summer to plan for next year
- Also, a lot of issues seems like it revolves are a lack of communication between department/ reps and the general student body? Is there a way to address it? Quarterly student newsletters to address safety issues? Etc.
 - safety meeting minutes are usually posted in weekly department newsletters

6. CCIE

- Thea's Lounge booked for July 7th (12 – 7 pm tentatively) thanks to Will!! This will be confirmed again after floorplan confirmation
- another CCIE committee meeting will take place later this week or early next week to discuss about who to invite

7. Social Coordinators Report

- Easter/End of Term Pancake Breakfast
 - Could do early May/end of April
 - Ideally after exams (April 26th is the last day)
- Trivia Night
 - Will be combined with brew off
 - Date TBD, probably in June
 - Need early announcement for brew off is needed
- Easter bunny raffle sale -> around \$30 raised for charity
- Bake off could be combined with the next charity coffee time -> May 21st
 - Could potentially encourage more attendance
 - Needs to announce relatively soon

8. Union Report

- Next council meeting tomorrow
- There haven't been any rounds of bargaining and probably won't be any until the summer due to exam seasons
- Last council meeting -> platform to track engagement of members
 - > possibility of another strike to track who would be willing to join the strike
 - > students will soon receive emails regarding potential strike engagement
- Particular case with CHEM 123 TA: student almost done with grading hours and would like to stop grading.
 - > Response from supervisor: stop going to lab session and start grading in front of the supervisor to check workflow as there has been complaint regarding efficiency in grading
 - > UBC has rights to decide how to distribute TA hours

9. First Year Report

- will wait until exams are over to plan for the summer

10. Sports Report

- table tennis tournament going well. Will wrap up soon
- Sun Run happening soon
- potential climbing event in May

11. International Student Report

- coordinating with CDI for potluck possibly at the end of the month

12. GSS Report

- nothing to report

13. Wellness Report

- curling was fun
- sock war happening soon -> Evan is willing to help reform sock war
- a committee can be formed for the game makers
- sock war committee: Vanessa, William, Zoe, Sydney, Evan

14. Miscellaneous

- Vanessa will be ordering bard on the beach tickets soon
- need to have an official debrief regarding February stressbusters with perspective students
- May meeting will be held on the week of May 11th
- merch?? Have to coordinate with UCS
- last department meeting is on May 28th -> during CSC, Janice will attend for Emilie

Meeting adjourned: 2:58 pm