

SOBGS Elected Representative Meeting Agenda

April 28, 2022

Zoom, 4:00pm

Present: Celina, Carly, Brad, Katarina, Josh, Lamees, Stefane, Hossein, Amalie, Katarina, Quintin, Kiana, Abbie, Soren

Regrets: Eileen, Holly, Jorden, Emma

Absent: Brynne, Simone, Andrew

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Chair
 - a. University covid updates: masks mandated on campus until end of summer
 - b. Insurance coverage: grad students under an external scholarship (not TAing) are not treated as university employees, therefore cannot currently be covered by university insurance policy.
 - i. Potential loopholes exist – supervisors may top up student pay by a small amount (e.g. \$5/month)
 - ii. The source is likely from university policy or HR system
 - c. AGM in May
 - i. Online or in-person?
4. SOGS Committee
 - a. No updates
5. Treasurer
 - a. No updates
6. PSAC Rep
 - a. PSAC bargained with university over grad students evicted from Bayfield Hall. Secured reparations for students evicted, guaranteed
 - b. Bio stewards' meeting next week, open for general attendance
 - c. AGM in 2-3 weeks, election week after
7. Grad Ed Committee
 - a. No updates
8. Seminar Committee
 - a. Upcoming changes: students to introduce guest speakers to boost grad student attendance, participation

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- b. Other actions to improve grad student attendance + engagement
 - c. Work with BUGS to work on Bio speakers, not med sci
 - d. Need to work on grad student-invited speakers for next year (work on this summer)
 - e. Mix of online and in-person seminars next year – Zoom for international, in-person for local speakers
 - f. Ag-can: Zoom format is useful for students (45 minute bus ride)
 - g. Currently leaning towards more in-person
 - h. Hybrid format: little in-person attendance
9. Undergrad Ed Committee
- a. No updates
 - b. Changing policies around accommodations (SRAs, SIRTs)
 - c. Potential abuse of accommodation system
10. Research Committee
- a. No updates
- ~~11. Outreach Committee~~
12. Social Committee
- a. No updates
 - b. Try again for pizza party (aim for May)
 - c. Need to double-check finances
 - d. Mental health awareness month next month – social event
13. Sustainability Committee
- a. Composting green bin launched successfully
 - b. Can extend capacity beyond BGS lunchroom to BGS third floor, in front of grad student office
 - c. Adding a green bin to 4th floor of NCB
 - d. Send suggestions for future green bins to Katarina
 - e. Possible location: Biotron lunchroom
14. AAFC Rep
- a. No updates
15. EDI Rep
- a. Faculty of Science building a strategic committee for advancing EDI. Building a focus group for LGBTQ+, POC for future directions. Focus group is looking for additional students.

16. Other Business