

**CSSS General Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 27, 2017**

**Meeting called to order at 3:36PM in ASB 9898 by Jonathan Loewen.**

**Minutes taken by Dawn Chandler.**

**Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Email (@sfu.ca)</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
David Miiller		President
Jonathan Loewen		Vice President
Courtenay Huffman		Director of Events, WiCS Communications Coordinator
Henry Zhao		Director of Communications
Kia Mirsalehi		Director of Resources, SFSS Council Rep & Chair
Dawn Chandler		Director of Archives, WiCS President
Anna Tang		First Year Rep
Noble Tan		First Year Rep
Ryan Vansickle		Exec at Large
Eric Gao		Exec at Large
Jeffrey Leung		FAS Rep to SFSS Board
Ben Katz		Member

Vijender Bakhshi		Member
Mitchell Gale		Member
Bryan Chan		Member
Ali Khamesy		Member
Ching Wang		Member
Michael Chang		Member
David Yeung		Member
Jaddie Tan		Member
Justin Choi		Member
Evan Coulter		Member
Jovan Bapla		Member
Gurkaran Aujla		Member
Matthew Morrison		Member
Eric Sun		Member
Oscar Smith-Sieger		Member
Eric Ly		Member

## 1. Report of Officers

### a. Vice President (Jonathan Loewen):

- i. Clarifies rule that in a meeting, you need to raise hand in order to talk.
- ii. Preparing for SFU CS branded clothing sale.

### b. President (David Miiller):

- i. We might have another FAS DSU wide end of semester event, or in January/February.
- ii. We might also have a FAS DSU wide Halloween social à la Midnight Madness, a Halloween pub crawl, and/or an event with WiCS.

- iii. CSSS Execs met with Brad Bart regarding CMPT course planning and discussed:
  - 1. Difficulty for first year CS Majors to get into MACM 101
  - 2. Surrey campus no longer offering CMPT courses in the Summer semester
  - 3. The reasoning behind having waitlists for CMPT courses at Surrey campus for non-Surrey students
- iv. CSSS Execs met with CS Undergraduate Program Director David Mitchell meeting about changes to the 2.4 GPA restriction policy.
- v. CSSS Execs held met with FAS DSUs and clubs.
- vi. David Miiller motions for \$10.00 to print posters to advertise the CSSS pop machine.
  - 1. Eric Gao seconds
  - 2. Discussion: The pop machine in the CSSS common room is a source of revenue for the CSSS's programs and events.
  - 3. Motion passes
- c. Director of Archives (Dawn Chandler):
  - i. Nothing to report.
- d. Director of Communications (Henry Zhao):
  - i. C-LAN postponing their CSIL event until next semester.
  - ii. Overwatch club's proposal to use CSIL rejected because CSILOps needs to install new computers.
  - iii. Blender club is having a trial run next Monday for weekly sessions.
  - iv. Newsletter sent to cmpt-students was well received.
  - v. Will put hackathons in next newsletter in 1-3 weeks.
- e. Director of Resources (Kia Mirsalehi):

- i. Common room is doing fine.
  - ii. Will purchase cheap bulk popcorn from Costco.
    - 1. Due to concerns about odour in the common room, try not to make popcorn too often.
  - iii. Oscar purchased a hole punch for the common room.
  - iv. Milk pilot is in progress.
    - 1. Someone stolen the milk already.
    - 2. Has not yet purchased condensed milk.
- f. Treasurer (Dustin Cao):
- i. Regrets:
    - 1. Numbers:
      - a. DEV EQUIPMENT \$4,003.21
      - b. CONTINGENCY \$1,000.15
      - c. Community Service Package \$4,253.68
      - d. Core \$798.49
- g. Director of Events (Courtenay Huffman):
- i. Boardgames Night is this Friday.
  - ii. Last Boardgames Night was successful.
  - iii. Events Committee meeting coming up.
- h. First-Year-Reps:
- i. Anna Tang:
    - 1. CSSS members want:
      - a. A LAN party
      - b. An ice cream social
      - c. Another Midnight Madness at end of semester
  - ii. Noble Tan:
    - 1. Trying to get more first years at CSSS meetings, events, and in the common room.
      - a. Many first years do not know about what the CSSS is or what they provide.
      - b. But the common room is always busy, so there may not be a need to advertise it.

c. David Miiller: The common room crowding problem might improve after the SUB opens.

i. Exec-at-Larges:

i. Ryan Vansickle:

1. It's hard to get first years to attend CSSS meetings and events because all their classes end at 2:30PM, before CSSS activities begin.

ii. Eric Gao:

1. Nothing to report.

j. FAS Rep (Jeffrey Leung):

i. FAS Formal:

1. 22 people signed up for the FAS Formal planning committee.
2. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, October 11.
3. It's the biggest FAS event of the year (150-200 people).

ii. FAS Student Union:

1. Contentious topic.
2. Been discussion among DSUs for 4-5 years.
3. People don't know what a FASSU would do that a DSU couldn't.
4. There will be a meeting among DSU execs to discuss the formation of a FASSU.
5. FAS Reps have tried to advertise the idea of a FASSU to students, faculty, the SFSS Board, for years.
6. FASSU might have to charge a small student levy
  - a. David Miiller is against this.
  - b. Jonathan Loewen is in favour of it.

k. WiCS President (Dawn Chandler):

- i. There is a new exec team.
- ii. The usual events are still going on: Veggie Lunch, CodeMavens.
- iii. Faculty Chat and Google Panel/Q&A/Lunch are coming up.
- iv. WiCS is doing an extended technical interview workshop event with HackLounge, an SFSS club.
- v. WiCS would like to do a joint Halloween social with the CSSS or other DSUs, but nothing is planned yet.
- vi. WiCS might start a co-working program.

## 2. Frosh17 Report

### a. David Miiller:

- i. Jace Manshadi has been repaid.
- ii. FAS has not gotten back to the CSSS about the annual budget request.
- iii. SFSS has granted money to CSSS.
- iv. Kia Mirsalehi and Oscar Smith-Sieger need to sort out amongst themselves how to pay themselves back using the grant money.
- v. Oscar Smith-Sieger and David Miiller will send out a survey to froshees about their first month of classes and experience at Frosh; will give away EA games as prizes for completing survey.

## 3. Hoodie Sale

### a. Jonathan Loewen:

- i. The CSSS will sell SFU CS branded hoodies, sweatshirts, and t-shirts at the granite table in the ASB.
- ii. Items will be sold on-the-spot.
- iii. Cash, credit, and cheque are accepted.
- iv. Will take preorders for more custom items, such as embroidered hoodies, leather jackets.

- v. granite table, like frosh registration, cash/credit, cheque, preorders, embroidered, get proper sizes this time; deadline for pickup of old ones has passed, but no outstanding
    - vi. This clothing order will cost <\$2000.00.
  - b. David Miiller motions for \$2000.00 from cash to go towards stock for the CSSS clothing sale in October.
    - i. Oscar Smith-Sieger seconds.
    - ii. Discussion:
      - 1. David Miiller: We sell hoodies for much cheaper than the SFU Bookstore, yet manage to make a 70% profit, which goes back to the CSSS. These sales have been successful in the past.
      - 2. Ryan Vansickle: "Are turtlenecks an option?"
      - 3. Jonathan Loewen: For special orders, we must have at least 12 of each type.
    - iii. Motion passes.
  - c. Jonathan Loewen: Custom items (ex. Embroidered hoodies, tumblers, drawstring/tote bags, (leather) jackets, etc.) will be done in the next order.
- 4. Hacktime
  - a. David Miiller:
    - i. HackTime was founded by Corbett Gildersleve (former CSSS President) as a space for undergraduate students to work on tech development projects.
    - ii. Now HackTime is an open space for students to use dev equipment.

- iii. HackTime has been on hiatus in past semester, due to low attendance.
- iv. Offers an open equipment library, where people can book equipment.
- v. Technical workshops are open to students.
- vi. Spring 2018 will feature a semester-long hackathon.

1. David Miiller and Corbett Gildersleve are running it.
2. Need a group of ~4 people to help plan, with at least 1 first year.
3. Open to names, ideas, and themes.
4. Start thinking about whether you want to volunteer or form a team.

b. Upcoming Hackathons:

- i. Unearthed Hackathon  
[<https://unearthed.solutions/hackathons/unearthed-vancouver-2017/>]
- ii. Bluzelle Hackathon  
[<https://www.picatic.com/DatabaseTechHackathon>]
- iii. Plenty of Fish Hackathon  
[<http://www.sfu.ca/fas/pofhackathon/>]

c. David Miiller: Oscar Smith-Sieger organising a Game Jam in February 2018

d. Dawn Chandler: What is HackTime this semester?

- i. David Miiller: HackTime is workshops, a dev equipment library, a way of gauging interest for neoHackTime next semester.

e. Dawn Chandler: Is there any opportunity for WiCS to start a co-working program with HackTime?



- i. David Miiller and Jonathan Loewen: Such a WiCS program could come under the HackTime umbrella, and the CSSS could provide resources, such as room booking and dev equipment.

## 5. Open Floor

### a. Ice Cream Social

- i. Anna Tang:
  - 1. People on the CSSS Discord want another ice cream social at the end of the semester.
- ii. Courtenay Huffman: Lactose free ice cream is available.
- iii. Anna Tang: Need 3 flavours of ice cream, toppings
- iv. David Miiller: We can ask FAS for bowls, spoons, napkins leftover from their ice cream social.
- v. David Miiller: Let's wait until a future meeting to motion for money, since we need to plan out the budget.

### b. Boardgames Night

- i. Courtenay Huffman:
  - 1. CSSS Boardgames Night is this Friday, September 29.
  - 2. People are tired of pizza, so let's get tacos from Guadalupe.
- ii. Eric Ly: Is this a good use of money?
- iii. Jonathan: Chinese food went a long way, when it was done in the past.
- iv. Oscar Smith-Sieger: What is the cost per person?
- v. Eric Ly: It's getting hard to feed everyone at Boardgames Night.
- vi. Oscar Smith-Sieger: We ran out of food very quickly at the last Boardgames Night.

- vii. Jonathan Loewen: We don't need to specify the cuisine in the motion for the food budget.
- viii. Kia Mirsalehi: His parents know a Persian restaurant with good value.
- ix. Eric Ly: Are we motioning the right amount of money?
- x. Jonathan Loewen: Our goal is not to provide dinner for everyone, just some food.
- xi. Oscar Smith-Sieger: Last Boardgames Night, many people didn't get any food despite being there when food was served.
- xii. Jonathan Loewen: If the issue is how food is distributed, we should put a limit on it.
- xiii. Ben Katz: Could we create a system where people would have to purchase a ticket for food?
- xiv. Jonathan Loewen: Problem might fix itself, since attendance tapers off as semester goes on.
- xv. Kia Mirsalehi motions for \$200.00 from External to purchase food for Boardgames Night on September 29, 2017.
  - 1. Eric Ly seconds
  - 2. Discussion: None.
  - 3. Motion passes.

c. Changes to GPA Policy

i. David Miiller:

- 1. The new CS Undergrad Curriculum Director David Mitchell is thinking of enforcing a rule where students at a certain GPA (2.4, the CS probation point) will be unable to enroll in CMPT courses. The reasoning for this is that the department feels this may be a viable route to decrease wait lists and help students get into courses.

2. The probationary level for the rest of SFU is 2.0.
  3. Currently have to get a FAS academic advisor to manually add you to 1-2 CMPT courses if your GPA is below 2.4.
  4. But this new policy would be a hard cutoff.
  5. The CS department is letting in too many new students each year.
  6. Hiring more faculty and increasing class sizes is helping somewhat.
- ii. Jeff: Students need to take non-CMPT GPA boosters to get back into CMPT courses. That makes no sense.
  - iii. Jonathan Loewen: Letting students retake CMPT courses is how they would get their GPAs up.
  - iv. Ryan Vansickle: Hiring more faculty now won't have an effect until 3 years from now, when they start teaching intensively. Meanwhile, third year students are the ones who can't get into courses.
  - v. Kia Mirsalehi: This proposed policy does not address the root cause, which is that there are too many students in the program.
  - vi. Calvin: Why is SFU increasing the number of students they let into the CS program each year?
    1. David Miiller: Mostly money, to some extent prestige.
  - vii. Anna Tang: This policy mostly affects senior students, since they have finished their WQB requirements, so taking GPA boosters is a waste of time and money.
  - viii. Jonathan Loewen: Will talk to Greg Mori about this, since David Mitchell and Brad Bart only have so much power. Having to take GPA boosters unrelated

to your degree to get back into the program is a flawed idea.

- ix. David Miiller: They'll probably say no to being able to retake CMPT courses, since it would be hard to administrate.
  - 1. Jonathan Loewen: But they're administrating when people have to go to advising to get into CMPT courses.
  - 2. David Miiller: This policy takes pressure off advising.
- x. Henry Zhao: Suggests a one-year trial period.
- xi. David Miiller: Average GPA in CS program is 2.9.
- xii. Kia Mirsalehi: If there are too many students, they can only let the ones with better grades take the courses.
- xiii. David Miiller:
  - 1. In the future, students with GPAs below 2.4 will probably be kicked out of CS.
  - 2. It's unfair to keep a student in the program if they don't have a chance at graduating. Maybe have a 2 semester leeway for these students.
  - 3. Will continue to consult students before going to David Mitchell or other authorities.

#### d. Posters

- i. Kia Mirsalehi: Wants to buy new posters for common room from annual poster sale going on in AQ.
- ii. Jonathan Loewen: Let's allocate money for this and not argue over which posters to get.
- iii. Kia Mirsalehi: Each poster was about \$10-12.
- iv. Kia Mirsalehi motions for \$50.00 from External to go towards the purchase of posters to be put up in

the common room. The CSSS will reimburse Kia, who will purchase the posters under his discretion.

1. Eric Gao seconds

- a. Discussion: None.

2. Motion passes

e. Study Space:

- i. Ben Katz: The common room is very loud, small, and is not a good place to study, but people (especially first years), use it for that, because they want to work on homework together. Can we get a designated study space?

- ii. David Miiller: The plan is to get Courtenay Huffman (DoE) to book study halls towards finals season.

- iii. Kia Mirsalehi: CSIL, the ASB atrium, the ASB-AQ corridor offer plenty of study space.

- iv. Jonathan Loewen: Senior CSSS members view the common room as a social space, not a study space.

- v. Ben Katz: But people want to use the microwave while studying. Is there a room that isn't getting used that could become a satellite common room?

1. Everyone: No.

- vi. Jonathan Loewen: We could book a room for a few hours a week for people to study.

- vii. Kia Mirsalehi, David Miiller, Jonathan Loewen: There are plenty of places to study around campus.

- viii. Ben Katz: Will the CSSS move to the SUB?

1. Jonathan Loewen: Probably not, but we have requested space for a CSSS office.

2. David Miiller: The CSSS will put in requests for office space and/or storage space.

- ix. Ryan Vansickle: The common room is overcrowded. There could be more room if the space were redesigned.

- x. Jonathan Loewen: It's Kia Mirsalehi's (DoR) job to redesign the common room.
- xi. Ben Katz: We need to remind people to be respectful in the common room, have them put their bags near the door.
  - 1. Jonathan Loewen: We could install cubbies in the curved space near the door.
- f. Squeaky CSIL Door:
  - i. Ryan Vansickle: Has tennitis, wants to lubricate the CSIL door.
  - ii. David Miiller: Will speak to Lee Greenough about this.
- g. Remote Attendance:
  - i. Dawn Chandler: Will add CSSS Discord Meeting Room voice chat link to notice of general meetings, since these meetings are being streamed, but remote attendance is not advertised.
- 6. Approval of the Minutes
  - a. David Miiller motions to approve the minutes from the CSSS general meeting on September 13, 2017, with all amendments.
    - i. Kia Mirsalehi seconds.
      - 1. Discussion: None.
    - ii. Motion passes.
- 7. Motion to Adjourn
  - a. Jonathan Loewen motions to adjourn the meeting.
  - b. Kia Mirsalehi seconds.
  - c. None opposed.
  - d. Meeting adjourned.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:56PM.**