

BGSA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Wednesday Oct. 7, 2015 (4:30PM)
Stewart W4/12

In attendance

Executives: Mary-Rose Bradley-Gill (President), Scott De Vito (Vice-President), Dustin Raab (Treasurer) and Sarah Baldwin (Secretary).

Other BGSA members:

Tiffany Chin,
Aleksandar Vujin
Camille Delouche
Jamie Grimm
Sinci Avijas
Marisol Valverde
Lucie Huyghe
Jorad Paudar
Nicholas Soubry
Sami Chaaban
Jennifer Barrow
Minhee Kim
Callista Yee
Alycia Noe
Melanie Desrochers
Kat Shaw
Sreeparna Pradhan
Tyler Moulton
Emmanuelle Chretien
Logan Smith
Emma Hudgins
Angela Yu
Sarah Finlayson
Rahul Rote
Victor Frankel
Léa Blondel
Arjuna Rajakumar

Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda: Passed

B.G.S.A. Business

2. Elections

a. First-Year Reps:

3. Budget: Dustin Raab

4. Upcoming Events: M-R Bradley-Gill

a. Pumpkin carving

b. November event?

- c. Holiday Party
- d. Winter cabin trip
- 5. Room

Reports by Committees

- 6. GTC Rep: Sarah Baldwin
- 7. PGSS Rep:
- 8. AGSEM Rep: Sunci Avilias

Department Business

- 9. Stewart Biology Building: M-R Bradley-Gill
 - 10. Department Day Oct 22: M-R Bradley-Gill
 - 11. Any other business
 - 12. Adjournment
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BGSA BUSINESS

2. ELECTIONS

2. a) First Year Reps:

Jennifer Barrow applied and voted in
Jamie Grim applied and voted in

3. BUDGET (DUSTIN RAAB) FOR JUNE 1, 2015 – MAY 30, 2016

- Description of how we get our budget
 - postdocs are invited to the BGSA)
 - PGSS and Department gives money (same as last)
 - Core Mandate vs. Extra activities
 - Need to spend: Extra activity float (curling, bowling, etc) and student workshop (dustin suggested the professional/business idea)
 - Councillor appreciation dinner
- Purchase – we now have a camera – we purchased it for the BGSA – can be used for ANYTHING (MBSS) – Contact Dustin for access.
- Changes Dustin pointed out:
 - MBSS prizes -50
 - Neuro group +100
 - Pumpkin carving +50
 - BGSA meeting snacks +60
 - BGSA holliday party -300
 - CEEB retreat prize -50
 - Summer social -150
 - Intramurals -100
- Total budget 5590
- Rollover – BGSA contingency fund ~\$2500

Budget passed! Proposed by Dustin. MR seconded it. Passed. No opposed.

Dustin also quickly informed us of the upcoming Joan Marsden lecture (Thursday, October 29th at 5:00pm in the Redpath Museum Auditorium)

4. UPCOMING EVENTS

4. a) BGSA Pumpkin Carving Contest (Mary-Rose):

Tyler Moulton volunteered to organize this event!

4. b) November event:

Nobody volunteered but people were reminded to email Mary-Rose if they had any ideas.

4. c) BGSA Holiday Party: Dec 10th at Thompson House.

Emannuelle volunteered to lead the organizing crew. The Ricciardi lab did it last year, so they can help with details.

4. d) Winter Cabin trip – Adirondacks

Mary-Rose pointed out that this trip is expensive and we are considering other ideas! Scott doesn't want to do it anymore. Nicholas Soubry volunteered that he and Allen Leary (not in attendance) would be able to organize the trip.

5. THE BGSA ROOM

5. a) How to use the room (Mary-Rose)

We need to figure out how to best use the BGSA room. We are not allowed to have a key card or punch code lock installed. These are only installed for CFI-renovated facilities and allowing us to have one would set an uncomfortable precedent. Instead, we have 10-15 keys. We don't want to do office hours. Here are some ideas for using the room:

- 1) We could just use it for events (AGsem has a key)
- 2) We could have recurring events (i.e. writing events weekly)
- 3) We could have keys scattered around the department so people can use it whenever.
- 4) We need to organize this by region
- 5) We need to create a booking system – Mary rose proposed that she could set it up.
- 6) We could use it for a nursing room

5. b) How to distribute the keys (Mary-Rose)

We decided as a group to spread the keys throughout the department. We asked for volunteer key holders from different areas of the building. Here are the key holders for 2015-2016:

In Stewart Bio

3rd floor: Tyler Moulton (W) and Sarah Baldwin (N)
5th floor: Camille Delouche (W) and Scott De Vito (N)
6th floor: Jennifer Barrow (W) and Tiffany Chin (N)
4th floor Logan Smith

In Redpath:

Dustin Raab will leave his in the Ricciardi lab

In Bellini

Mary-Rose Bradley-Gill

5. c) Room event organization

- 1) Logan would like to help out with coffee – MR suggested Wednesday Mornings
- 2) Destin points out that the room should be used even if it isn't booked (drop-ins encouraged!).
- 3) Scott suggests that we get a microwave
- 4) Dustin suggests a movie night.

REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

6. GTC REP

SARAH BALDWIN

6. a) Cyclical Review

Final report is being put together but nothing new is being included

6. b) Courses:

Sarah spoke with Ancil and the official requirements for courses that will be considered for your 6 course requirement to graduate are:

- 1) The course must be approved by your supervisor and your committee
- 2) The course must be a science course related to your field of study (writing, education, and other inter-disciplinary courses can be taken and will be recorded on your transcript but they will not count towards your course requirements)
- 3) The course can be in any department or even at another University as long as it is approved by your supervisor

6. c) Scholarships and Grants

Look out for deadlines in your email

7. PGSS REP

LOGAN

7. Current PGSS issues:

- a. Tried to be more present at the orientations for incoming students
- b. Please let people know if you have questions about all the different services. Make sure you inform yourself about all the different courses.

8. AGSEM REP

SUNCI AVLIJAS AND TYLER MOULTON

Sunci Avijas and Tyler Moulton are your go to people. Make sure that you ask about hiring questions. The invigilator are asking for a pay increase and a minimum number of students (40) per invigilator. They may go on strike.

- Sunci – Make sure you go to TA training. In the winter you can get paid up to 3 hours for TA training if you have never done the training before.
- Tyler: We recently had a strike vote. McGill made an offer to renew the contract. We wanted more positions and higher pay. We got a better harassment policy. We had two different grievance processes with a strict timeline before. Now you can go through both processes so you have more time. Yay! That's good. So, you can complain in a formal way if you have any problems. We did not get any

minimum TA hours. So, 3 years from now there will be another thing to negotiate.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

9. DEPARTMENT DAY: FRIDAY OCT 22TH, 2015

MARY-ROSE BRADLEY-GILL

9. a) We want to be more involved. So, try to show up to some of the events

9. b) Broad overview of the Department Day

In the morning there are lab tours to undergrads

Around lunchtime there are biology Alumni who will give talks about their current work

Afternoon – poster session from every lab

Late aft. – Wine and cheese hosted by

Bottle of wine for the best poster

Biran Leung is organizing a scavenger hunt

Dustin notes that the poster session and wine and cheese might interfere with the organismal seminar series

11. Any other business

None

12. Adjournment

Mary-Rose moves to end the meeting. Logan seconds it. Motion passed.