October 14, 2011 Minutes

1) EGSC Logo Design Contest
   a. We can use the engineering logo (fu foundation) [Ellie]
   b. Ellie has ordered business cards for us and are available for pickup
   c. People think the current logo is tacky, scary, etc – so we should go ahead and make a new one.
   d. People suggested that we have a design competition in stages – first within EGSC, then amongst the school and finally opening it up to the outside. Progression to the next stage will only take place if the previous stage's results were unsatisfactory.
      i. The competition within EGSC would be great because we don't have to pay for any prize.
      ii. The design contest for elected EGSC members will take place 2 Fridays from now (October 28th). Anyone with design ideas should submit them before that date so the logo can be voted on.

2) EGSC Meeting Location
   a. Classrooms do not work; hard to interact with people sitting behind you, etc.
   b. Ellie needs to find out with the registrar what rooms are available and will inquire about the following rooms that were suggested:
      i. NWC building
      ii. Trustee's room in Low Library
      iii. Any conference space in libraries
      iv. Lerner (this is where undergrad councils have their meetings)

3) Academic Affairs – Tents and things
   a. Ellie – the money for the tent will be coming out of our account.
   b. Kachani has been extremely busy this week and Ellie has not had a chance to talk to him; she needs to sit down with him and discuss the details.
   c. Ellie – talked to Jonathan and says according to him it should not be an issue to get student input on proposed projects, but still needs to talk with Kachani to get the official word on this.
   d. Do we get furniture in the tent? Do we get input on this at all? Ellie will find out for next time.

4) Social Committee
   a. Six flags good to go, weather permitting
   b. Social – whole section devoted to it at the end of this document
   c. Heights happy hour – Pranjal will organize and take care of email, etc.
   d. NY Comedy Festival
      i. Will came in with a proposal for having a comedy night. He came in with a great looking budget, whose template should be copied (I thought so)
      ii. Because getting a ticket to a noted comic is expensive, can go to see 'Comics to Watch' which showcases rising comics on Wednesday November 7th.

      iii. With 40 people can get special rates on tickets – from 16 down to 10. However there is a 2 drink minimum. We can get special bulk rates if we order this as well.

      iv. Will is worried about turnout, however most people believe that 40 should be attainable. Pranjal says we can have a registration along the lines of Six Flags. Nov 7th is after a 4 day weekend as well (university holiday+elections).

      v. Will will create a proposal and set it up through the social committee

5) Interschool
   a. PhD Comics was great. Auditorium was almost completely full; people enjoyed the movie and had a good time with the Q/A session with Jorge Cham.
   b. CU Energy Mixer – turnout wasn't that great, possibly due to weather, social before and midterms. Many of EGSC's top participants forgot or were too tired. But we are #1…
   c. Skating Event – still no response from SIPA.

6) Alumni/Career
   a. Publicis Medical Education Group tech talk has been all planned out and is ready to go
   b. Career Fair Subcommittee
      i. Will and many others: Currently in the research phase; trying to find out what other ivies and top engineering schools do with regards to graduate-specific career fairs
      ii. Engineering career fair is next week – targeted for undergrads but will be a good place to find contacts for grad career fair (see which companies are interested in hiring grad students, etc)

7) Printing Issue
   a. Ellie was not able to find out who is in charge of printing accounts and will know by next time.

8) Shihab pointed out that Computer Engineering students are 'lost' and disconnected from the rest of the EE/CS departments, as they have a unique set of requirements and as such can't study with people from other departments. He will submit a proposal to the social committee to create events for these guys to get them involved and more connected to the community.

9) Happy Hour
   a. Can of worms
   b. Low turnout. Ellie estimates 200 people showed up.
      i. Possible reasons – midterm, growing lack of interest? Pranjal believes its more to do with midterms than anything else and thinks attendance will go up since midterms will be over.
      ii. Others pointed out that midterms are distributed over a wide range of days and it is hard to make such a statement. Some point to fundamental issues regarding the event itself and that attendance will eventually stop.
      iii. Some observed that the same few people stick around the event and that most people just come and leave.
      iv. There are classes from 6-9:20 [Ellie]. Thursdays have the least number of classes [Andrew]

- v. 25 IEOR people showed up – Vikram pulled through
    1. Most came after 9:45 – were they able to socialize? Seems like a limited time
    2. However, no pizza and beer left. Only wine. IEOR people were upset at Vikram
    3. Lack of pizza due to decision to cut off supply at 9. Severe lack of people made it appear wasteful to continue bringing pizza in. (pizza that came in at 9 was still out at 9:35, I checked).
    4. Many people wanted to end the event at 9 due to complete lack of participation. Decided to continue on to 9:45 to give IEOR people a chance to show up (and they did, so we continued to 10).
    5. People manning the stations complained that more people need to volunteer and it is very difficult to work for 4 hours on beer etc. They believe it is not worth paying the extra money to extend the social for 25 more people to show up.
    6. We need to vote at the next meeting to continue the extended socials. Vote was not held this time because I believe the entire council should be present for this decision.
- c. Food: Hoarding and lack of variety.
    - i. People are increasingly just coming in and leaving with food by stuffing their backpacks or taking large amounts of chips, etc. People at the door had to try hard to stop them.
    - ii. People come in and stack pizzas up to 4 a person. This is a real problem; We need more control over how pizza is distributed. Issues raised: lack of manpower, improper distribution during the event. Solutions:
        1. Food monitors need to place pizza behind the table and either serve a slice per person per visit or put out a slice of pizza on a plate every single time. People at the door monitor those who leave to make sure hoarding is limited
        2. Increase food monitors at times when pizza/food is delivered. Food monitors are not always needed but a large number are required when the food comes in. They should be drawn from other stations.
        3. Projecting ones voice (telling people sternly that they can only take one slice) should make a lot of people stop
        4. Have food tickets?
        5. Make people ask for pizza
    - iii. Please consider changing up beer selections
        1. Seasonal variations, like cider would be every welcome
        2. Downgrade to bud select on some kegs and use that extra money to buy some better beer
        3. No more Yuengling

        iv.   Please make note of section d (below) with regards to food and specific groups of people

d.   The Indian and Chinese subpopulations

    i.   Indians come in at the allotted interval to get pizza and leave. Usually they come by asking when the pizza is there and if it isn't they leave and keep on checking in.

        1.   This defeats the purpose of the social. We should randomize pizza delivery times.

        2.   Also, not enough cheese pizza for vegetarians in general.

    ii.   Chinese students make up a significant portion of the school but their attendance is limited to nearly nonexistent at the events. While Indians come and take the pizza and leave, some stick around but the Chinese don't. Why?

        1.   Responses: Chinese culture is different, they find it difficult to socialize; language barrier; food is an issue

            a.   Change up food to make it more inclusive

                i.   Suggestions – spring rolls, dumplings.

e.   Shihab suggested we start the 'Lonely people initiative' where EGSC members, in their downtime, engage students who are standing alone/lost in the socials and introduce them to new people and make them feel welcome.

f.   Shihab also suggested that we have tables where people can sit and gather around, allowing people to talk to each other in a more private setting

    i.   This was present during orientation but is no longer there since we cannot sit outside

    ii.   Have this outside, possibly in the tent?

g.   If turnout is dropping, there is one more thing we can offer other than better food, beer and music that should (drastically) increase turnout if implemented – bringing people from other schools in.

    i.   Would require us to (probably) foot the bill. Many schools like SIPA have their budgets set (and cannot spare more) while others like Journalism have no money at all

    ii.   Our grad assistants from TC said they would 'love to have such an event' at their school – interest exists. We also know SIPA wants to mingle.

    iii.   Bring in one school per event during the down season (midterms), should entice more engineers to show up.

    iv.   Its actually nice to not have Carleton so crowded! It is good to be able to walk around and not feel like a sardine

    v.   If we are willing to get and have allocated money for all this food and alcohol from the beginning anyways but people are not showing up from our side, what harm is there in bringing people in from other schools