

Committee Meeting Agenda

Postgraduate Physics Students' Society

14.00, Tuesday 15th March, 2016

1. Attendance

1.1. Opening

- Braden was elected Chair

1.2. Attendance to be taken

- Daniel, Braden, Shanette, Cate, Innes, Tristan and Sri were in attendance

1.3. Apologies

- Apologies were received from Stephi

1.4. Committee Membership

- Daniel welcomed the new committee

2. Advertising for Physical Systems

- Melbourne will be running a Physical Systems course next semester; it's a premier subject
- Will cover wave optics, classical mechanics, solving differential systems as physical systems
- (A little bit of) Overlap with some math subjects (DEs, Mathematical Methods of Physics) (but not so much that there's anti-requisites)
- 2nd year subject; 3rd years can take it (good for them, as they have context)
- Put up posters to advertise? Yes
- Advertising cannot be on LMS - we should get it on the PSS

- Braden will correspond with PSS re: everything

3. **Mentoring**

- Braden presented the idea (based on a discussion with a Neuroscience Postgraduate executive)
- Tristan will bring this up with Andrew Melatos at the next Knowledge Engagement committee meeting

4. **Funds and Assets**

- The most costly events for the year will likely be: post-Completion talk food, Easter, Pool, Trivia
- The question of whether we need a TV on Level 7 was discussed (following on from last year's discussion of Tristan having a spare TV). The committee decided: probably not
- Level 7 needs some items (especially for GOSS preparation and serving): platters, IKEA stuff, cutting board, knife, cheese knife
- We will use GOSS funds to source some knives and forks
- Braden brought up the idea of using GSA/UMSU funds set aside for assets. The committee decided that were some assets we should obtain: board games (a small amount), PPSS banner, pull-down screen (note: this is something the School of Physics could/should do)

5. **Semester event plan**

5.1. Other events

- Snooker - semester opposite the pool competition?
- One more "bigger" event this semester?
- Talent show? Logisitically difficult
- Karaoke night?
- New events poll?
- Australia's Biggest Morning Tea?
- Committee think the "mentoring" of 1st years sessions (where graduates come in to tutes and talk for 10 minutes) are bad

5.2. Pool Competition

- Running the week of Monday 4th April
- Final on Friday 8th April

- Signups close Monday 4th April
- Posters
- Prizes: alcohol (two different bottles), name engraved of trophy

5.3. Diversity Fair/Event

- Daniel has been in discussion with some other graduate science groups, including Chemistry. There has been not nearly enough collaboration between STEM groups; a Diversity Fair/Event is currently being discussed with several groups (Chemistry, Physics, optical students association, WISE, Geology(?), Biology(?), WIP). For such an event, there will be a lot of money available by pooling resources.
- Daniel will continue conversing with these other groups

6. Reports

6.1. Academic Staff Committee

- After being invited, Cate was asked to leave the most recent meeting, as the topic of discussion was EPP leadership position.

6.2. Academic Progress Committee

- Innes went to a meeting
- Physics Advanced had a lot of people enrolled. Enrolment in subjects with prerequisites is an issue at the moment: some students are taking the subject but haven't taken Physics in high school/equivalent.
- 2nd year Comp labs - lots of people enrolled this semester, as well as last semester (we hope Engineers will join). Comp is going well
- Legacy subjects are difficult to deal with
- Sean and Harry have done good work with LMS
- Calc2, Lin Alg - no longer prerequisites
- Problem with UMEP students, something about amount of points
- Change to Physics major
- Senior demonstrators/tutor (teaching fellows) - should be doing more things
- Bureaucratic bullshit re: Grad centre computers

6.3. Knowledge Engagement

- Work experience - 24 students for the faculty (out of 100s applied)
- Could be asking students to help out with this (guiding them around, etc.)
- WIP: 29th April - 1st May
- July lectures: 100 Years of GR, grav waves
- Nothing yet for Open Day
- Colloquiums booked up until May

6.4. Research and Research Training

- No-one attended

6.5. Occupational Health and Safety

- No-one attended

7. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

This was our first meeting, so there were no previous minutes.

8. **General Business**

8.1. Further business

- No further business

8.2. Next meeting

- Cate suggested fortnightly meetings; the committee agrees
- Next meeting: 5th April, 2pm (unless times clear up)

9. **Meeting close**

3:05pm

Action List

1. Daniel - organise posters for Physical Systems advertising
2. Braden - talk to PSS re: advertising Physical Systems on their page
3. Tristan - talk to Melatos about Mentoring
4. Shanette + other - buy PPSS GOSS stuff from IKEA
5. Innes/George - buy knives and forks for GOSS (with GOSS funds)
6. Innes - notify people of banner comp (via email + Facebook) (note: there will be a "silly prize")
7. Braden - buy some PPSS board games as assets
8. Daniel - talk to Ray/someone re: pull-down screen in Level 7 Common Room
9. Cate - create poll for PPSS members to voting on new events
10. Cate - to take care of Pool Competition
11. Daniel - continue conversing with other graduate group executives people about diversity event
12. Others - let Daniel know about other graduate groups which could get involved in a diversity event