

MINUTES
MCGSS council meeting
Time: May 19th, 2015 @ 4:30pm
Location: Conference Room

Attendance: Exec: Hector (Treasurer), Andrew (Secretary), Peter (President), Nic (Vice-President), Melissa (Environment Commissioner), Reshmi (MCSS Rep)

Council: Andrew & Hector (Plant Science), Maeghan & Georgia (Parasitology), Amanda (Food Science)

New Council: Chris (Environ), Hilary & Maude (Parasitology)

Absent: Regrets: Jacob (Faculty Rep- field) Ivy (PRO), Devon (NRS)

No regrets: Yin (Nutrition), Darek (Food Science), Divya (Bioresource), Luke (Animal Science)

Pizza!

Introductions for The New Council Members

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve by Hector, seconded by Georgia

Approval of Minutes from March 24th, 2015:

Motion to approve by Nic, seconded by Reshmi

Reports

Hector: over budget on several items (activities, bagel breakfast)

- overall 2000\$ under-budget, and overall the budget should come out even
- need to co-ordinate what we spend with actual reality of our accounts and what we've budgeted
- Maeghan asked why Ahmed is signing cheques
- the short answer being CIBC has caused difficulties in changing signing officers; see more below

Maeghan; BMF update

- MCSS decided to push us back until September
- at our April Council meeting, before the AGM, we passed a motion to file against MCSS
- the motion is being prepared and will be filed before May 31st

Peter: Peer Helper Group advertised on both campuses and selected a candidate

- not clear that they have fulfilled their requirements, as we asked for a detailed explanation of their selection process and criteria
- also not a given that MCGSS will fund in the 2015-2016 budget
- Peter** will check that Athletics did clean the BBQ and replaced the fuel

Old Business:

1. Events: **Peter**

-please consult the googledoc for the current list of upcoming activities

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B306ZxUI-PMwTUIHTGROeINMSDQ&usp=sharing&tid=0B306ZxUI-PMwWm1Qb3dhQjE5MGc>

Past events: Wine & Cheese, April 9th, 2015, Devon & Lisa

Movie Night, April 15th, 2015, wasn't advertised, didn't happen

Bagel Breakfast, April 21st, 2015

AGM, April 21st, 2015

Movie Night, May 13th, 2015, wasn't advertised, didn't happen

-upcoming events: PGSS Council, May 20th, 2015, Andrew, Devon, Reshmi
Sustainable BBQ? Aug. 13th

-MCSS will pay more, as more undergrads
will be present

Strawberry Social? Space reserved for June 25th

-MCSS will only pay 100\$, as they're
assuming few undergrads will be present

-Georgia will look into getting some training on making Newsletters

2. MCGSS By-Elections: **Peter**

-has the CRO been confirmed? has the schedule been approved?

-Nelly has graciously agreed to be our CRO, once again

-first two weeks of June is the nomination period, until June 12th,
following week will be elections, if needed

-Chris inquired about need for a paper nomination, and why it couldn't
be submitted electronically

-**Georgia** will advertise the by-election June 1st

New Business:

1. Questionable academic background of graduate students

-**Peter** spoke with Ian about this, Friday, May 8th, 2015

-Ian maintained the OGS position that students should be following the
supervisor, committee, GPD, chair, Dean of Grad Studies pipeline for
any concerns

-not clear how this workflow will help; What will occur, if anything, at each
step? How should issues, or steps, be documented

-possible there's could be a need for rapid intervention; risky, or negligent,
behaviour can endanger people, labs and data

-possible to use bagel breakfast as more of a forum to encourage students to
engage with council on issues that they perceive as important to their

success

- Georgia** and **Hector** were tasked with drafting a survey to poll our members concerning this issue
 - they present what they settled on and their thought process; council was unable to reach a decision on whether a survey will be useful for this
 - tabled until next meeting
 - Andrew** will inquire with incoming academic affairs at PGSS, Devon, on how we might proceed, and how PGSS might approach this university wide
 - Nic** pointed out that this could be raised at Mac through our committee representatives

2. BMF Interest spending

- tabled until next council, when we have quorum

3. CIBC docs

- not clear that Ivy actually signed some of our cheques bearing her name;
Hector assured council that cheques, nor monies, are not being mismanaged, as he issues the cheques correctly, though **Peter** then leaves them out for signing officers to come and sign
- council suggested that going forward better practises be adopted
- another issue is having a removed signing officer, Ahmed, signing anything simply out of convenience; this is a clear conflict against council's wishes, as Ahmed was removed from his office
- the Executive needs to come to council with changes to agreed operations, regardless of ease or convenience
- should there be a vetting-step in becoming a signing officer/executive member?

Miscellaneous Announcements and Discussions

Next PGSS Council Meeting, May 20th, 2015, at 6pm, Andrew, Reshmi, & Devon?

Next Exec Meeting, June 9th, 2015, at noon in the Conference Room

Next MCGSS Council Meeting, June 23rd, 2015, at 4:30pm, in the Conference Room

Motion to Adjourn by Hector, seconded by Maeghan