

MINUTES
MCGSS council meeting
Date & Time: Monday October 21, 2013 @ 12pm
Location: MS2-084

Executives present: Lucy Lu
Maeghan O'Neill
Peter Tikasz
Rebecca Chin
Rachel Krause
Phillip Zanet
Nitish Pandit

Councillors present: Andrew Blakney
Divya Gupta
Ivy Mak
Nina Moutairou
Stephanus Rossuow
Yasmin Schuermann
Amanda Wagley
Devon Watt
Derek Wray

Executives absent: Jasmine Kaur

Councillors absent: Samantha Medithi
Rishika Saini

MCGSS council

1. Approve agenda

Agenda approved

2. Approve minutes of council meeting on September 23, 2013

Approved and will be posted on the website

3. Guest speaker Dr. Strachan on proposed changes to staffing and services offered through MacOGS

High volume of work PLUS student requests; discussion of possible solutions to better manage.

Other things to note re: Mac OGS:

- If grads encounter problems related to payments (stipends, scholarship, non-taxable payments) or with the PhD oral defense, report to Susan Gregus (office manager) FIRST, before your coordinator
- All PhD defense announcements will be posted on the website ☺
- email Dr. Strachan with more ideas/suggestions/complaints re: proposed changes to staffing and services

4. Budget plan for 2013 – 2014

-PGSL (Post Graduate Student Life) Fund – **Peter needs forms back if you want to keep your money in your departmental account, otherwise you'll LOSE it!**

-Peter presented the budget

-Fund requests: if grad presence in the club/activity, club can ask for funds

-Peter still has to confirm amounts with Jacinthe (Thurs)

5. Councillor reports

Maeghan: first Safety Meeting → importance of students having completed the trainings

Proposed policy re: students working alone → tracking individual's presence in the lab so that security can check in on them and make sure that they're safe

- Council doesn't think that people would physically sign-in if it were a sheet on the door and that security wouldn't come by and check the sheet and therefore the lab
- card reader can track who comes in, but not who comes out
- isn't security supposed to do runs and check? Some council members have seen them do so, others have not
- Private investigator's (PI's) responsibility to ensure safe working environments
- if the policy were to be carried out through electronic records, it might work better (more response from students) to note the # of hours that one is staying that are "outside" of regular hours

6. Business

- 6.1. Number of department representatives per department
- 6.2. Communication about council meetings
- 6.3. Use of TV in grad lounge
- 6.4. Suggestions for activities

→ Due to time limitations of this meeting, these issues to be addressed next meeting

7. Announcements

- Bagel breakfast: Tuesday October 22 @ 9:30-11:00am
- Next PGSS council meeting: Nov 6, 2013 @ 6:30pm, Mac campus room R2-046
 - free food
 - bus available after the meeting and going back to Thomson House
- Next MCGSS council meeting: Nov 18, 2013 @ 12pm
 - in Faculty lounge

Phil motions to adjourn

Rebecca seconds

Meeting adjourned