

Chemistry Graduate Association at Simon Fraser University

Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2013

MBB Lounge 6000-Level

In Attendance:

Alisa Paterson (Secretary), Graeme Suppes (TSSU Steward), Reagan Belan (Vice-President/TSSU Steward), Brandy Kinkead (DGSC Representative), Michael Jones (President), Danielle Wilson (GSS Councillor/Grad Info Coordinator)

Regrets:

Venugopal Challa (TSSU Steward), Kyle Greenway (TSSU Steward), Hope Fan (Sports Representative), Nevena Cekic (Social Coordinator), Kenny Lin (Treasurer)

1. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 11:04 AM in the MBB 6000-level lounge.

2. Appointment of the Chair

- **MOVED** to appoint Michael Jones as Chair for this meeting.
Moved by: Alisa Paterson
Seconded by: Danielle Wilson
MOTION CARRIED.
- Michael Jones (President) was appointed Chair for this meeting.

3. Appointment of the Secretary

- **MOVED** to appoint Alisa Paterson (Secretary) as Secretary for this meeting.
Moved by: Michael Jones
Seconded by: Reagan Belan
MOTION CARRIED.
- Alisa Paterson (Secretary) was appointed Secretary for this meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

- **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2013 Chemistry Graduate Caucus meeting.
Moved by: Michael Jones
Seconded by: Brandy Kinkead
MOTION CARRIED.

5. Science Rendezvous (May 11, 2013; 11:00 am – 4:00 pm)

- Sophie Lavieri is looking for 10-15 graduate student volunteers that are interested in helping out with this event.
- The President (Jones) will send out an email to graduate students to look for volunteers.

6. Immigration Lawyer (May 2, 2013; 11:00 am – 1:00 pm)

- The room SSB 7172 has been booked from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm for this event.
- Ramon Rodriguez will give a presentation to International Graduate Students. This will be a general information session.
- The objective of this presentation will be to outline key concepts and requirements of the BC, Alberta and Ontario Provincial Nominee programs, the Federal Skilled Workers program, the Federal Canadian Experience class, the Labour Market Opinion Process, and other different federal work permit programs. The goal will be to give the attendants an idea of options that will facilitate their stay in Canada once they complete their studies or provide information about working while pursuing full-time studies.
- The Caucus discussed providing food from the Himalayan Peak for the attendees. The budget will be discussed further once interest from other Departmental Caucuses has been assessed.
- The VP (Belan) will contact the Mathematics and Physics Caucuses, and the President (Jones) will contact the MBB and Biology Caucuses to determine if there is any interest in participating in this event.
- The Caucus will ask for RSVPs by the Monday before the event in order to decide how much food to purchase. The President (Jones) will create an anonymous doodle calendar for this purpose.

7. New Student Orientation

- The DGSC Rep (Kinhead) is organizing a new student orientation for incoming graduate students in the summer semester. There will be approximately 12 new students. She proposed the idea of taking new students to the pub.
- **MOVED** that the Chemistry Graduate Association spend approximately \$100 at the SFU Pub for the New Student Orientation.

Moved by: Brandy Kinhead

Seconded by: Reagan Belan

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Summer Semester Sales

- The President (Jones) will visit the SFSS office to book a table for sales of goggles, lab notebooks and model kits at the beginning of the summer semester. The Caucus may need to purchase more \$10 safety glasses. The President (Jones) will speak to Stanley Chang (previous Secretary) about placing orders.

9. DGSC Rep Update

- The DGSC Rep (Kinhead) discussed the possibility of implementation of training for faculty members. It was also proposed that MITACS information sessions on supervision and how to supervise effectively may be beneficial for faculty. The DGSC Rep (Kinhead) will speak with the Department Chair (Dr. Ye) to discuss

these ideas, and to propose a meeting that will allow graduate students to give input on topics of discussion and properly communicate their concerns.

- The list of graduate student comments and discussions from the meeting on February 21, 2013 has been compiled. The DGSC Rep (Kinkead) will send this to the Caucus.
- In response to the concerns about the number of available graduate level classes, the Caucus would like to request that the undergraduate course, CHEM 460 (Advanced Physical Chemistry) which was taught this semester by Dr. Joshua Wilkie, be converted to a joint undergraduate/graduate course in the future.

10. TSSU Update

- TSSU Steward (Belan) requested that the Caucus inform any graduate students who requested a TA posting for the summer but did not receive one to contact one of the TSSU Stewards.
- Graduate students have priority over undergraduate students for TA appointments.

11. Social Events for the Summer Semester

- The Caucus will contact Shirley Purdon and Dr. Zuo-Guang Ye to discuss potential dates and times for the Annual Departmental Soccer Game, and then look into booking the soccer field.
- The Caucus will also hold another Games Night event in the future.

12. Adjournment

- **MOVED** to conclude the meeting.
Moved by: Michael Jones
Seconded by: Alisa Paterson
MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting concluded at 11:33 AM.