

## AGSIP Full Executive Meeting

April 21, 2015

**Attendance:** Jackie H., Emma, Chloe, Irene, Katrina, Tom, Jeff, Rebekah, Anja, Raegan, Layla, Michael, Sara, Vanessa, Kaylee, Jackie C., Joyce

**Regrets:** Lyndall, Sam, Josh, Haykaz

### 1. Updates

a. **Ethics (Anja)** - nothing to report (NTR)

b. **VP (Chloe)**

- i. Has been doing teaching evaluations. Issue with scantrons: completed anonymously, so no student numbers, and the scantron machine won't work. 500 or so to enter and they seem to require unique student IDs. Chloe will get in touch with Meghan to see what they did last year.
- ii. Has set up a spreadsheet for keeping track of finances in the future.

c. **Grad Reps (Irene, Raegan, Jackie H.)**

- i. Organized housing of incoming students based on grad student preferences. Tried to match by supervisor, then area, if possible, and taking gender into account.
  1. Generally seemed to have gone well. Tough to match all incoming students with their specific program (especially for non-clinical students).
  2. Can ask hosts next year if they care about gender of the student.
- ii. Grad committee meeting this Thursday. People can e-mail us if they have anything for us to report or ask.

d. **Webmaster (Joyce)** - the internet still exists.

e. **Clinical Reps (Emma, Layla, Lyndall, Sam)**

- i. Did a survey of clinical students to see if there were issues to bring up. Had 40/44 clinical students complete the survey. Faculty members and committee members were very receptive to it and had already started to solve some of the problems raised (e.g., courses tailored to clinical students).

f. **Social Reps (Jackie C., Kalee, Vanessa)**

- i. Pub crawl will be May 8<sup>th</sup>
  1. People liked that last year we ended up at karaoke. This time it will be on a Friday, we could work up Princess St. and end at the

Griz. Might also want to choose fewer bars so we have more time at each place.

- g. Presidents (Sara and Katrina)**
    - i. AGSIP elections are coming up (May). Can't hold positions for more than two years unless no one else wants it.
  - h. SGPS Rep (Michael)**
    - i. NTR. Meetings are very dry and confusing to follow.
    - ii. Huge push for advocacy for student advisor program. Maybe?
  - i. BBCS Rep (Rebekah)**
    - i. NTR. Hosted a student who seemed to like Queen's. There is only one new student this year, thinks efforts should be in integrating across areas. Jeff will help brainstorm ideas with Rebekah.
  - j. Animal Reps (Jeff and Tom)**
    - i. Haven't met with the committee for months. Talked about money and paying for Lisa's helpers at the last meeting.
    - ii. Rumour that they want to move 4<sup>th</sup> floor student to Botterell – want to build a large lab on 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> floor to host all animal research across departments. Animal research profs are against it, want to keep them here (affects cost, jobs). But the labs here are not ideal (e.g., humidity levels at different times of year, poor air quality), so there would be advantages to moving somewhere else. And it would be helpful for creating more office or class space for the rest of the department.
      - 1. May relate to general issues in the department about space allocations.
      - 2. Other labs at other universities have good air filtration systems, help with delaying development of allergies to the rats. In Humphrey, the air quality is poor and a bad ratio, so they make it the student's responsibility to protect themselves against the poor air quality (e.g., masks), but these are uncomfortable and not everyone wears them consistently.
      - 3. **This sounds like a very serious issue. Is there anything AGSIP can do about this?**
        - a. The department air quality and circulation is poor, in general. Grad reps can briefly bring these issues up at the next grad committee meeting, and Jeff/Tom can possibly join at a meeting in the future to discuss this in detail.
2. Tuition being due before our funding is due.
- a. Katrina would like to make a case for graduate student tuition being due after funds are administered.

- b. Katrina will contact SGPS and the union about this.
  - c. An alternate option is to go on the pre-authorized payment plan and choose to pay the full amount when you're ready, making no balance remaining.
- 3. Teaching Evaluations for TAs this year
  - a. Chloe (VP) did this this year. Would like to consider changing the AGSIP constitution so that the VP is in charge of academic evaluations. All in favour!
- 4. Queen's Health & Professional Society (QHIP) – Layla sits on the committee to represent psychology. Would like to consider formalizing this position as something on AGSIP, potentially as a subset within the clinical reps. This would let the work Layla has done to integrate psychology continue moving forward.
  - a. Idea of having one clinical rep who is on QHIP, rather than just 4 clinical reps.
- 5. Supervisor Award for Clinical Supervisors
  - a. Entails spending some money for plaques to award the clinical supervisors.
  - b. Traditionally AGSIP had paid for this award and it was never really discussed. This year, there were two awards given out (more expensive than usual) and we recognized the issue – did not seem fair that a large portion of AGSIP's money would be spent on a specific clinical award.
  - c. Solution: AGSIP paying for a quarter of the award. People seem on board with this. In the future, could have the clinical reps plan a fundraiser.
- 6. Issue that arose in clinical meeting: faculty members were surprised that minutes from the clinical meetings were not shared among all students, but the reps had thought that the details of the meetings were private. At the next meeting, there was some apprehension from the faculty about simply sharing the minutes themselves (e.g., confusion).
  - a. We want transparency in decision-making, and students do not always feel that there is transparency in how things get decided.
  - b. Needs to be an effort to communicate and to give all students access to the same information. More communication is better.
  - c. **Instead of sending out minutes, the reps could send out a summary, which the faculty could approve.** Not writing up about issues with specific students, take out any potential identifying information.