

## AGSIP Meeting November 29, 2017

Present: Kat, Meghan, Caitlin, Alison, Geoff, Alexandra, Laura, Lindsey

Regrets: Dan

Agenda: Holiday party, learning evaluations, BBCS seminar, departmental meeting recap, TA union info, miscellaneous

Holiday party:

- Make and get props for photo booth
- Candy grams for charity – have to pick 3-4 of them

Learning evaluations:

- TA learning evaluations with less than 10 should only have students fill it out after grading is done
- Make a premade Qualtrics survey and profs can give it to their students if they want as a non-official evaluation
- Can't force them to do it but can encourage them to do it
- making a premade survey will make this easier for them
- This could potentially end up getting integrated into courses
- May eventually do midway feedback as well as final feedback but issue with students worrying their grades could be compromised especially in small classes
- Have it as an option to administer as many times as they want
- Have a paragraph that outlines what is typically done in other institutions and explain the use of the survey
- Our goal is to work on this next semester

BBCS seminar:

- Niko wants to evaluate the BBCS seminar
- Maybe stretch it out over the whole year or have several day workshops over the summer
- Students will likely be interested in summer option
- Want to model it after the social and developmental pro-seminars
- Maybe have them during the clinical PD days since that is protected time
- Geoff will give feedback at the faculty retreat
- BBCS retention issue: annual graduate report is not good enough for feedback and not enough options for students to communicate dissatisfaction to supervisors
- Should have better communication between students and supervisors

Departmental meeting recap:

- Government has put in rules in terms of what a research-intensive university has to be
- Queens doesn't meet criteria of having at least 10% graduate students

- Has led to our big push to hire new faculty
- Use this new requirement as a framework for more buy in to have better evaluations and listening to students who want to feel valued and heard → important to keep students and to create a positive student environment that gets passed onto potential grad students
- Be able to communicate what we get here that you don't get elsewhere
- Big push to include international students and more funding for them

#### TA union:

- Pick a union steward – Kalee will take on this role
- Want to have a meeting with the department's TAs – will provide snacks and drinks
- Get to discuss wages, contracts, etc.
- Kalee will help organize this
- Maybe set up this meeting for early January
- Committee in the department looking into equating hours across TAships
- Should be able to better evaluate TAships in terms of work load and the nature of work we take on
- Better communicate to students and professors what is expected of them and what their rights are

#### Miscellaneous

- Make an end of semester wrap up Newsletter
- Kat to email area reps and get them to send a short blurb
- Undergraduate Psych DSC seeking grad students to mentor a case competition they were invited to in Montreal
  - Laura will follow up to get more details on this