**CMM/NSC/ASE GSA Meeting: Monday, October 16th , 2023**

Attendance:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Aisha Saleh | P | Elham Salehisiavashani | P | Richard Kohl | P |
| Alex Brown | P | Devansh Saraf | P | Rachel Piché | P |
| Stephanie Lofaro | P | Kelly Xu | P | Somayah Alsayadi | A |
| Caroline Part | P | Arghavan Nepton | A | Simran Rakhra | P |
| Cameron Gibson | P | Alberto-Camacho-Magallanes | P | Tara Naji | P |
| Ajanta Chatterji | P | Anastasia Pisanko | P | Victoria Hamilton | P |
| Yalun Zhu | P | Brittany French | P | Zacharie Saint-Georges | A |
| Vanessa Jabr | A | Elmira Safaie Qamsari | P | Noah Robert | P |
| Alberto Francisco Fuentes Alvarenga | P | Reham Khaled Fawzi Abu Hijjleh | P |  |  |
| Mariam Almasaad | P | Rachel Friesen | P |  |  |

**President (Aisha/Alex)**

* Emily (CUPE) - Bargaining Support Action Committee
  + Hours have been cut from contracts (contract hour entitlement low) and compensation is low compared to other universities, also fewer contracts available. Some workers still have not been paid and funding has been cut for students with tuition rates rising. Stipends not up to par with other schools.
  + CUPE and uOttawa have been bargaining for a year with all proposals denied to date. Trying to push the university and show we have collective power to implement changes in a timely manner.
  + Workday software implemented recently and spent roughly $45M, because of this tuition will be increased and scholarships decreased with contracts also being affected (pay/wages/job security/contract hours).
  + CUPE/Emily would like to collect names of student workers and present a list of names to the university to show support for CUPE proposals. If this does not work a photo petition will be implemented to try to stand out as much as possible (would only need to submit a photo) – worst case scenario is a strike but would not like to get to that point.
  + Those from the council who would like to volunteer to join the Action Committee and help recruit others can fill out the form that was sent out.
* All reps have been elected – Welcome ☺
* Curling event
  + Holiday curling event typically hosted in early December; this year will likely be later in December (around the 15th) due to booking restrictions.
  + Could also include PIs if desired in event instead of restricting it to students.
* Reminder to vote on slack for a date for the council social.
* VP external/election – vote add a new position.
  + VP external would help secure sponsorships/funding from external companies and aid with events and advertising. This would also involve reaching out to different councils to run various events and helping send forms to keep track of who will come.
  + Vote results: majority in favor of adding VP external to the council.
* Change constitution to include the ASE members officially.
  + Vote results: majority in favor.
* Department meeting
  + Dr. Tuana discussed adding a top-up policy and the possibility of increasing stipends. Everyone at the meeting was supportive about the top-up policy but not exactly in agreement about increasing the stipend but will remain in discussion.
  + Workday issues were also noted.
* FoM – October - canceled.
* General assembly to be held in November.

**VP Academic (Cameron/Ajanta)**

* Scholarship workshop and TAC workshop
  + Ran last week with a good turnout, about 40 in person, 15 online.
  + Will host a master’s scholarship workshop in November (CGS-M and OGS).
  + Slides from scholarship workshop sent to Caroline to circulate.
* Beyond Grad series
  + BMI sent over the poster that was made which Caroline will send out and will be posted on slack to be distributed.
* Networking Collab with Matrix
  + Met last week, working to pick a venue which will likely be held November 23rd. Will have about 6-8 speakers with breakout sessions for questions.

**VP Wellness/Student Support (Yalun/Vanessa)**

* Grad Buddy System – first meeting
  + 11 people came out with 34 people signed up, only 2 pairs were present.
  + Most mentees are asking about scholarships and TAC meetings.
* Tea-time event
  + Every other Tuesday from 1:30 – 2:00, suggested to edit to a 1h session.
  + Make sure to give enough time for emails to be sent out (at least 24-48h) so that it can be properly distributed.
* Yoga class
  + Can use wellness budget to hire an instructor, main campus offers classes and will try to see if they can come and run a class at RGN.
  + Need a certified instructor – can also see if any students are eligible.

**VP Social (Alberto/Mariam)**

* Halloween event
  + Atrium reserved for October 31st, still waiting on BBQ details.
  + Will hold a costume contest and amazing race style trick or treating (will be held throughout an entire day).
  + Posters and sign-up sheets being created (free pumpkins for CMM not BMI).

**VP Athletic (Elham)**

* Update … Start a weekly sport?
  + Will aid other VPs in events.

**VP Communications (Caroline)**

* Updates
  + Bi-weekly will be sent out this Friday, send things by end of this Wednesday if you want it added.
  + Meet the council post is up, similar one will be made for reps (please send information to Caroline).
  + Updated list of student emails will be given to Caroline and emails will hopefully soon no longer go through moderators.

**VP Website Design (Devansh)**

* Updates
  + Issues with the website (possibly too little space or subscription may need to be updated?)
  + Can use links rather than uploading large files directly.
  + Group photo should be taken and uploaded when possible.

**VP Finance (Kelly)**

* Orientation BBQ reimbursement to BMI/SEPH/TMM?
  + Submitted request for funding for this year.
  + Working through BBQ reimbursement, need receipts.

**VP Administration (Stephanie)**

* Updates
  + New poster policy, posted in slack and below. In essence posters can only be placed on bulletin boards (which will be relocated), posters on walls or glass panes will be taken down. Also, good practice to remove posters after events are over.
* Can maybe run a holiday event, possibly something small like a gingerbread or sweater contest.

**GSAED Director (Arghavan)**

* Unable to attend due to a lab meeting.
* No major updates from GSAED just discussing concerns about tuition/scholarships cuts.

**Reps (OHRI, CHEO, uOSIC, Royal, Heart, CMM, NSC, Masters, New Student, MD/PhD)**

* Welcome ☺

**NEXT MEETING: October 30, 2023**

Poster policy:

A sign on a wall

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