Science Undergraduate Society

The Science Undergraduate Society of UBC c/o Science Student Information Centre, Room A150 - 6221 University Boulevard, Chem/Phys Bldg., UBC, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1. Telephone: 604-822-4235 - info@sus.ubc.ca - www.sus.ubc.ca

SUS Executive Committee

Minutes of July 10th, 2014

Attendance

Present: Carmen Wong (President), Mohamed Shaaban (VP External), Nick Hsieh (VP Internal), Jason Yen (VP Communications), Nina Zhang (VP Student Life), Jesse Grist (VP Finance), Madeline St. Onge (VP Academic)

Guests: Dr. Simon Peacock (Dean of Science), Dr. Paul Harrison (Associate Dean of Science)

Regrets: Carmen Leung (VP Administration)

Recording Secretary: Madeline St. Onge (VP Academic)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

Introductions

1) Faculty of Science, Dean's Office

- Roundtable discussion of executive portfolios and items most relevant for Dr. Peacock and Dr. Harrison, then their update
- Dr. Peacock: current focus on 3 major items

1) Improving Science Education and Student (Carl Wieman Initiative)

    - There are better ways to enable student learning in the classroom (ACTIVE LEARNING)
    - UBC is the leading school in North America for implementing Active Learning in a systematic way

2) Teaching Evaluations

- Dr. Peacock himself reads ~ 1/3 of the Teaching Evaluations
- His focus is on the best and worst professors. To celebrate and improve those who are the best, and improve those who are not
- Student comments are very valuable, and the more responses the better

3) New Building for Life Sciences Teaching Labs

- Will be the North side of BioSci renovated entirely
- The centre core is going to be torn down and the building renovated into it
- Will include modern teaching labs and facilities, a $75 million project

- Other updates: Looking to infuse sustainability into all specializations, Frosh discussions, health and wellness (mental illness, increasing counsellors available on campus), in support of Exam Database and Midterm Evaluations of Teaching, Science Alliance (be cautious of the differing interests of large research schools such as UBC and smaller career focused schools, also consider talking to American schools.
- Dr. Harrison: If any executives need support at any time please contact him. He really supports Peer Advising, Career Education, sits on the Senate Ad-hoc committee for Health and Wellness. Had a 2 hour meeting of the Orientations steering committee, guidelines for adherence regardless of whether events are hosted by student groups or the University.
- Set up meetings through his assistant Betty Chan.

2) Science Careers Month

- MS had GREAT meeting with Kimberley Rawes, now has a To-Do List for the month and planned project proposal
- Advertised as a month where science students get to learn about their potential future careers, gain skills required for career life
- Total of 7 members for Careers Month Team. 2 co-chairs (1 science careers month coordinator, second one SCI Fair Co-Chair), 2 marketing representatives, either graphics person or sticking with SUS person (needs to design logo, merchandise, animations etc).

1 logistics/assistant SCI fair coordinator, 1 club coordinator/club communications representative.

- Position descriptions drafted and posted online end of July. Hire mid August.
- Can't be Career month if we're having career events all across the year. Talk to clubs. Get SCI Team and SPAC career events during the same month, hopefully they agree, talk to Kali and Erin
- Soft careers portion to learn about the importance of resumes and cover letters
- Talk to Kim Duffel for improvement, alumni relations.
- Presenting to Terry Grant afterwards (coordinator of MURC). Have MURC as part of Science Careers Month (hopefully)
- Then very long meeting with Carmen, Shaaban, Kim + Kim
- Liaise with NH and CL for clubs communications
- Dawson, Physsoc, comp-sci, all clubs that didn't participate last year.
- Will present at Clubs Orientation. Then take this presentation with feedback to Dr. Harrison and Dr. Peacock.
- Will send draft 1 of report by July 17th
- CW : Talk to SCI team and SPAC asap /clarify current resume workshops
    - SUS to host advertising soft skills event

3) Budget

- See budget document from JG
- Rebranding and general expenses not needed
- Discussion regarding salaries and Ladha building upgrades

4) Clubs Orientation

- See planned schedule of workshops that CL has created
- Potentially August 9th or 10th
- Eliminate event planning, fostering faculty pride, and condense other workshops so that there is time for NH and MS to make their presentations
  Send communication to clubs ASAP

5) Exec Updates

- JG: Contacting AMS HR, contacting dr. Harrison, budget submission AMS

- JY: Webmasters transitioned, they can reset the email passwords, exec page will reset with pictures and emails, deadlines for blurbs to follow. Hired AVP communications Paul Lee. Updated FB page. Moving away from Labrat promotion, moving towards Science Undegraduate Society page.

- NH: Job postings online, can we promote them on FB. Blurb to send to JY. Not enough applicants. Still looking for places for exec retreat, 2 potential places. Still working on FYC hiring.
- MS: Set of reports every year for Corporate Relations , what happened in past years. He can forward if any execs want to see.
- CW: Attenidng meeting with MISA, BIOSOC, URO, and BPP tomorrow for discussion of potential meeting first term.
- NZ: Hired AVP. Ronald Mak.
- MSt: Attended AMS VPA caucus for Lobbying to the University, will be meeting this week with Saber Miresmailli (Exam Database Project Manager) this week to discuss Exam Database, please have Back to School Survey Feedback ready for next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is July 17th, 5:30 pm.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.