EGSS Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9th 2014
Time: 12:00pm
Location: A232

Present: Ian, Ulemu, Asia, Emily, Jim Glenda, Lorraine, Andrea, Vita, Jessica Rich, Yongfei, Jessica Chan, Cheng
Regrets: Karen; CJ
Guests: James, Vicky

1. Approval of Minutes from last meeting (August, 2014)
Moved by Ian and Seconded by Jim
MOTION CARRIED

2. Approval of Agenda
Moved by Ulemu and Seconded by Glenda
MOTION CARRIED

3. Guest speaker – Vicky Arnold
   1) Social media ambassador position
      a. Sharing developed knowledge learned from workshop, lecture, seminar, etc. with other students
      b. Sharing knowledge with other students about how to use social media knowledge properly
      c. Time commitment: generally 15 – 30 minutes (checking and responding)
   2) Q & A

4. Executive Reports
   President (Lorraine)
   1) Dates: Student Panel (EGSS) September 25th 2:00 to 3:00 - volunteers needed
   2) Application for funding – 2 x volunteer reviewer/s needed
   3) Fall convocation a) Ceremony: Nov. 18, 10 am, Grand Hall; b) Party: Nov. 18, noon, Education Library (contact Rebecca for further detail)

   Nominating (Glenda)
   • Nothing scheduled yet. But contacting with Andrea Martin.

   Faculty Board (Yongfei)
   • No meeting this month

   Grad Studies & Research (Vita-Marie & Jim)
   1) New official welcome video for incoming students
   2) Goals for 2014 – 2015 (faculty version)
   3) Changing of the form and procedure of notification for academic extension

   Renewal, Tenure, & Promotion (Jessica)
   Everything is proceeding as expected.

   Appointments (CJ)
   • I am not sure if you have heard about my status yet or not. I have been unwell the past month or so and will be on medical leave until the end of this term. I hope to be in much better shape by then. As such I am not able to participate in EGSS activities until Christmas when I return.
• Regarding my committee responsibilities; I have heard nothing from the appointments committee re: activity or tasks this year. So in that regard I have nothing to report and it is unlikely anything will change with appointments this term. Please extend my sincere regrets to the EGSS executive members. I wish I could join you as you all as you welcome new graduates this week. However, I very much look forward to joining everyone again in 2015!

Good and Welfare (Emily)
1) Group community outreach opportunities:
   - Martha's Table;
   - Humane Society;
   - Food Bank;
   - Other Ideas for group volunteering

Strategic Planning (Ian)
SWOT analysis: survey still on going

Website and Communications (Cheng)
• None

Academic Events (Ulemu)
• None

Social Events (Asia (Joanna) & Andrea)
1) Wine tasting: Next Friday (Sep. 19)
2) Working on the possibility for lunch time event
3) Students panel: noon – 1pm, Sep. 25.
4) Informing students for monthly events for Oct. [Apple picking, Oct. 25, (26th is the backup plan)

International Student (Bing)
• None

Treasurer (Karen)
• None

Part-Time Student Rep (Chad)
• None

5. Discussion Items
1) Social Media Ambassador
   o Ian: the ambassador will be elected from EGSS or the broad graduate students group?
   o Vicky: up to you (EGSS) to decide. (I) just want to select the right person who enjoys using social media.
   o Lorraine: just want to let you know ahead, if you have a timeline in mind, add this year and start the next year it within this year, we may not able to add this year due to the election rules.
   o Vicky: the timeline can be very flexible.
   o James: Do these Facebook/Social accounts have anything to do with our personal account?
   o Vicky: it depends on how you use personal account.
   o James: I just concern about the privacy.
   o Vicky: I am always concerned about the privacy in social media. What I suggest with Facebook is you can either create your personal account or you can create a more professional account focusing on education topics, educational research, what you are currently working on, creating communication with your colleagues. Otherwise, you may bring your personal life into that … but that is something I am anxious about. Once it is there, it does not go. Neither have you have deleted, somebody can find it. The important
thing is to understand how to use these accounts differently, know the difference between
your personal Facebook and your professional Facebook.
  o Lorraine: is it important to the messages that are named who are really are?
  o Vicky: Yes. To me, I want you to be authentic. You speak as yourself, as a graduate
  student based on your experience here… it is a way to develop your professional self. …
  I can even post a note on our Facebook that someone acts as the student ambassador
  and will be posting on this page, or even on our Twitter page. … We would like to see
  some continuity, does not to be the same person neither the same voice. We need to
  hear you on social media, otherwise people are not going to enjoy the social media. …
  You are building community, it is not just the faculty speaking, it is you speaking together.
  o Lorraine: are the ambassadors speaking of the student body or of the faculty as well?
  o Vicky: I am perfectly prepared to let the students speak on behalf of the faculty. So, you
  are representing the faculty. I mean that is kind of the professional development
  opportunity. You want to be given them the responsibilities speak on behalf of the faculty,
  that is kind of the role every of you played in the social media already. We approve the
  person, but we do not approve the post. If you say something wrong, it is not the end of
  the world, just send out a correction. And we can be there to support you, you are not
  supposed to know the answer to everything question. (When you get some questions that
  you do not know) the best answer is "I do not know. I am going to find out" and come
  back to the person. Just keep the conversation going, do not just not answer.

2) Discussion about the social media ambassador position in EGSS
   The committee discussed the position and its relevance and appropriateness as an EGSS
   role. The differences between the ambassadors and the EGSS Website and Communication
   position were discussed. All agreed that the success of the ambassadors would be
   dependent upon the right students being recruited and trained. A vote was held to decide
   whether the ambassadors should become a formal EGSS role, the outcome was a
   unanimous no due to the need for special recruitment and training. The committee discussed
   the advantages of the ambassadors and all agreed it would be useful if they could attend the
   EGSS meetings to develop strong links with the EGSS.

3) New official welcome video for incoming students
   o Ian: providing both academic and social events information.
   o Lorraine: speak more as an advisor and providing supports to them.
   o Andrea: can they get more information at the information fair?
   o Vita: not applicable for international students.
   o Glenda: I suggest to use Adobe Voice.

4) Setting goals for 2014 – 2015
   o Vita: any ideas?
   o Lorraine: I suggest consulting the broader student body.

6. Motions
   • None

7. AOB
   • None

Approval to end the Meeting