EGSS Meeting Minutes

February 27th 3:30- 5:30

Felipe

Marc

Ivy

Cherie

Michelle

Yana

Jason

Sophia

Mike

Regrets:

Heather

Core-Lee

Eve

Najme

Moksha

Discussion meeting

Begin: 3:35

Conference is in two weeks. Schedule is finalized. Lots of session chairs. Program to be printed tomorrow. Only final details need to be done. Lots of volunteers for the days of- about 20. Registration fee is a common topic- possibility of having a free conference? Could be possible if we panned it differently. Registration fees bring in about 3000 dollars. Total conference fund is 16000. There is a SSHRC grant we can apply to- due in the fall. There are existing models of free conferences we could use to plan our own.

Open invitation of having the Equity and Diversity workshops during the conference, but they have to pay the conference registration fee. Emails calling into question why they would have to pay this fee. However, they did make an informed choice when they chose to become part of the conference instead of doing a workshop.

If you're presenting/contributing to the conference, shouldn't necessarily have to pay….

Important to set goals of what and who this conference is for. Are we modeling it after a professional conference? Or are we trying to have an equitable conference for students to get involved in? We need to look at the structuring of the conference for next year. Of everyone attending the conference, about 50% are presenters. Would the conference have enough money to run without collecting student fees? This depends on what we want to spend for the conference (swag, food?)?

Also important to have continuity of members between years so that in the transition of years, knowledge of the members is not lost.

Technology

Newsletter went out. To be sent each month around the 15th. Updates will be needed by the 13th. The website itself- still waiting to hear from the powers that be about this, despite constant e-mailing. There is a facebook page that has been created for EGSS- go and like it! Adding "Like us on facebook" logos to our newsletters (concern that we want to keep our personal pages personal) (concern about spamming and such) (possible to add to our listserv messages- but individuals will have to do it).

Lots of EGSS e-mails? Can we pool these into the newsletters, so that we are only sending one e-mail a month in this newsletter. Spamming is a problem. The one difficulty is with time sensitive issues. Could we develop a protocol for it? If something is time sensitive, it could be listserv? If not, we can put it onto the newsletter. Although! In our EGSS constitution we can send two newsletters per month, so then the onus could be on the individual to get their e-mail in at the right time for either of the two.

This does create quite a bit more work for VP Tech, though not too much. But if we create a template for people to send this info to be added to the newsletter, then it will be very little extra work. (Approving messages for Listserv takes very little work). We may not want to say that only two msgs will be sent from EGSS a month, just in case we do need to send more e-mails- so we will have a little more leeway.

Our model is great.

The website cannot be touched. Incomprehensible error which is not allowing us to connect.

Spamming within council. Only address the people who need to know about what's going on. Like thanking people, updating the agenda, not being able to make it, etc. **Include this in your e-mail to everyone with notes- PLEASE limit CC's or Reply Alls.**

Social Equity community get together organized by SSMU & PGSS

Bring together everyone who works on equity issues on campus. Encouraging collaboration/advertising for events around campus. If you're interested in this event, email SSMU or PGSS asking about equity event.

Dean's meeting

Heather, Moksha, Cherie, Michelle, Jason were there. Equity and Diversity workshops were mentioned. Ingrid (school psyc) said it may be good for the APA/ CPA accreditations.

Open ended brainstorming on the Dean's part for ideas that the faculty could play a role on a city development project.

Emphasis on social events should be more tied with research and promotion. It could be helpful for us to spin our projects/ proposals in a way that we can target recruitment/research being done for internal funding and such. Marketing flair. Having themes or speakers for events/unifying theme to wine and cheeses. Informal nature of these events also allows for organic networking and meeting different people informally. But, if money is wanted from the office, they have priorities which shape their decisions about who to fund- so keep this in mind if we are seeking something from them. Someone was making executive decisions about what should be done.

Committees

Equity & Diversity issues or Current Events? Like EDUs has a Community Committee. Could be useful as responsibility can be shared. Can be a way of pooling help, having people focused on certain tasks. But, a committee that can function autonomously is great (like conference committee) since EGSS meetings don't have the time to have the minutiae of their tasks to be discussed, but an EGSS subcommittee may lead to a proliferation of meetings which wouldn't necessarily be efficient, when we should want to remain efficient in addressing issues. If some things are specific to departments. So a successful committee would be one that could be autonomous, however there are several issues that do need council approval/discussion. Does PGSS have committees? Yes- everything is by committee. The idea is to route concerns that may not be being addressed directly-

for example the political issues that have been happening lately. It may be useful to have an individual doing this on our council? Adding this as a position? The task for this person/committee should be well delineated- like seeking a wide variety of student opinion.

There is a committee about tuition hikes as part of PGSS as this is a McGill/systemic issue. There will also be a conference about this.

It's a better venue for students to go to for McGill organized things. We only deal with Education Graduate related things. PGSS covers all aspects of graduate student experience. Some people may be much more informed about these issues on these committees as well. Duplicating efforts and structures can be frustrating.

Logo

Mcgill administration put restrictions on using the logo for student associations. Michelle checked in on this since EGSS uses Mcgill- OF McGill university is to be used. Forward Michelle the most recent message stating what needs to be used (from McGill's lawyers).

GA date & time

By majority. 2:30-4:30 March 21st