

BGSS Annual General Meeting Agenda

April 8th, 2024

All executives present:

President: Brontë Shelton

Vice President: Selina Spence

Treasurer: Sophia Kast

Student-Faculty Liaison: Diego Yusta Belsham

Quorum Met: 6 members present.

President Introduction

Item 1: Welcome and Introduction

- All executives introduced themselves.

Item 2: Receiving and Approving the Preceding Year's Financial Statements

- A brief statement from the Treasurer regarding the BGSS funding and expenditures of the 2023-2024 academic year
 - Term 1
 - Starting balance: \$3,253.72
 - Funding awarded: \$0
 - Total spent term 1: \$1405.26
 - Ending balance: **\$1,848.46**
 - Term 2:
 - Starting balance: \$1,848.46
 - Funding awarded: \$1000
 - Total spent term 1: \$984.15*
 - Approximate ending balance*: **\$1,864.31**
 - *Final event costs not included
 - We will be spending more at our last big event.
 - We are guessing we will end with about \$1000
 - Each year we get between \$0-3000 dollars in funding

Item 3: Annual Operating Budget

- A brief statement from the Treasurer regarding predicted BGSS funding and expenditures for the 2024-2025 academic year
 - Current balance: \$1,864.31
 - Predicted ending balance: ~\$1000
 - Approximate yearly funding from SUO: \$0 - 1500
 - Operating budget for the year: **\$2000 - 2500**

Item 4: Report of the President

- A brief statement from the President on the activities of the BGSS
- Advocacy:
 - Reconnecting with the department
 - Regular contact with graduate student coordinator and department head.
 - Attending department meetings so we can pass on information and represent grad students.
 - Advocating for graduate student space and working with Associate Dean, Graduate and PostDoc Training FoS (Andrew Jirasek).
 - Advocating for fair TA treatment. We can pass on feedback anonymously to the department
- Community:
 - All events shown
 - Welcome BBQ
 - Tie Dye Event
 - KLO Hike

 - Trivia Night
 - Halloween Event
 - BIOL 501 Seminar Practice Session
 - Bob Ross Paint Night
 - Hot Chocolate Event
 - Winter Welcome Event
 - Snowshoeing
 - Coffee and Donuts
 - Sushi and Game Night (on April 19th)
 - Reinvigorating the grad community post covid was essential for us and providing opportunities for grad students to hang out and get to know each other.
- Plans for next year:
 - Continuing advocacy
 - Establishing contact with new department head starting in August
 - Bringing back welcome event and keeping end of year event.
 - We would like more input from grad students (e.g., how members want us to spend their money, what type of events do you want to see).

- Comment from member: 7 years at UBCO so seen a lot of changes in the BGSS over the years. Wants to keep the fall welcome event a regular again.
- We want to have information that is easily passed on to new executives.

Item 5: Special and Ordinary Resolutions

- Special Resolution to revise the BGSS Constitution to reflect the SUO's new template and to update outdated language from the previous Constitution passed in 2020.
- Minor modifications based on SUO template updates. Was included in emails to vote.
 - Updated the wording and duties for executive positions.
 - Added Student-Faculty Liaison as an executive position.
 - Updated the formatting and wording to reflect the SUO's new template.
- No questions.
- All in favour! No opposed.
- 10 votes yes.

Item 6: Questions from the Floor

- Desserts for our last event:
 - Brownies
 - Cupcakes
- Anonymous Google Survey for us to send out. Probably a good time for sending this out.
- Election in next couple of weeks.