

## *SOBGS Agenda – January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015*

### 1) SOBGS Budget

- Fund raising has gone well, and income is high due to extra \$1500 raised for BGRF and more leftover funds from last year than expected.
- \$250 profit on Alcohol holiday basket
- May be able to reduce ticket prices for biology formal .
- Surplus = approx. \$2300 (\$1400 of which is carried over from last year)
- Budget approval via email vote (meeting not at quorum) – expect a Doodle poll in your future

### 2) Social Committee – Biology Formal

- 10 April, 7 pm arrival, 8 pm dinner, till 1am Old courthouse (Ridout St nr downtown)
- Food menu finalized
- Cash bar
- Vanrock Sound: DJ + sound systems and lighting \$350
- Expenses: ~\$4900 (4000 for dinner, 350 DJ etc, 300 for insurance, 150 decorations & posters)
- Ticket price \$33, 100 people expected; need to raise ~\$300 more
- First email to department will be on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>
- Ticket sales will start 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March
- Likely a higher ticket price for faculty & staff e.g. \$25 for students, \$35 for faculty, or something similar.

### 3) Committee reports – All

#### a. SOGS

- Discussing budgets at tonight's meeting; grad club and SOGS both look like they have a negative balance
- Results of tendering process (email survey sent out a little while ago): insufficient dental coverage, maybe vision
- Events: skiing, Valentine's day (Feb 13<sup>th</sup>), film night
- Women's concerns commissioner position vote tonight

#### b. PSAC

- Our union steward doesn't have time to be on SOBGS
- No response from other person who has signed up to be a PSAC steward
- If you know a biology union steward, please ask them to at least communicate with bio grad students, if not SOBGS in particular

#### c. Graduate Education

- Meeting this past week: budget decided
- Faculty of Science is giving us less money (capping how many international grad students they will provide support for)

- Students will not see a change in their stipend, but the department may have to cut the number of TAships they fund (guarantees on 280 h of TAing won't change though; don't worry!), and the money to fund international students will probably come out of the supervisors' pockets.
- d. Undergraduate Education
- Reps not in attendance
  - Meeting next week
  - BUGS-SOBGS event (described below):
    - Try to attract domestic grad students
    - Pressure to increase interaction between SOBGS and BUGS
    - Maybe get an SOBGS rep on BUGS and vice versa
- e. Seminar
- No news
- f. Research
- No news
- g. Outreach
- Meghan getting training for website access
  - No recent meetings with faculty
  - Biodiversity Gallery (Nina Zitani's office): Nina wants an opening at beginning of March
- h. Social
- Carol grams went well - ~\$100
  - Bakesales going ok, but lower interest this semester (don't have enough bakers)
  - Coffee house Mar 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Raffle in April
  - T-shirt designs: Caitlin Evered will send a Doodle poll to SOBGS executive
- i. Chairperson
- a) Joint SOBGS-BUGS Event
- Feb 10<sup>th</sup> at Grad Club
  - We got \$250 from department (nothing out of the SOBGS budget) to eat food and chat with undergrads.

#### 4) Other Business