

## **Executive Council Meeting – October 30, 2015 – Minutes**

### *1.0 Call to Order; roll call*

Regrets: Tarushika Vasanthan, Alex Nielsen

Attendance: Tyler Meadows, Joshua Nederveen, Natalie D’Silva, Mai Yamamoto, Irina Ghilic, Ben Keller, Michael Lim, Derek Stouth, Simon Beshara, Kay Fan E, Charles Burke, Shawn Hercules, Isabel Gaudreau

### *2.0 Agenda was accepted (4:05 pm)*

### *3.0 Amendment of SAM bylaws*

#### *3.1 Revised bylaws presented by Mai*

- 3.1.1 Section 7 (Elections) and 8 (Description of Executive Council) were thoroughly discussed, edits were flagged for later change on the Bylaw LaTeX

### *4.0 Election for Executive Roles*

- 4.1 Following executives were elected for positions stated.
- 4.2 Secretary: Joshua Nederveen
- 4.3 FRC Liaison: Tarushika Vansanthan, Shawn Hercules
- 4.4 Director of Information Technology: Kay Fan E

### *5.0 Project updates, review and discussion*

#### *5.1 TA Survey (Isabel, Michael)*

- 5.1.1 Difficulty in scheduling meetings with associate deans in order to implement the survey due to vacations taken by UG Dean and G Dean; postponed until February or March – current iteration of the survey to be distributed to the Math Dept. as a pilot (Nov 30<sup>th</sup>)

#### *5.2 Alumni Network Event (Charles, Shawn)*

- 5.2.1 Template for future excellent, feedback great; event turnout was relatively small (~10), but could be due to room number issues – clarification of posters in the future. Alumni from various groups said that they were from different areas but surprisingly similar; refreshing to have various dept. together.
- 5.2.2 Math Dept. (Tyler) has interesting alumni, could be February.

#### *5.3 SAM + EGS social event (Irina, Derek)*

- 5.3.1 EGS Eventbrite (maximum 50); potluck, board games, holiday prizes
- 5.3.2 Potluck will take place on Dec. 7th 5-7pm in ABB273 as a joint event with EGS
- 5.3.3 FRC money could help support this ‘collaboration’ in the future.

### *6.0 GSA Council updates (FRCs)*

6.1 *Nothing urgent for the Faculty in particular.*

7.0 *Future events and projects*

7.1 LaTeX workshop (Josh and Tyler)

7.1.1 Grad student in the Math Dept. who is willing to teach LaTeX

7.1.1.1 Logistics of pricing, time and date to be discussed

7.1.1.2 Upcoming free Biology Dept. LaTeX workshop

7.1.1.2.1 Time and date undetermined (Shawn)

7.2 Website updates

7.2.1 Executive member profile page in need of updating; general members should be able to reach out to specific execs if required

7.2.2 Front page photo needs to be updated

7.2.3 New or interesting 'Scientist of the Month' showcase; inform Kay about showcase

7.2.3.1 Hosting company to make website faster and/or more sustainable

8.0 *Financial update*

8.1 Bank account opened at Scotia Bank (Westdale branch)

8.2 Alumni association gave \$200; some may still be left (Tyler) following Alumni Network event

8.3 Contacted DiaMed (Mai); as Bio-lab equipment company, may be interested in sponsorship

8.4 Local business contacts in Westdale?

9.0 *Graduate Student Compulsory Ancillary Fee Increase Proposal*

9.1 General comments; infographic was good, some information is missing,

9.2 Should SAM take a stance on the topic - agreement in the room was such that 'neutrality' was important, but it was equally as important to help clarify (to the general membership) voting yes or no would result in (options A, B, C)

10.0 *New business*

10.1 Tumblr; link to website

10.2 Kin Rep (Derek) brought forth issues regarding a lack of stats course within his Dept; there may be some Biostats courses offered (Shawn); can we post the information to Slack and make it available for general members on the website – would be contact person, short description (to avoid in enrolling in a very specialized form of stats), whether this course can be audited

11.0 *Next meeting + pre-holiday get together*

11.1 Pre-holiday gathering will take place on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> from 7pm at the Phoenix.

12.0 *Adjournment (5:33)*