

MEGA Weekly Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 29th 2013

Present

Voting: Jeff Abeysekera (President), Graham Hendra (VP Finance), Mazi Jalaal (VP Academic), Jenny Sullivan (VP Social)

Non-voting: Eric Pospisil, Sina Radmard, Behrooz Yousefzadeh

- 1) Jenny reminded the execs to notify the President if they are unable to attend a meeting by noon on Tuesday to give enough notice for appropriate action can be taken if needed.
- 2) Jeff has contacted Neuroscience and iGSN (interdisciplinary Graduate Student Network) on collaborating on a beginning of term/welcome back party in January to be held at the GSS.
 - a. Jenny noted that pizza may not be the most cost effective food item, but agreed that it is simple to provide. Jeff suggested sushi as a cheap alternative. Final food decisions will be made once more budget information is available from the collaborating departments.
 - b. It was generally agreed that hiring or getting a volunteer DJ would be good to help manage the music. Last year there was a problem when people started to take over the iPod and play their own music. A mix of music styles appealing to everyone is preferable to a dedicated style that may cause some groups to become disinterested and leave. Mazi's playlist from the boat cruise party could be used as an example of something that seemed to appeal to a broad audience.
 - c. A few ideas were brought up to improve social interaction and networking as well as keep people interested beyond food, drinks, and dancing. Games such as giant Jenga, boardgames, and musical chairs like ice breakers were some ideas. Sina also suggested having a speaker at the start of the evening provide some motivation behind networking. Another idea was to have designated party mixers that could pick out people and get them to work together on a task to get a conversation started. Jenny suggested each department could wear colour coded wristbands so it would be easy to identify people outside of ones department to socialize with. Bringing back the human scavenger hunt game from the boat cruise was another idea.