

## GSAN Meeting Minute

March 29, 2022

1. Intro (Sujeevini Sujanthan)
2. Wellness Update (Sujeevini Presents in lieu of wellness members)
  - a. Virtual Discussion Session: few participants
  - b. Virtual Pet Show in February: interest but few attendants
  - c. Kickboxing in March: high demand, two classes with full registration
  - d. Peer Support Group:
    - i. Running with some people reach out to use support than last year
    - ii. Too few volunteers
  - e. Coffee house Mental Health awareness event with social team collab
    - i. In the future / planning stage
    - ii. Raise money for charity
3. Simon Update – Finances
  - a. PGSS hand out reimbursements
    - i. Student fees delayed this semester
    - ii. Collecting fees and reimbursement of organizations
  - b. GSAN using surplus from last year
  - c. Clothing order was finally taken care off
  - d. Sustainability in collab with GreenLabs
    - i. Expand service and promo space for collaborations
  - e. Initiatives in Tim Kennedy Lab at the Neuro – Compost at MNI
    - i. Reimburse for bags and bins
  - f. Education, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) front
    - i. Reza started empowerment, knowledge and systems EDI committee
    - ii. Figuring out what each committee is
    - iii. Missing professors, have students
    - iv. Hard to understand what IPN and students require of each other
    - v. 1 officer per committee should help work load
    - vi. Community agreement for EDI purposes
    - vii. Land acknowledgement included after inclusivity workshops
  - g. Intramural teams for volleyball and soccer going on
    - i. Usually fall and winter because students already pay athletics fees
    - ii. Summer it is optional
4. Roundtable Updates
  - a. Academic Team (Zeeshan presents)
    - i. French classes (Zeeshan presents in lieu of Anthony)
      1. Going well
      2. A lot of registrants, but a lot of drop outs
      3. Think for future years
        - a. Classes online is convenient
        - b. No commute to specific location
        - c. Lose in person engagement
        - d. Maybe collaborate with PGSS groups for conversational groups
      4. Other in person events for rest of semester planned
    - ii. R-Programming classes

1. Advertising as specific classes to join for specific topics/skills
2. Jason leading, others help organizing and TA
3. Stats drop-in sessions for students organized by Alex
- iii. Can recycle content for presentations and pass on to next year
  1. Winter IPN 101
  2. Winter Writing Workshop
  3. Funding opportunities
- iv. Discussed Career planning event for May
- v. 3MT event happening
  1. 3 minute thesis among GSAN students
  2. Select GSAN representatives to PGSS competition
  3. 11 students signed up
  4. Consider EventBrite moving forward
    - a. Professional alternative
    - b. Where people click link from
    - c. Good features
    - d. Automatically reminder email
    - e. Charge for registrants if needed
- vi. People's Choice Awards
  1. Vote and include email address
  2. Avoid ballot stuffing (over vote for a single individual)
  3. Look into Zoom voting
- b. Communications team (Sujathan presents)
  - i. Clothing order
    1. Main Campus has organizers
    2. Douglas has organizers
    3. Delay because reception from January
    4. Omicron surge delayed supply chain and delivery
    5. Jenny helped formulating excel sheet for item and cost management
  - ii. Introduce committee members to general public
    1. Post on social media platforms
    2. Karthik organizing
    3. Concerns by Sujeevini – need consent from each member
      - a. Create form to get explicit consent from everyone
    4. Include information
      - a. Picture
      - b. Name
      - c. MSc or PhD
      - d. Designation
    5. Simon concerns – end of term update not introductions per se
    6. Zeeshan suggest increasing activity in twitter account
- c. Social Team (Alex presents)
  - i. Thanks to Communication team for clothing order working
  - ii. March Events

1. Winter mini carnival at beaver lake
    - a. Skating and tubing down slopes
    - b. Low numbers
  2. Hopy hour for St. Patrick Day
    - a. 20-30 people
- iii. Current events
1. Formal Gala – Capstone Event
    - a. Late April / Early may
    - b. Issues are on booking catering not space
    - c. 1000CAD for space / hour
    - d. 14000 – 20000CAD for catering / hour
    - e. Look for different locations
      - i. Deal with McGill Faculty Club
      - ii. Work/Look out for others
  2. Cooking Session with Karthik
    - a. New recipes
    - b. Can be reimbursed to students
    - c. Kept up for summer if students are interested
  3. At end of exams – karaoke night discussed
  4. Mental Health Day
    - a. Coffee hour session with Wellness team
    - b. Art Gallery
    - c. Music Grad student association
    - d. Support initiative
    - e. Open to all artists / musicians
    - f. Naga Thovinakere (IPN Student) open for improv
    - g. Open to pay tickets for sustaining event
    - h. At Thomson house – 250CAD estimate
  5. International Student Sub-Team
    - a. Create document for incoming students
    - b. Living Document continuing through the Neuro
    - c. Spearhead mini-taste test of local flavors discussed
  6. Simon Comments
    - a. Cook with GSAN events in the past
      - i. Reimburse students
      - ii. Only 3 attendees
    - b. Mental Health event
      - i. 250CAD is ok
    - c. Gala event
      - i. Expensive → Charge students for event
      - ii. Regular tickets 10CAD?
      - iii. Do we want a Gala or a Meet and greet?
        1. More accessible
        2. Cheaper

3. Approximately 4000CAD budget available
  - a. Anything else needs to be charged or funded elsewhere
4. Maybe a potluck? Look at the Arsenal as a location because far out?
5. Quieter / Socially different environment
6. Better to have an informal environment for first event and interaction after COVID years
- iv. McGill Faculty Club – 4000CAD estimate given by Alex
  1. Includes food
- v. If big gala is selected → cost as low as possible
  1. Unknown how many students will attend
  2. Only big associations can have down payments and fall-back funding, not us
- vi. Alex Concerns – Social committee eats a lot of funds throughout year
  1. Ask for funds for specific events
  2. Simon – non-profit student organization so break even as much as possible
  3. Avoid charging students unless go into deficit
  4. Sujeevini – need to ask what students want
  5. Isabela – charge to lock people into an event
  6. Karthik – charge for food in tier system
- vii. Vote on forms to survey sentiment (on limited sample)
  1. Gala - 30CAD
  2. Meet and greet
  3. Potluck – Free
  4. Winners:
    - a. 7 votes met and greet
    - b. 1 potluck
    - c. 6 gala
- viii. Alex will discuss this with social team
  1. Survey for social team
  2. Min and max price for ticket
  3. Cameron suggest – keep survey simple!

Present:

Zeeshan Haqquee  
Isabela Lara  
Sujeevini Sujanthan  
Alexaner Bailey

Simon Hua  
Fatima Kassem  
Max Kowalczyk  
Karthikeyan Swaminathan

Sarah Martin  
Cameron Oram  
Others may have joined late  
Others may have left early