GO:MCB Meeting  
December 16th 2020 3PM-4PM  
Virtual Meeting  

President: Katie Kyle  
Vice President: Emily Green  
Outreach Coordinator: Ryan Duggan  
Treasurer: Patrick Grady  
Secretary: Sean Gosselin  
Chief Diversity Officer: Khalia Cain  

Present: Katie Kyle, Emily Green, Khalia Cain, Patrick Grady, Ryan Duggan, Sean Gosselin  

• First on the agenda: Grad rep to faculty meetings  
  ○ Who? The faculty want something consistent.  
    ▪ Given size of cabinet already, Katie suggests giving it to one of the already present roles  
      ▪ Giving this position to president’s duties (primary) and VP as last resort backup.  
      ▪ Conclusion: All agree to make this part of the president’s duties. No dissenting opinion.  
  ○ Regarding the duties of said representative:  
    ▪ Need to be able to consistently attend  
    ▪ Act as a communication bridge between GO:MCB/the rest of the graduate department, and the faculty meetings.  
    ▪ This still needs to be developed more.  
    ▪ More to come from Katie.  

• MCB Undergrad Temperature Check Survey (Anonymous survey)  
  ○ Lynes suggests sending the survey first to the faculty advisers in the undergraduate MCB org (or the undergraduate representatives?)  
    ▪ Do we want to go through with this? It might impact our time tables to get this out before the end of the semester.  
    ▪ They would provide useful feedback as a sort of trial run.  
    ▪ Conclusion: a trial run with the undergraduate representatives is the best use of time and should be pursued.  
      ▪ Ryan will find out who these representatives are → Send Sarah an email.  
      ▪ Send out sometime this week or early next week.  
  ○ Diversity and inclusivity community feedback?  
    ▪ No too much time till available.  
  ○ Is there a possibility of providing an incentive?  
    ▪ If not there’s a good argument to be made to wait until the start of next semester when students have less on their plate. → Likely outcome here.
• **MCB Grad Mental Health Survey**
  - How to design the form/survey?
    - Google forms? Use that to create a branching survey based on questions answered.
      - This helps to restrict to accounts from uconn.edu
      - Gives us the opportunity to get minutia for specific questions.
    - There is an interest in this survey’s results, so we should try to push this out soon.
      - The department therapist question, keep it? Or lose it, and see what people suggest the department could provide
        - **The latter.** Will prevent people from thinking this is actively in the work.
      - Release timeline?
        - Start of 2021. First week or so of January.

• **Events (Near future)**
  - Student speaker event:
    - Schedule was likely set up in August
      - It may be too late to pursue this.
      - If not, Anne Carpenter may be an option (although it will be last minute)
      - It would have to be before June though.
      - **Conclusion:** Wait for information, Katie will look into the Carpenter possibility?
  - Virtual coffee hour/networking?
    - These have been done before, but they seem to burnout quick.
    - It may be a good idea to try and take inspiration from recruitment in the spring semester.
    - Vaccine roll-out is coming soon to GA’s... This will change things significantly.
      - **Conclusion:** Wait till spring, since the situation is likely to drastically change.
  - Ryan proposes organizing a GO:MCB presence at the capital while a vote on limiting vaccine exemptions takes place.
    - Sometime in early 2021
    - Is likely within GO:MCB’s purvue, and wouldn’t require funding
      - Likely a carpool/meetup scenario.
      - Could make/bring signs
      - Primarily to act as a scientific presence at the event.
      - Would be nice to have GO:MCB t-shirts for this.
    - **Conclusion:** Ryan will pursue further.

• **Aside on T-Shirts**
  - Would need funding from Michael Lynes
    - Or sell them at a certain cost
    - Or a pre-order system
• This seems the most likely
  ○ We need a new design
    ▪ Submission contest?
      • Only a few submissions last time
      • Could open up the pool to undergrads, but then it needs to be a soley MCB t-shirt.
        ◦ Ryan will find out who these people are and give Katie the e-mail for them.
      • Have a vote after designs are submitted.
    ▪ Commission a design?
      • We have the money for it
    ▪ Could ask Verge to clean it up?
      • Probably not.
    ▪ **Conclusion**: Open it up to undergrads and see if they are interested. If so, pursue an MCB department shirt. If not, further refine the plan.
      • **Planning to finish t-shirt re-design by the end of January.**

• **Regarding remaining funding we have:**
  ○ We can set things up to be planned in mid-late June (such that we are likely to be able to host them in person).
    ▪ Or in worst case host them outside
    ▪ Events
      • Science networking/development
      • Social events
      • etc.
  ○ Emily update on funding re-purposing and giftcards
    ▪ GSS is a tier 3 group and was therefore allowed to use gifts (i.e. giftcards)
      • However, GO:MCB is not and hence has rules against such practices for events.
      • Signing up for an event and confirming their registration may act as a workaround?
        ◦ Probably not though? This is unclear.
      • We cannot do anything radically different than what was initially proposed.

• **New Budget coming due (Jan 31)**
  ○ Since the budget is for 2021 Fall -2022 Spring
    ▪ We can likely assume things will be back to normal
    ▪ Follow last years plan and raise expenses by 15%?
    ▪ Special allocations?
      • Ice cream party?
        ◦ Might be able to get departmental funding, since coffee hours were largely canceled.
    ▪ DEI events?
      • Open them up to the university at large
      • Fall and spring
    ▪ If we want more money we are likely to need quotes
• Especially in scenario’s where we are asking for specific items, I.e.
  ◦ Lunch/Dinner served
  ◦ Snacks served
  ◦ Location use (renting a location)
  ◦ etc.
  ▪ Conclusion: Discuss further, think about possible events and plans before our next meeting.

• **Website changes (Low priority)**
  ◦ Update the alumni page
    ▪ Maggie should have a list of people who graduated
      • Katie will follow up and get that
      • We can then divide and conquer this list
        ◦ Get what they are doing right now kinds of information
        ◦ Post to the page
  ◦ See below for other recommendations.
    ▪ adding DEI reps to webpage
    ▪ requiring some sort of credentials to submit feedback survey so its not just spam
    ▪ funding/scholarships page --> somehow link fellowships listserv emails?
    ▪ skill share?
    ▪ get newer pics