

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.**

- <https://docs.google.com/>

- **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.
- <https://docs.google.com/>

- **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 purview, 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 solely 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 allumni 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