

PG society committee meeting

Date: Friday (10/10/14),

Time: 12.30pm

Location: Main Bar (Union)

Present: Tania Strützel (PG Convenor), David van Brussel (PG Society President), Scott Schorr (ball convenor), Alison Holiday (sectary), Syme van der Lelij (treasurer), Ondrej Hajda (DoREP), Brianna Vandrey, Fay Morrice (DoSDA), Horizonz Zhang

Absences: Andreea Oniga (event convenor)

1. Minutes of AGM held 29th September
No objections to the minutes

2. PG President Report
David stated that he was happy with the gala that took place on Friday 3rd October and that the event went smoothly.

3. PG Convenor Report

Tania was pleased with the Postgraduate class rep elections that were held last week with almost every position being filled and about 80 reps in total being elected. Further, Tania would like to get postgraduate students involved in the upcoming rectorial nominations and elections both by encouraging them to make nominations and run campaigns and also by organising postgraduate specific events for nominees to address postgraduate issues.

4. Treasurers report

Syme and David attended treasurer training this week. They stated the budget in August stood at £4,300.

5. Updating PG society constitution

Having read the constitution Ondrej and Fay had the following amendments to make:

In the remit it is stated that at least four events must be held a year, however this statement is unnecessary and should be removed

In Article II section one it states that "The membership of the Postgraduate Society Committee shall consist of postgraduate students elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held no later than two weeks after formal teaching has ended in Semester 2". This time period was queried but clarified by Tania as allowing for postgraduate tutors and demonstrators to finish their duties before elections begin. It is mentioned in the constitution twice so one mention shall be removed.

Under article II section 7B, Annual General Meeting: Business, Ondrej is adding a treasurer's report is necessary.

Ondrej would like the roles of the president and conveyor to be more clearly defined within the remit.

6. PG socials: special councils social

As part of the That's Union campaign, David has organised a postgraduate meet and greet with student council members during the postgraduate social in week 6, Thursday 23rd October at 7pm in Sandy's bar. In order to attract people to the event it was suggested that free wine would be available.

7. Ceilidh

The society will hold a Ceilidh 8-10pm Friday 24th October in Venue 1. It was suggested Scottish foods or snacks could be provided.

8. Family event

The SRC member for mature students is hosting a family event for mature student parents and their children in association with other societies. The postgraduate committee will help advertise and set up this event. The date of the event is still to be decided.

9. Expanding bus trip loch lomond

The society is hosting a bus trip to Loch Lomond on the 15th November. Tickets for this event sold out very rapidly and David asked if hiring a second bus and releasing more tickets may be a good idea. There were some concerns as to the expense of this, so Syme and David shall work out the costs and report back to the committee.

10. Gradball

Scott is organising the graduation ball for December 1st and asked the committee for theme suggestions, for example, previously the ball has been themed with Scottish decorations. Andreea and Scott had discussed prior to the meeting hiring casino tables. Tania suggested a photo booth or photo props as have been used in previous graduation balls, such as June 2014. Fay discovered that these were from tilted frame photography and it was suggested that we should ask for a quote.

David raised the point that he was concerned graduating students may miss out on tickets to non-graduating students due to the difficulties in contacting them. Ondrej is to look further into if there is anyway for the society to directly contact those graduating in November. If this is not possible however, ticket sales will open next week.

Scott queried if we should contact the old course as the venue for the summer ball. Tania suggested that we explore other venues to host the ball. Scott will look into this

11. Movie night 19/10

David asked that if the committee have any movie suggestions for the upcoming movie night they should post them on the facebook group.

12. Guy Fawkes bonfire

David asked that any free committee members help build a bonfire for the event being held on November 5th on east sands.

13. Semester 2 events ideas

David requested that any suggestions for semester 2 events are made known as planning for these should commence soon. Currently there are two other bus trips planned and a trip to the Edinburgh Christmas markets.

14. Any other competent business

Horizonz stated that he was willing to help with any events.

The committee would like to thank Toma Pustelnikovaite for her help organising the PG society roundtable 'Publishing for Young Academics' event with guest speaker Ben Fletcher-Watson on Tuesday 7th October in venue 1. The event went well and had a good attendance.

Date of next meeting: Friday 17th October 2014