

April 2023 Meeting

Meeting held in RAL 419 on Wednesday, April 12th at 4:30 PM

I. Focus Group Updates

- Focus groups:
 - a. Student Org Well-Being: **Dhana**, Chiwon, Marya, Catherine
 - **No updates**
 - b. Department Initiatives: **Joenisse**, Luke, Suri, Saman
 - Will wait until after May 15th town hall for meeting with Cathy
 - Get a September TownHall scheduled!!
 - Can talk to Cathy about having a meeting where she covers some of the SWC topics, and the SWC chairs attend as guests to answer questions
 - Work on lab expectation document for fall semester
 - Also focus on incoming faculty
 - Will wait on poll for other initiatives that are relevant amongst students
 - Possible idea:
 - Yearly committee meetings – without PI
 - c. Faculty/Student Relationships: **Joe**, Rachel, Sophia, Miriam
 - Going to start our meetings with faculty focused on those that we see as potentially most impactful allies: Doug Mitchell, Greg Girolami and Josh Vura-Weis
 - Gauge their interest/support of our initiatives, ask about their ideas for things they would support
 - Need volunteers to meet with each of them (2 per prof.):
 - DAM: Miriam & Sophia
 - GG: Joe F. & Rachel
 - JWV: Joenisse & Chris
 - First meeting we will ask if those professors will contribute financially to the first of some sort of departmental social event to take place in late May (based loosely off of Berkeley's model)
 - Like JST BBQ in courtyard, or CLSL atrium Ice cream
 - Following faculty are listed as "Unknown" for support level of SWC: Hirata, Jackson, Luthey-Schulten, Kenis, Suslick - anyone have better intel (or have access to someone with better intel) on these profs?
 - SWC rep at faculty meetings in addition to DCGSAC rep?
 - It used to be someone who was on both, currently Annika and Shravan

- Can talk to Cathy about having a meeting where she covers some of the SWC topics, and the SWC chairs attend as guests to answer questions
- Planning [lab olympics](#) for August?
 - Invite faculty to get people excused from lab for the day
 - Do a mix of competitive things
 - Silly games (paper planes competition, Tug of War, three-leg race, egg race)
 - Non-physical (Cooking/baking competition, rubix cubes, giant chess board)
 - Martin Center in champaign (DDR)
 - Trivia
 - Arts & crafts?

IV. Event Calendar

Start event updates:

- a. Climate Committee
 - Student involvement in mass emails (poor reception for tragedy statement)
 - Greg receptive to criticism
 - Working on sanction system → draft document with Greg is in the works – by next week?
 - Climate survey comparison with 2018 survey results once available – by end of May?
 - Concerns regarding actual availability of mental health services for students was addressed
 - More accessibility for students
 - Tell faculty about resources too, and put onus on them
 - Having resources in the department instead of sending students to counseling center
 - Possible group therapy for chemistry students with a certified therapist from counseling center
 - Self love seminar / workshop?
 - WCC stress management event via McKinley
 - Free virtual therapy via Student insurance
- b. Diversity Committee
 - St Elmo Brady Post Doc symposium candidates selected
- c. DCGSAC
 - Meeting tomorrow
- d. ICA
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- e. JST
 - Safety Week – Monday, June 5th - Friday, June 9th
 - Will include coffee social/meet and greet with JST, waste facility tour, interactive safety demonstrations by Division of Research Safety (DRS) professionals, fire extinguisher

training, and BBQ with DCGSAC

- f. OiC
 - Training for faculty and students (especially for trans students)
 - Planning event for September for CU Pride
- g. SACNAS
 - Latinas in STEM (with WCC)
 - April 28th at 12 pm at the Office of the Vice Chancellor for DEI
 - Lunch provided! Sign ups available soon.
 - 3 panelists - all Latina PhD scientists
- h. WCC
 - Uncorked event today
 - Apr22 Earth Day Hike to Kickapoo
- i. YCC
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- j. GEO
 - Contract signed for TAs – Party Apr21
 - Campus Labor Coalition Panel this Fri
 - Hoping to plan workshop for POC students in GEO
- k. NOBCCChE
 - E-board nomination form live. Nominations due on May 4th
- l. ETC
 - Great turnout at Middle School demos last month

V. Summer Lecture Series

- Any new ideas? Should we just try to go forward with the ACS Kickstarter Workshop?
 - Has to be a two day event – Fri/Sat so it is only one day off of work
 - Fully covered by department (4k)
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VI. Meeting with Cathy - Department Initiatives Focus Group

- First meeting of the year was to be held in the end of March (Cathy has very busy semester)
 - This has been changed until after town hall (end of May)
- First town hall of the year will be on May 15th in Chem Annex 1024
 - Poll will be send out to student population for what topics they would like Cathy to discuss
 - Cathy should be able to see/summarize LAS climate survey results

VII. Future initiatives

- [Poll](#) has been created and should be sent out to the department by the end of this week (Thank you to Catherine and Joenisse for this!)
 - Any changes that people think need to be made before sending out?
 - [Use this link to provide edits](#)

VIII. Miscellaneous and Closing

- Any other thoughts or comments?
 - Proposing new prelim rule: requiring faculty to wait 5-10 minutes into the prelim presentation before asking questions
 - Goal: allow students to collect their thoughts and gain some momentum before being derailed by questions on the first slide
- Next meeting: **RAL419, May 10th** (Wednesday) at **4:30** - 5:30 PM
 - Open meeting → We should advertise this as a pre-town hall meeting
 - We might want a post-town hall meeting instead?
 - Townhall is May15th - end poll for students on May 5th (Friday at 5PM) so Cathy has time to prepare