

Minutes for the quarterly PGSO meeting on June 4, 2014

Those of us who gathered in the arctic climate of Beecher 101 for PGSO yearly elections witnessed a(n?) historic event -- the LONGEST elections of all time. There was passion, intrigue, drama, romance (not really), voting, emotionally moving speeches, crushing losses, and sweet sweet victory. Thank you to all who participated, and to those who couldn't make it, we missed you but felt your spirits with us as we joked about voting you onto committees entirely against your will.

Without further ado, the results of the 2014 election:

President: Carlos

Treasurer: Karen

Secretary: Yours truly (*Eliza –ed.*)

Committees

Social Committee: Steve G., Stephanie, Tom; 1st year

Professional Development: Liz, Peter, Rebecca; 1st year

Travel & Research: 6 awesome people whose names I didn't write down; 2 1st years (cog and social, I believe)

Orientation/Mentorship Program: Kelly

Diversity: Carlos, Rebecca, Jason

Academic Life: Heather, Andrea, Courtney; 1st year

Psych Fest: Heather

(Non-Permanent Committee) **Professional Development Speaker Series:** Lauren H., Ivo, Dominic, Geoff

(Non-Permanent Committee) **Non-Academic Speaker Series:** Anam, Stephanie, Rebecca

Congratulations to all committee members and officers! It's going to be a great year!

As for other issues that came up, a brief summary:

-There was talk of creating a Vice Presidential role to alleviate some of the duties of being El Presidente. The motion was ultimately voted down, but by a narrow margin with a considerable amount of indecision from many voters, so the issue probably ought to be addressed in the future.

-There were some concerns that Academic Life has lost its path and purpose (so sad!), but I believe through discussion and some brainstorming, new life was breathed into the committee (so happy!) and hopefully I speak for everyone when I say we are excited to see what new things the committee chooses to tackle in the upcoming year.

-Psych Fest is called something else. We should all know the new name, but we don't. HOWEVER – we should all be prepared to step-up and help Heather plan the conference when and if the need arises!

-There was a concern about the level of freedom allowed to grad students helping to plan the Non-Academic Speaker Series. The long and short answer: we have no idea how it will really shake out but are happy to have a passionate committee to represent the grad-student perspective in picking speakers.

-New President Carlos has taken his first action as President by encouraging any and all folks who have opinions on the above matters to please feel free to contact him with your ideas! I believe he followed this announcement with the following

threat, “Or I can come to you. I know where you live...” And thus, a new era begins.

Unofficial roles:

- Kasey van Hedger has access to alumni info and thus will serve as a consultant for the non-academic speaker series
- Lauren Howard has a relationship with The Woodward, and ideas about non-academic job markets, and is also happy to chip in with that speaker series

Final Announcements:

- Summer is a great transitional time for old committee members and officers to meet with the fresh blood, er, I mean, people, and pass on their sage wisdom and advice.

And finally, I leave you with this thought: PGSO is like Tinkerbell. If you don’t believe in it, it will die.
(So thanks for believin', y'all!)

Motion to end this email?

Seconded!

<3 Eliza