

SCISOC SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Date: September 17, 2024

Time: 6pm

Location: Essex Hall 109 (in person)

▶ **Attendance and Call to Order at __6:01pm__.**

Marco, reanna, bronte, frank, niksha, kate, lauren, andrew, michael, reem, renil, alejandra, maggie, samantha, olivia K, olivia W, giulia, Katerina, Mia, Andrew, seeret, angelina, tejas, marco o, madleen, laura, sofia, adam, kaitlin, matteo, lindsey, grace, silvia, daniella, jana, filip, hayley

▶ **Approval of Current Meeting Agenda? y/n**

▶ **Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes? y/n**

▶ **Introduction**

▶ **Discussion Items**

a. Introductions

b. Robert's Rules (Matteo)

a. Can be found on back of name cards

c. Welcome Week Recap/Feedback (Renil)

a. Renil – Starting with We Love Science Day, good turnout, any feedback?

b. Alejandra – grad chem club was asking about speaker.

c. Renil – next year we will get more cookies, train people on tie dye, and have a speaker for music.

d. Renil – Next, Sunset Social went well, anything we should do differently?

e. Lindsey – It would have been nice to see more council members at the welcome week celebration, some sci squad volunteers came, next year can add this to list of mandatory events to attend during welcome week.

f. Alejandra – we should make sure we have gluten free options going forward at our events.

d. MySci Mentorship Updates (Sofia)

- a. Sofia – as of this morning, 75 mentees and 54 mentors have signed up, and the deadline is October 4th. Making changes to mentor training.
- b. Nishanth – we have more mentees than mentors, would be best if everyone on the council could sign up.
- c. Jana – do we know breakdown for programs of mentees.
- d. Nishanth – everyone states their program + future goals, people are matched up based on this. Exact ratios are not determined yet. Can reach out to departmental clubs to advertise. Pretty informal, not a big time commitment. Mentee will contact you when they need you.

e. Office Hours Starting (Renil)

- a. Renil – started this week, if the office is locked when you get there text an executive. If it isn't unlocked after 15 minutes you can leave. Let the executives know if anyone doesn't show up when they are supposed to. Don't leave office unattended.
- b. Jana – we should advertise office hours on Instagram – help with homework based on who is there!

f. Council/Societies Bonding (Renil)

- a. Renil – talked to the teams we are going up against for hockey game (odette, engsoc, fhass) and they wanted a bonding night. We will go to the goat in Walkerville next Thursday night. Can go to other places later in the night.

g. Send in T-shirt Pictures (Maggie)

- a. Maggie – sent everyone an email asking for meet the team pictures. Please send Maggie a picture of you wearing the 2024 scisoc shirt for the website and Instagram. Can send it to Maggie's school email or send it on slack.
- b. Maggie – question form for meet the team will be coming.

h. UWSA Sponsorship (Renil)

- a. Renil – uwsa needs more tickets sold for swalee, if we sponsor them 1000\$, they will give us 1000\$ back for gala and 50 free tickets for science. We can give them to the council and other science students.
- b. Jana – how will we give them away?

- c. Renil – use spin wheel. We will give them away to only science students. We don't lose anything because we get all of the money back for the gala, and we get free tickets for science students.
- d. Lindsey – could we give them out at clubs day? Are we doing clubs day?
- e. Renil - good idea and yes, we will do clubs day.
- f. Matteo – Motions to give 1000\$ to UWSA and get 50 tickets.
- g. Renil – seconds this motion.
- h. Motion passes
- i. Choosing Charity of the Year (Adam)**
 - a. Adam – every year we sponsor charity. It is important that we choose one soon so we can get started with fundraising.
 - b. Adam – external committee has chosen the following charities:
 - i. United Way (Sarah Mcnorton suggested this) works to eliminate childhood poverty (supports children in poverty until they have a stable job).
 - ii. Ronald McDonald House Windsor – Provides rooms to families with children in the hospital so that families can be close by during the child's hospital stay. Has 5 private rooms families can stay in for 10\$ each night, never turned away even if they can't pay. A lot of fundraising goes towards having house at Windsor met when families cannot pay. Hold various events for families in these situations.
 - iii. Downtown mission – provides food, clothing, water, addiction recovery and employment support to homeless people.
 - iv. Positive pathways – help people with sexually transmitted diseases (transmitted by blood), provide people with substance addictions clean materials to overcome addiction safely, support LGBTQ+ & minorities with these diseases.
 - v. Noah's House – focuses on youth mental health. Hold events and provide free-low-cost counseling. Provide services for marginalized communities.

- vi. Transition to Betterness – provide vital tools for education & healthcare un underserved communities.

Adam – please vote by Friday

j. Wellness stuff (Lindsey)

- a. Lindsey – the wellness corner will start next week, extra job in office hours (lead by example, don't take more snacks than you are supposed to) - there will be a limit to the number of snacks that can be taken. Very expensive to maintain when limit is abused. We will get a Keurig for the wellness corner, please also do not abuse this. Any suggestions?
- b. Jana - is there a different coffee machine we can get? Maybe a more standard machine because coffee grinds will be less expensive than pods.
- c. Lindsey – we worry about the cleanliness of a standard coffee machine.
- d. Jana – I have a Hamilton Beach coffee machine at home, coffee pads are used for these, this would be less expensive.
- e. Lindsey – can buy Keurig pods in bulk at Costco. I will look into other less expensive options and ensure all options are environmentally friendly.
- f. Sofia – what health and safety aspects come along with this?
- g. Lindsey – same as the kettle, unplug it when it is not in use.
- h. Lauren – Keurig is a good idea because we can have a variety of different Keurig pods (hot chocolate, tea etc). This way we can accommodate people who do not like coffee.
- i. Adam – the Keurig is less accessible than snacks because coffee has to be physically made. Probably don't have to worry about it being abused as much as the snacks.
- j. Lindsey – any snack requests?
- k. Nishanth – ritz crackers w cheese.
- l. Jana – rice Krispy alternative without gelatine
- m. Seeret & sofia – welches
- n. Lindsey – does anyone have any opinions on past wellness events or ideas for first wellness event. Maybe donuts in the sci lounge to start of the year, then something more elaborate later in the year.

- o. Adam – shower bombs and lotions were a big hit last year, more unique than free food. - spa themed!
- p. Lindsey – can always message me about snacks/events!
- q. Adam - couch in the 2nd floor office is broken, could we budget in getting a new couch?
- r. Michael – physics club has a couch they don't use, can bring this if they can find this, it is a love seat.
- s. Jana – JULL club is renovating their resource room, if scisoc finds a good place for this stuff let Jull club know.
- t. Lindsey – what if we re-decorate the office?
- u. Adam – maybe can frame past logos/shirts.
- v. Lauren – we could have all council sign the shirt before we hang it!
- w. Seeret – Dr. Cavallo said we cannot permanently change anything to the walls (no nails, no paint)
- x. Alejandra – talked to uwsa, they have a lot of leftover furniture, can make a new couch happen.
- y. Lindsey – how much did neon sign cost, maybe we can put another one in the office.
- z. Renil – we were not allowed to put it in the office, we had to put it in the lounge. Maybe if we get a replica we can keep it in the office.
- aa. Nishanth – can we get chairs from uwsa as well, replace our chairs maybe with a nicer color.
- bb. Alejandra – can look on Facebook marketplace for couch & chairs.
- cc. Jana – maybe a wellness day can help decorate the office 2nd floor.
- dd. Lindsey – can get committee to plan this as a task as a committee.

▶ **Question Period**

▶ **Departmental and Committee Reports**

- The following are the departments that make up UWin Science (and that you all represent ☺). In future meetings, we'll ask for a quick report of any updates from your dept.

- Arts and Sciences
- Integrative Bio
- Biomed
- Premed society – casper event friday 2pm
- Forensics
- Economics
- Earth and Environmental Sci*
- Chem and Biochem*
- Math and Stats
- Physics*
- General Science

* Represents positions that still need to be filled/finalized due to ties or no candidates

► **New Business**

- Renil – election post is coming out next week – need first year reps, enviro rep, econ rep, math/stats, 2 ibio, forensics. If anyone has friends who want to run, spread the word.
- Nishanth – do we have to run elections through uwsa?
- Renil – for integrity we must, unless everyone wants to do it the old way, but it is less secure and confidential.
- Lindsey – with rep elections, much less people vote so it is easier to do this type of election internally. For VP elections it is best to stick to UWSA election due to large volume of votes.
- Nishanth – should be fine to do bi election internally.
- Jana – were changes to election policy officially made yet? I would like it if we could do this before the bielection. Anyone at AGM, did we approve anything election related? If not, we can make an electronic vote.
- Renil – could do an emergency vote. In terms of exec elections, it is a conflict of interest due to current executives running for positions again, which is why we go through UWSA.
- Lindsey – did rep elections on her own as CRO.
- Jana – any ideas on how to increase engagement?
- Nishanth – class talk maybe, don't have much engagement with first and second years and class talk could improve this.
- Sofia – our social media & website are upgraded this year – will help with engagement
- Michael – engagement on Instagram videos is higher than photos (better to do reels reels, push more reels)
- Lindsey – pre-med society did something similar to this, made a year recap to advertise elections/applications - can do this for scisoc as well, increased volume of applications for pre-med society by a lot. Do this on top of normal election posts.
- Jana – if you vote, there is a chance you can get a swalee ticket/free cookie!
- Maggie – if anyone has any fun scisoc videos send them to Mia or Maggie.

- Jana - can we make story posts about meeting times + minutes being posted to spread awareness of this to all science students.
- ▶ **Meeting Adjournment at __6:54pm__.**

Action Items

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