

BSC Meeting				
1/23/2018		BSRB 154		
President:	Aaron van Loon & Chantle Edillor	Secretary/Note taker:	Alex Chubick	Treasurer: Jennifer Tribble
Members Present:	Kathryn Burch (Bioinformatics; Primary), Tyler McCraney (EEB; Primary), Christian Mason (Biomath; Primary), Kaley Woods (PBM; Primary), Catharine Krebs (Human Genetics; Primary), Geoff Provonost (MBIDP; Primary), Thanh Pham (MCIP; Primary), Brian Truang (MMP; Primary), May Bhtraratana (Molecular Toxicology; Alternate), Samantha Chiang (Oral Biology; Primary), Gabriela Sendek (IBP; Primary), Kimberly Hwang (IBP; Alternate), Sophie Mako Tanaka (Psychology; Primary), Aaron van Loon (Internal President), Chantle Edillor (External President), Jennifer Tribble (Treasurer), Alex Chubick (Secretary), Lara Bideyan (Career Liaison)			
	AGENDA:			
	1. Graduate Writing Center Presentation by Marilyn Gray 2. GSA Update 3. UC Student-Workers Union (UAW 2865) Presentation by Catharine Krebs 4. Review of Back to School Party 5. Budget Review/Update 6. Requisitions			
Topic 1	Call to Order			
Procedural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron van Loon (Internal President) calls meeting to order at 5:10 PM 			
Topic 2	Graduate Writing Center Presentation			
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> Marilyn Gray the director of the UCLA Graduate Writing Center requested to speak with the BSC to provide information on the Graduate Writing Center and the proposal that is being presented to the GSA to increase the Graduate Writing Center's funds. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marilyn informed the BSC about the purpose of the Graduate Writing Center: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hosting workshops and programs ▪ Organizing independent writing groups ▪ Providing free writing consultation appointments ○ Marilyn also informed the BSC about the proposal that is being presented to the GSA for increased funding for the Graduate Writing Center: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students currently pay a fee (\$5.75) at the beginning of every quarter that funds the Graduate Writing Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This fee is never really a concern to BSC constituents because the fee is indirectly paid for but is more of a concern to graduate students who have to pay for the fee themselves. ▪ The proposal suggests increasing the fee paid by students to increase the Graduate Writing Center's funding. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of increasing funds is the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marilyn is currently the only professional staff employed by the Graduate Writing Center and with increased funds the Graduate Writing Center would be able to hire more staff and support. An example of a position that could be made by increased funding is an Assistant Director. ○ Increased funding would also allow the Graduate Writing Center to improve the services that it offers to graduate students. With increased funding the Graduate Writing Center plans to follow a writing fellows model that ensures that staff and faculty would be from all departments so every graduate department is represented and able to get help when it is needed. The increased funding would also allow the Graduate Writing Center to have multiple locations making it more accessible to graduate students. ○ The proposal for increased funding is also being suggested throughout the entire UC system 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Although the BSC considers the Graduate Writing Center a valuable resource our current concern is whether or not increased funding will also increase the number of students who use this resource and participate in the events hosted by the Graduate Writing Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marilyn estimated that roughly 10% of graduate student use the resources provided by the Graduate Writing Center. This is an average taken from multiple Graduate Writing Programs. • The Graduate Writing Center is still trying to compile data from a survey that was sent out last year. The survey will hopefully help the Graduate Writing Center decide what resources the students need. This data will be published once analysis is complete. • It was proposed that if funds were increased that some of the funds could be used to increase publicity to improve student participation. • It was also proposed that if funds were increased that some of the funds could go to the workshops hosted by the Graduate Writing Center. Many of the BSC members who have attended these workshops feel that the workshops are one of the most valuable resources provided by the Graduate Writing Center. ▪ The proposal will be presented tomorrow (1/28/2018) at the GSA Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal will be presented at the forum but discussion on whether or not to increase funding will occur over the quarter with the final decision being made at a later date. • The GSA Representatives will report back with more information at the next BSC meeting. • Once the BSC has more information we will decide whether or not to support increasing the fee charge. This decision will be made in the February BSC meeting. ▪ If students are not getting information about the Graduate Writing Center or have any question about the Graduate Writing Center then they can contact Marilyn Gray.
Topic 3	GSA Update
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> Christian Mason and Catharine Krebs, two of the GSA Representatives, provided the BSC with updates from the GSA Elections Board Committee. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A vote was made and passed to extend the time period that the elections are held. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The reason for extending the time period is that the GSA wants to improve the election process for the Board Committee. The previous year there were few individuals who ran for positions and not much time was given to student to vote for representatives. With the extend time period the GSA hope to correct these issues. ○ More information was provided about the proposal being present by the Graduate Writing Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Graduate Writing Center is currently proposing that the fee either be increased by \$5.75 or \$9.00. The higher increase will help fund more STEM workshops. ▪ As mentioned in Topic #2 the GSA Representatives will provide more information in the next BSC meeting after the Graduate Writing Center has presented to the GSA.
Topic 4	UC Student-Workers Union (UAW 2865) Presentation
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> Catharine Krebs one the BSC Representatives is also a member of the UC Student-Workers Union (UAW 2865) Organizer Committee and requested to speak with the BSC to provide information about the UC Student-Workers Union and promote Union recruitment. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catharine is currently the only individual from the Graduate Program in Biosciences that is part of the UC Student-Workers Union's Organizer Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The UC Student-Workers Union needs more representatives from the programs that the BSC represents and it is looking for leadership and help within our departments. ▪ Currently, all schools in the UC system have less than 50% membership in the Student-Workers Union <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UC Student-Workers Union is currently at 48% membership and is looking to increase its membership • It is vital for the UC Student-Workers Union to build upon its membership because it allows the UC Student-Workers Union to negotiate for a better

	<p>contract.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Postdoctoral Researchers Union is currently at 95% membership and this union is able to negotiate great contracts and they set an example of the demands that the UC Student-Workers Union can ask for. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The UC Student-Workers Union is currently in the process of negotiating a new contract. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The contract last for 4 years. The last contract was negotiated for in 2014 and will end at the end of July 2018. ▪ Initial demands have currently been submitted and ratified but a final version of the demands will be approved and sent out to union members by March of 2018. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial demands include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Better TA to student ratios ○ Legal support for individuals who have experienced sexual harassment ○ A set payment schedule ○ Affordable housing ○ Reasonable Health Care ○ Establish UC as a Sanctuary Campus ○ Improved child care/parental rights ▪ Hopefully an agreement on the UC Student-Workers Union's demands will be made over the summer but if an agreement can't be made then an impasse occurs which could result in a strike ○ The BSC agreed that it is important to get information about the UC Student-Workers Union sent out to our constituents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information about the UC Student-Workers Union is something that the departments won't openly send out but it is important that we keep our constituents informed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When sending out this information it is important to let our constituents know where the information is coming from and make the information as clear as possible. • We can keep our constituents informed but it will ultimately be their decision if they want to be a member of the UC Student-Workers Union. ▪ By sharing this information with our constituents we can also do a better job of making sure that their needs are being met in the demands being made by the UC Student-Workers Union. ▪ Catharine will send information about the UC Student-Workers Union and the negotiations that are going on to BSC representatives so they can share this information with their constituents. ○ If there are any questions about the UC Student-Workers Union or if anyone is looking to be more involved with the UC Student-Workers Union they can contact Catharine Krebs.
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Note: More information on the UC Student-Workers Union (UAW 2865) can be found in the meeting minutes from October 2, 2017.

Topic 5	Review of Back to School Party		
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> The BSC held its Winter Quarter Event (Back to School Party) on January 19, 2018. The BSC wanted to review how the party went and how our constituents received it. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The budget (\$1139.17) for the Back to School Party was very accurate and allowed for an appropriate amount of food and beverages for all the constituents that attended the event. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The vegetarian option provided at the party was also greatly appreciated and we were able to budget appropriately enough to provide this option. ○ There was a very high attendance at the Back to School Party (~60 people) and the event was well received by the constituents who were present. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The BSC would like to figure out a way to accurately track the number of people that attend BSC events. Currently, we don't have an efficient method to track attendance but this could be a goal for the BSC in the future. ○ One unfortunate note to make about the party is that we were informed that a table is missing from Boyer 159/patio. It is possible that the table went missing at a different time but the BSC will make sure that the table wasn't moved to a different location during the Back to School Party. 		
Topic 6	Budget Review/Update		
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> Before the meeting Jen sent out the most recent budget to the department representatives for them to review and bring up any issues or concerns that had pertaining to the budget. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The current balance of the general budget is ~\$6000.00 and through the current academic year we have used ~\$2000.00 from the general fund. From last year's budget it is estimated that we will spend ~\$4300.00 in the remaining academic year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At the end of the academic year we plan to carry over \$1000.00 to add to next year's budget. ▪ We also estimate that the BSC Spring Quarter Event (End of the Year Party) will cost ~\$2500.00 and we will budget accordingly. ○ Overall, the general budget and each department's budget are looking fine and there is still money in the budget that is available for the BSC to use. 	
Topic 7	Requisitions	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaley Woods, General Fund: Reimbursement; \$163.15 for wine and non-alcoholic beverages for BSC Back to School Party • Christian Mason, Biomathematics: Reimbursement; \$16.95 for Ready Refresh Water Account Payment • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to approve requisitions made by Aaron van Loon • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval of requisitions • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to end meeting made by Catharine Krebs • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval to bring meeting to an end at 6:08 PM 	