Dean’s Council Meeting (May 19, 2020)
5:00 - 5:45 pm

Agenda:
● Introductions
● Program representative updates
● Turnover
● Meytal Chernoff and Alex Smith - Treasury update
● Caroline (painting event update)
● Katie and Marie - GRIT representatives
● Jin and Martin - Coffee hour (virtual?)
● Brittany and Sam - Cultural Co-Chairs
● Alexis Monical and Nikita Mehta - Grad Council BSD Representatives
● Alexis Thomas - Sports
● Devin Harrison - Travel Fund
● Charlie Lang - Equipment Library
● Any other events or ideas to spend money (department-specific)?

Minutes:

Melissa - Vicky thanks everyone who has responded to request for feedback on survey; please get back to her through tomorrow mid-day if you have additional comments. They have been good comments so far!

Some discussion of future meeting times - option to pick between noon and evening times? In future, there will be a scheduling poll

Program/cluster updates:
Darwin cluster - TGIF seminars are starting up again remotely.

Turnover:
Many reps aren’t coming to meetings - make sure that if a rep isn’t a part of Dean’s Council any more, contact chairs with a replacement or to find a replacement.
Kelsey: some programs haven’t been super responsive/passed down the reps position to newer members - we could do a sort of ad campaign to ask for replacements?
Meytal: any particular programs missing representation? They could be missing important information about, e.g., we changed funding rules last time…
Nikita: internal email first to the list to make sure that people who don’t want to be on DC any more can confirm or say that they want to stay on. Then we can pass around an advertisement

Treasury updates:
Updated the programs sheet with current funds situation for April. Should be up-to-date through last month. Not that many events in April (no surprise)
If you have a reimbursement form, please send it in!!

Paint night updates:
Yesterday got approval from risk management at the university to hand out bags of supplies. 69 responses to interest survey. Determined that it would be important to provide optional materials - 60% would not participate unless this option was available. Some people responded they would do it with another person. So plan to buy supplies for 100 people.
**Caroline Oldstone-Jackson can provide you with the safety regulations they had to follow in order to get approval to hand out materials!
Expect $1100 for total expenditures.
With $5 back from each person - down to maybe 600 of DC funds?
Option of two paint nights, painting different things.
Event itself = 150 flat fee.
--For supplies: canvas, solo cups, paint, paintbrushes, paper plate = palette, couple of snacks
Will order the supplies first, then schedule after sure of their arrival.
--Caroline will want a couple of people to help with assembling the bags - will work out a physical distancing way. Will probably be the day of the event.

Eventbrite for payments?
Meytal: Alex Smith has set up an account - reach out to her to figure out how to get remote payments set up.
Melissa on remote payments.

GRIT updates:
17 people signed up for LGBTQ team book club.
Ongoing thurs night movie series (5pm) + discussions (8pm)
& Every other week mental health check-ins
Remote invited speaker series run by URM team - first one happened last week. Discussion = a bit about the science, bit about career trajectory.
More casual than formal talk.

Cultural chair updates:
Newsletter of free streaming cultural events?? Second city has multiple events per week... lots of free concerts, plays, etc.
-Nikita: maybe we could fold these into a bi-weekly Dean’s Council (+ GRIT, etc.) events newsletter with everything that’s upcoming?
-Meytal: would be good to have one consolidated source rather than blitz of single emails only that get lost
-Sarita: maybe collect events up through a Sunday deadline, send an email the next day?
Grad Council - no updates right now

Coffee hour and sports updates/ - not present

Devin will be taking over travel fund award reviewing from Jenny. No travel award applications to review right now, not a surprise. -Melissa: no sense that people will be talking about re-opening travel awards any time soon. First priority is restarting research. -Nikita: will talk to Devin about virtual conference costs?

Other comments: -Victoria: Pritzker bought a subscription to Masterclass & have people sign up for slots or do group classes (cooking classes, etc.). Might be extensible to other programs/division? -Shared subscription for the whole program? Subscription is $15/month. -Looks like they bought access to a library - individual ‘checkouts’ of time slots for particular lessons, or group classes. -Brittany: this week MPhys sent around a recipe (youtube vids, etc.) and a bunch of people all cooked together. -Meytal: Bon Appetit weekly challenges? We could have people sign up for an interactive cooking event. Could use as a test run to see how many people might be interested if we did get access to a library of classes/videos.