

Interdepartmental Science Students Society

Fall 2023 Semi-Annual General Meeting

October 2nd, 2023

CCIS 1-150

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledge and traditions.

Attendance

Chairperson: Shreya

Minutes: Shweta

Members:

1. Call to Order at 6:12 PM

Meeting called to name/name/yes#/no#/abstain#

First: Huzaifah

Second: Christine

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA BELOW, AS WRITTEN.

- a. Motion to approve name/name/yes #/no #/abstain#
- b. First: Huzaifah
- c. Second: Dawood

4. Presentations

1. **State of the ISSS.** Presented by Alisha Banerji, President.

a. *Abstract:*

2. **President: Alisha**

- Mandate introduction.
- Provide and improve involvement

- Provide funding to COSSA Groups
- Foster growth and engage community and inclusive
- Have transparent communication
- Each executive has directors (includes councillors)
- Directors should reach out to VPs for any questions/concerns
- Pushing email for communication
- Have open directorships (web design, science week, internal, academic programming, etc.)
- Bi-elections have councillor slots to fill and need issuer
 - First year councillors, fourth year and international councillor
- Alisha's Portfolio: include internal events, wellness week,

3. Financial State of the ISSS. Presented by Charlayne, VP Administration and Finance.

- a. *Abstract:*
- b. Vp admin and finance
- c. Have reopened PD grants for those interested in research
- d. Scholarships available
- e. Goal for this year is to get more funding for scholarships and PD grants
- f. Would like to relocate and find more storage space
- g. Operations budget: over break, expenditure around 46K. Over the year, expenditures up to 46K.
- h. Allocate funding between 6 portfolios
- i. Starting year off with 47K

4. VP Programming: Presented by Dawood

- a. Gets big share of budgets that is allocated to events
- b. This year's carnival went well with about 300 expected turnout. About 4K budget
- c. Will be doing trivia night for more diversity in field of science
- d. Science week (past events include trivia, cooking night, etc). Want more creative and competitive events.
- e. Prizes and food takes up a chunk of budget
- f. Wellness week: physical events for physical wellbeing
- g. Discord event is new: want low budget events from budget being saved from other events.
- h. Director for ISSS rewards where: lots of people redeemed prizes.

5. VP Academic: Presented by Christene

- a. Want to focus on academic advocacy and address student concerns, professor issues.

- b. Started mini study groups with 500 application for students wanting to join
- c. New mentor application in January with new study groups starting in 2024
- d. PD Conferences for enhancing leadership on greater campus
- e. IAN is instructor appreciation night and will take nominations for professors and TAs in November
- f. IAN take 56% of portfolio but provides networking opportunities
- g. Promoting Eureka for publishing student works
- h. Research symposium held

6. VP Community: Presented by Huzaifah

- a. Events offer promotional material for clubs.
- b. Table booking in PCL lounge (across from remedy) for clubs events.
- c. Getting more utilization out of popcorn machine this year
- d. Funding with autofunding and COSSA grants: interest groups
- e. autofunding : \$461.54
- f. Interest groups can apply for up to \$461.54. Interdepartmental associations can apply up to \$1000
- g. Cossa Grants: 2 subcategories
- h. Resources grant = \$250
- i. Autofunding release date = second week of october
- j. Round 1 of granting for events between october
- k. Round 2 in winter semester
- l. Round 3 April 28 2024 to november 12th 2024, release date is march 2024.
- m. Cossa coffee meets: would like to meet and hear what they have to say
- n. Future improvements: implement google calendar

7. VP Services: Presented by Nick

- a. Goals : to improve reach and spread word about the ISSS club. Representing all science students
- b. Under services: lockers, handbook, mentorship
- c. Director Micah noticed lockers (ccis and sab and cab) are managed by ISSS, nominal fee is very small
- d. Issues found are unpaid occupants
- e. Will consider donating locker items
- f. Remains from lockers that are unoccupied
- g. Lockers contracts now are digital
- h. Handbook directors designed planner with tips and information about ISSS, faculty of science for incoming and continuing students for planning
- i. Amount of handbooks were increased this year
- j. Future goal is to release winter handbooks due to the great success

- k. Buyer and seller contracts are digitized
- l. Mentorship: new for this year is ISSS x Sciment event
- m. Lack of director transition documents: one proposal for ISSS is to task executives with making transition documents
- n. This would help transitioning executive with information that could help them and their directors
- o. Future directions: winter handbooks and year long UBS

5. Question Period

- 1. Written Questions Received
- 2. Open Question Period
 - Questions about if ISSS emails are checked.
 - Emails will be sent from VP admin email

6. General Orders

- 1. MOVE APPROVE ALL PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ISSS CONSTITUTION
 - a. See.
 - b. Motion to approve
 - i. First:
 - ii. Second:

7. Discussion Items

[All members present are encouraged to ask questions about past accomplishments, present operations and future plans of the ISSS, the state of the Faculty, or any other matter relevant to the purview of the ISSS.]

8. Information Items

- 1.

9. Cossa Meeting

Meeting called to order AT 0:00pm: name/name/yes/no/abstain

First:

Second:

Melissa Presentation:

10. Adjournment

MOVE TO ADJOURN AT 6:39pm: name/name/yes/no/abstain

First: Shreya

Second: Shweta