

**School of Computer Science
Council Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday January 17th, 2023

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Microsoft Teams

Present –

Faculty: N. Bruce, D. Calvert, R. Chaturvedi, R. Dara, D. Flatla, D. Gillis, M. Gong (Director), G. Grewal, S. Kremer, X. Lin, D. Nikitenko, C. Obimbo, J. Sawada, S. Scott, F. Song, D. Stacey, F. Wang, M. Wirth;

Staff: S. Brennan, D. Byart, J. DeFreitas (recording secretary), C. Hosker, J. Hughes, K. Johnston, G. Klotz, J. Lange, R. Moroz, D. Rea, T. Waite;

Student Representatives: A. Kohut, T. Trinh;

Guests: S. Abrar, O. Biancucci, R. Choudhary, S. Hashmi, R. Mathur;

Regrets –

Faculty: L. Antonie, A. Dehghantanha, A. Hamilton-Wright, H. Khan, P. Matsakis, J. McCuaig, M. Wineberg, Y. Yan;

Staff: P. Patel;

Student Representatives: none;

1. Approval of Agenda for January 17th, 2023

Motion: That the agenda for January 17th, 2023, with added presentations by student club leaders, be approved.

(R. Dara, R. Chaturvedi)

In Favour: All. Abstentions: None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Student Clubs Presentation (Appendix A and B)

T. Trinh (SOCIS), O. Biancucci (GWiCS) and S. Abrar (GryphHacks) presented upcoming events for their clubs.

SOCIS events: Guelph Programming Competition on February 3rd at 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Tech Start-up Panel/Networking Event on February 25th at 2:00 - 7:00 PM

GWiCS events: Water colour night January 19th, 5-7pm

Go Code Girl February 18th

GryphHacks events: Main Hackathon event in May TBA

M. Gong offered to assist with sharing the event information and inquiring about support at the College and University level for the events.

2. Announcements

- Faculty is reminded to pick up their mail.
- USW members will have a ratification meeting tomorrow between 11:30-1:45 so the office will be closed during the period.
- Faculty members hiring students outside of SoCS need to notify help@socs to set up e-access on their student cards.
- Dr. Ted Swart, former faculty member, passed away January 14th, 2023

3. Approval of Minutes from December 20th, 2022

Motion: That the minutes from December 20th, 2022 be approved.

(N. Bruce, D. Gillis)

In Favour: All. Abstentions: None. **MOTION PASSED**

4. Minglun Gong

Results of Hiring Area Survey (Appendix C, D)

M. Gong thanked participants and shared the results from the hiring area survey and the proposal to include the data in the Implementation Plan for the CPR. The top ranked areas were human computer interaction, machine learning, computer graphics, computer vision, AI, web information retrieval and programming language and visualization. He added that the survey comments will be considered when it is time to hire a new faculty member.

Motion: The School approves the Implementation Plan as our response to the Cyclical Program Review (S. Scott, D. Gillis).

In favour (15): N. Bruce, D. Calvert, R. Chaturvedi, R. Dara, D. Gillis, G. Grewal, X. Lin, D. Nikitenko, C. Obimbo, J. Sawada, S. Scott, F. Song, D. Stacey, F. Wang, M. Wirth;

Abstentions (0): None

Against (0): None. **MOTION PASSED**

Updates on Space Planning Discussion

M. Gong recapped from previous meetings the plans for building either an extension on Engineering building or perhaps a new building at Gordon and South Ring Rd. He reported on

his meeting with Shane Danis (Acting Manager, Space and Capital Planning) and Brandon Raco (Sustainability Manager), which focused on SoCS' needs. He explained to them the existing issues including managing teaching labs in THRN, and the lack of research spaces. Ideally, to solve SOCS space issues, he proposed a revisit to the original plan of an extension wing on Reynolds.

M.Gong conveyed that the two managers inquired if sharing space in a renovated JD MacLachlan would be helpful and M. Gong considered that would be an improvement over sharing with Engineering, with the added benefit of being next door. He called for comments on this topic.

D. Rea asked in chat if there was enough space and M.Gong relayed he emphasized that SOCS would need more than 50% of JD since our program is designated to grow by 50%.

Discussion took place about the pros and cons of using JD MCLN for additional space.

Updates from Dean's Council Meeting on January 16th

M. Gong provided the update from R. Zytner that the Provost has received pressure from the Board of Governors to cut programs that are under-utilized or losing money, because of the budget deficit.

M. Gong was optimistic for SOCS since our 2 Programs are experiencing healthy growth. R. Zytner mentioned the previous Program Priority Process (PPP) was considered painful and there is no plan to repeat it.

M. Gong reminded that MFA for Students is due soon for off-campus access. Students should contact Rome for setting up MFA.

M. Gong reported updates from D. Thomas, ADA, who announced a study to track the progress and performance of 1st year Chemistry students compared to their admission average. M. Gong suggested the study also compare the performance of international students as performance gap has been observed by SoCS instructors. The data will assist in recruiting.

There was another study revealed at the Dean's Council meeting and this was on the Impact of AI and ChatGPT on Academic Integrity, with Stefan Kremer participating. This is of importance to SOCS as we are working and researching this technology.

M. Gong reminded that offering courses in formats other than fully in-person or hyflex requires pedagogy justification. M. Gong noted that two SOCS members have submitted requests for blended teaching formats with strong justifications and have been supported.

M. Gong briefed from M. Cojocaru, ADR, that Chemistry is organizing a Distinguished Lecture series and Math&Stats has resumed the Bio-Math seminar. He welcomed comments and suggestions about a SOCS lecture series to promote research from within our School as well as invite outside researchers to talk as well.

5. Any other business

No other business. Meeting adjourned at 2:12pm.