Table 1

	Name	Set	Guest?					
	Victor Van	CIT 2A						
	Justin Chau	CIT 2B						
	Matthew Banman	CST 4R						
	Eva Yu	CST 1B						
	Ryan Gakhar	CST 1B						
	Andrew Lockhart	CST 4G						
	Shane Spoor	COMP 6H						
	T Ratnayane	B.Tech 6D	y					
	Barry Allen	B.Tech 6D	y					
	Johnny Cage	B.Tech 6D	y					
	Callum Styan	B.Tech 6D						
	Greg Little	CST 1A						
	Ross McTague	B.Tech 8D						
	Jeff Poussard	B.Tech 8H						
	Cary Rockstead	B.Tech 8D	y					
	Garik Smith-Manchip	CST 4A						
	Sebastian Pelka	CST 4O						
	Rene Ye	CST 4B						
	Gary Szeto	CST 2E						
	Mike Han	CST 2A						
	Jackee Ma	CST 2D						
	Wilson Lau	CST 2B						
	Nadia Dobrianskaia	CST 3D						

School of Computing and Academic Studies
Set Rep Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 26, 2015

Chair: Nav Bhatti, Chair of the School of Computing and Academic Studies

Set Reps in Attendance:

Meeting Minutes: Amy Smith, Club Program Coordinator

1. **Meeting called to order**

   Nav calls the meeting to order at 5:37 pm and welcomes the first guest speaker.

2. **Guest Speakers**

   1.2.1   Effective Communication – Robyn Lougheed (15 min)

   BCITSA Advocate Robyn gives a power point presentation for the set reps regarding improving their communication skills. She discusses the different approaches to communication: passive, aggressive, and assertive. She discusses Dos and Don'ts of communication, as wells as what active listening entails. She explains the skill component of active listening, which includes awareness of body language, avoiding interrupting, and paraphrasing/clarifying what has been said. Robyn illustrates the 5 skills of Active listening: paraphrasing, clarifying, perception checking, empathizing, summarizing. She also discusses the topic of emotions in conflict and that resolving conflict positively can help strengthen relationships. Robyn explains the characteristics of healthy responses to conflict and how they can yield a desirable outcome. She also discusses unhealthy responses to conflict. She lists some ground rules for approaching a conflict, including remaining calm, using words instead of actions, avoiding accusations and generalizations. Robyn asks the set reps if they have any questions and gives some handouts.

3. **Old Business**

1. **1.** Option Lab allocation

Changes to come, and Nav will follow up.

2. Booking Council Chambers

Talk to Amy about if you're interested in booking this space.

2. Issues with Instructors

This will be discussed during open forum.

4. New Business

1. Guest Speakers

- Shebia Leung, BCIT Industry Liaison- Career Talks

Shebia discusses the opportunity to apply to the Plenty of Fish hackathon, where 20 students will be selected to enter this competition which involves designing an app for a wearable piece of technology. There will be cash prizes/ honorariums for participants.

Shebia discusses an opportunity to become a student blogger for BCIT, which includes compensation for weekly posts. She also discusses an upcoming Career Talk by IUGO mobile entertainment, including some BCIT grads.

- Alex Gunn, BCITSA Career Specialist

Alex introduces herself and provides her contact information and the SA careers website: agunn@bcitsa.ca bcitsa.ca/careers

She reviews the current services available for students, including workshops, job search tools, drop-in services, industry days, and more.

Q/C: A Set Rep asks if BCITSA Career Services is able to assist with co-op placement.

A: Alex replies that students should check with the Co-op department first for support. The BCITSA Career Services can support students in their search for a job by reviewing their resume, giving job search tips, offering workshops on interviewing skills, etc.

- FMA tax clinic

Ken from the FMA club discusses free tax processing appointments available to students and others who meet the eligibility requirements.

- SE6 outside the Telus Theatre (233)
- Every **Wednesday** from March 25th until April 22nd
- 3:00-5:30pm
- There is drop-in but register for a guaranteed spot

Register at: tinyurl.com/mnsj2qu or check their Facebook page.

**2.	LAN Party**

March 6th, 5:30 – 10:30 SE6 1st floor

A representative from the Games Development Club discusses the return of this bi-annual event, as well as the prizes, food, and tournaments that will be included. Pre-register at www.tinyurl.com/lanbcit.

**3.	Innovation Challenge**

Nav discusses this competition which involves submission of business venture ideas in order to win seed money for the idea.

**4.	Sun Run**

Join the BCIT Student Association Team for Sun Run this year!

Register before MARCH 19, Race Day: SUNDAY, April 19, 2015

Registration Info:

1. Go to: https://register.vancouversunrun.com/#/events/2015-vancouver-sun-run
2. Click on: "Join an Existing Team"
3. Sign up; Search "BCIT Student Association"

**5.	Open Forum**

Q/C: Office 360 not working with the my.bcit.ca accounts.

A: staff will look into this.

Q/C: access to labs has been a problem.

Q/C: Concerns of quality of learning in Codeigniter course/Midterm content.

A: there have been changes due to feedback on the test.

A: Dean comments that part of the issue is due to implementing new material, so be patient to see if this improves things.

- Set Reps comment that this was the case in previous semesters, with little improvement.

- Bonus portion of quizzes are the only way to get full marks.

- struggling with PHP, learning gap between terms 3 and 4.

- Concern on the assumption of MVC

Q/C: Set Reps raise a concern of not having an option lab.

A: Steve Eccles is looking into allocating territory. Essentially faculty knew that they were short an option lab this year, and this is being looked into. Dean mentions that there is a push for removing these spaces altogether, in favour of students using their own devices. Usage is being looked at for changes in the future.

Q/C: Set Reps comment on their appreciation of two instructors, and particular sets have really had success with instruction from these individuals.
Q/C: Med Hats assignment being given during exam week and this seems unfair.

Q/C: Ethics teacher has particular rules that seem juvenile to one Set Rep. There is feedback that the instructor doesn't relate to students in terms of computing.
A: Faculty comment that there is a spectrum of opinion and the instructor has the right to set the learning environment. Communication and clashes of ideologies with respect to learning will occur, and this should be discussed respectfully and compromise can be reached.

Q/C: Algorithms class is getting bad reviews.
- Faculty comments that this is a notoriously tough class.

Rob wants to discuss summer courses. Usually these classes were half full, but they have filled already. Feedback show that this is possibly due to fear that 3rd year is much harder. Rob has added another class for students who might want to choose this option. Faculty are trying to reduce the work load of Level 3 students. There needs to be enough students in order to staff an offering over the summer that would help reduce the regular semester load. He recommends that students not take on more than 2 courses for the summer.
Students who are close to graduating and are employed should contact Rob in order to be considered for credit through this employment in a process called PLAR.

Q/C: Compass cards for Terms 3 and 4 will be rolled out March or April for beta testing. More information will be revealed.

Q/C: Is there a reason that B.Tech doesn't have co-op

A: B.Tech was never structured to include co-op. It is very much option based and doing a co-op term would mean some students would be out of cycle with their chosen option. Co-op in general is being looked at.

4. **Next Meeting**

   March 26th in Telus Theatre.

5. **Meeting Adjournment**

   Nav adjourns the meeting at 6:50 pm.