

**Set Rep Meeting
School of Computing & Academic Studies
Meeting Minutes**

September 29th, 2016 – 5:30pm

Chair: Nav Bhatti

Staff: Amy Smith, Club Program Coordinator

Set Reps:

George Padua

Ryan Norfield

John Tee

Michaela (Jeeyoun)

Yoon

Morgan Ariss

Wyatt Ariss

Chloee Robertson

Nathaniel Thomas

Stephanie Cosacescu

Cody Clattenburg

Justin Heidema

Miranda Pattyn

Maks Fisli

Renato Montes

Cameron Warje

Sheldon Lynn

Swecha Arya

Mohammed Bajaman

Mahmood Aziz

John Dube

Spencer Pollock

Alan Deutscher

Daniel Baranowski

Sungwoo (Daniel) Kahng

Anthony Green

Jordan Lin

Matt Kearney

Luli Lowenstein

Tim Boyarski

Jupneet Johal

Jaison McDonald

Greg Little

Meuyot Khalsa

Jason Burns

Eva Yu

Delon Elliot

Lucas Chan

Marc Vouve

Guests Speakers:

Steve Eccles

Shebia Leung

Mirela Gutica

Alexandra Gunn

1. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:34

2. Set-rep Training – Amy Smith

Amy gives a training presentation to the set reps to inform them about their roles and explain how to embrace this role effectively. She discusses the purpose of the

set rep program, and that reps are resources and liaisons between their sets or classes and BCIT and the Student Association. She mentions the Distinguished Set Rep Award, the benefits of being a set rep, and the leadership role that students can develop during the year. Amy also explains the advocacy function of the Student Association and the set reps. She emphasizes that reps are not expected to solve all of the issues that come up for their peers, but rather direct students to the resources on campus and empower them to resolve issues themselves, as well as bring issues forward to Student Council.

3. Career Services Update – Alex Gunn

SA Career Specialist Alexandra Gunn introduces herself and explains that she covers the School of Computing and Academic Studies for career services. She shows the reps the online portal called Career Track, and explains this is the tool students use to view posted jobs and sign up for workshops and events, as well as book appointments with her. She can help with resume review building, networking, and interview skills, as well as many other questions. Contact Alexandra at: agunn@bcitsa.ca

4. Faculty & Staff Discussion

4.1. Introductions

4.2. Presentations

4.2.1. Steve Eccles

Steve Eccles introduces himself as the Dean of the School of Computing, and thanks the set reps for taking on their role. He speaks to the reputation and value of BCIT and how the community can learn and support its people. Steve discusses the importance of looking out for our peers, especially if you sense people are struggling. Being aware of the resources on campus can ensure that students can refer peers to the needed services.

Dean speaks to the growth happening in SOCAS and apologizes for the delay in construction of the CIT hub at the downtown campus. He also explains that Bethany Evans will be the new Associate Dean for the school.

4.2.2. Shebia Leung

Shebia introduces herself and explains her role at BCIT as divided between marketing and industry connection. She works on Open House, Big Info, program information sessions, and outreach. She also helps connect students with industry for their industry projects and organizes Tech Talks.

Shebia encourages students to give her feedback and meet with her to find out about events and resources.

4.2.3. Mirela Gutica – Women in Tech

Mirela introduces herself and speaks about her recent research grant to study engaging girls and women in computing and IT. This research is meant to explore engagement in learning for women and the obstacles that may be present. Mirela has student research assistants helping her with this project. The aim is to address the low representation of women in Computing and IT and to decrease attrition rates.

Findings include misconceptions about collaboration, and also that group collaboration is one of the most enjoyable aspects of their education. This dispels the myth that IT and Computing appeals to solitary people. Findings also indicate issues with harassment and bullying, and a lack of confidence due to lack of previous computing exposure.

How can set reps help? Clarification of plagiarism and collaboration would be helpful. Through becoming educated and being supportive and encouraging a sense of community. Being knowledgeable about resources on campus such as Bullying and Harassment advising is also helpful.

Q/A Students in my class are very quiet and there's little engagement between students and instructor.

A: Give it time and set an example.

Q/C: Reminder that there will be Harassment and Discrimination training and Be More Than a Bystander training for Set Reps

4.3. Discussion Period

Q/C: The Games Development club, eSports club, and Anime club are all up and

running this year, as well as many other clubs. Join a club!
<http://www.bcitsa.ca/campus-life/clubs/>

Q/C: Scheduling concerns: large breaks

A: Dean Eccles says this a common issue, and he will take it back to his team again. Reps offer suggestions on what to do during large breaks such as using the gym, or organize study groups.

Q/C: A rep expresses the need for a math lecture for CIT

A: peer tutoring in library or one-to-one, talk to teacher, Dean Eccles will discuss with faculty

Q/C laptops not charged from library

A call ahead- feedback will be given to library

Q/C why does Albert laugh?

A just a nervous laugh or personal idiosyncrasy

Q/C survival tips for a particular instructor requested

Q/C: new OS teacher is doing a poor job

A: specific examples are noted by Nav.

Q/C: frequent sick days from Chris and bad excuses

A: Nav takes note.

Q/C: Suggestion that cheating is heavily on the radar of a certain instructor

Q/C: Issues with vague assignment criteria for a particular instructor

Q/C: spelling and grammar issues on quizzes

Q/C: compliments to a particular instructor and Datacom option generally good

Q/C: Nav advises to speak directly to instructors about issues where possible, as they may make changes based on respectful feedback.

5. New Business

5.1. Nav's Objectives

Previous objectives include LAN party, CUSO conference, and planetarium

events.

Current objectives: Adding tech entry as set reps; student space that will be SA funded, and one objective chosen by the Set Reps. Nav asks that they start thinking of ideas and getting feedback from peers.

- One idea to install more outlets/ power bars on campus

5.1.1.

5.2. LAN PARTY WOO!

This event will be coming up late October. Stay tuned for date and games.

6. Next Meeting: October 27th, 2016

7. Meeting Adjournment

Nav adjourns the meeting at 7:58pm.