

Downtown Set Rep Meeting

November 26th, 2019

QDS Hackathon 20 - There is going to be a hackathon from January 10-12 that is funded in part by SAP. For more information, visit <https://www.bcitsa.ca/hackathon/>

- What about co-op students anticipating admission from the co-op programs who want to participate in the hackathon?
 - There are already 50 pre-bought tickets for these students. For co-op students - sign up for a general admission ticket and if you get accepted into the co-op program, the ticket will be refunded.
 - Northeastern University Bridging Program: Will be offering new graduate programs in data analytics and software development.

Policy & Advocates at future meetings

- Advocates such as Danielle will be attending all Set Rep meetings in the future. If we have questions regarding policy during meetings, they will be answered on the spot. Advocacy is listening to concerns and they've noticed overall patterns and thinking of where to direct their focus.
- There is a BCIT policy that is currently being updated which is Policy 17103 – Sexual Violence and Misconduct. BC mandates that a new stand-alone policy and procedure is created and be reviewed every 3 years. May 2020 will be the next amendment and Advocacy is seeing what changes to make. The government is mandating student input in these reviews.
 - Dawson will receive documents for policies and procedures and send it to Set Reps for review and feedback.
 - Danielle has been collecting information from universities across Canada regarding this policy.
 - We can give feedback during Set Rep meetings or through a form online; feedback will be anonymous. January 2020 will be when the review will be done. There will be a 30-day review period.

Transit Strike

- There are currently no car-sharing or other ways but taking a cab to get to BCIT Downtown from the north shore.
- What most students are thinking is if they should even come at all?
 - There is currently radio silence from instructors. Students want instructors to set expectations for what will happen during the transit strike.
 - Dawson says to ask instructors regarding what they should do when the transit strike starts and to understand the policy clearly in regard to the transit strike.

Changing the syllabus by instructors

- What do students think about available BCIT resources? Students are asking Set Reps to push back deadlines for assignments or projects.

- Set Reps are not obligated to talk to instructors for other students regarding pushing back deadlines for assignments or projects. The best way for Set Reps to deal with this is to get a feeling and take initiative based on whether or not they think talking to the instructor will be beneficial for the class. However, Set Reps are not obligated to talk to instructors about this if they feel uncomfortable.
- Currently, evaluation criteria is not given before assignments are handed out by an instructor and they change the syllabus in the middle of the term.
 - Instructors are not allowed to do this.
- Another class has no syllabus provided and the class started in October.
 - Students should get syllabus in print or online first week of class; certain items on the syllabus are mandatory. For example, evaluation criteria are mandatory. Some course outlines are not posted online and it's doubly important to have a copy in print or elsewhere on D2L. Some instructors use two versions of a syllabus - their own and one online. The one online will trump all.
 - When majority of class says yes to a syllabus change, it may be implemented by the instructor.

Reasonable time to receive feedback for assignments

- There is a policy that states instructors should return assignments back to students within a reasonable time frame (the wording is vague). Instructors should be returning feedback and assignments in a timely manner so that students can take that feedback and utilize it to their next assessment. In this situation, students should try to get all communication with instructor via email for documentation if the situation needs to be escalated if assignments and feedback are not received by students at a timely manner.

ISEP students at Set Rep meetings

- Dawson will act as a liaison for ISEP students (student volunteers).

Peer tutors

- There are no peer tutors on site for students outside of CIT/CST. No need for a workaround for this issue.
 - Tutors are advertised for CST/CIT, but they can likely help with other computing courses.
 - Should change the advertising.