

# CST Set Rep Meeting #3

CST Spring 2020 Meeting Minutes

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**Date:** February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Location:** SE12 Room 302

**Chair:** Louis Rivest – Chair of the School of Computing and Academic Studies

**Staff:** Stewart McGillivray – Government Relations Strategist | BCIT Student Association  
Crystal Man – Administrative Coordinator | BCIT Student Association

**Attendance:**

**CST Term 1 Set Reps:** Geoffrey Browning, Prerna, Mattias Henders, Peter Karpluk, Sam Merati, Christopher Zhang, Chris Spooner, Sean Clayton

**CST Term 2 Set Reps:** Sean Green, Judao Zhong, Tiffany Gu, Christian Esperanza, Melody (Eun Bin) Oh, Jeffry Lam Tangh

**CST Term 3 Set Reps:** Jaskaran Chahal, Donhyuk Choi, Gloria Ngo, Wayne Chang

**CST Term 4 Set Reps:** Kelvin Lee, Peter Ahn, Pei-Hou (Perry) Li, Tomas Quat, Nicole Jingco, Houman Gholami, Evan Morrow

**Councillors:** Paramveer Daliwhal, SoCAS Councillor | BCIT Student Association

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## 1.0 Opening

### 1.1 Introduction from Louis Rivest, Chair of SoCAS, BCITSA

Office hours:           Tuesdays 10:30 – 11:30 AM  
                                  Wednesdays 2:30 – 4:30 PM  
                                  Thursdays 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Location:                Executive student offices, SE2 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Burnaby

Role of chair of computing:

Organize set rep meetings, use discussions in meetings to push for student initiatives  
Liaise with BCIT's SoCAS, BCIT Student Association, and students through Set Rep program

### 1.2 House Rules

Be respectful

Follow the speakers list

Focus not just on complaints, but on constructive feedback and ideas

## 2.0 Guest Speakers

### 2.1 Dean Hildebrand, Dean, School of Computing and Academic Studies

SoCAS wants to hear from students to know how to best serve them. This can be done through your Chair, who can communicate feedback to SoCAS.

This year, SoCAS is focusing on indigenous student support and female student support in computing fields. SoCAS is looking for ways to make efficient use of funds available to help students in these areas.

### 2.2 Mike Starkey, Associate Dean, School of Computing, BCIT

Unfortunately, Mike was not able to attend due to the need for quarantine following a trip to China.

### **2.3 Amy Smith, Career Specialist, BCIT SA Career Services**

Introduction to Career Services: Workshops, one on one career counselling sessions with a career specialist, events such as the Tech Industry Day, Career Track.

### **2.4 Matthew Miller, School of Health Sciences Councillor, BCIT SA**

The School of Health Sciences is conducting a survey to evaluate the desire for an ergonomics workshop. Details found here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdWzBo17Jw860OCZUYGL7kIZku9FUzq6EhNvF9G08OFXEHcag/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>

## **3.0 Introduction to the Set Rep Program**

### **3.1 Ice Breaker Activity**

### **3.2 Expectations**

Your role:

- Communicate information from the SA (and me) to students
- Gather ideas, requests, and concerns from students
- Attend set rep meetings to discuss these
- Guide students looking for assistance to SA resources
- Talk to your sets and be aware of the issues they are facing

Handling issues:

- Do not take on everything yourself. The SA has services for this.
- Keep an open mind
- Discuss ideas with set, gather information, and communicate if necessary to

Louis/Advocacy

### **3.3 Available Support**

### **3.4 Communication Hierarchy**

Communicate with BCIT when:

- Questions about general CST program, credit eligibility
- Feedback about issues with infrastructure
- Questions about academic fairness, finances
- BCIT SA Advocacy can help you improve communication with BCIT

Communicate with BCIT SA when:

- Questions about student life and events
- Questions about advocacy, career preparation
- Basically anything else that impacts your experience at BCIT outside academics
- Communicate to me, or Advocacy if more personal / delicate

## **4.0 Tech Career Preparation**

### **4.1 Guest Speaker: Nav Bhatti, Software Engineer, Relic Entertainment**

General Tips for preparing for interviews:

- 1) Find 1 characteristic/trait about the company that you are passionate about. Show off that you have experience with this trait/characteristic through passion projects.
- 2) In tech, be honest about what you know and don't. If you don't know something, that's ok, but make sure you back it up with as much background knowledge as you can. You will need to study after all!
- 3) Know your strengths as a team member and as a developer. The company is trying to assess what those strengths are – so understand them to communicate them to the company!
- 4) Code is read more than it is written. Make sure your projects have excellent documentation.
- 5) Employers will often try to find out what it is you enjoy.

Relic is hiring in May. If you are interested, feel free to reach out to Nav on LinkedIn and ask him questions.

## **5.0 Student Issues Discussion**

### **5.1 Updates on old items**

There have been delays due to schedule mismatch between myself and the AD. However, I have brought up the following issues:

- More outlets are needed in SE05 and NE01 classrooms.
- One BTech course had unfair requirements of the students because the markers of their term project were not available for feedback
- Various issues with certain CST instructors, including fairness in exams, assessment, and communication

### **5.2 New items**

#### **Instructors**

Several instructors were named – problems identified included confusing communication, lack of timely feedback, misunderstandings between lab instructors and course instructors.

#### **CST entry requirements**

Why does the CST program only accept students based on their Math and English GPA?

### **1.1 Action items**

For some of the instructor issues, I have reached out individually to the instructors after bringing up the topic to the AD of Computing. We are in communication and I will update you soon.

Other issues brought up will be brought to Mike Starkey as recommendations for improving the CST program.

## **2.0 Open Forum**

N/A

## **3.0 Closing**

### **3.1 Upcoming events**

LAN Party on February 28<sup>th</sup>! Invite your friends and set mates, 50% chance of walking away with over \$30 in rewards just by attending. The first 3 set reps to bring me full teams will receive discount coupons for the pub.

### **3.2 Reminders**

N/A

### **3.3 Next meeting details**

Next meeting should happen in late March, after the holidays.

## **4.0 Meeting Adjourned**