September 2014 SOBGS Meeting Minutes

September 3rd, 2014

In attendance:

Toby Thorne Joseph Stinziano Emma Hobbs Aimee Lee Houde Ricki Lovett Matthew Turnbull Trish Tully Aniruddho Chokroborty Hoque Meghan Murphy Morag Dick Tim Hain Richard Harris Catherine Dieleman

Minutes

2:03 Meeting called to order

- A.L. Houde: BRGR report
- Abstracts close soon, photo contest is still open, received poster boards last year from department of Dentistry for use at BGRF, the speaker has been scheduled so as to not overlap with the department seminar, there will be a post-BGRF grad club social starting this year
- 2:05 A.L. Houde reports on department retreat
 - Concern expressed over low graduate publication rate and high proportion of grads entering year X, but this is a nation-wide2.024 BDC BT1 0 0 1 324.05 58ering

students on the SOBGS FAQ if you have experienced or witness inappropriate supervisor behaviour; the learning curve and power differential does contribute to under-reporting of conflicts; could draft a student-supervisor code of conduct if the issue is ongoing

- M. Turnbull: why not make a code of conduct anyways?
 - o A.L. Houde: not aware of other departments having one, relatively strong option
- M. Dick: why not make it a faculty of science issue? Problems are not specific to the department of biology, should be dealt with top-down
- T. Thorne: code of conduct could go both ways, may also serve as a guideline for student expectations
- C. Dieleman: what would the enforceability of the code of conduct be? Would it be followed?
- A.L. Houde: agreement in faculty meeting that this is a major problem, a code setting out what is and is not acceptable could empower both sides
- T. Hain: sounds like something that should be university-