

Minutes:

Call to order

Introductions

Present:

- Mallory Thorp - Chair & CUPE Steward
- Robert Gleisinger - Vice Chair
- Maheyer Shroff - Social
- Danika Macdonell - Sports
- Vida Saeedzade - Academic
- Jess Speedie - Student Affairs
- Bobby Bickley - GSS Rep
- Logan Francis - Astro Rep
- Alexandre Beaubien - Physics Rep

Absent

- Nolan Esplen

Department meeting:

- No one attended

GSS Rep update:

- Concerns over student funding for international students because some cannot complete teaching assistantships through no fault of their own - UVic VPN blocked in some countries
- UVic holding funding from some international until return - Possible immigration issues and issues with e.g., Mainland China
- CUPE regulations in terms of max TA hours being overruled - domestic and VPN-capable country students being pressured to do too many TA-ships
- Bobby will check for procedure to reach out to students

CUPE update: No update.

Social Update:

- PhDnD went well and will probably be continuing
- Virtual boardgames - Diplomacy?
- Video games - Among Us? Jackbox?
- Maheyer will create doodle poll to gauge interest in above options - send to email list, PAGSA social facebook, and pagsa social discord
- Possible in-person events? - small groups to Goldstream, hiking
- Virtual movie night - Halloween? Suggestions - Nightmare before christmas, ghostbusters, wes anderson films, Beatles film
 - Need platform. Zoom and discord resist streaming Netflix
- Chelsea can investigate hosting Jackbox - will host on Discord

- Virtual workshops for non-research things?

Sports update:

- Running group 3/week
- Cycling group 2/week
- PAGSA sports slack channel
- A few new members, but may need more communication
- Introduce hiking group - Logan organizing
- Volleyball and soccer shut down due to covid but interested in safe options
- Badminton or other physically distant sports?

Software Plumbing

- Robert will look into bringing Nolan and Caleb back in, Vida will join and Logan will advise
- Probably will look into repeats of things like intro python, github, etc
- Need presenters
- Email grads-phast@lists.uvic.ca

Miscellaneous

- Student affairs officer (Jess) will reach out to Ondrea and Ruth Digby

Adjourned