

**Minutes of the general meeting
September 28, 2010**

Present: Jason Siefken, Dennis Epple, Kseniya Garaschuk, Amanda Malloch, Peter Williamson, Garret Flowers, LP Saumier (briefly), John Antonioli, Magda Georgescu, Ross Churchley.

Denis recognizes quorum at 4:00, making note of our impressive punctuality. The fact that the meeting was actually scheduled for 3:00 shall be ignored. LP shows up to print something during attendance and gets put down as present.

The meeting is called to order. As per the SIGMAS constitution, the first order of business is the election of a new executive. There is a call for volunteers for executive positions; discussion ensues about what responsibilities each position has. Nobody is particularly enthusiastic about taking on a new position. John suggests reelection for the incumbent president, vice president, and secretary/poet laureate. Dennis reminds everyone that he will graduate this year and will not be able to fulfill a full term as vice president. Jason suggests we should have a funeral when Dennis leaves. It is decided that Dennis is still eligible for the post, as we can always have a byelection when he leaves.

John nominates Kseniya for reelection as president. Jason seconds. Kseniya nominates Dennis for reelection. Jason nominates Chris for reelection. All nominations are seconded. As the nominations are more or less unanimous, the point on holding a secret ballot is questioned. Discussion of parliamentary procedure follows. It is decided to have a voice vote.

Vote 1. *To reelect Kseniya for president. Passes unanimously.*¹

Vote 2. *To reelect Dennis for vice president. Passes unanimously.*

Vote 3. *To reelect Chris for poet laureate. Passes unanimously.*

Jason wants to know how many departments are in the GSS, but is not curious enough to be GSS rep. There is a call for the position. Peter volunteers. Kseniya interrupts the subsequent vote to talk to Scott about shirts or something.

Vote 4. *To elect Peter as GSS rep. Passes unanimously.*²

SIGMAS needs a MITACS contact in case MITACS wants to organize a conference or something here. Nobody knows what MITACS stands for. John nominates LP because he is not here. It is decided to talk to Michelle because she actually knows something about it.

Kseniya suggests the creation of the official position of webmaster. She uses the royal “we” to nominate Ross for the position and second her own nomination. She claims she is not Nicholas II. Dennis actually seconds the motion.

¹except for Peter, who loudly calls “nay” just because he can.

²except for Kseniya, who loudly calls “nay” and points out to Peter that revenge sucks.

Vote 5. *To create the position of SIGMAS webmaster and elect Ross to the position. Passes unanimously.*³

Chris Bose makes the mistake of coming in. We hit him up for money. It works, apparently to the tune of a couple hundred dollars for social events. He questions whether he wants to know what it is for.

The Friday before Hallowe'en, SIGMAS will organize a "colouring of the department." Grad students must dress head to toe in their favourite colour or perhaps some other colour if they want. It can't be something you'd normally wear (e.g. blue shirt and blue jeans). People are confused as to how this condition applies to Dennis. It is suggested that discrete math students avoid people wearing the same colour, in order for it to be a proper colouring. A reminder email will be sent out before the 29th.

Kseniya announces that she has to leave.

The next item on the agenda is mug painting. Dennis goes to his office to get an example. We will get mugs, decorate them with paint, and get them fired in a kiln. There is apparently a place with ceramics and paints and such which will let you do this. Dennis has an example of a mug he coloured with an imbedding of a K_7 on it. Dennis takes names for who is interested in coming this Saturday, October 2.

Kseniya actually leaves.

Ross brings up the website on his laptop, as John was unaware that it existed. John notes that the SIGMAS logo looks like Number Muncher, which comes from a game he played on the Apple II. He and Garret reminisce. It is noted that the website gives our organization an air of legitimacy. Ross reminds everyone that they can subscribe to the events calendar via Google Calendar or iCal, and that we have Sharepoint which nobody has actually used yet.

Magda brings up mushroom hunting. Reinhard Illner apparently mentioned that he'd do a hike or something. Magda will talk to him.

Jason suggests we set up a screen and have a movie night. Ross suggests he bring in his Wii and Garret show us his skills at Super Smash Bros.⁴ Discussion about where to hold such a movie night follows. Jason volunteers to organize something.

Meeting adjourned somewhere around 4:45.

³except for Ross, who loudly calls "nay" despite the fact that he has been maintaining the website for a month already. It is decided that he doesn't get a vote in the matter.

⁴Garret took a course on Smash Bros. for credit at his old university