Quality of Life Committee Meeting  
January 31, 2020

Attending:
Professor Matt Shoulders (chair)  
Professor Gabriela Schlau-Cohen  
Professor Alison Wendlandt  
Maxx Arguilla  
Michele Harris  
Ben McDonald  
Jennifer Weisman

Mentoring Program
- Program has been discussed with faculty and within all graduate student groups. There were no recommendations about changing the current plan.  
- Met with OGE to learning about training for MSRP Mentors  
- Matt, Jennifer, and Rebecca will meet soon to develop implementation plan.  
- Will work with Danielle Doughty on website for program  
- Will apply for SoS QoL and/or MHH Innovation Grants

QoL Reps
- Grad student groups & ChemPDA are still working on reps to QoL  
- May have Maxx and/or Ben be ChemPDA rep, Michele will connect with them

Plan to Finish Meeting
- Due to lack of graduate student presence at today’s meeting, this discussion was postponed to the February meeting

Review of Website
- QoL website was reviewed and suggested changes will be incorporated  
- Next iteration of website will be shared with Committee for final feedback

Review of Working Group Proposals
- Proposals from the January Working Group discussions were reviewed to determine which ones QoL should address first.  
- An important priority to address in the future is ways to provide constructive feedback to research advisors.

Statement of Values (SoV)
- Given the current demands on time, there was a desire to be intentional about how the research group meetings are used and some concern about using a full research group meeting time to add another annual meeting. It was suggested that an annual
discussion of the SoV might not need a full meeting and might be appropriate to review at the start of the academic year.

- There was support for the idea of positive reinforcement in the form of “kudos” or awards throughout the year (possibly 5 per year).
- There was discussion about using SoV in performance review and a suggestion that a question be added on the Annual Advisor Meeting Forms: How does the research group do with embodying the SoV?

**Training**
- A subcommittee will be formed to propose a plan for trainings on “Managing mental health.” This will address both your own mental health and helping other.
- The CARE team presentation on students in distress was suggested as one of the trainings.

**Student Support**
- The QoL committee will develop a process for official exit interviews. This will include the options of surveys and/or in-person interview)

**Communication & Transparency**
- Oral Exams are a clear priority and a subcommittee will be formed to make recommendations on this topic.