CS Student Council Meeting Notes (2/18/21)

- Not enough people know about the CS Department Piazza page – how can we improve this?
- Transfer students (and probably many others) are still feeling pretty isolated/haven’t had enough opportunity to connect with fellow CS students
- Matt mentioned that COMP 105 makes particularly good use of sococo – is there a way we can make this true for more CS classes?
- External Advisory Board is looking for student volunteers for one-on-one meetings
  - Board is interested in learning about student’s thoughts on current state of the CS department
  - Sign up link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1SiX86LbhPk8PjkMT2qZQCDSsBNe-MLp0W2nNQDL3nGA/edit?usp=sharing
- Panel on overcoming imposter syndrome
  - 6 alumni, about 50 attendees
  - Possible that we should offer this panel regularly
- Peer mentoring and alumni mentoring programs
  - Both programs are running simultaneously/roughly at the same stage in their development
  - There could be room for improvement as far as communicating that these programs are an option for students
- Candidates are in process of giving colloquium talks
- Still on track for moving into Cummings center in January 2022
- Graduation
  - Main ceremony will be virtual
  - Goal is for individual departments to have in-person ceremonies **obviously subject to change if cases increase
  - Students only, live streamed for family/friends
  - 100 students max per ceremony, but there are certain departments with too many students to do this – how do we manage this? Ideas…
    - Random number assignment for each ceremony
    - Surveying students for their preferences of who they’d like to be grouped with
    - General consensus seems to be that students would prefer smaller, in-person commencements vs. all virtual
    - Could we post the chat from the live stream on a projector? (so people can see all the shout outs)
    - What do we do for people who are not in the area to participate in an in-person ceremony? Should we do a combined virtual & in-person approach?
    - We could also plan to facilitate a reunion/belated ceremony in Cummings Center for next year
    - How many students would be participating in only the remote version of the departmental ceremony?
• What will be the equivalent of walking across the stage for students who are attending remotely?
• Determine number of remote students soon to inform some of these planning questions

• Graduation Speaker Review Committee
  o Ben London, David Massart, Kate Epifanio
• Graduation Photo Committee
  o David Massart, …
• Plan for next semester (in-person vs. remote)?
  o Planning as if fall will be remote, but this will adapt if things improve