

This report outlines some of the key issues that were addressed by the Jr. Rep. of the CS Society in the Winter semester of 2006.

### **1. Visibility**

One of the issues brought up by the society this semester was the lack of visibility within the CS student body. This was to have been addressed by increasing the number of activities, and by improving Geek Beer, like having different themes or involving other societies. Not enough has been done on this issue, which is one of the more important roles of an Undergrad Rep. I would recommend that more announcements be made to the classes by the actual Rep., as events occur throughout the semester.

### **2. Geek Beer**

I have collected the following themes for possible future Geek Beers:

1. Anything with cultural events, for example, a Chinese Geek Beer for Chinese New Year.
2. Quake or Unreal tournaments.
3. Sports Geek Beer
4. Costume Geek Beers, for example, Toga, Beach, Pyjama, No Pants, Schoolgirl, Robots, Space, and Pirates vs. Ninjas. Most of these ideas are not feasible.
5. Events with other societies. The Geek Beer that hosted the Spanish Society was a big hit last semester, but this semester they went somewhere else.
6. Pool tables, a big screen TV, or something like that. A complaint about Geek Beer that I have observed is that people just sit and talk. It has also been noted that the medical society's "Tupper Beer" has pool tables and such, and is an example of what students would like our Geek Beer to be.

### **3. Coop Reform**

It was brought to my attention that the Coop program is too restrictive and needs to be more flexible to accommodate different students. This was greeted as a good idea by the Undergrad Committee. A survey has been drafted by the Coop Rep., but there was not enough time left in the semester to distribute the Coop Survey.

The following issues/changes are expressed by the students:

1. There should be an optional fourth Coop term.
2. It should be stressed that if a student and employer is happy with the current work term, it can be extended an extra semester (or two), and each extra semester would count as fulfilling a requirement towards the Coop's three work term requirements. This way, if the student finds an area and/or employer he would like to continue working for, he can do all his Coop terms at once. This would help him get hired on to that company in the future, and save the employer from training a new student each semester.

3. Courses are being offered in a way that is not as compatible as it should be with Coop students. Many students feel that the courses that are offered are sometimes too difficult, and that taking the CS Courses offered would be too difficult a workload.
4. The idea of making Coop mandatory was considered, and will need to be looked at in more detail.
5. Students who are not in the Coop program should be able to take work terms, for both experience and money. One student suggested that the Faculty should consider the Coop program as a way for students to make money, and that the Faculty should be trying to provide as many students as possible with a summer job.
6. The pass/fail grading system is perceived by many students as being too strict. The Faculty responded to this complaint by saying that in fact they are lenient on what is a pass, but many students do not put enough effort into their work term reports.