Agenda for 7-27-2020

1. Social Update from @Justin and @Emma
   a. Trivia recap from 7/23 with incoming first years
      i. 25-30 people total, half and half first years and current students
      ii. Went very well. Emma and Justin ran it together. Emma ran the entire breakout section portion and Justin read trivia. Need 2 people to run future trivia sessions
      iii. In the context of chatting and meeting the new students, it wasn’t enough time with 2-3 minute sessions but overall it was 2 hrs and the perfect amount of time.
      iv. Short time - felt a little rushed, but total amount of time seemed appropriate - maybe fewer questions?
   b. Let’s discuss what next year looks like - funding, etc.
      i. Cutting welcome back BBQ
      ii. Fi says MRS will need to scale back. Visit Weekend will be cancelled (no funding there). Welcome Back BBQ will need to be cut.
      iii. More Events considering next year will be all virtual
         1. Paint Night (ChemE had this) - made kits of canvas to pick up and then someone over zoom led it.
         2. D-Lab tie dye - Elisa organizing it. Could be an MRS inreach thing
         3. Consider having small events (4-5 people) for 1st years.

2. Quals Info Session Update from @Mehrdad
   a. Are panelists finalized?
      i. Panelists are Mehrdad, Ajay, Justin, Emma...
   b. 30th of July at 2pm

3. Professional Development Update from @Harry
   a. Meeting with Martha from BEAM on Wednesday - Esteban and Komal joining
   b. Lunch with Professors update needs to be finalized - Dante will finalize
   c. Need an alumni list database.

4. Outreach Update from @Andrew: Meeting this Thursday at 1pm on future of outreach
   a. Meeting on Outreach - 7/30 at 1pm Thursday

5. DEI letter to department
   a. Department is excited about Mentorship and Survey Day (yay Dante, Devi, and Ajay!!)
   b. Department is working on a list of detailed responses - I think we should suggest a 2 week timeframe
   c. Action items they’re working on:
      i. DEI committee
         1. Maintain MRS DEI committee until DEI committee is fully rolling
         2. Offer a best practices for how the DEI committee should run
ii. Grad Admissions chairs (Will and Sarah) will have ongoing meetings with students and admissions website will be revised

iii. Alberto will describe faculty hiring process and searches
   1. Specifically go over the last two searches which Alberto oversaw

iv. Alberto will talk to Dean Widom about DEI efforts being recognized for tenure

v. He will organize a town hall

vi. He is asking for a short list of top priorities