

GSA Minutes 19 September 2012

1. Officer introductions
 - a. Zak Handlos (handlos@wisc.edu) – Facilitator
 - b. Andrew Winters (acwinters@wisc.edu) – Ombudsman
 - c. Darren Pilcher (djpilcher@wisc.edu) and Megan Kirchmeier (kirchmeier@wisc.edu) – Faculty Liaisons
2. Ankur Desai (desai@aos.wisc.edu) introduction and explanation of role within GSA
3. Voting rules
 - a. Went over voting rules
 - b. Discussed changing quorum to being some fraction of first meeting's attendance (22 people)
 - c. Motion to suspend discussion until it becomes a problem
4. Committees
 - a. Officers cannot count towards the three people needed to form a committee
 - b. Proposed committees:
 - i. Welcome
 - ii. Outreach
 - iii. Department Seminar
 - iv. Social
 - v. Curriculum
 - vi. Colloquium
 - vii. Aesthetics (“Pretty Committee”)
 - c. Committees Formed
 - i. Welcome
 1. Members: Bryan Crouch (bcrouch@wisc.edu), Erik Gould (emgould@wisc.edu), Kyle Griffin (ksgriffin2@wisc.edu), Scott Trevorrow (trevorrow@wisc.edu), Elena Willmot (willmot@wisc.edu), Zak Handlos (handlos@wisc.edu), Alexis Santos (ritz@wisc.edu), and Andrew Winters (acwinters@wisc.edu)
 - ii. Outreach
 1. Members: Ross Dixon (rddixon@wisc.edu), Elise Garms (egarms@wisc.edu), Erik Gould (emgould@wisc.edu), Katie Holman (kdholman@wisc.edu), Scott Trevorrow (trevorrow@wisc.edu), Chad Weibel (cweibel@wisc.edu), Zak Handlos (handlos@wisc.edu), and Andrew Winters (acwinters@wisc.edu)
 - iii. Social Committee

1. Members: Bryan Crouch (bcrouch@wisc.edu), Scott Trevorrow (trevorrow@wisc.edu), Elena Willmot (willmot@wisc.edu), Zak Handlos (handlos@wisc.edu), Darren Pilcher (djpilcher@wisc.edu), and Alexis Santos (ritz@wisc.edu)
- iv. Curriculum
 1. Members: Nick Bassill (npbassill@wisc.edu), Croix Christenson (cchristenson@wisc.edu), Nicole Colascco-Thumm (colascco@wisc.edu), Bryan Crouch (bcrouch@wisc.edu), Elise Garms (egarms@wisc.edu), and Kyle Griffin (ksgriffin2@wisc.edu)
- v. Colloquium
 1. Since Colloquium is a committee containing both graduate students and professors, new committee members are not needed at this time
 2. Current Graduate Student Members: Nicole Colascco-Thumm (colascco@wisc.edu), Ross Dixon (rddixon@wisc.edu), Katie Holman (kdholman@wisc.edu), and Aronne Merrelli (merrelli@wisc.edu)
- vi. Aesthetics
 1. Was not formed due to inability to reach 3 willing non-officer members
- d. Hooding Ceremony and Awards committees will not be formed until the spring semester
5. Motion to create new officer position: Secretary
 - a. Would be good to have someone take minutes every meeting without having to ask
 - b. Katie Holman (kdholman@wisc.edu) nominated Alexis Santos (ritz@wisc.edu), motion was seconded
 - c. Alexis received majority vote
 - d. Potential duties include recording minutes and maintaining GSA website
6. Faculty Meeting Update (from 12 September 2012) - Darren (djpilcher@wisc.edu) and Megan (kirchmeier@wisc.edu)
 - a. Jan Holmes (jmholmes@wisc.edu) has taken over Angel Skram's position as Student Status Examiner
 - b. Grant Petty (gpetty@aos.wisc.edu) is on a special university committee that only allows 10 members from the faculty/staff of UW-Madison
 - c. Steve Ackerman (saackerm@wisc.edu) is associate dean for physical sciences
 - d. Dan Vimont (dvimont@wisc.edu) is on sabbatical this semester

- e. Robock Lecture on 8 November 2012 will be given by John Wallace, co-writer of "Atmospheric Science: An Introductory Survey" with Peter Hobbs
 - f. Steve Ackerman (saackerm@wisc.edu) received a grant useful for graduate student recruitment and welcoming committee duties
 - g. Faculty voted unanimously to change the name of the Department of Limnology to Freshwater and Marine Sciences
 - h. Faculty is meeting to discuss the 2012 Qualifying Exam results on 26 September
 - i. Financial officer position is vacant
 - j. Joann Banks has retired
 - i. Debbie Weber (dweber@wisc.edu) has taken over Joanne's duties as building manager in the interim
7. Caitlin Hart (cjhart@wisc.edu) needs people to volunteer to set up refreshments for Departmental Seminar and ideas for professional development topics
- a. Professional Development topics would be used in the event of a sudden cancellation of the speaker for seminar and would be given by a professor
8. Nicole Colascco-Thumm (colasccothu@wisc.edu) suggested getting registered as an official student organization with the school
- a. Could be a potential source of funding
 - b. "Exploratory" Financial committee was formed in order to assess possible funding sources and financial situation of GSA
 - i. Members: Nicole Colascco-Thumm (colasccothu@wisc.edu), Ross Dixon (rddixon@wisc.edu), Kyle Griffin (ksgriffin2@wisc.edu), and Megan Kirchmeier (kirchmeier@wisc.edu)
9. Discussion of lack of international student involvement in GSA
- a. How to increase attendance?
 - i. Personally approach individuals
 - ii. Publish meetings online
 - iii. Send out a survey to all graduate students to make sure GSA is meeting the needs of graduate students
 - iv. Perhaps be more ubiquitous through outreach and personal contact
10. Motion to Dismiss