

GSA Minutes
November 13, 2013

1. Quorum reached (more than five in attendance)
2. Faculty Liaisons Updates
 - a) Why invest in AOS
 - b) Authorization for faculty search by Fall 2014 at earliest
 - c) Hire possible Fall 2015
 - d) Authorization for AOS 102 Course about climate change
 - e) No AOS 401 (Mountain Meteorology Laboratory) this upcoming spring
 - f) Kyle Nelson will give updates on re-designing the course
 - g) Possible professional science Masters towards climate
 - h) Propose CCR, SSEC, Weather Central to teach classes or seminars
 - i) Career Initiative – for graduate students to learn about what types of careers are available after graduating with Masters or PhD
 - j) 3-year curriculum plan subject to change -- may be available for students to comment
 - k) 3 main points trying to balance
 - i. Not designing new courses
 - ii. Repetition teaching
 - iii. No overloaded teaching
 - l) Serious about 452 lecture option for graduate students (2 credits)
 - m) Electives
 - i. Try to get as much enrollment as possible
 - ii. Broader topics that can draw more people from different research groups
 - n) Strategic Planning Committee – big retreat postponed for next week
3. Outreach Committee Updates
 - a) Wisconsin Institute for Discovery
 - i. 1st Saturday of every month 10am-12pm
 - ii. Exploration Stations Event on January 4th
 - iii. Several hundred people to attend
 - iv. Find professors interested in participating
 - v. SSEC, CCR participation?
 - vi. Need volunteers by early December
 - vii. If interested, email Zak Handlos (handlos@wisc.edu)
 - b) Alpo Leopold Nature Center in Monona
 - i. Nature Center southeast of Madison
 - ii. Climate-themed activities both outdoors and indoors
4. Social Committee Updates
 - a) Themed potlucks
 - b) Continue to include undergraduates
 - c) Possible sporting event?
 - d) Speaking with AMS officers about AMS Solstice Party

- i. Department Party with dinner and live music
 - ii. Also usually fun skits performed by undergraduates and graduate students
 - iii. Ways to increase graduate student attendance
 - iv. Possibly lessen the cost to attend
5. Ross Dixon motions to form a new committee responsible for helping to plan skits for the AMS Solstice Party
 - a) Croix Christenson seconds the motion
 - b) Motion to vote for the creation of this new committee
 - c) 11 out of 17 in attendance raised their hands for yes
 - d) New Solstice Party Skit Committee official
 - e) Ross Dixon committee head
 - f) Other members include Kyle Griffin, Ethan Nelson, Zak Handlos, Luke Odell, Walter Sessions, and Melissa Breeden (please contact tdorian@wisc.edu if on committee but name not listed)
 - g) Zak Handlos proposes friendly competition between undergraduates and graduate students (e.g. Fake Family Feud, Jeopardy, Guess which professor said this quote, etc.)
6. Curriculum Committee Updates
 - a) Faculty Curriculum Committee to propose 4-year plan for classes available to students
 - i. Centered around the qualifying exam
 - ii. "Core classes"
 - iii. "Should-be core classes"
 - iv. "Core Electives"
 - v. No new classes due to shortage of professors (9 current professors)
 - b) Compare our core classes to core classes of other universities with atmospheric science
7. Welcome Committee Updates
 - a) New committee email: welcomegrad@aos.wisc.edu
 - b) Propose better-quality props to use at AMS Conference recruiting table
 - c) Tri-fold posters for UW Madison recruiting table
 - d) Business cards, brochures to give out at AMS Conference
 - e) Contact sheets given out to grad school applicants with contact information for Grant Petty, Kathy Kruger, Dan Vimont, and the welcome committee members
 - f) PowerPoint video at AMS Conference with plots from different research groups which highlight examples of student research here
 - g) Send plots with brief descriptions (1-2 sentences) to Alexis Santos (alexis.ritzer@gmail.com) by mid-December (December 20)
8. Seminar Committee Updates
 - a) We've had seminars
 - b) Planning for next semesters seminars likely early to mid-December
9. Croix Christenson motions to form Hooding Ceremony Planning Committee

- a) Ross Dixon seconds the motion
- b) Vote to form committee – all in favor
- c) Hooding Ceremony held in the spring for graduating Masters and PhD students
- d) Committee in charge of renting a room, preparing decorations, food
- e) Find who is graduating and make sure he/she reserves robes and bookstore for graduation
- f) **Volunteers:** Alexandra Karambelas, Elena Willmot, Tracey Dorian
- g) Because graduations changing to Camp Randall Stadium, Hooding Ceremony may be only individual recognition

10. Kyle Nelson updates on AOS 401

- a) 1st meeting about 3 weeks ago
- b) Divide Colorado trip into 3 main sections
 - i. Storm Peak Laboratory (instrumentation)
 - ii. NCAR (modeling)
 - iii. Colorado State University (satellites)
- c) Possibly broader project

11. Alex Karambelas asks if there is any more news

12. Alexis Santos motions to end the meeting -- all in favor -- meeting adjourned