

GSA Minutes
January 29, 2014

Main Updates:

Solstice Party next Friday – must sign up by 1/31/14

Skit Committee planning Game show/ Family Feud-themed skit

Annual AMS Conference is next week

Signed up for cookies, coffee, tea set up/clean-up for Seminars

**** NEXT MEETING will be Thursday, February 20th 12:15 pm-1:15 pm in Room 811 ****

1. Faculty liaison updates
 - a) 21st Century Vision of the Department
 - b) Model for education
 - c) Restructure curriculum for the long-term
 - d) Qualifying exam – most are satisfied
 - e) Another meeting in a couple weeks
2. Solstice Party updates
 - a) Next Friday, February 7th, 2014
 - b) Starts at 5pm, goes until 10pm
 - c) Costs \$25 for non-AMS members, \$20 for AMS members
 - d) Option to come at 7pm for \$10 to see skits and band
 - e) Will have security guard at door this time
 - f) Includes dinner (chicken pot pie), dessert (sheet cake), talks, skits, live band, keg with Budweiser
 - g) Will be an after party
 - h) Must sign up by 1:00 pm on Friday, January 31st, 2014
3. Solstice Party Skit Committee
 - a) Met last week, decided on improvised Family Feud/Game -show themed skit
 - b) Survey with questions will be sent out within the next few days
 - c) Will collect results and formulate questions
 - d) Want to be involved in skit presentation, email Ross Dixon (rddixon@wisc.edu)
 - e) Graduate students vs. Faculty possibility for skit
 - f) If not, any graduate students interested in imitating the faculty members?
 - g) Must pay and sign up for Solstice Party (\$10 or \$25/20) in order to participate in skit

4. Welcome Committee
 - a) Going to AMS next week to represent the AOS Department
 - b) Have very impressive tri-fold display board, approved by Dr. McKinley
 - c) Will try to recruit prospective graduate students
 - d) Career Fair Saturday to Tuesday at AMS meeting
 - e) In a couple of weeks, will begin needing volunteers to get free lunch and help communicate with prospective students
 - f) Try to focus on positives of Department and maintain a professional demeanor
 - g) Especially important to participate in lunches if prospective students are interested in your group research
5. Department Seminar Committee
 - a) Signed up for days to help set up/clean up cookies, tea, and coffee before weekly Seminars
 - b) Contact Ross Dixon (rddixon@wisc.edu) if you were not at meeting but would like to sign up for a day
6. Curriculum Committee
 - a) Possibly one, two, or three graduate electives available every semester
 - b) AOS 452 (Synoptic), AOS 453 (Mesoscale), and possibly AOS 425 (Global Climate Processes) may be taught to graduate students as AOS 652, AOS 653, and AOS 625
 - c) AOS 452 would be taught as lecture portion of class without labs (3 credits) to graduate students, grad students may be given additional thought problems or “tougher” questions on homework and will still be required to take the tests
 - d) Will have Dr. Michael Morgan back next year, and Dr. Pao Wang will also be teaching next year
 - e) Also may have AOS 712 (General Circulations) next year taught by Dr. Dan Vimont and Dr. Matt Hitchman
7. Outreach Committee
 - a) Jan 4th, several volunteers came out to Wisconsin Institute of Discovery to help set up weather-related activities on Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 - b) Boy scout troops looking for someone to talk about weather and climate in church coming up in the spring
 - c) If you know of any science-related outreach events going on nearby, contact Zak Handlos (handlos@wisc.edu)
8. GSA Meetings new time to be brown bag lunch discussion Thursday 12:15pm-1:15pm in 3rd week of February (February 20th), then 2nd week of March/April in Room 811
9. Motion to end meeting – meeting adjourned