

GSA Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2017

1. Committee Introductions & Updates
 - a. Faculty liaisons – the department is looking for two faculty hires. They are also throwing themselves into the ring for cluster hires, which could lead to more additional professors. A professional masters degree is also being considered for the department.
 - b. Colloquium committee – talk to Melissa if you want to bring someone for a spring semester talk. Also, Melissa will be graduating soon and a new committee head will be needed!
 - c. Social committee – Picnic Point event is scheduled for Thursday October 26. Collin is happy to take suggestions for more social activities.
 - d. Outreach committee – Prep is being done for Expanding Horizons event, most likely with the rotating tank. Talk to Maria for further information.
 - e. Welcome committee – Prepping for AMS, three students attending.
 - f. Department seminar – Elin is stepping down as committee chair, and Jessica is taking over for her.
 - g. Recruitment committee – Job listing for the department ends November 1. Any concerns or comments about the hiring process should be expressed to Alex and/or Alyson
2. Orders of business
 - a. Constitution update – need to vote on an update & new wording - approved
 - b. Constitution committee
 - i. Need to update our constitution to “future-proof” our organization from changes in university policy – we will plan to meet at the end of each year to review that our constitution is compliant with university policies
 - c. Alcohol policy updates, mandatory to pass along to membership
 - d. Mentorship committee (Zoe) – committee formed with Zoe as head. Ideas for a mentorship included: pair grad and undergrad students to discuss grad school/life, research, and career options; panel for undergrads; work with AMS chapter to reach out/advertise; steal physics students?; have a student on the upcoming Nelson Institute panel, possibly someone climate related/interdisciplinary

- e. Qualifying Exam discussion – prefer constructive feedback rather than complaints, Alyson will spearhead survey sent out to students
- Treasury – voted and approved social committee to spend our funds on food/drinks for social events; interest in fundraising for GSA