

## GSA Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2020

Meeting was conducted on November 18, 2020 beginning at 3:38 over Zoom, in accordance with university guidelines during the Covid-19 pandemic, and concluded at 4:33. Seventeen graduate students were in attendance.

1. Discussion of tips for attending/presenting at AGU and AMS this year. There were suggestions of recording presentation in zoom (which allows pausing the recording) and inviting people to attend your presentation.
2. Ice Breaker activity. Groups were given a set of pictures and asked to come up with a word/concept that the pictures represented.
3. Nomination/selection of new representative to alumni committee. Stephanie accepted the position and will be the new rep for the year.
4. Outreach (Alicia): Several updates:
  - a. Pete is updating the graduate student listing on the AOS website. See the email sent from Pete on 11/18/2020 for a link to a form for writing up what you would like on your page. Should be written for a general audience.
  - b. If interested in presenting a general talk at Wednesday night at the lab, see email from Margaret Mooney (11/16/2020).
  - c. Interested in doing additional virtual elementary school visits. If you know of a school or teacher that may be interested please put them in touch.
5. Treasurer (Brienne): Link for undergraduate t-shirt sale is live. A GSA calendar featuring images from the annual library photo contest is in the works. Standard American, Canadian, Mexican, Chinese, Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Jewish, and Christian important days/holidays will be included. If there is another religion or heritage for which you would like the important days included let Brienne know.
6. Seminar (Jerrod): AMS/AGU flash talks will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> during seminar. A few speakers are still needed. Later in the meeting:
  - a. It was brought up that before some of the talks a statement will be made regarding UW's existence on Ho-Chunk land.
  - b. A viewing of "Picture a scientist" is in the works for a seminar next semester.
7. Faculty: Greg is stepping down as department chair. Michael will be taking over as department chair for the remainder of Greg's term. Class availability for the spring semester should be available soon. There will be a couple of diversity fellowships.
8. Social: Open discussion in the absence of the social chair. For informal virtual events, seems will be best to set a time and date. Ideas for activities: share meals (eg. Ordering takeout from same place, significant dishes, cooking a meal), games over discord, yoga, cooking, paint and sip, etc. Zoe mentioned a different virtual format that involves avatars and talking in groups.
9. DEI (Kari): A response to the letter sent by GSA this summer is in the works. The committee has not met much this semester. Current efforts are focused on expanding outreach and supporting diversity and minorities in applying and joining the department. There is also work on a video project.

10. Melissa Burt (from CSU) has offered to meet with the GSA. It was discussed inviting her for a meeting during the Wednesday 3:30-4:30 time on a week that is not a regular GSA meeting week.