

Minutes of

Geology Graduate Student Association

March 26, 2011

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:06 by Carolyn Roberts in the Planetary Lab (HOCH 444).
- II. Attendance: Timothy O'Brien, Mickael Smolen, Sarah Ogburn, Greg Babonis, Andrew Rankin, Roy Widrig, Jessica Ball, Lauren Fortson, Simon Pendleton, Carolyn Roberts
- III. Old Business:
 - a. Officer reports:
 - i. Senate rep: We should consider applying for funding for speakers to come give talks; we would just need to advertise school-wide.
 - ii. Treasurer: We have **\$414** for the remainder of the semester.
 - iii. Faculty liaison: nothing to report other than Black Shale lectures will be available for graduate students starting in the fall.
 - b. Committee reports:
 - i. Outreach: Over spring break high school students came to visit for 20 min sessions of remote sensing and volcanology awesomeness for "Science Exploration Day" – this went well thanks to all who helped out and ran the labs: Greg Babonis, David Brooks, Shelby Boyer, Noel Leigh, Rachel Mellas, Jessica Ball, Nicholas Dahn, and Peter Johnson. Nancy Mahlen (new labs coordinator) orchestrated this event and she would like to do more things like it in the future.
 - ii. Student research funding from GGSA: The motion to allocate \$200 of our remaining funds for another round of graduate student funding was posed by Tim O'Brien and was seconded by Andrew Rankin. The motion passed unanimously. The application deadline will be sometime at the end of April and the best applicants will be discussed and voted on at the May meeting.
 - iii. Visitors: A prospective student is coming 4/9 for Dr. Briner's group. Keep an eye out for emails from research group ambassadors for any last-minute Intel on visiting students.
- IV. New Business:
 - a. The proposed volunteering ideas for GSA funding don't seem necessary right now, but definitely should be looked into again for the fall semester.
 - b. A contact from the physics department at Canisius College has invited us to come see their old seismograph (cool!) that is about to be tied into the USGS network (see upcoming email from Greg Babonis).
 - c. We are thinking of orchestrating a possible in-state camping trip during the weekend of 4/21-4/22.
 - d. The department plotter is a vital piece of equipment that needs to be kept online for students presenting at conferences, outreach events, on campus presentations, etc. The lack of funding available for the plotter was motioned to be a point of discussion at to be the next faculty meeting. The motion passed 5-5.
 - e. Because of the current seating situation, there will be a change in meeting location (for all future meetings) to the Map room: HOCH 439.
 - f. The next GGSA meeting will be Monday, **4/16/12** at 1 p.m. in **HOCH 439**.

V. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

*Carolyn Roberts
Geology Graduate Student Association Secretary*