

Minutes of

Geology Graduate Student Association

November 10, 2011

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 by Patrick Whelley in the Planetary Lab (HOCH 444).
- II. Attendance: Timothy O'Brien, Timothy Holling, Simon Pendleton, Patrick Whelley, Sarah Ogburn, Alex O'Hara, Andrew Rankin, Mickael Smolen, Jessica Ball, Roy Widrig, Carolyn Roberts
- III. Old Business:
 - a. Officer reports:
 - i. Senate rep, Tim O'Brien, informed us that diplomas will now have department names listed on them.
 - ii. Treasurer: no update except that Pearl Street had not received our deposit yet... (This was remedied on 11/14 through the GSA office)
 - iii. Faulty liaison: no update.
 - b. Updates:
 - i. New GGSA website: <http://gsa.buffalo.edu/geologygsa/index.html> - via Webmaster Jessica Ball.
 - ii. Grad school workshop for undergrads on 11/03/11 was a success, and the panel had a good conversation going. It has been suggested by faculty that next year's workshop include representatives from more schools (e.g. Buffalo State) on both the panel and in the audience. This could be tied into outreach activities. A lot more planning and coordination will be required for the next workshop.
 - iii. Reactivating the University at Buffalo chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon: enough interest has been generated in the Club for it to be looked into further, but the next step should be coordinating with the undergrads.
 - c. Committee reports:
 - i. Winter party: the undergrads have agreed to provide \$100.00 towards the cake. A request was sent out to start figuring out what will be contributed by the faculty.
 - ii. Outreach: activities have slowed down; there is not much happening. Greg Babonis and Mike Badding have volunteered to talk with a local Cub Scout troop.
 - iii. Student research funding from GGSA: Tim O'Brien is heading a kick-off committee meeting 11/16/11 to determine the application process and what it should entail. As much as \$150 per student could be allocated through the club.
 - iv. Ambassadors for visiting students: the system is working well so far. Students that visited on 11/3 and 11/4 had good experiences and tour guides.
- IV. New Business:
 - a. BAPG student representative: Alex O'Hara is willing to join BAPG and be the student rep. It is good to know one of us is there, and this will be a great way to stay involved with the BAPG (and for them to get involved with what the club and department are doing).
 - b. Potential joint BBQ effort with the undergrads 12/06/11: undergrads will be borrowing our grill for this event that will be held in Founders Plaza and we are welcome to assist them and/or grab some free food.

- c. The next GGSA meeting will be Thursday, 12/15/11 at noon in HOCH 444, so those attending AGU will be able to attend.

V. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

*Carolyn Roberts
Geology Graduate Student Association Secretary*