

**Minutes of
Geology Graduate Student Association Club
02/18/2016**

- i. Review minutes from last time: A motion was made to approve the minute from last meeting. The motion passes unanimously.
- ii. Attendance: Tom Glose, Katie Swensen, Joe Tulenko, Andrew Harp, Avy Shweinsberg, Alia Lesnek, Paul Moretti, Dave Hyman, Will Philipps, James Boyle, Chuck Porreca.
- iii. BAPG update – recap of 2/17/16 meeting; The presenter focused on controversial issues (like climate change, naturaul resources, etc.) and how to talk about those issues from a new perspective. The meeting included some of the best food offered at a BAPG event to date. The next meeting (March) will be 3/16/16 at 5:30 pm (dinner at 6:30 pm), Salvatore’s Italian Garden, on Transit Rd. in Depew, NY. Next month’s meeting will be a joint meeting between the BAPG and engineering group. Students tickets will not be discounted at this meeting.
- iv. GAAB update – the meeting was rescheduled for next week.
- v. Center for Geohazards update- student research grant due 2/29/16! Email Avy or Andrew for questions about the application because they were awarded the grant last year.
- vi. SWAG! Update on Dave’s poll results: 35 responses, total order of 42 sweatshirts, even split between black and navy, not many for royal blue. The sweatshirts are only \$20.00 if we pick one color. Otherwise, the sweatshirts in both colors are going to be \$28.00 per hoodie. Since we wish to save money and go with one color, Dave Hyman flipped a coin for color decision, and it came out to black. This year’s department hoodies will be zip up black hoodies.
- vii. New Business:
 - a. Call for nominations for the President Emeritus and Mrs. Meyerson Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching and Mentoring. Need to write a 500 word or less description of the faculty’s strengths in undergraduate mentoring by March 1st. Email Carolyn for more details! The geology department endorses Dr. Briner, and the descriptions can be written by faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, but has to be specifically related to Dr. Briner’s strengths in undergraduate mentoring.
 - b. Faculty meeting recap: by the end of the semester, the faculty are planning on replacing the computers in the Hoch 4th floor computer lab. There will be a Graduate student meet and greet on March 4th. 20 new prospective graduate students have been invited to visit the Geology Department.
 - c. Peer Writing Group: a sign-up sheet was passed around for a peer writing group that will meet biweekly at the end of grad club meetings. If you are interested, Carolyn Roberts has the sign up sheet. Send her an email so that she may add you to the list.
 - d. Grads Helping Undergrads: Kickoff Session sometime next month, Tues. nights ~6:30pm
 - i. How to make plots in R, Matlab, excel
 - ii. Pizza + softdrinks
 - iii. Potentially more sessions in April depending on graduate and undergraduate interest level
 - e. Pizza proposal: Chuck made an observation that the quality of Wegman’s sheet pizzas

are not as good as the individual large pizzas offered. And so, the grad club should consider ordering two large pizzas from Wegman's, especially since the price is comparable (~\$25.00).

- f. Spring semester club events!
 - i. Brew tours on Friday (for extended happy hour) Tentative plan: April 22nd earth day themed pedal bar bike tour. Further discussion at the next meeting, and a doodle poll
 - ii. Banff film festival Toronto March 18-20 (Toronto airbnb?) If we want encumber funds for the trip, we need to contact the GSA at least a month in advance.
 - iii. Niagara Climbing Center: Graduate Student interest level: medium
 - iv. Buffalo Gem and Mineral Show: We are planning to have a shared table between the graduate students, the undergraduate students, and representatives from Penn Dixie. The show will be April 1-2 in Hamburg.
- viii. Meeting Adjourned: Tom Glose called the meeting to a close at 1:45pm. The next meeting will be held in the Volcano Room (NSC 782) at 1:00pm on 03/03/2016. Hope to see a good turn out!

Respectfully yours,

Joe Tulenko
GGSAC Secretary