

**Minutes of
Geology Graduate Student Association Club
09/06/2016**

- i. Call to order
 - a. Carolyn Roberts, club president, called the meeting to Order at 2:00pm in Cooke 419.
 - b. Members in attendance: Katie Swensen, Jon Brotsch, Nikki Root, Robert Stachowiak, Elizabeth Lee, Alex daSilva, Joseph Tulenko, Melanie Beck, Paul Moretti, Erin Schuster, James Boyle, Avy Schweinsberg, T.J. Scialo, Ian Dunning, Evan Green, Jenny Cramer, Ryan Frederiks, Dave Hyman, Qingyuan Yang, Erik Orantes, Matt Sweeney, Tom Glose, Alia Lesnek, Becca Kiekhaefer, Carolyn Roberts.
 - c. Each student made a general introduction to the club before the meeting commenced.
- ii. Officer Positions: Carolyn Roberts described the role of each position before elections were held for each position.
 - a. President (mandatory training)- In charge of planning events, sending info to all grad students (typically via email), and acts as an in between for the department (students and faculty) and the alumni association.
 - i. Carolyn Roberts unanimously voted in as club President.
 - b. Vice President – acts as an assistant to the president, and must stand in for the president in the event of an absence.
 - i. Robert Stachowiak unanimously voted in as club Vice President
 - c. Treasurer (mandatory training) – in charge of maintaining and reporting on the budget for the club.
 - i. Jenny Cramer unanimously voted in as club treasurer.
 - d. Secretary – In charge of taking meeting minutes and distributing said notes out to the grad student list serv.
 - i. Joseph Tulenko unanimously voted in as club secretary.
 - e. Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists – The representative for the grad club that attends and reports to the grad club on each meeting held by the BAPG.
 - i. Tayler Schweigel unanimously voted in as representatives.
 - f. Faculty Liaison (one rep, one alt) – Must attend every monthly faculty meeting, take notes, and report back to the grad club on the faculty meeting.
 - i. Avy Schweinsberg unanimously voted in as Faculty Liaison, and Carolyn Roberts unanimously voted in as the alternative.
 - g. Grievance Pool – A contact for TA's in the department for any issues and concerns regarding their TA position.
 - i. Andrew Harp unanimously voted in as the grievance pool.
 - h. GSA Senator (one rep, two alternates), first meeting 9/7 – Must attend and participate in each GSA meeting hosted by the University's graduate school.

- i. Alia Lesnek unanimously voted in for the representative position. Erik Orantes and Erin Schuster unanimously voted in as alternative representatives.
 - i. Webmaster – In charge of keeping the grad club’s website up to date.
 - i. Matt Sweeney volunteered to be the new web master.
 - j. Swag Officer/committee – in charge of coordinating and deciding on what accessories, clothing items, etc. will be designed to represent the club and its members in a fashionable manner.
 - i. Dave Hyman agreed to organize the committee.
 - k. Geohazards Representative – attends and reports back to the grad club on Geohazards Center meetings.
 - i. Dave Hyman unanimously voted in as Geohazards Rep.
- iii. Department Events
 - a. Required safety training 09/08/2016 in 222 NSC. The meeting starts at 3:30pm (during the scheduled Pegrum lecture time slot)
 - b. Fall picnic 09/2016 3pm- the picnic will be hosted At Ellicott Creek Park. Please see emails from Sharon Hassett for further details. If you need a ride, please contact fellow grad students, and there may be a department van available if enough students need a ride that are unable find one.
- iv. Grad Club Activities
 - a. Fundraising opportunities to increase our budget
 - i. Winter party (most of our budget, but ticket sales)
 - ii. Volunteering opportunities to get \$250 from GSA
 - 1. 40 person hours, 5 volunteers minimum
 - 2. Next proposal due 9/21 for the Penn Dixie Earth Day event Saturday October 8th. 12 members tentatively volunteered
 - iii. Swag Fundraiser through Sub Board
 - 1. Faculty members expressed interest in Baseball caps
 - 2. Other ideas – T-shirts, bumper stickers, etc. Dave Hyman elected to gather up a committee of interested members to decide what else the club would like to put the UB Geology logo on.
 - b. Beaver Meadows – recreational center in the southern tier of NYS
 - i. Day trips/weekend trips, cabin, snowshoeing. Can accommodate up to approximately 10 people. 8 miles of trails to hike, wild life sanctuary, bird watching, etc.
 - ii. Upcoming events 10/7-10/9
 - c. Other camping trip- the club has organized large camping trips in the past; we can discuss camping trip ideas at the next meeting.
 - d. Penn Dixie, ESCI day 10/8. The event features booths and activities aimed at informing middle/high school age students about earth science topics (wildlife conservation, ecology, geology, etc.). It is a great volunteering opportunity for the

grad club.

- e. Our usual happy hour is on Fridays from 4pm-7pm at Brickhouse. We invite all graduate students to join in to enjoy a relaxing afternoon drink with their fellow peers in the department.

v. Other Business

- a. A Mr. Gafron, who is keen on recruiting men who are driven, academically focused, and possess leadership skills, approached the club for a new organization called Lambda Chi Alpha. The only quantitative qualification is a 2.75 GPA... Contact Mr. Gafron at ngafron@lambdachi.org if interested. Also, their website may hold more information: lambdachi.org

vi. Next Meetings

- a. Continuing with this time – Attendees agreed that 2pm every other Tuesday in Cooke 419 is an acceptable time and place for the club to meet.
- b. Pizza encumbrance – Carolyn Roberts called a vote to encumber \$35 for every meeting so that the club can order a sufficient amount of pizza for every meeting. The vote passes unanimously.

vii. Graduate Student Association General Announcements

- a. The graduate student association offers funds for graduate students attending and presenting at professional conferences.
 - i. For presenting – Master's up to \$350, PhD up to \$550
 - ii. For attending – up to \$200 total regardless of program
- b. The Mark Diamond Research Fund: Get money to complete thesis or dissertation research.
 - i. Up to \$1500 for master's students and up to \$2500 for Ph.D. students.
- c. Scholarly Publication
 - i. Up to \$1500 to fund the creation of a journal or other publication.
- d. Symposium funding: Up to \$1400 to hold an event to highlight graduate student work.
- e. Special activities funding: Up to \$1200 to help plan/sponsor a university wide event serving to benefit a diverse graduate student population. Any individual may also apply.
- f. Interdepartmental events/activities: Up to \$750 for 2+ groups of departments wishing to co-host any social and academic events/activities.
- g. Volunteer opportunities – \$250 awarded to the grad club for at least 5 club members volunteering up to 40 hours for hosted community events.
- h. GSA hosts monthly events free to grad students (i.e. Java Junction first Friday of every month, distinguished speaker events, etc.). Announcements on these events are sent out to all grad students via email through the GSA.
- i. Free editorial services (i.e. copyediting) for grad student projects including thesis/dissertations and articles for publication.
- j. Visit gsa.buffalo.edu for further information.

viii. Meeting adjournment: Carolyn Roberts called the meeting to a close at 3:00pm. The next

meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 20th at 2:00pm in Cooke 419.

Respectfully Yours,

Joseph Tulenko
GGSAC Secretary