

**Minutes for the
Geology Graduate Student Association
9-10-2019**

1. Call to Order:
 - a. A. Croft, treasurer, called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm in Cooke 435.
2. Attendance: Joe Tulenko, Ricky Milleville, Kayla Hollister, Devon Gorby, Jules Conlon, Antonio Lang, Meredith Cole, Chris Sbarra, Sam Rodgers, Caleb Walcott, Erin Schuster, A. Croft, Pat Bobbitt
3. First meeting remarks: Croft welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the GSEU representatives, Joe Moore and Willis McCumber
4. Joe and Willis, representatives of GSEU, spoke to the club about TA/GA contracts
 - a. For all PhD TAs/RAs/GAs, the stipend floor is now \$20000, fees for PhD students will be refunded as well. Result of living stipend campaign!
 - i. Living Stipend Campaign goal is a \$24000 stipend (a living wage) for all TA/GA/RAs, and that the source of funding for this is not individual departments
 - b. New contract negotiated with the state, next step is ratification by simple majority. Members will get a ballot in the mail, and can vote with pin number online.
 - c. Being a dues paying member is now opt-in, but if you become a full member, 2% of your stipend supports existing union benefits and the union negotiating new benefits. Please consider becoming a full member if you aren't already!
5. Old Business:
 - a. Next, Pat introduced the committee chairs and remaining officer positions for elections. After a member voiced their interest in a position, Pat called for a vote for those in favor of the candidate. The results are below:
 - i. Officer and Representative Elections:
 1. Caleb Walcott was unanimously voted in as Outreach Committee Chair
 2. Joe Tulenko was unanimously voted in as Winter Party Committee Co-Chair
 - a. Jeremey Stock is interested in chairing as well, but was not at meeting, will be contacted through email
 3. Meredith Cole was unanimously voted in as Tutorial Committee Chair
 4. Erin Schuster was unanimously voted in as Activities Committee Chair
 5. Chris Sbarra was unanimously voted in as Swag Committee Chair
 6. Devon Gorby was unanimously voted in as Sustainability Representative
 7. Erin Schuster was unanimously voted in as Union Representative

8. Sam Rodgers was unanimously voted in as BAPG Representative
 9. Webmaster remains unfilled, we will send out an email about this to the club. If anyone is interested, please email Pat or Erin.
 - b. Pegrum Refreshment Tasks
 - i. This week the officers will handle the Pegrum refreshments
 - ii. Pat asked the club for volunteers to handle Pegrum refreshments for the next Pegrum.
 1. Caleb Walcott will order for next week, and Pat or Erin will help pick up.
 2. We will ask for another volunteer at the next meeting!
6. New Business:
- a. Croft proposed amending the constitution to change our quorum requirement from 51% of the graduate students in the department to requiring that at least 9 people be present for voting (including the E-board).
 - i. Proposal passed unanimously.
 - b. Senate Update:
 - i. Reimbursements from club funds will happen, but it will take 6-8 weeks. The funds are there, but we will have to be reimbursed and no longer have tax exemption.
 - ii. IT services: they offer computer programs like Matlab, ArcGIS for free! See flyer attached to minutes.
 - c. GAAB meeting update:
 - i. Local AAPG student chapter is in progress- updates soon!
 - ii. They would like Winter Party to coincide with Alumni Day (2nd week of February)
 - iii. There will be a new research group in the department, relating to the solid earth and deep time
 - iv. The department is considering a 2nd (local) field camp, which would be geophysics-focused
 - v. One of the assistant professors from the geology department is up for tenure, so that process will take place during this semester
7. Our next meeting will be on September 24th, at 2pm in Cooke 435. Hope to see you there!

Respectfully Submitted,

Meredith Cole
GGSA Secretary

IT Tips for Graduate Students at UB:



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 - Log into yours at ubbox.buffalo.edu.



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