

**Minutes for the
Geology Graduate Student Association
11-19-2019**

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Pat Bobbitt, president, called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm in Cooke 435.
2. Attendance: A. Croft, Caleb Walcott, Antonio Lang, Pat Bobbitt, Meredith Cole, Chris Sbarra, Devon Gorby, Sam Rodgers, Erin Schuster, Juliana Conlon, Kayla Hollister, Hannah Annunziata, Josh Charlton, Ricky Milleville, Celia Trunz, Jeremy Stock
3. First meeting remarks: Pat welcomed everyone to the meeting.
4. Old Business:
 - a. Winter Party:
 - i. Department is donating more than last year, which should be enough to cover extra costs from live music
 - ii. Band for live music is taken care of, Kayla will continue to coordinate
 - iii. Raffle: possibly during dinner, if we can do it faster that would be good due to the additional time needed for speakers honoring Dr. Mitchell
 - iv. Bandanas and t-shirts will be available at the party
 1. Winter Party t-shirt designs: swag committee will coordinate with people willing to work on artwork
 - b. Outreach Committee:
 - i. Outreach event at Eggert Elementary School, Thursday Nov 14th
 1. Thanks to Tony, Jeremy and Caleb for volunteering!
 - ii. Thanks to everyone that helped out with outreach this semester!
 - iii. More outreach will happen in the spring
 1. Next semester, we will work on organizing outreach events with local schools
 2. If you haven't participated, consider participating next semester, to practice public speaking and represent the department
 - c. Swag Committee:
 - i. Chris showed the club swag mock-ups with different logos
 1. The club was interested in having fleece with a text logo, t-shirt with a color logo; stickers, bumper magnets, hat with a round logo, pint glasses, metal water bottles, and mousepads
 2. Swag committee talked about designing a limited-edition Winter Party t-shirt (similar to last years, but maybe with a different back design that features Winter Party and/or Dr. Mitchell's retirement)
 3. New ticket office will be open over break, which means swag sale and Winter Party ticket sales can extend longer/start earlier
 - d. Union Update:
 - i. The university formed a committee formed due to PhD excellence initiative, tasked with finding bridge funding for the program
 1. The committee has said there is no possibility of finding funding

- ii. Still waiting for the university to release public financial documents
 - 1. Put in a FOI request for the document
 - 2. If they do not release the documents, union plans to pursue legal action
 - 3. Letter writing party to SUNY trustees, in Clemons 1032, Dec 5th (see email)
 - 1. Do we want to cosponsor the event? The club unanimously approved \$25 to cosponsor.
 - 4. Membership update: 55% of UB grad students are members of GSEU, the highest member density UB has had since beginning to be represented by GSEU
 - e. Tutorials Committee update: Sign-ups to present research at a Brown Bag Lunch next semester will be sent out via google sheets soon! Consider signing up to give an informal talk!
 - f. Photo Contest: deadline to submit has now passed, watch for an email about voting, and check the Instagram to see the photos!
 - g. Faculty update:
 - i. The club needs to write out our guidelines for the grant, but the faculty is willing to help the club with grants,
 - ii. Faculty received the PhD excellence initiative letter from the union, but feels they do not have much influence.
- 5. New Business:
 - a. Sustainability: How can we make winter party greener?
 - i. Perhaps encourage public transport with a free raffle ticket?
 - ii. Contact UBSustainability about waste management
 - iii. Let Devon or Dr. Thomas know if you have any ideas!
 - b. GAAB meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 3rd GAAB will be meeting to discuss the semester with alumni, updates coming at the next meeting!
 - c. BAPG meeting: People have arranged a carpool to attend BAPG and have dinner, network, and see a talk about bioremediation
 - i. See Sam's email for more details
 - d. Social hour: 5pm Friday- planning a Movie Night!
 - i. Jordan sent out an email with possible movie choices- please vote!
- 6. Our next meeting will be on December 3rd, at 2pm in Cooke 435. Hope to see you there!

Respectfully Submitted,

Meredith Cole
GGSA Secretary