



EGSC General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: March 15th, 2017

Meeting Location: Weil 307

Recorded By: Hannah Gardiner

Meeting Start: 1:00 pm

Meeting End: 2:30 pm

Attendance: Wes Bolch, Julissa Nunez, Morgan Harding, Madeline Sciallo, Hannah Gardiner, Ian Hahus, Oscar Figueroa, Rommel Pabon, Nalini Kumar, Olivia Lanier, Scott Strednack, Brianna Posadas, Luis Vargas, Ratna Suthar, Andrew Stern, Casey Barnard, Mitzi Dennis, Trokon Johnson, Allison Goins, Kaitlynn Olczak

Agenda:

Sign in and grab food. Chair, Morgan Harding, will call the meeting to order.

Chair:

- Check in with Department Student Councils
 - Questions raised about how to talk to departmental advisory board
 - Get together a panel of graduate students (mix of Masters and PhD) and talk to advisory board about pretty much anything
 - There should be NO faculty present for these meetings
 - MAE just had their advisory board meeting (their meeting also included Undergrads)
 - Undergrads had no complaints and love the department
 - ECE GSC notes that there is lower attendance at their monthly meetings during the mid-semester point (like now)
 - Maddie suggested that a “paper meeting” works well, so people don’t have to commit time but can still know what’s going on
- Newsletter Updates
 - ABE students had problems getting it because their department is shared between the College of Engineering and the College of Liberal Arts and Science
 - Nest Newsletter will come out mid-April
 - Book review
 - High performance computing
 - Engineering Leadership/Innovation Institutes
 - Career Resources Center
 - COE Research Service Centers x
 - Suggestion to add more about research in the newsletter:
 - Blurbs on professors and we could cycle through the departments each month
 - A “job board” for students to find projects and professors they may be interested in work/
- Academic Integrity (ie Cheating) Town Hall
 - Next Tuesday, March 21st at 1:30pm in Rhines 125
 - Come to discuss how people cheat and how to stop it



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- Specifically about graduate courses
- We can then create a document of best practices to send to the faculty
- Would prefer classes/professors to be anonymous
- Elections
 - Elections are currently open for officers for next year
 - Chair and Recruitment Chair have to have been in EGSC for at least a year to be considered for nomination
 - Self nominations are allowed
 - Nominations can be made through email or in person to any current officer of EGSC
 - Nominations close right before we start elections next meeting
 - You don't have to be at the meeting to be elected, but if you're nominated you must email the officers with a statement
 - Contact any officers if you have questions about what they do

Vice-Chair:

- Tshirts
 - People have offered to buy the shirts Maddie made
 - So we're going to reorder them
 - Maddie will create a sign up link for anyone to go and order a shirt from (\$15)
 - Thoughts on changing the color to a darker blue voted down
 - Will keep the original color
 - We need at least 20 people to sign up, so please share the link with your departments:
 - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNSaw3LTXMjrGwQSGLzUoAoeIjl3x18PIEAoGhB4KKetdRtQ/viewform?c=0&w=1>
- Social!
 - April 13th in the evening
 - Will send out an email reminder to see if anyone is interested in other activities
 - Else we'll do the same as last semester
 - If you want to help plan this, meet with Maddie after the meeting and/or send her an email

Recruitment-Chair:

- Spring Visit Report
 - Pretty much everyone loved it
 - Some departments dropped the ball on the Thursday visits (as the secondary choice) which is point of improvement for next year
 - Suggestion that we scrap the Second Choice department visit
 - Resources are already spread thin and grad students have too much to do that weekend
 - Suggest that we instead "electronically" recruit if students have a genuine interest in a second department
 - Found a Good Faculty Advisor and having a Fully-Funded PhD program were the 2 most important things



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- Email Ian at recruitmentchair.egsc@gmail.com if you have any specific comments, suggestions, what you like/dislike, department specific things, etc. for recruitment next year
- Suggestion that faculty meetings with potential new students be one-on-one and last ~15-20 minutes
 - Timing suggestion is flexible but we REALLY want the one-on-one meetings
- Additional suggestion that each department hosts a Hospitality Room all day during the Friday of recruitment where a rotating number of grad students can hang out with potential new students with schedule gaps
 - Add a poster session to the Hospitality Room
- Summarize best practices for recruitment for your department and send it to one of the officers
 - Bonus points if you use survey data to back up your points
- Grad Coordinator of ___ invited grad student volunteers to a breakfast for feedback on what works and doesn't work for recruitment

Wrap up:

- Since the new students are getting a significant raise, it was suggested that current students admitted to candidacy should get a raise
 - Other people reiterated liking this idea that there should be some sort of raise(s) at some point throughout the PhD process
 - Perhaps yearly? Or after year 3? Or after students reach the mean-time-to-bitterness?
 - Would increase grad student morale and discourage faculty from keeping grad students around longer than necessary
- Problems with retention in some departments
 - People will come for a PhD, get funded like a PhD, but leave after Masters (or even earlier sometimes)

Action Items:

Everyone:

- Advertise the Academic Integrity Town Hall Meeting next Tuesday March 21st at 1:30pm in Rhines 125 to your peers
- Summarize best practices for recruitment for your department and send it to one of the officers
 - Email Ian at recruitmentchair.egsc@gmail.com if you have any specific comments, suggestions, what you like/dislike, department specific things, etc. for recruitment next year
- If you want to help plan the social, send Maddie an email (vicechair.egsc@gmail.com)
- Share the tshirt reorder form with your department:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNSaw3LTXMJrGwQSGLzUoAoejl3x18PIEAoGhB4KKetdRtQ/viewform?c=0&w=1>



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- Nominations for any officer positions must be submitted to any current officer before the start of the next meeting

Next Meeting:

April 19th at 1:00pm in Weil 307