

Meeting minutes for: February 13th, 2019

Updates from the General Assembly/Student Reps/CGS Delegate

- Keri Knowles, program administrator, wants to remind students that the deadline for abstract submission for IGP symposium is **February 22nd, 2019**. Submit the abstracts and register online at <http://bioserv.mps.ohio-state.edu/igpsymp/2019/index.php>
 - **Students in their 3rd year are required to present, everyone is required to attend.** The symposium will be held on **May 21st, 2019**.
- Nicki Puckos reminded students to attend the Frontiers in Neuroscience meeting on **March 6th** directly following seminar class. The purpose of the meeting is to nominate worthy scientists to be invited to speak in our Monday seminar series. Nominees are typically highly distinguished and recognized within the scientific community.
- Sarah Light is on the Life Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility committee for the Council of Graduate Students (CGS). They are planning a river-side clean up along the Olentangy river by the stadium and it would be great if we could be involved! More details to come.
- CGS reps
 - There is now a master's degree that students who have successfully passed candidacy will automatically earn. It is not offered as a terminal masters option, and the offer is applied to any student pre- or post-candidacy, assuming the candidacy has not expired. The only additional "work" is to apply for the masters graduation in the appropriate semester. Some fun celebratory "we all got our master degrees" post may be placed on the NGSO website! This is also not to be advertised to recruits as of yet.
 - Monthly meetings between the graduate student representatives, Keri, and the program codirectors to help establish continuous dialogue for discussing time-sensitive issues as they arise. It is easier to do this than meet with the entire committee each time due to scheduling conflicts.
 - They would also like there to be clarification on the official program requirements for involvement with Brain Awareness Week, historically hosted by N.E.U.R.O.
 - The student representatives also wanted to get feedback from first years too see if orientation were online what their opinion would be. It was very positively received. More details on this to come. Keri is asking students interested in helping to organize this and provide testimonials or descriptions of the student organizations within the NGP to e-mail her for more information!
- Student representative update
 - Kyle is requesting more input for alternative careers people would like represented at IGP career day. E-mail Kyle Sullivan or Ben Noble with suggestions ASAP.
 - The CGS is also gathering "travel grant reimbursement horror stories" to help identify problems in the process and make the process more efficient/clear across departments. E-mail Kyle Sullivan with relevant feedback!
 - CGS is also hosting a graduate student health and wellness event on **March 20th** and will be looking for feedback about lab water usage in different departments.
 - There is also expressed interest in having a representative come to different departments and speak about mental health and the options on campus, with

members in attendance emphasizing the importance of the breadth of resources they cover (for situations requiring immediate calming compared to resources for situations that could help more long term). Kyle Sullivan personally recommends an app called headspace as a mental health resource for students! Sarah Light also suggested compiling resources used across students into a document to give to future generations of students, so they do not need to seek everything out on their own.

Updates from the Executive Board

- Liz Stone (President)
 - Liz would like to send an e-mail to gather feedback on how the NGSO written “Guide to surviving first year” could change after recent changes to the program’s curriculum. Next year’s class will be first to truly experience these changes in full effect. She wants to continue to improve the resources offered on the NGSO website. There are a few things like the postdoc workshops and the finance workshop that needs to be posted to the website still but these are all in progress.
 - Liz is working on scheduling a meeting between executive board and committee members to discuss and redefine our organization goals.
- Sarah Light (Vice President)
 - No updates
- Kyle Sullivan (Treasurer)
 - No updates
- Kia Adams (Secretary)
 - NGSO brochure discussion was tabled.
 - Nu Rho Psi graduate student career panel on **February 20th**, from **6:30-7:30pm**.

Updates from the Committee Chairs

Social: Zoe Tapp

- Zoe spoke about planning the student/faculty mixer. Oberdick suggested to Kyle getting a box for a hockey game, but with timing and the remaining season this is unfortunately not viable despite interest. Laser tag with a venue where that is not the only option as well received. She has tried contacting OUAB for ideas and planning, but they have not responded as of yet.
- Zoe has started a crafting interest club called **Knit-Whits**. They have occasional meetings where more established crafters can help teach those with less experience, and everyone can craft and chat. She encourages those interested to reach out and respond to her surveys!
- Make sure to attend NGSO happy hour on **March 8th** at the **District Pourhouse** from **5-6pm!**

Service & Outreach: Josh Rieskamp

- There are some events coming up, so keep on the lookout for signup e-mails for COSI brain awareness week sometime around spring break, and for the Science Olympiad on **April 27th**.
- Reminder that a colleague and NGP graduate is coming into town with high school students hoping to tour labs and learn about research. Anybody involved in touring or interacting with students will have to complete training to work with minors. There is interest in hosting a panel for them.
- Josh updated everyone on progress in planning this year's brain bee. Target dates were discussed, keeping in mind that for the first brain bee under our name we do not plan to send a student to the national competition. The summer season is a viable option to give time for us to advertise and get details ironed out and gives students time to study. If we do not think we can pull it together for summer, can wait until earlier fall. A dedicated website for the event was discussed.
- Josh also reminded students to sign up for the upcoming STEM expo event! **

Fundraising: Kyle Sullivan

- Kyle spoke about trying to reach out and sell t-shirts at COSI brain awareness week. He needs to follow up with those in charge.

Professional Development: Ben Seicol

- No updates

Web development: Shane O'Neil

- No updates

Adhoc Friendship (name tbd) Committee:

- Shane is taking over this committee and is currently brainstorming names.

Thank you for reading! Next meeting: **March 20th** after seminar **at 5 PM.**