

Meeting minutes for: January 23rd, 2019

Updates from the General Assembly/Student Reps/CGS Delegate

- The student representatives Ben Noble and Kyle Sullivan lead a discussion to gather feedback for the most recent recruitment. A comment from current first year students suggested making recruits interested in cognitive neuroscience feel more welcome by integrating more cognitive neuroscience talks into the morning faculty talks. Generally agreed on by those in attendance that this is a goal that has not been met. Some students suggested that post-docs or graduate students could give talks in place of faculty if scheduling conflicts were hard to overcome. Other issues addressed included attendance of graduate students at NGSO sponsored events during recruitment. Representation is important to provide recruits with opportunities to ask questions from students at all stages of the program. Some suggestions were made that need to be discussed in more detail at future meetings, such as establishing incentive programs and intrinsic motivation programs. Furthermore, program administration urged students to remember that professional behavior is an important aspect of recruitment that should be maintained at all events. Lastly, there is an alternate recruitment event scheduled for **February 25th**.
- Kyle Sullivan announced that an NGP alum from Dr. Karl Obrietan's lab is interested in organizing an outreach event with high school stem students over spring break. Ideas include having the students tour labs and see what graduate school is like. More details on this are coming. He also mentioned that the IGP career day is approaching, and they want suggestions on academic or nonacademic positions that NGP wants represented.
- The overall role of the student representatives and the relationship they have with NGSO was clarified in more detail for those in attendance.

Updates from the Executive Board

- Liz Stone (President)
 - Liz assisted in leading the discussion about recruitment and made a more general note that she would like the goals for the NGSO to be better defined, more specific, and more clear to NGP members. Making a brochure that will be ready to view at the next NGSO meeting was suggested.
- Sarah Light (Vice President)
 - Sarah would like to begin collecting records for NGSO-sponsored events that happened in the past few months. Listed the events she has listed currently and asked members to send her any events she may have missed.
- Kyle (Treasurer)
 - No formal updates, but it was discussed that Kyle will look into a budget for the student faculty mixer that Zoe (social chair) is trying to organize as a stipulation of the annual donation to NGSO funds by the NGP faculty.
- Kia (Secretary)
 - Still not much communication coming from the undergraduate neuroscience office. She plans to reach out and contact them again and ask for information or a meeting to organize a date/time for hosting a panel for undergraduates interested in neuroscience research and graduate school.

Updates from the Committee Chairs

Social: Zoe Tapp

- Zoe spoke about planning the student/faculty mixer. It is difficult to pin down an activity that would interest everybody in the program. More suggestions were made such as escape room, top golf, team building activities, etc. Zoe is going to find a way to gauge faculty interest and nail down a good time/date.
- Zoe has started a knitting- and crochet- 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. Keep an eye out for more e-mails with date and time information.

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**.
- Josh updated everyone on progress in planning this year's brain bee. The neuroscience major expressed interest in helping to sponsor/host the event, but generally agreed on that it may be best to plan this event without the goal of having it in time to send someone to the national competition afterwards. This is a future goal, but the main priority this year is to host a successful brain bee. More substantial plans and an ad hoc committee were established to help Josh in moving forward with planning logistics and outreach to local schools to garner interest in students. Those students that have interest in the committee with Josh are Kyle Sullivan, Liz Stone, and Zoe Tapp.

Fundraising: Kyle Sullivan

- No updates.

Professional Development: Ben Seicol

- **February 5th, 3:00-4:00pm; James B050** “Becoming a postdoc: How to choose the right mentor and make the most of your postdoctoral training, session 1”
- **February 12th, 3:00-4:00pm; James B050** “Becoming a postdoc: How to choose the right mentor and make the most of your postdoctoral training, session 2”

Web development: Shane O'Neil

- No update

Thank you for reading! Next meeting: **February 13th, 2018** after seminar **at 5 PM.**