

GSA Fall 2024 Meeting  
September 11 2024 Minutes

Attendees:

- ❖ Rudra, Clark, Nicolas, Leo, Noah, Kiran, Idamis, Emily, Taydra, Ally, Shane, Jerold, Claire, Adrianna, Katie, Jaf, Sarah, Katie W., Prem, Grant, Yingshun, Becca, Erin

Agenda:

- ❖ **General Announcements:**
  - Department review: 8 people showed up. Yay
    - Hearing back in a couple months
    - Handbook for grad students (?), but hasn't been updated
  - New link to a google form for teaching experiences / outreach
    - By Andrea Lang (Albany)
    - Gives students an opportunity to teach without necessarily being a TA
  - No graduate stipend raise. Boo
    - Suggests next year to do a small percent raise
- ❖ Secretary (Ally):
  - Still need pictures from Emily, Marissa and Evan
  - Once I get the pictures, the GSA website will be updated
- ❖ Treasurer (Grant):
  - We have funding
  - \$950 for welcoming people
  - \$150/200 for AMP
  - \$200 for social
  - Can ask the department to increase the funds for social from 200-300\$, was submitted to Christi
- ❖ Curriculum (Ally):
  - Updates on prospective schedule for Fall 2025
  - Approved courses: 762, 722, 460
  - Rudra: survey will be sent out on how us graduate students will feel about current core classes (eg: 610, 611, 630, etc)
- ❖ Faculty Reps (Grant and Jerald):
  - Oct 24 / 45 : during homecoming weekend, university wide fundraising
    - That's where our department gets a lot of funding
    - Approval for new whiteboards
    - Pete teaching instruments (?) for CTD
    - Improvements for 811
    - Big discussion on TA allocation and grader policy
      - We gone 3x over for TAs last year (Christi)
    - Environmental sciences
    - Tuition increase for professional masters (i think 200\$)

- DEI stuff other than the code of conduct
  - Alumni award nominations
  - Recruitment
- ❖ Social Coordinator (Emily):
  - Doreen has been having health issues and has taken the semester off
    - Send her a care package / card
    - If interested in what to get her- send an email to Emily
  - Organize a viewing of the cool comet that's been going around
    - Sounds we can't do it on the roof ): we need at least 1 faculty member for us to be on the roof
    - The sooner to set up the date (want to convince their advisor to let us on the roof), the better
    - Probably between like 7-830
  - Corn maze / apple picking / pumpkin patch (?)
    - This saturday 10/20 seems to be like the best day for everyone
    - Sign up sheet for drivers who can take people that want to go
    - Email to be sent after the meeting on what specific place to go
- ❖ Seminar (Evan):
  - No updates
- ❖ Outreach (Becca and Stephanie):
  - Event this saturday- Wisconsin Science Fest
    - Need volunteers - let becca know by friday
- ❖ DEI (Becca / Doreen / Idamis):
  - Working on code of conduct - ripped it to shreds (over 200 comments yikes)
    - Very against "punishment" words in COC (?)
    - Goals with the department
  - Ideas about how to highlight more students especially on social media
- ❖ Welcome Committee (Hamish):
  - No updates
- ❖ Student Research Experiences Committee (Marissa):
  - No updates
- ❖ AMS Chapter (Ben and Cayden):
  - No updates
- ❖ Recruitment (Prem):
  - Department got approved to get another faculty member
    - Looking for 2 representatives
  - RISE EARTH
  - Department is getting funding from university to hire new faculty
    - Looking for early career hires
    - Intersectional / working outside of AOS
    - Create more collaborations across departments
  - Email sent out a few weeks ago
  - Remote sensing, AO dynamics, AI (?) [chancellor said no because of RISE AI]
  - It's time intensive but really rewarding (Emily, from experience)

- Timeline:
  - Applications by end of Nov
  - January is interview time
  - Spring Colloquium time slots taken by these applicants
  - Rudra will be the 2nd representative - but an email will be sent out if people are interested
  - Leo and Adrianna expressed interest
- ❖ Graduate Program (Clark):
  - Open house for prospective students
  - Zoom open house on Nov 20
  - Opportunities for people applying to the graduate program
  - FAQs + Advice + Meetings
  - Mentorship program that Leo and Rudra have started
    - Help prospective students through the application process
    - Partnering with AMP
    - 13 grad students have signed up. Yay
    - Website launching in Nov
  - Updating the AOS website for prospective students
    - New page with lots more information and helpful links
    - Sign up isn't closed!
    - List potential advisors who do and do not have funding for new students
- ❖ Alumni (Yingshun)
  - Fill the Hill fundraising
  - Next week is homecoming, so alumni is welcome to come
- ❖ Communications (Erin)
  - No updates