

MGB Meeting Agenda  
May 2, 2023

1. Welcome!
2. Notifications from Chair and Vice Chair
  - a. Account Balance: **Pretty much the same as last time.**
  - b. Directed Reading Program
    - i. Jacob and Adriana will run it next semester.
    - ii. Try to add it as MGB officer or combine DRP with Heartland Chair next semester.
3. Officer Updates
  - a. General Liaison
    - i. Desire to update mailing list (if interested could also make an alumni mailing list)
      1. Come up with an accurate list (math website not very accurate)
      2. Update every academic year.
    - ii. Thank you for filling out the 6000-breadth requirement survey!! The data has been given to Ryan and Xiaoyi so they can disseminate it to the faculty.
    - iii. B20J is safe to work in and passed an environmental check. We are working to remove the fan.
    - iv. After meeting with 5000-level professors and other graduate students, we have made significant progress in clarifying an outline for the 5000-level helper role for each 5000-level class. This should be available to you before the TA preference form goes out this summer.
  - b. Social Co-Chairs
    - i. Successful picnic?
      1. Best one we have every had? Possibly.
    - ii. Summer activities: beach volleyball for now. For ideas email Jacob and/or Kit.
  - c. Newsletter/T-shirt Ministers
    - i. Game answers are due on Friday.
    - ii. Prize to be determined.
  - d. GAUSS Co-Chairs
    - i. Last talk tomorrow: Parker. His last talk as a student at UIOWA.
  - e. Heartland Chair
    - i. Looking for speakers next semester.
    - ii. Get a catalogue of the talks to send out to schools: sheet with name, title and abstract.
  - f. International Liaison
  - g. Webmaster
    - i. Heartland is up on the website.
    - ii. Looking for people to post blogs, e.g., letters to their first-year self, qualifying exam materials, review of apartments, mirror other blogs, etc.
4. SIAM Updates
  - a. 3MT was a success – 35 people.
    - i. Continue every year.
    - ii. Winners on Friday: Margarita and Adriana.
  - b. Next semester writing groups.

- c. Field trips during the summer, possibly.
- 5. GSS Updates
  - a. International student fees discussed in the meeting yesterday.
- 6. COGS Updates
- 7. Comments/Suggestions
- 8. Ryan and Xiaoyi Updates
  - a. 5000-level TA:
    - i. Estimated TA allocation has been sent to General Liaison (Elise Askelsen).
    - ii. Analysis has 10 hours assigned to it. This person will have MathLab and grading, but not an undergraduate course.
    - iii. The flexible hours not considered as working hours. Everyone gets 4 flexible hours to get to 20 hours. It is possible to get less hours, depending on the needs of the semester. However, this will be given back the following semester (sum of flex hours over a traditional academic year should sum to 8).
    - iv. Encouraged to keep good communication with main instructors and Ryan and Xiaoyi. Ryan said it is part of our professional development.
    - v. Track your hours for a couple of weeks and report them if you are going over your hours.
    - vi. Careful language: feedback, not grading.
    - vii. May be listed in MyUI, but we will see under what position (instructor, teaching assistant, helper...)
    - viii. The title 'TA-helper' can be changed to fit the actual responsibilities of the helper. If suggestions email Ryan and they will be discussed with Dean's Office.
  - b. Incoming year peer mentor
    - i. Suggestion 1: put useful information on the website.
    - ii. Suggestion 2: Senior TA help incoming students.
      - 1. Actual TA training for incoming first years. Wednesday-Thursday-Friday before the first week.
      - 2. ETL-program is trying to get some sort of training.
      - 3. Have Lead TA as an actual position for the future (to also help with unbalance Fall-Spring).
    - iii. Add observation of classes with First Year Buddy (both ways) or built it with First Year Seminar. Give role more structure in general.
- 9. Thank you for attending!