

## GSA September 4, 2014

### Agenda

1. **(Roll)** [\* = new student]
  - a. Brigitte Zacharzenko
  - b. Cera Fischer
  - c. Pancho
  - d. Michael Hutson
  - e. James
  - f. Nik\*
  - g. Kevin Keegan\*
  - h. Jessie Rack
  - i. Jason\*
  - j. Kaitlin Gallagher
  - k. Benedict Gagliardi
  - l. Manette Sandor
  - m. Hayley
  - n. Kristin Nolting\*
  - o. Katie\*
  - p. Holly Brown
2. **COMMITTEES**
  - a. Tuesday Evening Seminar
    - i. Once a month (?) at a faculty member's house
    - ii. Pancho volunteers
    - iii. Jessie suggests Mark Urban
  - b. Grad nominated seminar speaker (Spring)
    - i. Nik was volunteered by Cera
  - c. Welcome Committee
    - i. Jessie volunteers to help Holly
  - d. Grad Student Senators
    - i. Michael was asked to attend by vice President Aaron
    - ii. Kaitlin possibly depending on time
    - iii. Ellen is currently signed up
    - iv. MUST have at least one senator there to receive funding!!
  - e. Seminar snacks
    - i. Nora volunteered to nag the hosting lab
  - f. EEB faculty rep
    - i. Hayley and Jimmy
  - g. Grad Student symposium
    - i. Nora volunteered to be in charge
    - ii. Brigitte keeps track of money
    - iii. Jessie is stepping down from this (but is happy to advise/moderate)
    - iv. Kaitlin and Benedict volunteer to help
    - v. Tanisha was volunteered
3. **BARN DANCE** (Sept 26 [27 is rain date])

- a. "Barn to be Wild" theme
- b. Nora is in charge
- c. Brigitte in charge of invitations /decorating
- d. Jason, Kevin, Brigitte, Ben = decorations/pinata
- e. Hayley = recycling (needs a large car)
- f. Beer = no keg! But faculty/department donations → beer fund
- g. Beer = Michael will buy variety with beer money
- h. Set Up = decorating committee + Michael, James, Jessie
- i. Clean Up = Pancho, Katilin,
- j. Music and DJ = Michael H.
  - i. Borrow John Velotta's sound system?
- k. Photographer = Ellen is volunteered
- l. Volleyball net = Ben
- m. Volleyball = Nora (has balls ☺)
- n. Corn Hole = Hayley
- o. Costumes!
- p. Food Themes!

#### 4. FUNDRAISING

- a. Brigitte will sell more pint glasses
- b. Jimmy's logo wins! (He was the only one who entered a design)
- c. Mannette suggests hoodies? Brigitte expects it will be too expensive
- d. Fundraising helped with Franklin Outreach and May Cookout
- e. Ways to use money:
  - i. Afternoon Tea
  - f.

#### 5. Outreach

- a. Franklin again! Wooo

#### 6. Other Issues

- a. Bargaining committee
  - i. Info session in library at 4PM tomorrow
    - 1. Updates and questions
  - ii. Survey – most have signed
    - 1. Demonstrates to Governor Malloy there is support
    - 2. While he is in office, he can pressure university
    - 3. UConn likely waiting for election and if Foley is elected it will not be good for us
    - 4. We should help push to get thing going and done *before* the election

#### 7. Offer Letters/Faculty Issues

- a. Hayley updates (Jimmy will also be doing this)
  - i. First faculty meeting was this week
    - 1. Updates on website
    - 2. Grad curriculum updated → official EEB grad student handbook
    - 3. Department photo is the next few weeks
      - a. Ideas for location?

- i. Great Lawn
- 4. 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of dept → events
- 5. looks like there is money for support this year
- 6. Offer letters
  - a. Changes from previous years:
    - i. Addition info about health insurance
    - ii. Clarification of satisfactory progress
    - iii. GAs cannot accept jobs outside the school without written permission
      - 1. This was not made aware to us until we were asked to sign the letters
      - 2. This change goes against the bargaining committee's rules
      - 3. Wording of this paragraph is tricky (i.e. 'discouraged', what constitutes a job outside the department)
      - 4. Paragraph was inserted at urging of the dean to get grad students to matriculate in a timely manner – also, Dave Wagner acted upon this by withdrawing TAs hip of a grad who took a job outside department.