**BGSO General Meeting Minutes May 2, 2017, 12:00 -1:00PM**

**Officers present**: Benjamin Gombash, Felicity Newton, Chissa Rivaldi, Mauna Dasari, Amanda Yamasaki, Rachel Oidtman, Brittni Bertolet, Kate Barrett, Stefan Freed, Matthew Trentman

**Members present**: Henry Vu

**Faculty/Advisors present:** Dr. Rebecca Wingert

**Agenda:**

1. **Event summaries**
   1. **Prof dev panel**
   2. **March for Science**
   3. **ND Day**

**2. BBQ**

**3. Commencement shirt sales**

**4. Summer activities**

1. **Sky zone**
2. **Game nights**
3. **Movie night**

**5. Student spotlights**

**6. Directory**

1. **Event summaries**

* **Professional development** -Brittni said she got a lot of good feedback on the prof dev panel. A lot of people are interested in a panel on industry and government careers. Need to plan for next fall, have a meeting soon to invite people and Dr. Wingert said having Romero-Severson was good because she was in industry before academia. Alumni who is an aquatic ecologist who would like to come. Getting a date that everyone can work with is the hardest part to plan the next panel. Rebecca said if we get office help it might be easier to get reservations with Anthony Travel-eliminate SAO aspect, cut through some tape.
* **March for Science:**

Jones Lab had an interactive table-zooplankton and macroinvertebrates, a few hundred people, flyers for ND Day. Tons of biology grad students there-better timeline for next time. Stefan did an awesome job with his speech.

* **ND Day** awesome outcome-Rebecca harassed as many people as possible. SAO funds and donations waiting on donor services processed. Keep bugging SAO about money- 3.2 K from Challenge fund and also straight donations. What to do with that money? Mauna-small grants set aside for BGSO grant, bringing in speakers.

Department should pay for speakers-use the money for budget, have accountability.

Social media sharing was all we did-very effective-online voting early is important. Would be fun and effective for students to get to be on video for next year’s ND Day. This year Gary Lamberti spoke on behalf of Department-student spotlights could be recorded and shown. Brittni said stem cell has a video, kind of cheesy but good.

**2. BBQ**

SAO says we cannot hold event during reading days or finals week-outdoor space, kind of confusing? Events after finals week-Saturday at St. Pat’s park? May 13?

How to reserve spots at St. Pat’s. Ben looked into renting BBQ-knows a person with a truck, avoid delivery fee.

Eck Institute has done event at St. Pat’s-can ask them about reserving a spot.

**3. Commencement shirt sales**

We have the clear to sell t-shirts May 20-Compton Ice Arena-set up by 12:30

Similar to tailgate-keep prices approximate with undergrad bio club

Felicity will talk to her undergrad about pricing

**4. Summer Activities**

* **CGSO event to skyzone**-Amanda talked with CGSO about setting up plans for the event. May 26-blacknight version-need to contact SkyZone-right before Memorial Day-reservations, capacity, selling out of tickets? Submit a go grant to cover (subsidize) costs. One hour or two hours? Brittni suggested Escape Room but the venue is really small-Go Grant only gives $300 max. CGSO chair wants to do a zipline-high rope course in the fall. Adventure Zone? Stefan said it is physically taxing. Bio-blitzing? That would be cool and make data available to anyone who wants it-publish on iNaturalist.
* **Game nights:** bi-weekly game nights where people booked a room and played tabletop games, recurring but small interest-start up in fall? Ben said he only saw game night expenses for around $20-small expense or just do it for free.
* **Movie nights?** Small attendance but interest is there-should we have movie night and game night at same time? Maybe alternate game and movie nights?

Book the Jordan Reading room? Bridget knows how to book Jordan Reading Room. Day to do this-send out a survey? What movies would you want to be screened?

* **South Bend Cubs?** Opening this Thursday-group of people going, cheap, fun, decent seats for $8, $1 beer on Thursdays, bring a blanket sit on hill, dog day. Henry suggested BGSO movie night out to Cinemark-can get a whole theatre to ourselves-if we can get 47 people it would be worth it to rent out theatre-gauge interest-Facebook poll, twitter?

**5. Student spotlights**

Send an email soliciting interest in spotlights-nominate yourself or others-email us with your information. Are you interested, send us stuff to put up on website. Rebecca said she gets a lot of stuff, not going on department website but could be a good mechanism for showcasing student awards-archives of spotlights-good for recruiting. There could be a rotation every couple of weeks of students in the spotlight.

**6. Directory**

Rachel asked-could office do a directory- would be a good idea to reach out to office-we knew there used to be a directory on website but now non-existent.

Might be a good idea if the directory contains no photos to reduce risk of harassment-have link to lab/personal website. Upkeep was another factor in the demise of directory. We need a good argument for the time is needed to do it-professional dev, build student’s networking circles, recruitment, helpful for prospective incoming students to have an idea of what students are working on. And, not every lab in the department has a website. Potential contact info for prospective students to make contact with grad student. Departmental review in 2018-show a good website presence. Rebecca will talk to Crislyn. Send a draft to Rebecca of what the survey will look like for asking for any information (research topics, email, name, lab, link to lab/personal website, etc.) people are willing to give.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:54 PM**