

NPAC notes November meeting: Nov 16th, 2016

In attendance: Lydia, Emily, Ryan P, Justin, Lauren C, Seaver, Corrie, Kendra K, Cathy, Chelsea, John G.

- Strategic Planning Update from Anna W.
 - Planning committee likes NPAC and want to legitimize most of our activities, 'which is nice'.
 - Jim and Lisa worked on recommendations, with input from faculty at retreat
 - Now mostly waiting to see what structure committee decides on plans for restructuring NSOE graduate programs
 - First recommendation is to create a formalized committee of DGSs, DGSAs, and student NPAC liaison. Function will depend on division set up. Looking to streamline communication and program features.
 - Possible to get increased # of DGSAs
 - Institutional memory will be important moving forward for NSOE and NPAC: Structure to be in place to facilitate and streamline some of our initiatives. I.e. Debbie Gooch could take care of food ordering at Orientation, so we can focus on content.
 - We need to keep in mind the faculty support required for each initiative.
 - Lisa and Jim want to put structures in place on their end to help us achieve our goals.
 - Rec #10, development in reference to raising funds. PhD programs are costly to the school. Goal to get us involved in donations specifically to PhD program.
 - Career and prof development is hiring a new admin, she's mainly for 1st year masters internships. Deb gets to take on larger role with PhDs.
 - Final draft of recommendations due Dec 15th.

- GAS
 - Same people go every week, but are we sure GAS is achieving its goal of integration?
 - Certain programs not well represented, esp TOX and UPEP
 - Folks have seminar fatigue and bc GAS is optional, it tends to take a hit.
 - Perhaps we could reduce department or program-specific student seminars in favor of GAS? Not likely that we could reduce departmental seminars bc faculty come to many seminars.
 - Maybe move GAS to Wednesday afternoon and 1st beer free?
 - And maybe a weekly or monthly social hour? To be combined with outreach somehow?

- Nic-Vic
 - Had Small launch event- ~ 20 MEMs showed up and a lot from DUML.
 - Split into groups discussed potential collaborations and how to move forward with integration.

- Working with MEMs, have come up with 2 action items:
 - 1. Creating a web page to submit or search for project ideas or requests. Can search results depending on MEM/PhD and areas of interest.
 - 2. Another launch event in Jan 2017, bc MEMs are setting up projects. PhDs can present ideas and more formally come up with ideas and overlaps.
- Small grants
 - Met with Dean Urban. He clarified that budget is tight – stick with \$3000 for this year.
 - Next steps: soliciting pre-proposals to gauge interest? Remind folks of other opportunities.
 - We could collate into one place all other grants that are available for fostering collaborations. But is there value in doing this?
 - Need to clarify before pre-proposals about what constitutes a fundable project.
- Career
 - List of resources on career services put together, double checking all the ducks in a row. Will follow up with new hire.
 - Will circulate to NPAC for review, then put on NPACs website, and email nic-phds to tell everyone it's there.
 - Karen has a PhD Career specific listserv. Can we find a way for PhDs to subscribe?
 - Karen also has a list of PhD alums in non-academic careers. Perhaps add their careers, but not names to website. Or make it duke login secure?
- Symposium
 - Will talk about Symposium in Dec., on track for next fall
- DUMML
 - Logistical constraints in meeting – no update.
- Website
 - Wish list for NSOE and NPAC websites now exists.
 - Meet with Danielle to combine her and our wishlists. Some aspects to go on NPAC website, but might need to figure out who hosts NSOE's website.
- Educational outreach
 - To combine with strategic planning?
 - Idea of a mandatory 0.5, RCR credit course for all first years in how to 'do' outreach. Discuss different scales and scopes.
 - And regional outreach? Talk to Becky in UPE and Becca in EOS?
 - Opportunity to link social & outreach events?
 - Specific NPAC initiative for earth day. Gives people a concrete day, and we can contact schools. (Apr 22)

- Diversity and inclusion training too? MEMs are required to do this, and maybe we should require PhDs to do this too? Everything thus far is opt in.