

NPAC Meeting Minutes- 9/9/16

Attendance:

Emily Pechar, Lydia Greene, Brad Dubik (Marine Lab student faculty rep), Kendra Kaiser (EOS rep), Chelsea Clifford (ENV Rep), Cathy Chamberlain (GAS coordinator), Anna Wade (GAS coordinator), Corrie Hannah (ENV GPSC Rep), Ryan Huang (UPE GPSC rep), Ryan Peabody (Orientation & Social chair), Alejandro Lozano (MSC Rep), Justin Kirkpatrick (UPEP rep)

- I. Orientation Recap:
 - a. A success! Faculty think that we “achieved integration”
 - b. Slightly over-budget on food, under-budget on Forest Party, so it all evened out
- II. NSOE Strategic Planning Committee
 - a. Anna Wade is the committee PhD student representative. She will participate in their committee meetings and report back to us/help the faculty get PhD student input
 - b. Committee will deliver recommendations by December
 - c. **Action:** Anna will follow up with Lisa Campbell and see if we (the PhD students) should get together before the Sept 30th committee meeting to gather PHD student feedback
- III. ESP Faculty Meeting Recap
 - a. Faculty are super excited about NPAC and integration as a theme across the programs
 - b. Main feedback was that the Nic-Vic (MEM integration) initiative needs more work – need to think about how to pilot this
 - c. We went too small on the small cross-disciplinary grants. Dean Urban tells us to think more about \$13-15k projects. Dissertation chapter sized project. Faculty are also excited about the outreach grants. Would encourage us to consider having a rolling deadline, but we’ll see how we pilot it.
 - d. Faculty also highlighted availability of integrative grants for different programs – maybe highlight on the NPAC website
 - i. Bass Connections
 - ii. Maybe work with Christine Erlie on this
- IV. Website
 - a. Unclear on who manages the website. Not resolved. Need to identify a Web Czar.
 - b. Discussion about the use of the Formal vs. Informal list serve. Decided to keep using Nic-Phds list for NPAC announcements, and leave the gradstudents@nicholas.duke.edu for more formal program announcements
 - c. Post links to the Nic-Phds list serve on the website
 - d. Reps need to make sure that their students are on the list, and make this something that happens before Orientation next year. **Action:** Reps make sure their students are added
 - e. **Action:** All NPAC events, including GAS, should be put on the calendar on the website
 - f. Currently a “suggestion box” functionality but we don’t know where the messages go. Tracking it down, checking with Megan Fork.
- V. GAS
 - a. Hoping to have more sessions of free beer this year!
 - b. Deb from the Career Center coming to GAS on 9/23. **Action:** Anna and Cathy will send the PhD students a heads up to mark their calendars.

- c. Danielle might do some workshops on things like taxes, etc. at GAS sessions, maybe once a month
 - d. Potential speed-dating to find research collaborators among other PhD students
- VI. GPSC
 - a. We are a registered group. Not applying for funding this fall, but if we want to we can in the spring
- VII. Initiatives
 - a. All NPAC members will choose an initiative to move forward this year, including:
 - i. NIC-VIC
 - ii. Small Grants
 - iii. ML Connectivity
 - iv. DGSA Website (with helpful resources, maybe merge with our website?)
 - v. Career Development/Career Conversations
 - b. **Action:** We'll send out a short survey and everyone should select the initiative they would like to work on
 - c. Discussed potential new initiative: Broader NSOE symposium, like the UPE symposium
 - i. Nicholas School Graduate Symposium
 - ii. Would involve faculty