

FGSA Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2012

Attendees: Laura Boon, Dave Anderson, Ivan Christov, Megan Comins, Abhishek Kumar, Vikram Singh Prashar, Himilton Carter

- 1) Past Business
 - a. CAM 2011 (presented by Abhishek)
 - i. Overall feedback from the weekend was positive, a powerpoint was sent out with the survey. Favorite part was the panel discussion
 - ii. Total cost was \$100,000, Dave has the official funding info
 1. \$30K from FGSA
 2. \$30K from NSF
 3. \$20K from other (I didn't get it written down)
 4. \$6K from APS and IPAC
 - b. CAM 2013 Hosted by Canada, University of Waterloo, more details to come
- 2) Update from APS, and strategic plan (Presented by Laura)
 - a. See PPT sent out for details
 - b. March Meeting has many International students as well as Domestic students.
- 3) Newsletter (Presented by Vikram)
 - a. Outline sent out before the meeting
 - b. All articles should be sent to Vikram by May 31st so the newsletter can be sent out in June, those who have been asked to write articles please send them to Vikram
 - i. Message from the Chair [Renee]
 - ii. Election results, welcoming and introducing new committee members [Megan]
 - iii. APS March and April Meetings [...]
 - iv. FGSA Travel Award [Hassan]
 - v. Experience of the FGSA Councillor [Amber]
 - vi. LGBT Survey [Elena]
 - vii. CAM Meeting [Abhishek]
 - viii. Advertising Indo-US and US-Brazil program
 - ix. Congress Visits 2012 [Dave or Laura]
 - c. Include facebook and linkedin links so people can friend us.
 - d. Vikram is still working out the format
 - i. Megan will find out if we are still required to send paper newsletters to those who request it.
- 4) Facebook/LinkedIn (Kelly is getting this started)
 - a. Vikram has volunteered to help Kelly
 - b. How to format the page ideas:

- i. Open so anyone can join and read posts, put the 'member only' information, job postings etc., on the website under a long in (not sure if possible)
- ii. Need a way to moderate the page, concerns were brought up about the possibility of heated debates starting, ideas to stop this are to not allow members to post content, only comment; Keep information posted neutral; and have a first line of defense, by requiring some sort of 'accept button' that an admin must okay a new member into the page.
- c. Ideas for what to include on the page:
 - i. Amber has a blog with an article about imposter syndrome
 - ii. Posts from people in various jobs talking about what they do
 - iii. Lots of job opportunities- and more info about jobs in general.
 - iv. Current places to look for jobs:
 - 1. APS job search page
 - 2. Cornell CCNet [Megan is checking the name]
 - 3. Early Career chapters (see point number 9)

5) Website

- a. APS will automatically update exec committee and travel grant winners.
- b. Need one designated person to be the 'website contact' to APS [Kelly was volunteered, but has not confirmed that she can do that, are there other volunteers?]
- c. Need to get all meeting minutes up there [Laura will send this meetings minutes in]
- d. Add a list of conferences and scholarships [Need to get from other units]
- e. Add facebook/ linedIn link.
- f. Currently need to add FGSA travel grant date [Laura]

6) Slightly off topic funding discussion

- a. We currently spend \$10,000 a year on travel grants (20 x \$500 each)
- b. By spending so much on CAM last year we have depleted our account to \$32,000, this must last us the rest of the year, unless we petition Kate Kirby for \$20,000 (Ask Dave for the details on how this works). Otherwise we get the money in January 2013.
- c. As a unit we get 2 yearly e-mails to the entire APS membership. Want to use one of these for FGSA travel grant information (any APS student member can apply for one)

7) Future Plans

- a. March and April meetings 2013 (Laura
 - i. Anyone who wants to help plan a session contact Laura
 - ii. Student reception at March meeting
 - 1. The last two years we have joined forces with SPS, however graduate student participation has decreased (estimated 10 grad students at 2012, 100 in 2010) This is because it has been focused on undergrad concerns

2. ADVERTISE
 3. Cost is ~\$2,000 with SPS, 3k-4k if done by ourselves.
 4. Grad students want Alcohol
 5. Consider overlapping part of the reception with SPS, but then have our own powerpoint, congratulating FGSA travel grant winners, and talking about what we do as a forum for them.
 6. **Laura** is looking into the costs of doing one on our own.
 7. Want to officially move our business meeting to March; **Laura** is looking into that.
- 8) Proposal for International Outreach (Presented by Abhishek)
- a. Cooperating with Forum on International Physics (FIP) to create a travel grant for international students to come to March or April meeting
 - b. The idea is to give 2 \$500 awards for each meeting, a total of 4 (\$2,000) in 2013
 - c. Reactions:
 - i. We do want to jointly fund this, but jointly, how much are they going to contribute
 - ii. We are already giving out \$10,000 in travel grants every year.
 - iii. Want to keep Committee members in the loop, **Abhishek** is going to be our liaison.
- 9) Early Career Chapters (Presented by Megan)
- a. **Megan** is sending out the goals of the program from Robert Byer
 - b. An early career chapter would be an SPS for grad students/ postdocs and new professors.
 - c. Each chapter would get ~\$1000, and up to ~\$1,000 for the chapter president to attend the March or April meeting
 - d. APS wants information on how to retain members, and what each chapter should have; any thoughts go to Megan.
- 10) Last few things (Laura)
- a. It was agreed that we should create our own strategic plan. Our group can be all over the place and with a high turn over it would be good to have some direction.
 - b. Need a better way to connect remotely for meeting, better if we can share screens and have video. APS might be able to let us use their WebEx or GoToMeetings subscription, other options include skype subscription, Google+ or a desktop sharing program [**Laura looking into it**]