

FGSA Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2012

Attendees: Laura Boon, Megan Comins, Abhishek Kumar, Hassan Masoud, Vikram Prashar, Peter Muhoro, Kelly Reidy

1) Newsletter (presented by Vikram)

- a) First newsletter sent to FGSA membership in August
- b) Aiming to have next newsletter out by end of year/early next year
- c) Considering possibility of sending newsletter to entire APS membership (rather than just FGSA membership) and including in the email information about CAM and travel grants

2) Facebook (presented by Kelly)

- a) Overview: Closed group, currently with 28 members, any member can post
- b) Discussion of who can join group - Suggestions: all APS members
 - i) to increase page membership
 - ii) potentially increase FGSA membership / advertise
 - iii) more senior physicists can possibly add to discussion and mention opportunities for grad students
- c) Job posting issue: FIAP wants us to send job information to our membership for them (our idea was to do it via Facebook page), but we need to do so without stepping on toes of APS job board
 - i) Megan's idea: see if APS job board can only make FIAP's job visible to FGSA members
 - ii) Kelly, Laura, and Vikram will discuss with Crystal and FIAP to reach a solution

d) How to get members? Some ideas:

i) *Free beer* at Cornell events (Megan will look into this) and March/April meeting reception for joining FB group

ii) Advertising on Facebook pages of other groups such as diversity page and other APS fora/groups in exchange for advertising their events and travel grants on our Facebook page (Peter's idea)

***Various: Post abstract deadline reminders on Facebook page! (Megan)

3) CAM 2013 (presented by Abhishek)

a) Overview: held at University of Waterloo August 15-18, 2013

b) Proposal needs to be submitted to NSF/APS by mid-October for funding, decision is made by May or June

c) Laura will work on funding and proposal, and Abhishek will work on planning with the Canadians (they do most of the planning, while US provides feedback)

d) Need backup plan if funding doesn't go through

i) Asking for \$30-35k, probably won't get that much, so FGSA will need to contribute a few thousand dollars if NSF contributes most of the amount being asked

ii) If not, FGSA will need to contribute more (we should reserve ~\$10k in case this happens, but use no more than ~40% of budget on CAM)

iii) Megan will ask David about how much \$\$\$ we have to contribute

iv) Another idea: external support, i.e. Carnegie Foundation

4) March/April Meeting

a) Session will focus on physics jobs in government and policy

i) 2 confirmed speakers for March meeting / 1 unconfirmed

ii) No confirmed speakers yet for April

- b) Friendliness/welcoming environment for minorities session in the works
- 5) COE / Graduate Education in Physics Conference (presented by Laura)
- a) COE wants to strengthen ties with FGSA
 - b) Laura to meet with them in September to learn more
 - c) COE wants FGSA to be involved in Graduate Education in Physics Conference (Jan/Feb. '13), probably at the American Center for Physics
 - d) Want input from actual graduate students on critical issues, etc.
- 6) Various: Try "GoToMeetings" for next meeting?