



The GSChronicles

February 2008

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Upcoming Events

February

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 20-22 Interviews (see Announcement)
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 13 Pathways – Post-doc fellowships
 23 Easter

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9 OITE Career Symposium
 25 National DNA Day

November

14 Graduate Student Research
 Symposium

Announcements

▪ GSC Meeting:

The next GSC meeting will be held on Monday, March 3rd at 5PM in the Grad Student Lounge, Building 10 Rm 6S235.

▪ GPP Deputy Director:

Dr. Betsey Wade will be starting at her new post as the Deputy Director of the GPP in March.

▪ Interviews:

Throughout the month of February, the GPP formal partnerships will be hosting interviews on campus. Each partnership has a representative who has been chosen to organize and plan activities while the interviewing students are in Bethesda. If you have been contacted by your representative, please note the schedule of events and please make your best effort to participate. The interviewing students will benefit greatly from interactions with current students during planned lunches, dinners and social outings. Please mark your calendars for the following dates according to your program:

Feb 13 & 15 Oxford/Cambridge

Feb 20 Boston University
 Brown University
 Karolinska
 Johns Hopkins
 NYU

Feb 27 Georgetown
 George Washington
 Maryland-Biophysics
 Maryland-NIDCD
 UNC

▪ GSC Partnership Representatives:

As part of the GSC Constitution which was passed into effect last fall, all partnerships will have a representative on the Graduate Student Council who will participate in decision-making and voting. **Nominations for partnership representatives are currently open and will close March 4th.** You may nominate yourself or any NIH graduate student you feel is qualified. You may nominate more than one person.

We would like to get a broad representation with students from all years and various

institutions to represent students' views to the GSC and ultimately the GPP.

1. US Individual Agreement (6 total) - Please contact Christina Saikus for nomination information or questions saikusc@nhlbi.nih.gov
2. International Individual Agreement (5 total) - Please contact Marieke Mur for nomination information or questions marieke@mail.nih.gov
3. Formal Partnership Agreements (11 total) - Please contact Kate Callahan for nomination information or questions kathrynca@mail.nih.gov

▪ OITE Career Center:

It is never too soon to begin thinking about your long-term goals and future career plans. The OITE houses a Career Counseling Center and Career Library to help you plan for a satisfying career once you complete your training at NIH. Our goal is to ensure that NIH trainees are aware of the many jobs available to scientists - both at and away from the bench. Our career counselors run workshops, lead small group discussions, and schedule individual appointments, open to all, to assist trainees in self-assessment, career exploration, and goal setting. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit <http://www.training.nih.gov/nihonly/trainees/advising.asp>.

▪ Tax Season:

You should receive your 1099G from NIH by **February 15th**. If you don't have it by that date, contact the NIH Office of Financial Management at 301-496-5635. OFM also sends a copy of your Form 1099G to the Internal Revenue Service. For your information, the IRS now has the 2008 Estimated Tax for Individuals, Form 1040-ES, on its website: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040es.pdf>

▪ Career Symposium:

The First Annual NIH Career Symposium for Graduate Students and Postdocs will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 in the Natcher Conference Center. It is being hosted by OITE, FAES, Felcom and the GSC. This full-day symposium is devoted to the exploration of a myriad of interesting science-related career paths, and the skills required to excel in them. It will be a great chance for you to learn about all of your future career options in science (this is not a job fair). There will be panel discussions and lectures with over 50 speakers selected from around the country having confirmed their attendance! There will be four main sessions, with six panels/lectures running simultaneously, so keep an eye out for the final schedule and registration emails so that you can plan out your day. The day begins at 8:30AM with the opening and plenary session with Dr. Peter Fiske, includes a networking lunch, and concludes with a special social networking event in Bethesda starting at 6PM. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

▪ GSC "Activity Pass"

The GSC has begun accepting money for the student activity pass. This pass will help pay for some of our activities in advance and to help ultimately save students money while attending each of the GSC events during the year. Typically, each event the GSC hosts (including the Halloween Party, Holiday Party, retreat activities...) costs participating students between \$5 and \$15 at the event. As an alternative, the GSC will be offering an "activity pass" for interested students to pay a once a year nominal fee of \$20 to attend all of these events throughout that year. The pass will not be required to attend events, but will save you money ultimately. Students who opt not to buy the pass will pay at the door as was done before. The pass can be purchased at any GSC meeting. Contact a co-chair or Stephanie Guzik (guziks@nhlbi.nih.gov) for more information or to purchase a pass.

▪ Pathways:

On February 5th, the Pathways committee hosted a career development lunch themed around clinical research careers and clinical careers for PhDs. The next Pathways will be held on **March 13th regarding postdoctoral fellowships**. Speakers are still being determined, so look for emails regarding further information. Also, be sure to sign up to attend the Career Symposium hosted by Felcom, GSC, OITE and FAES.

The Pathways committee is looking for volunteers to help plan and organize monthly events. Please contact a co-chair or Nick McBride (mcbriden@niaid.nih.gov) for more information.

▪ GS3:

The **Graduate Student Seminar Series (GS3) needs new speakers for 2008**. If you would like to volunteer to present your research to your fellow grad students and get feedback on your presentation, please email Roseanne Zhao (zhaof@mail.nih.gov) to schedule a date. These meetings are great practice for talks, conferences, retreats, etc. Students meet on the third Thursday of the month at lunchtime with two speakers, each giving 20-minute talks. The **next meeting will be on Monday, February 25th with Gayani Weerasinghe speaking**.

▪ Biophysics and Structural Biology Group:

The Biophysics and Structural Biology Graduate Student Interest Group has been meeting bimonthly. The first meeting of the month focuses on learning a new laboratory technique, whereas the second meeting of the month is used to discuss a paper that uses the technique. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, contact Matt Berberich at berberichm@mail.nih.gov. The next topic to be discussed will be MRI. Please look for emails regarding the upcoming schedule.

▪ SNIG:

The **Systems Neuroscience Interest Group for Graduate Students** is a group of students interested in systems/ cognitive/ clinical neuroscience. The group meets once a month to discuss the latest topics of systems neuroscience and listen to a talk from a member of the group. Often these talks are rehearsals of thesis proposals, defenses, conference posters, etc. Sometimes they have someone give a tutorial. An informational email is sent out once a week. From time to time there will be lunches with renowned outside speakers from the NIH Neuroscience series. SNIG will have two new organizers for this year, Lei Qin (qinl@ninds.nih.gov) for the first half of the year and Kara Lindstrom (lindstrk@mail.nih.gov) for the second half. Please contact them if you would like to join the group.

Please **send your publications, awards, graduation and birthday announcements** to Stephanie Guzik (guziks@nhlbi.nih.gov) or Cynthia Chang (changcy@mail.nih.gov) for recognition. Also send your **requests for nominations** for students to be included in the **Graduate Student Spotlight**.

Happy Birthday to: **Philip Wang** (Feb 7th), **Becca Chodroff** (Feb 9th), **Lei Qin** (Feb 8th), **Phil Ryan** (Feb 13th), **Fernando Paiva** (Feb 24th), **Anastasia Wise** (Feb 25th) and **Loren Hansen** (Feb 28th).

Upcoming Birthdays: Marieke Mur (Mar 18th), Ethan Buch (Mar 22nd), Yoonhee Kim (Mar 26th), Stephanie Flidner (Mar 30th), Kristina Buac (Mar 27th).

State of the GSC:

Megan Cleland and Athena Klutz

Hello fellow graduate students,
We are very excited to serve as your new co-chairs for the 2008 year. One of our main goals for the year was the first annual GSC retreat. The retreat has already taken

place, and many of our goals are straight from the voices of other graduate students. We would like to thank everyone for making the retreat so successful. We would also like to thank all past and current GSC members that are the heart and soul of graduate students at the NIH. Finally, we would like to thank the GPP for their continued support of graduate programs at the NIH. We have set four goals for the coming year based off suggestions from the GSC retreat.

Finances

The first of our four major goals is to improve our financial situation. Currently, we do not have a budget since we do not have any of our own money. Therefore, chairs of the various committees on the GSC often have to front their own money for any GSC events. In order to immediately improve this situation, we have created the \$20 yearly activity pass. This pass will allow GSC members to pay one rate of \$20 a year to attend all GSC events that have a fee. These events include the Halloween Party, the Holiday Party and beverages for the GPP retreat and the Orientation BBQ. This money will be used as starter money and will be kept by the GSC treasurer. We are currently debating how to manage the money and whether we will need to open a bank account. Secondly, we plan to sell GSC t-shirts. We are looking at the costs of the t-shirts and hope to sell the shirts for around \$15. A t-shirt design contest is also in the works. Finally, we have had great relations with FAES, and they have offered to fund some of our future networking events. The only restrictions are that the events must be open to people from multiple institutes and the money must fund an academic pursuit as opposed to purely social pursuits. After conversations with Richard Conroy, the FelCom FAES representative, and Krishna "Balki" Balakrishnan, the executive director of FAES, we are very excited about the possibilities of collaborating with FAES.

Community Participation

With 532 graduate students at NIH, the second goal for the GSC for 2008 is to increase participation in events. To do this we plan to improve graduate student awareness within each building, to be actively involved in orientation activities, and to promote GSC/FELCOM co-sponsored events as well as community service activities. To achieve these goals we have a variety of strategies.

We believe that if graduate students meet and become friends with other graduate students, they will more likely participate in various events. Therefore, we will be creating building specific graduate student list-serves. Using these lists, we will start monthly building graduate student lunches. These lunches will be an opportunity to get to know other graduate students in your building.

During orientation activities we want to ensure the incoming students are aware of what the GSC has to offer from the start. To do this, we will give a short presentation during orientation as well as plan various orientation activities. We also plan to have the new student BBQ closer to the time that the students actually arrive.

GSC and FELCOM have combined forces on several activities, such as a monthly networking event in Bethesda and the newly restructured Pathways. We want to ensure the success of these events, so they will be highly publicized to ensure participation.

Finally, we want to increase participation in events on other campuses. We would like to bring back teleconferencing or videoconferencing in the various GSC sponsored events, so students off campus can also participate.

Representation

Our third goal is to increase our ability to solve problems. Until recently we had the Town Hall meeting at the GPP retreat. Unfortunately, while this meeting did bring

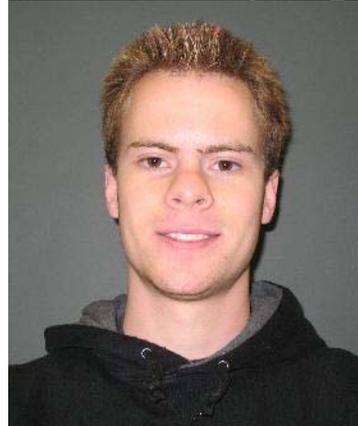
up many important problems, it was not very organized. Therefore, we would like to set up a similar meeting involving smaller groups of students. These meetings will allow students to voice problems in groups since many students may not voice their concerns on their own. Also, we would like to set up an online message board with searchable questions for common graduate student concerns. This board could solve many problems that are faced by new graduate students each year. Finally, we would like to set up an anonymous suggestion box with the GPP. We could set up the box in the lounge, and the co-chairs could deliver the messages to the GPP once a month. Hopefully, the implementation of these suggestions will alleviate many common graduate student problems.

Graduate Student Relationship

Our final goal is to improve the graduate student relationship with the NIH community. While our relationship with the NIH community has improved, we want to keep it growing. To increase awareness of the GSC and graduate students at NIH, Vanessa McMains is planning on writing an article in the NIH *Catalyst* about the what the GSC has accomplished and what the future holds. We would also like to start Thesis Talks at NIH, not to replace any requirements for your universities, but rather to give you practice before doing your actual defense at your university. These talks will be open to everyone on campus and will promote graduate students' achievements at NIH.

We know that none of these goals can be accomplished without your help. There will be many exciting changes over the next year, including a new GPP/GSC retreat location and a new deputy director of the GPP. We hope that you will work with us to make this the most exciting year yet for graduate students at the NIH.

Graduate Student Spotlight:



Nick McBride

Nick is from East Falmouth, MA, a town on Cape Cod that includes Woods Hole and the ferry to Martha's Vineyard. During the summer the town opens up and floods with tourists from Massachusetts and all over the place, but during the winter Main Street can become an empty and deserted wasteland. Cape Cod is a place where people go to sit on the beach and not really do much, so growing up there required kids to come up with some creative ways to amuse themselves. One year, Nick and his friends turned a friend's garden into a homemade hockey rink using the garden hose; hours of fun ensued before his mother found out.

Nick has always had an interest in math and science. He remembers making his first grade teacher come up with strings of 20-digit numbers so he could practice his addition. "I just wanted to know how the world worked." He recently found a picture of himself as a baby when his father was building their house, holding two wires and a huge wire-stripper in his hands. "Electrons and I, we go way back."

The University of Cambridge makes the 5th college Nick has attended since enrolling in the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in lieu of high school science classes. He majored in Biomedical Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, a small science and engineering college in Worcester, MA. There, he became

interested in the health and medical aspects of engineering technology. For his senior project, he worked with a team of three students to develop a cardiac patch with regenerative properties to prevent ventricular aneurysms. He also did a very interesting project in Windhoek, Namibia where his team worked with informal settlement communities to build flood and erosion control systems at little to no cost. That project really taught him about how limited the resources really are for dealing with everyday problems in these poor settings.

He is currently in the University of Cambridge Partnership Program and works in the Tuberculosis Research Section of NIAID with Dr. Clifton Barry. His research involves siderophores – small, iron-chelating molecules produced by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. He is working to combine this with biotechnology research at Cambridge to detect the siderophores *in vivo*. “I hope that it will progress to a diagnostic application that can benefit resource-poor communities, like the ones I worked with in Namibia.” This is his first year in the program, but so far he is serving on the Pathways career development committee and helping to organize interviews for the new Graduate Partnership candidates in the Ox/Cam program. He thinks that the GSC is a great organization and plans to continue supporting the graduate student community through GSC during his years at NIH.

Outside of the lab, he likes to read books by Kurt Vonnegut, whose portrayal of science in everyday circumstances he finds hilarious, and the “frighteningly prophetic” philosopher Aldous Huxley. He also enjoys collecting and discovering new and eclectic music, going to concerts, and snowboarding. Ever since he was an exchange student in Japan at the age of 16 he has taken every opportunity for world travel that he could. He especially likes to travel to less-visited places and prefers to stay for months at a time if possible. So far

he has made it to parts of India, Ireland, Guatemala, South Africa, Namibia, and the great UK adventure is just beginning.

Nick says that the world is, and will continue to be, the most amazing and beautiful place ever to be framed by human perception, no matter what the future holds. You just have to stop worrying about the future long enough to realize this. In other words:

$$\forall x, \lim_{\text{time} \rightarrow \infty} x = \text{all good}$$

Tip of the Month: FAQs about GSX, Tracy Jill Doty

▪ WHAT IS THE GSX LISTSERVE?
GSX is the Graduate Student Exchange listserv which operates using the Yahoo!Groups platform. This listserv is an informal forum for graduate students and includes announcements about social activities, housing inquiries, and other informal topics.

▪ WHY SHOULD I JOIN GSX WHEN I AM ALREADY ON GRAD-L?
Grad-L is the Graduate Partnership Program's ***official*** way to communicate with students. GSX is the STUDENT-RUN forum and the **ONLY** place that Graduate Student Council ***Social*** Activities are announced. The Grad-L listserv is monitored by the GPP office, and emails regarding social activities the more formal format of Grad-L. Emails sent over GSX are automatically posted if the sender is a member of GSX. The moderator verifies all membership requests are from current graduate students.

This point is worth repeating:
GSX is the ONLY place Graduate Student Council sponsored social activities are publicized. So if you want to be in the loop about the various happy hours, cultural events, and outdoor activities the GSC plans, you should be on GSX.

▪ HOW CAN I SIGN UP FOR GSX?
This website contains more information, including a link to request membership.

<http://gpp.nih.gov/Current/GraduateStudentCouncil/GSCListservs/>

GSX Membership requests are monitored by the GSX Moderator, and only current graduate students are eligible to join.

- I ALREADY RECEIVE TOO MANY EMAILS – WON'T SIGNING UP FOR GSX FLOOD MY INBOX EVEN MORE? AND WHAT IF I'M NOT CURRENTLY ON CAMPUS?

Generally GSX averages around 5 emails a week and most of those emails are announcements for social activities.

You can modify how you receive messages very easily in your profile preferences

(<http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/email/email-21.html>).

We recommend if you are on the NIH main campus and are concerned about volume of messages that you switch your preferences to daily digest, where you will receive all the messages for that day in one digest if there are any messages for that day.

If you are not on the NIH main campus at the moment and do not want to receive every message that is sent over GSX, we recommend you select "Special Announcements Only." You will only receive messages in your email that the GSX moderator has tagged as a "special announcement," but you can always check the regular messages on the website directly if you want to see what is going on. This way if there is an emergency related to the graduate student community, you will still be able to receive the message (We've never used this option, but we may need it one day). Just be sure to switch back to regular message delivery once you return to campus, or you may miss fun social events or housing opportunities.

- WHO IS THE GSX MODERATOR?
Currently the GSX Moderator is Julien Debbache (debbachej@mail.nih.gov). You can email him with any questions or concerns regarding the listserv.

- WHAT ARE ALL THE FEATURES ON THE WEBSITE?

One of the advantages to using Yahoo-groups as the GSX platform is the availability of the website features.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NIH_GSX/

You must be a member of the group to access these features. They include:

-Searchable Message Archive.

-Post a Message – rather than using your email account, you can post a message directly from the website.

-Files – All the agendas and minutes from the GSC are uploaded here, and the latest copy of the GSC Constitution is also available here.

-Photos – View or upload photos of grad student activities.

-Links – links you might find useful.

-Database – Contains a searchable database of current graduate students on the listserv, a recommended doctor's database where you can browse recommended doctors or add your own doctor, and a FAES class database for rants/raves about FAES classes you have taken.

-Calendar – A good place to browse future social events.

GSC Meeting Overview

- **Activity Passes** – Stephanie Guzik.
Collection began for \$20 season pass.
Records will be kept by Treasurer.
Renew season pass after 1 yr.
- **GPP Notes** – Ox/Cam interviews begin next week. Poster sessions will be held; please volunteer to present a poster. The GPP is working on getting the lounge cleaned regularly. The lounge screen will be installed soon.
- **GSC retreat** – See notes from meeting. T-shirt Design Contest – Athena is getting more information on costs.
- **GSC Positions needing volunteers** – Pathways, Retreat Committee.
- **New email accounts** – Megan Cleland. GSC emails set up accounts that will not change even as committee members turn over. All can be found on the internal email list, and all are active. Bldg Listservs – coming soon.
- **FAES Lab Techniques Class** – Marieke Mur, Megan Dennis and Kara Lindstrom. Marieke will send out an email or SurveyMonkey to find out if grad students are interested in teaching, and what (a journal club, summer course, or the lab techniques course). The results will be used to help determine what to do in the next year.
- **Biophysics and Structural Biology Interest Group** – Matt Berberich. TJ reported that there was a good showing at the last NMR discussion and they'll be covering a journal paper on NMR at the next meeting.
- **Systems Neuroscience Interest Group** – Kai-Markus Mueller and TJ reported that

they have new coordinators for 2008, Lei Qin and Kara Lindstrom.

- **Pathways** – Nick McBride, Shau-Ming Wei, Michael Gates. Nick reported that the next event is Tues 2/5. The March event, on Biotech-Pharma, was tentatively changed/moved so as not to interfere with the big April career fair. Might cover post-doc fellowship opportunities instead.
- **GS3**– Roseanne Zhao. Athena reported that there were about 15 people at the last meeting. Next GS³ is Feb. 21 – Speakers: Gayani Weerasinghe and Michael Gates.
- **Community Service** – Co-chairs: Cathy Kolf – Kim Baxter. Kim reported that the next service event is Monday Feb 11, packing food boxes at Manna Food Center. We are planning a grad student blood drive in March – haven't picked a date yet.
- **Trainee Advisory Committee** – Kate Callahan, Christina Saikus, Marieke Mur. The Trainee Advisory Committee recently had its first meeting with the new members. They discussed creating listservs for the postbacs and postdocs, similar to GRAD-L, and discussed what information would go out over them. They would like to get resources on the website, such as info on moving to the area and finding a mentor; also want to set up an alumni network. Email any of the chairs with ideas or suggestions.
- **Interview Committee** – Tracy Jill Doty. Interview Dates: Feb 13, 15 – Ox/Cam. Planning social activities for the evenings of the 12th, 14th. Feb 20-22 – Brown, Boston, KI, JHU, NYU. Feb 27-29 – GU, GWU, UNC, Maryland. Happy Hours – Interviewees will be eating at Guapo's on the nights of the 20th and 27th and potentially go to Sapphire after dinner. On the 21st and 28th, everyone is going out to different restaurants down in D.C., so will likely go to downtown bars (RFD, Cap City Brewing Co). TJ will email people with info.
- **Public Relations Committee:**
 - Newsletter –Stephanie Guzik. Will be soliciting everyone for newsletter content.
 - Website –Christina Saikus. In the process of getting access to the website.
 - GSX –Julien Debbache. Two new members joined GSX – now have about 100 students in the database.
 - FELCOM rep – Phil Wang/Heather Pressler. April: First Annual NIH Career Symposium (co-sponsored by the GSC,

FelCom, FAES, and the OITE). Vanessa McMains will write a paragraph for the Symposium's program on behalf of the GSC.

- **Social Committee** – Sophia Cleland and Gayani Weerasinghe. Sophia reported that the February plans are ice skating/museum trip, 2/15 or 2/23. In March – trip to National Naval Medical Center for bowling.
- **FelCom Happy Hour** – Feb. 13 – at Blackfinn in Bethesda.
- **Symposium Committee** – Phil Wang, Kate Callahan. Date is Nov. 7 2008. The suggestion was made to invite the U.S. House Committee on Science and Technology Chairman Bart Gordon as our keynote speaker. It would also be great to have Dr Zerhouni involved in some way. A related suggestion was to invite Jorge Cham, author of PhD comics, to speak at our retreat or some other student event.
- **New Business:**
 - Stephanie raised the idea of starting a credit union account to keep our funds. Look into having 2 account holders, one semi-permanent such as Patty or Caroline. It would probably need to be a fund that we can access quickly/easily.
 - TJ raised the issue of partnership representatives, which were outlined in the Constitution and should be elected soon. Each group of partnerships (Formal US / Individual US / International) has a certain number of delegates. The Trainee Advisory Committee is in charge of coordinating the representatives, which need to be nominated and elected by the bodies they represent. Our goal is to communicate with the groups by listservs, nominate representatives by the March meeting, and vote for representatives by the April meeting.

TOTAL: 1 hour 15 minutes

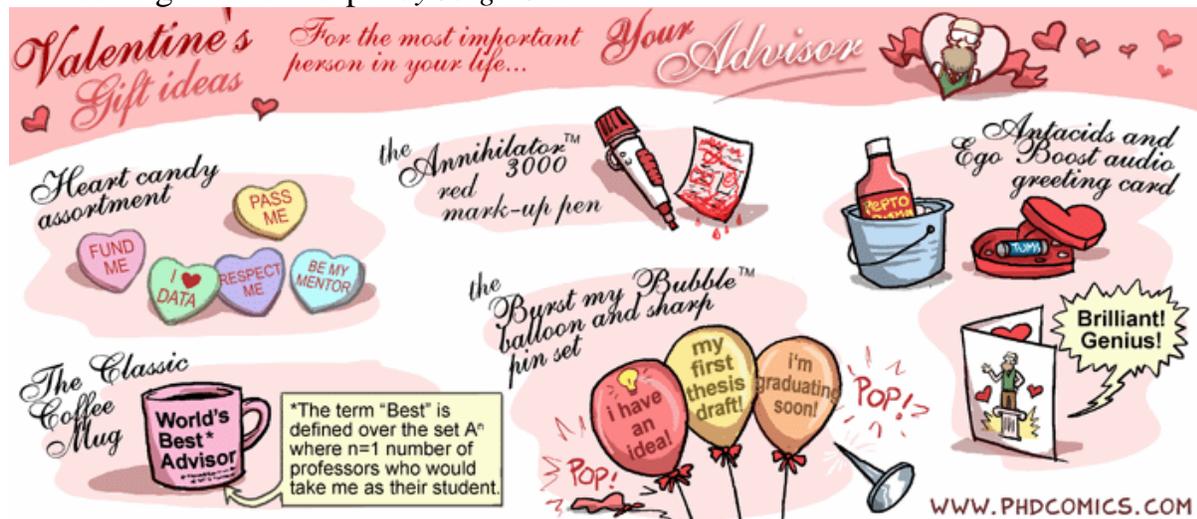
GSC Retreat Minutes

- **History of the GSC.** Co-chair Megan Cleland gave an overview of the early years of the GSC including the ideas and accomplishments of each year's committee.
- **GPP/OITE** (Sharon Milgram)
 - OITE has been reorganized into Office of Postbacs and Summer Students; GPP; Postdoc Services; Scientific Career Counseling Center; and Marketing Office.
 - Important people in OITE

- Pat Sokolove – Deputy Director of OITE
- Betsey Wade – Deputy Director of GPP
- Lori Conlan – Deputy Director of Post-docs
- GPP Goals and Identity
 1. Dramatic expansion of teaching initiatives on campus (Scientists teaching scientists – certification coming; Trips to liberal arts universities; K-12 education; Mentoring – grad students mentoring post-bacs, post-docs mentoring grad students; Journal clubs)
 2. Create parallel initiative in industry and entrepreneurial aspects of science (Industry overview workshop; Industry in-depth workshop; Trips to companies (beginning in fall))
 3. Develop leadership programs (Myers-Briggs workshops; Competitions for travel awards; Course in leadership/lab management; Possible separation of grad students / post-docs)
 4. Better advising (Tracking; Ability to identify problems early – develop web-based communication between mentors, students, GPP)
 5. Smaller initiatives: ESL classes, CV-editing workshops, providing feedback on talks/presentations.
- Other news: Research symposium has been moved to the fall rather than spring. The size of our retreat has outgrown The Woods; this year we'll go to Rocky Gap, MD from July 17-18. GPP is figuring out how we can acknowledge those students that are graduating – possibly at the Symposium.
- Questions/concerns raised:
 1. Some postbacs wanted mock interviews with grad students. Sharon said for now mock interviews with PIs should be sufficient.
 2. Is the GPP advertising to small universities? There is currently a freeze on developing new partnerships until we have better resources for our existing partnerships. The GPP advertises at venues (undergrad conferences, for example) that target universities of different sizes.
 3. What is the actual graduation rate? Where do they go? GPP doesn't have these answers, but hopes that a better tracking system will help determine them.
- 4. What are the goals specific to graduate students? Find high quality labs, develop good mentorship, get help writing grants, be supported in changing labs if necessary.
- **GSC Goals:**
 1. *Revenue:*
 - i. Season's Passes to social events will help generate seed money
 - ii. Make GSC t-shirts to sell, to raise money. Try to keep price at \$10. Athena will look into cost of screenprinting t-shirts. Upfront t-shirt costs may be covered by Season's Pass money or, potentially, a loan from FAES or FELCOM. Possibly hold a T-shirt Design Contest.
 2. *Community, Participation, Involvement:*
 - i. To increase involvement, we'll encourage people to join GSX to find out about social events and off-campus activities (post a blurb in Weekly Compiled and/or GSChronicles).
 - ii. Incentives: Bring a Friend to a meeting or social event – raffle off a Season's Pass or t-shirt.
 - iii. Try to get new students involved in GSC from Day 1 of Orientation especially targeting the individual partnership students.
 - iv. Increase Happy Hour involvement in conjunction with FELCOM.
 3. *Representation:* We want more recognition and support for the accomplishments of the GSC. We would like the handbook to reflect that GS3 and Pathways were founded by the GSC. We feel that Town Hall meetings were helpful. In the past, they got out of hand – maybe we can arrange for mini-Town Halls with partnership directors and a representative from the GPP. Or, designate one month's GSC meeting as a Town Hall meeting. Create a web forum for posting problems, solutions, grievances, etc where students can seek answers to common problems. Graduate student relationship with NIH community: Increase awareness – Vanessa will write an article about grad students at the NIH in the NIH Catalyst. Make graduation talks open to the greater NIH community.

Graduate Student Entertainment

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham



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GSC Meeting Overview, GSC Retreat Minutes

Megan Cleland and Athena Klutz

GSC Year in Review

Nick McBride

Grad Student Spotlight

Tracy Jill Doty

Tip of the Month

Phil Wang, Kate Callahan, Matt Berberich

Announcements

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