

EGSA meeting minutes  
4:30 pm, 29 May 2012  
504 ASI

**In attendance:**

Gabriel Villar	Salil Siriwat
Loren Rivera	Jessica Richards
Beth Johnson	Anjel Helms
Jason Smith	Katie Ellis
Hannier Pulido Barrios	Wingyi Kung
Scott Portman	

**Announcements:**

*New officers* – Congratulations to our new EGSA officers: Gabriel Villar (president), Anjel Helms (vice president), Lillian Moller-Jacobs (secretary), Katie Ellis (treasurer), and Ian Grettenberger (webmaster).

*Carnivorous plants* – The care of the carnivorous plants display will be added to crittercare. They need to be water at least twice a week. For more information, contact Anjel at [amh468@psu.edu](mailto:amh468@psu.edu)

*Teaching retreat* – The August teaching retreat will most likely be held the same week as natural history course and at the Sieg Center. It is open to all students and carpooling can be organized a few weeks prior to the event. The goal is to facilitate communication between graduate students and the faculty. While the discussion generated from this retreat will mainly impact future students, our inputs are important to improving the department. The tentative topics are:

- 1) Core courses
- 2) ENT 202 – lab component led by grad students?
- 3) Track courses – additional track courses to attract undergraduate minors?
- 4) Orientation for incoming students
- 5) Comprehensive exam reward – still undecided and need student input
- 6) Teaching certificate
- 7) Professional development – replace experimental design portion with a publication section?
- 8) Seminar courses – suggestions for future seminars include sexual selection, landscape ecology, applied toxicology, and bioethics

If you have any suggestions and comments, please contact Gabe at [gwv5020@psu.edu](mailto:gwv5020@psu.edu)

*Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.*