

EGSA meeting minutes

4:30 pm, 25 October 2011

504 ASI

In attendance:

Jessica Richards	Peter Meng
Salil Siriwat	Beth Irwin
Anjel Helms	Deonna Soergel
Tim Ciarlo	Becky Heinig
Katie Ellis	Ariel Rivers
Tom Bentley	Jason Smith
Sheena Sidhu	Wingyi Kung
Megan Greischar	

Announcements:

INTAD – Ed Rajotte spoke briefly about the newly instated International Agricultural and Development dual-title graduate degree program. It provides an international framework to a technical scientific degree. Available to both Master’s and Ph.D. students. For those interested in international work: visit <http://ento.psu.edu/international> or contact either Ed Rajotte at egrajotte@psu.edu or Melonie Miller-Foster at mjm727@psu.edu in the international office.

Seminar speakers – There are still spots open on Feb. 23rd and March 20th for next semester’s seminar series. If you know of any great speakers within the PA area, contact Salil at sus317@psu.edu

FAQ with Gary – Our department head, Gary Felton, will be joining us for the next EGSA meeting on Nov. 29th. He will be answering questions about starting salaries, the systematic position, the potential Life Science Umbrella graduate program, and any other questions you might have. Start brainstorming!

GIF merchandise sale – The remaining GIF merchandise will be sold at the Nov. 11th coffee break, which is from 9- 11 am at ASI 504 every Friday. There will be discounted prices for students. If you would like to help with the sale, please contact Salil at sus317@psu.edu

Thanksgiving potluck – Tom Bentley has kindly offered to host our annual EGSA Thanksgiving Potluck. EGSA sponsors a rotisserie chicken while those attending signs up to bring either a traditional side dish or desert. Look for a google doc when our host decides on a date and time.

Recruitment weekend – This year’s recruitment weekend will be on Feb. 9 – 11th. The graduate community is very involved in this event so expect more information as it approaches.

Systematic position – Andy Dean met with the Department and graduate students earlier this month as a candidate to the systematic position. There was a positive response on both sides and we will find out more in the coming month.

ESA eastern branch meeting – Although there have not been any updates on the ESA website, the eastern branch meeting abstract submission for presentations has traditionally been within this month (last year's was on Dec. 1st), so keep on the lookout! This year's eastern branch meeting will be in Hartford, CT on March 16-19.

Next Meeting: Tues. Nov. 29th at 4:30 pm in CEL conference room

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.