

GO:MCB Executive Meeting Minutes– 7/25/2017

Goal: Discuss what events we will organize for the upcoming academic year

1. Events from last year

- Invited Guest Speaker: Nicole Dubilier
 - Send out survey to find a new speaker for this year (only one per year)
 - Since previous speaker was in the Microbiology concentration, Micro speakers will be excluded from this year's selection to make it fair to other concentrations
 - Expenses for inviting a speaker will be covered by the department (hotel, travel, meals honorarium, etc)
 - Encourage fellow grad students to let their PIs know if there's someone they want to come speak and see if the faculty can use their slots to invite them
- Coffee Hours – Michael will pay for these as well
 - Department will cover expenses for food/drinks
 - We can get food from outside places if price is comparable
 - 4 weeks advance approval for outside food
 - Potential places: Bagel Zone; Brueggers; Lox, stox and bagels
- Twitter panel
 - Potentially host this event again
- Fundraisers
 - T-shirt sales
 - Try selling other items such as stickers, hats, notebooks, etc. with the logo in the future
 - Blaze pizza

2. Planning more events for this year

- Host grad student panel for undergrads
 - Answer questions about grad student life/research outside of a classroom setting
 - Ask for RSVPs to judge attendance size
- Lab tours with undergrads/high school students
- Organize demos with local afterschool programs (Grades 2nd – 8th)
 - Sarah McNulty has organized this in the past; students really enjoyed it
- Plan more professional development events
 - Kevin Boyd will organize a python programming tutorial
 - Potentially organize an R bootcamp with Pat Schloss ([University of Michigan](#)) if there is enough interest

- Develop workshops on mentoring (both being a mentor and a mentee) based on seminar series developed by Jo Handelsman ([University of Wisconsin-Madison](#))
- Plan workshop around AAAS's [IDP](#) website to discuss future career planning
- Get more speakers from industry settings
 - Possibly coordinate time with invited speakers from the PSM program
- Improving new grad student recruitment
 - Suggestions have already been made for increasing interactions with current grad students (without faculty present)
- Drink with a scientist outreach event
 - First event has been organized by Katrina Velle
 - Nathan Hale, August 15th, featuring Barbara Mellone and John Malone
 - Will try to expand to outside locations
- Science communication workshops
 - First one organized by Sarah McAnulty for August 8th with the plant sciences department
- Grad Seminar Travel Awards
 - The best speaker from the grad seminar series will be awarded a travel grant (funded by the department)
 - Rules and judging still being organized by Michael Lynes
 - In general, we will encourage there be multiple comment forms in the future printed in different colors, so you can know if feedback is coming from an undergrad, grad student, or faculty

3. Increasing our presence in the MCB community

- Send out a survey to all MCB grad students
 - We want to hear from you how we can better serve all students
- Update and reorganize our website to be more user friendly
 - Include a new anonymous suggestions page
 - Develop an online forum so that no one can feel like they're missing out if they can't attend a meeting
- Send out monthly emails to update all grad students

4. Next Meeting – August 17th 10:00 AM – Open to all!

- We will discuss how to get the new students involved during the retreat
- Updates on events we are planning this semester