

## GO:MCB Meeting – August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### 1. Drink with a Scientist Event

- First event was held on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at the True Blue Tavern (Nathan Hale)
- People filled out comment cards and seemed to really enjoy it
  - Average rating of 4.5/5
- People think Thursdays would be the best day for the event, Wednesday was second choice (may be better for businesses)
- People would have liked it a little shorter (possibly one speaker in the future instead of two)
- Next time need to have posters advertising the event at the venue (so customers know it's open to the public)
- Katrina will contact Black Pond Brews for possible next venue
- Would host next event in October
- Email Katrina Velle ([katrina.velle@uconn.edu](mailto:katrina.velle@uconn.edu)) if you would like to be involved in the future
  - Looking for MCs!

### 2. Science Communication Event – Practice for 3 Minute Thesis (3MT)

- Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM, TLS 154
- Information on 3MT event: <http://grad.uconn.edu/3mt-three-minute-thesis-competition-2017/>
- 3MT is on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>
- This will be an event with other STEM departments so that we can get feedback on giving short talks for a broader audiences and without jargon

### 3. GO:MCB Survey Results

- As of this meeting, we had a total of 32 responses
- Last year's event ratings:
  1. Career panel with undergraduates (4.5/5)
  2. MCB t-shirt sales (4.42/5)
  3. Student-invited speaker (4.31/5)
  4. Skype a scientist (4.22/5)
  5. Blaze Pizza fundraiser (4.17/5)
  6. Science fair judging (3.86/5)
  7. Twitter panel (3.8/5)
  8. Coffee hours (3.76/5)
  9. CaresBio (3.4/5)
- In what ways could the department better help students?
  - 68.75% - Define requirements for degree completion
  - 59.38% - Communicate about outside funding
  - 50% - Provide guidance through grad school bureaucracy
  - 43.75% - Host more career speakers
- Best way to communicate with you?
  - Majority (25/32 responses) responded email
- Careers we are pursuing:
  - Industry (17 responses)
  - Academia (16 responses)

- Science policy & Consulting (8 responses each)
- Science communication/writing (7 responses)

#### 4. Moving forward from survey results

- We will host another career panel for the undergraduates
  - Open to all undergrads (have them register), where last year it was done one day as part of a research course
  - Try to do more career panels in high schools
    - Tom Abbott is in communication with all AP bio teachers in CT
    - Sally Chamberland hosted a panel at her old high school once, can go again
- Run another Blaze Pizza Fundraiser
- Student-Invited Speaker
  - Will send out a poll shortly for nominations
  - Micro speakers will not be up for nomination this year since last year's speaker was from this concentration
- Update student-written handbook with information to help guide new students through degree requirements/etc.
- Industry talks
  - We will work with the PSM program to get an hour with their industry speakers for all grad students to come ask questions
  - Madhvi has spoken with the UConn Health grad organization and we can video conference in to their industry talks
- Host another twitter panel
- Career Planning Event
  - Work through IDP (<https://myidp.sciencecareers.org/>) to start more discussion about finding the right career path for you
- Kevin Boyd will organize a Python coding workshop
- Workshop for how to use PIVOT for finding external funding
  - September 12<sup>th</sup>, TLS Kresge Library, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
- Graduate Seminar
  - Have forms in different colors so you can see which responses are from undergrads, grad students, or professors
  - Talk to Michael Lynes about how travel funds will be awarded to best grad sem speaker