

GSC General Meeting

August 20th, 2017

Attendees:

- Plant Biology: Julia Miller, Nick Segerson, Penelope Lindsay, Kate Harline, Adriana Hernandez, and Hannah Thomas
- Horticulture: Hannah Swegarden
- Plant Breeding: Dustin Wilkerson
- Plant Pathology: Morgan Carter, Chris Peritore Galve
- Crop and Soil: Eugene Law

Highlights:

- SIPS seeking feedback regarding SIPS recruitment weekend: *please send suggestions to Kim Cotton (kec36@cornell.edu)*
 - Planning committee considering breakout sessions during recruitment weekend. Proposed talk/breakout session themes or alternative suggestions:
 - Graduate student panel session with prospective students
 - Exposure to different identity and community-based organizations on campus
 - Committee is considering a cross-departmental event for Friday evening – need ideas for event for ~50 people. Proposed ideas:
 - Bowling at Helen Newman
 - Happy hour at Casita del Polaris
- GSC Board Elections:
 - President: Julia Miller
 - Secretary: Hannah Swegarden
 - Non-Voting Rep to GFC: Dustin Wilkerson

Other Items:

- GSC plans to meet ~2x per semester
 - Representative from each section are responsible for reporting section-specific discussion items
 - Meeting notes will be e-mailed by Secretary to SIPS graduate students within one week of the meeting
 - GSC board is working to establish an organization e-mail, through which all future communications will occur
- SIPS Graduate Student Diversity Association
 - <http://www.inclusivecornell.org>
 - Organizing committee is starting to set-up committees for fall/spring activities
 - Currently seeking feedback on how to expand diversity initiative and encourage diversity as part of SIPS core identity
 - How to increase diversity and inclusiveness in SIPS at the graduate student and professor level, through putting pressure to hire more

diverse faculty, and provide academic and non-academic resources for underrepresented students as part of the application process and once they are actually here

- Changes to the recruitment weekend to update the process and make it more informative for the prospective students (Hannah Thomas was interested in heading this up, at least at the Plant Biology level)