

Meeting minutes for: **November 10, 2020**

## Updates from the General Assembly

**Comments, ideas, and good news before meeting:** Have a happy and safe holiday!

**Update from NGP Student Representatives:** More information on recruitment this year! Recruitment will be on a rolling basis – thus as students submit applications, they will be reviewed and then the program will reach out and see who they want to interview (interviews will still include a panel interview with faculty). Logistics are currently being figured out for how to further involve current students into recruitment as the current student involvement has long been noted as one of the most important parts of recruitment. As part of this, please submit any pictures, videos, etc. of yourself, your lab, and your friends doing things both inside and outside of the program (submit media to Google Drive here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1u1CZG5jFE925XpY4rHKNUzZU39CobR5J?usp=sharing>). Further, there is a priority to include D&I in recruitment, so please share any and all ideas for incorporating D&I as well as student interaction/life outside of simple “zoom happy hours”. Some suggestions are specifically matching recruited and current student interests for more personalized Q&A sessions.

The Interdisciplinary Graduate Program (IGP) symposium will be a virtual format on May 21, 2021. Reminder that every 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year student is required to attend and every 3<sup>rd</sup> year and above much present. Planners for the event are currently looking at non-Zoom virtual alternatives, such as “Gathertown”, so the meeting is more than sitting and staring at more zoom meetings – if you have any suggestions for this or other formats please reach out.

**CGS Update:** Shane O’Neil has volunteered to be the NGP’s CGS Delegate. Some important information to note for the upcoming semester is that there will be no spring break and instead there will be a few days off, so please plan trips accordingly if applicable. The Hayes Research Forum is happening in the spring semester and is currently slotted for some time in April as a virtual format.

**NEURO update:** NGSO to host a Brain Bee, which will be online and free and is tentatively scheduled for 2021 (this is subject to change). Intend to participate in the “official” national Brain Bee competition, so please reach out to Kia if you’re interested in helping with this event! A food drive has been initiated with donation boxes placed in Graves Hall and the Biomedical Research Tower, but more donation boxes would be appreciated. Items included in donations are Non-perishable food items, baby formula, hand sanitizer, pet food, toiletries, and toys! Also idea to spread awareness/interest in neuroscience and research over virtual formats such as Instagram or TikTok – any interest or ideas? Current suggestions include short videos highlighting interesting ideas or techniques.

## Updates from the Committee Chairs

**Social**: This month's happy hour was Thursday, November 19! Becca will be sending out a survey for the upcoming December happy hour so stay tuned for more information on that. If you ever have any ideas regarding activities during these virtual happy hours don't hesitate to reach out!

**NewN**: Rachel had the transition meeting with new NewN Chair Emma!

**Professional Development**: Science communication survey indicated best date and time would be sometime in January or February in the afternoon. R workshop currently on hold but is an ongoing effort – if you know of anyone who would be comfortable teaching a basic skills workshop in R please do not hesitate to reach out! What would you like to see in a science communication workshop? Any specific job/skill suggestions? Please email Michaela with any suggestions you didn't include in the survey.

**Diversity & Inclusion**: Keep an eye out for future events and feel free to reach out to Dany with any suggestions!

## Concluding Remarks & Next Meeting Date

Be sure to be responsible and safe when celebrating this upcoming Thanksgiving. The next NGSO meeting will be in December, so keep an eye out for an email from Kia regarding Zoom link information!