

Minutes – GSC Meeting 01-21-2004
Rm. 190 9:00 – 10:00am

Attendees: Melanie, Chris, Heather, Hilary, Joy, Tara, John, Suzy, Catherine

Topics discussed:

Reviewed the Holiday Party – Sold 93 tickets, spent \$210 on gifts, \$40 to decorate, Brought in \$1860 gross, and we haven't paid any bills yet because we are waiting for them. Was the DJ too loud?? There were a few complaints, maybe we could try to find a band next year.

Food Drive – collected 87 items which was thought to be a low number considering the number of graduate students and faculty in the department. Maybe next year we could do more advertising or have people bring a can of food as admittance into the summer picnics. Also maybe we could do a clothes drive also.

T-shirts – We will order short sleeve (15S, 20M, 20L, 15XL) and long sleeve (10S, 20M, 10L, 5XL). We will have an estimate for the next meeting

Prospective Weekend may be altered this year due to faculty concern that the weekend doesn't actually help make up prospective student minds and is more of a "fluff" weekend. The new plan may be to bring in smaller groups and have four weekends, although there is concern that that will require more of a time commitment for both students and faculty.

Dr. Cafiso attended this portion of the meeting to share the views of the faculty and stated some concerns: Last year some of the faculty were not present for prospectives to talk to. Also having the weekend over spring break makes for a quiet weekend without the normal activity so the department seems like a ghosttown. The suggestion is to take four days when the faculty will be present for students to visit and have the faculty take them to lunch, and other students take them to dinner. Recruiting weekend has historically been great but last year was terrible.

GSC members suggested that the poster session should be included because it was good, and other universities do dept. and poster session on Friday and other activities on Saturday (instead of a Sat/Sun). Also lab and building tours are important and should be included as well as a brief general session orientation to list the faculty and areas of research

Other topics discussed in brief included the question of when is the third year poster session, GSASC report, plans for a new newsletter highlighting the Drug Discovery Center, Hunt Lab, and Brown Lab, and hiring more faculty.