

HOGS Meeting Minutes for March 18, 2008

Attendance: Matt Blanchard, Nobuko Sugimoto, Aaron Walworth, Sara Tanis, Wendy Klooster, Chad Herrmann, Joseph Tychonievich, Ajay Nair, Aaron Warsaw, Kristin Getter, Greg Lang, Ryan Warner, Emma Bradford, Travis Stegmeir, Mike Von Weihe

Plant Research Symposium

- The annual Plant Research Symposium will be March 25.
- Any very last minute abstracts can be sent to Wendy Klooster by the end of Wednesday, March 19.
- The GPC may be offering awards to the best poster and oral presentation, but you must be in the Department of Horticulture to receive these awards.
- Funding for this event was approved by COGS, and HOGS will be reimbursed after the symposium. If you are responsible for buying anything for the symposium, please get your receipts to Wendy. Food is not covered by COGS, but Greg Lang will try to get a donation from all the plant science departments.
- Volunteers are needed to help set up for the symposium on Monday afternoon and to help clean up and take care of things after the symposium on Tuesday. Please let Aaron Warsaw know if you can help.
- In the future, the plant research symposium may be planned to coincide with a plant science graduate student recruitment weekend.

Spring Show

Selling grasses at the Spring Show is our main fundraiser. Please be sure to help out if you can. A sign up sheet will be put up on the HOGS bulletin board soon.

T-shirts

The HOGS T-shirts are in. See Ajay if you have not gotten yours yet. There are also Department of Horticulture T-shirts available for \$8. We will also sell them at the Spring Show for \$10.

Chair Search Committee

The search committee for the new departmental chair has met and formed a draft of the position announcement. HOGS will be able to have lunch with each of the candidates that is brought in. They are hoping to bring the candidates in September-October.

Chili Cook-off

The Crop and Soil Science Department is holding a chili cook-off this Thursday. They need more people to sign-up to bring chili.

Officer Updates

Mike (COGS Rep.)

- COGS agreed to fund the plant research symposium (except for food).

- This Thursday (March 20) there is a program called “Campus Safety & Us” going on in the engineering building from 2:30-5:30. There will be discussion with numerous people involved in campus safety.
- Today (March 18) there is a “Grade in” organized by the GEU at the Hannah Administration Building from noon-5 PM for graduate students to show their support of TAs as a new contract with the university is being negotiated.

Sara (GPC Rep.)

- The new 800 level course on research instrumentation is planning to be taught in the fall.

Matt Blanchard (Faculty Rep.)

- ORCBS is responsible for safety programs, which includes tractor safety, tree trimming/removal, etc. They are using many of the protocols already established in the Horticulture Department and on the Horticulture Farm as a model to develop their safety programs.
- The replacement of the elevators in the Plant & Soil Science Building is supposed to begin soon. They will have swipe card access to each floor in the building.
- They now have a final draft of the graduate program brochure that will be used to recruit new graduate students.
- Garden Parking Lot – they are considering putting in meters that require special tokens at each parking spot to make parking more available for garden visitors. Revenue from these tokens would go to the Horticulture Department.