

Graduate Student Advisory Board Meeting

January 27, 2023 | 12pm-1pm | West Bridge B157

Present: Ivey Davis, Colin Weller, Sara Vanovac, Andrew Graven, Dylan King, Nam Ung, Mika Walton

Absent: Sam Ponnada, Tara Leininger

Programming

- Speed Meeting will be happening every fall/October (next time just say “RSVP here”, don’t include “optional”, that is usually assumed.)
- Integration Bee – Andrew continuing to prepare
- Happy Hour today, Bagel Hour next week
- Grad Mentorship lunch this term

Faculty Leadership

For Physics faculty hiring: If we create an email list for students willing to attend talks and lunches with people who are being interviewed, the faculty could email that one email address, instead of a bunch of emails. The students on this list would understand there is some confidentiality involved.

We could have a SAB member be a liaison for faculty hirings.

Can there be a more meaningful way for students to be involved in faculty hiring? Let’s continue to discuss this. Nam and Mika will ask other Divisions if and how students are involved in faculty searches.

DEI Committee

PMA Committee has finalized the faculty members – Gregg Hallinan (Ay), Tom Hutchcroft (Ma), Cliff Cheung (Ph). Message going out to the students soon with self-nomination process for students and post-docs and staff. Please encourage fellow peers!

All-gender bathrooms

2nd floor of West Bridge restroom renovation began, estimated completion by Feb 17th

Nam as requested a map of these bathrooms for PMA

Visit Days

Astro – Feb 15th – 18th

Physics – March 2nd – 3rd

Math – March 15th

GWIPMA would like to have time to connect with visiting students

Changes in the coming year

Fixing Ay Oral Candidacy rubric for faculty feedback. Ivey will be checking with Sarah and Mia.

Math Quals – moving the date, Grad Student housing opens Sept 1st, have them week before

Orientation, provide sample quals at the beginning of summer

Physics Qualls – encourage students to study in the summer and take the quals when they arrive – have it the week before Orientation, make it clear it's optional, include in the email the pros and cons about taking them when they arrive (e.g. if they are just finishing undergrad and still in the physics mindset vs they took a break from academics so a year of courses would be helpful)

Physics – we should sit down with Option Rep, Ryan Patterson to talk about touch points

Senior grad students to help advise first year students?

Student panel during Orientation – too many questions to be able to answer

Have G3+ students that have passed quals – have some sessions during Ph242, every 3rd week check-in?, separation of theory and experiment, mentorship program is an elect-in program whereas a session where everyone goes would help more. If not in Ph242 we could have a separate session. Need a Ph242 schedule of speakers

Anonymized anthology – how to balance anonymized information with negative feedback

Orientation RPR will be passed on from Sarah Blunt – need to talk about who will run it in the future