

Graduate Women in Science – Hawaii Chapter  
Annual Chapter Meeting  
January 25, 2018 2:30-3:30PM  
CC307

In attendance:

Rachael Wade  
Solange Saxby  
Georgia Fredeluces  
Daniela Bottjer-Wilson  
Laura Tipton  
Angela Richards-Dona  
Lisa Hahn-Woernle  
Emily Young  
Elisha Wood-Charlson  
Sabrina Deimert

MEETING AGENDA:

Meeting called to order at 2:36

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Officer Reports
  1. President – Rachael provided a summary of things she does which includes coordinating of all the events, lots of work with fundraising, book club, teleconferences and voting with the national GWIS organization. She plans to step down at the end of this academic year, but she will stay on as the national liaison to help the next person transition.
  2. Vice President – Solange explained that she maintains the social media, helps the president with all the activities, helps with voting for National when 2 votes are required, and does the newsletters
  3. Secretary – Georgia described that she takes minutes for meetings, manages membership and also welcomes new members and delivers t-shirts. She shared about the level of membership and its change over time, with 35 current members. Rachael talked about the challenges with retention and recruitment of members and shared that this is a concern for chapter nationally. She thought maybe offering a discount when you renew is one idea to help with this challenge and then welcomed suggestions.
  4. Treasurer – Daniela explained that we have a Bank of Hawaii account and that she makes sure we have at least \$500 at the end of the fiscal year. There is some money from membership dues, but a lot comes from fundraising. One cost this year was the website for ~\$120 for two years. She also mentioned that she helped with the reimbursement paperwork, which can be quite painful.
  5. Announcement of GWIS Hawai'i Chapter Research or Travel Grant Recipient – We congratulated Emily Young for winning the GWIS Hawaii Fellowship and she was given her \$500 check.
  6. Outreach Coordinator – Danita was not present because she was sick, so Rachael presented for her. Rachael explained that Danita has done some incredible work. Danita is the first to take on doing her own outreach events rather than piggy-backing on events that already are in existence. She designed and implemented an original series called Experimenting with Fun, which is a 2 hour event for kids at local libraries. The last event was about sharks and was a big success. The goal is to continue this every month and possibly bring the program to other islands. In addition to

Experimenting with Fun, she designed a make-your-own bath bomb table for the Girls on the Run, which was a huge hit.

3. Spring 2018 Events –
  1. Geeks Who Drink Quiz for a Cause Trivia Fundraiser is scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> at Honolulu Beerworks. We take over the regular trivia night. 100% of proceeds may fund GWIS Hawaii Research or Travel Grant, but this is up to the chapter's future leaders.
  2. Experimenting with Fun continues on Sat. March 24<sup>th</sup> with a BUGS! Event at the Kapolei library. The following event will be on Coding, date TBD, at Kapolei Library.
  3. Girls on the Run will take place at Ala Moana Beach Park on April 21st. There was a question from Lisa about what you do as a volunteer. Rachael explained that you can help as a volunteer, or you can sign up to run as a running buddy for an elementary-age school girl. There may be a discount for GWIS members, more information to come.
  4. Another annual event which would be great to take part in is the Expanding your Horizons program. You can volunteer to present a workshop on a scientific topic for girls or you can volunteer to help others with a workshop. This was mentioned as a great resume builder. There is also an opportunity for a Volunteer Coordinator position, contact Jennifer Griswold for more info.
  5. Last year GWIS did a BBQ at the Beach and Rachael proposed to do this again. Last time it was at Kaimana. Possible dates included Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> or Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of May. More information to come.
4. AY2018-2019 Event Planning
  1. Survey results indicated that the following luncheon series topics were of interest for fall of 2018: prioritize and build your CV, using social media to excel as a scientist, Ethics and conflict resolution in academia: what to do in difficult situations during your career, as well as others (please refer to powerpoint for details). Rachael highlighted a potential special guest Piper Harron (Math) who would be a great person to present to the GWIS community. There was a discussion among the group in attendance about the use of social media for self-promotion for scientists. Angela doesn't like to do this and others agreed or disagreed. Rachael mentioned that she usually spearheads the SAPFB applications. For the fall she will apply for the luncheon series. We did not get funding for our last two applications to SAPFB, which is why there is less happening this semester.
5. AY2018-2019 GWIS Hawai'i Chapter Leadership Opportunities
  1. President – Rachael again mentioned that she is stepping down and shared more about what she does, but also emphasized that this could be spread out more equally across the officers. She feels the president's role is to manage all the ongoing projects and to check in with people about what they are doing. She said it can be a lot of balls in the air at once and keeping track of those balls.
  2. Secretary – Rachael mentioned that Georgia is willing to step down if someone is interested. Georgia keeps minutes and manages membership.
  3. Treasurer – Daniela would like to step down and that one important thing she does is the taxes. She also keeps track of receipts and manages reimbursements.
  4. Rachael let us know that this year everyone will run for elections rather than being grandfathered in, as this was suggested by the GWIS national leadership and is the cleaner way to go.
6. Discussion of Hosting the 2019 GWIS National Conference – Pros and cons were listed (see powerpoint for details). Rachael shared some back story: This became a thing after I had a nice long conversation with the national president over the summer. We were asked if we would consider hosting the National Chapter Meeting. National also asked another chapter. Whichever chapter agrees first will be able to host. Pros include using the event as a membership drive, fundraising for the chapter (the last two chapters that hosted were able to create an endowment of around \$10,000), it could create some nice state buzz, provide opportunity to partner with other women's orgs such as AAUW, WCC, other RIOs, Women in Physics, etc. CONS – this will require chapter commitment and engagement, and requires extensive fundraising. The officers that will be in office at that time are different than who is in

the positions today. We are given a \$1000 budget from GWIS National and beyond that it is up to us. The meeting would be June 2019. It is a two-day conference. The first day is a business meeting with a banquet. The next day could be whatever you want. Rachael suggested it could be a poster session in the morning and then lunch with scientist. Then in the afternoon there is a professional development activity. Rachael then brought up Testers and compared preparation for this conference to preparing for that one. Testers is a 3-day long conference followed by a banquet. Members who were present had questions about how many people are going to actually come from the mainland. The GWIS National President said we should look at this as a conference for Hawaii rather than a conference for the mainland. Rachael answered that generally they attract 75-100 people to the national meeting. Rachael thinks a lot of people would come locally. Georgia asked about the endowment aspect. What Tester's has done is that when people make donations they set up an account at the UH foundation and then only use that if needed. Donations for this event and even the \$1000 could be kept for future GWIS events. The National chapter leaders emphasized that this conference can be as big or as little as you want. Rachael feels comfortable signing on to continue working on the event. She feels the work for this is doable. Booking a room soon would be important. The room that might be booked (the East West center auditorium) costs 1,000 per day and you also need to pay for wifi. There was discussion of finding a different room on campus. Upstairs in QLC, the room with a lanai was mentioned by Angela. Rachael shared the poll results for the meeting that show that most members want to host the meeting and all will attend. Rachael wants to go for it. Angela suggested starting now and build an enthusiasm for it. Daniela expressed some skepticism. Elisha said that it would probably be better to assign discrete tasks for a limited amount of time. Emily asked if we could partner with other organizations and that that could help out a lot in the planning. Rachael said yes we can do this. Elisha thinks it is doable. Georgia expressed hesitancy in terms of not having a president to take over what Rachael has been doing.

7. New Business – Laura brought up the suggestion to partner with an organization called 500 Women Scientists and they do local pods and if someone wants to join a pod, this could increase our outreach outside the university. It is a support group a place with resources for women in science. It is what GWIS wants to do, but it a different community. She wanted to see if anyone would be interested in starting a pod. Elisha suggested that Women in SOEST has a listserv and there might be women on that are interested.
8. Meeting Adjourned at 3:35