

Minutes
GSBS at RWJMS Executive Council
December 11, 2013

Presiding: Dr. James Millonig

Present: Drs. Janet Alder, Smita Varia, Monica Roth, Nancy Walworth, David Shreiber, Rick Padgett, Marc Gartenberg, Cliff Weisel, Ramsey Foty, Huizhou Fan

Student Representative: Malan Silva

Absent: Drs. Debabrata Banerjee, John Pintar, Kenneth Reuhl, Drew Vershon, and Abram Gabriel

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

The minutes of October were approved unanimously.

Student Affairs

Student Affairs information is redacted in accordance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The following MBS/MSBS Course revision was unanimously approved:

Behavioral Science

The following Faculty were unanimously approved for GSBS membership:

Juana Hutchinson-Colas, Adjunct Member

Chi Wei Lu, Full Member

Restructuring – Dr. Kukor will not be conducting a working group. Dr. Scotto would like to include RU Faculty in her working group. Dr. Millonig suggested Drs. Shreiber and Padgett. Dr. Alder has been working on gathering all data for comparisons between the GSBS and GSNB and will be presenting the data in meetings. Right now the working group is communicated with Dr. Strom but will add Ken Breslauer and Chris Molloy in all communications. Plans to come up with a unified proposal are in the works to present to Dr. Strom.

Individual Development plans – an IDP will be placed into effect to comply with upcoming NIH requirements. All students should be made aware of the various career options open to them. The first year Molecular Biosciences students are being exposed to the IDP by Jerry Langer in their Essential Skills class this year. One model is that the students fill out the IDP in the first and third years of grad school and then meet with an IDP committee of 3 people to discuss. There was discussion of who should be on the IDP committee for each student. Drs. Millonig, Alder and Varia offered to be on the committees. It was suggested that the committee should also include the Program Director, or an alumnus of the program who is in the field that the

student is considering pursuing. It was also suggested that there be a online chat room set up where students could seek advice from people in the field.

Role of a Thesis Advisor – discussion regarding as to whether or not a student's thesis advisor should be a committee member or not. Currently this policy is different for each program. The concern is that the PIs are answering the questions for the students and/or guiding the discussion too much. There is also concern that the students are using the PI's grants as a basis for writing their proposal so that at least one aim should be conceived completely by the student and not necessarily related to the thesis research.