The year is winding down, but we still have a few events planned. Make sure to visit our website for all of this information and updates on events: http://eden.rutgers.edu/~jmbgsa/

This month’s Newsletter includes:

Monthly Meeting
Keynote Speaker
GSA Stress Reliever Event
Reminders and Nominations
Union Update
Upcoming Events

MONTHLY MEETING

This month’s meeting will be Thursday, April 19th at 11:45 in Waksman 1001. As always, food and drinks will be served.

We will be discussing Scott Gilbert’s visit, as well as, the Self Defense Kung-Fu class in the beginning of May. We will being taking nominations for next year’s officers, next year’s speaker of the year, and this year’s professor of the year.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Scott Gilbert is this year’s voted Speaker of the Year. He will be joining us on campus on Monday, April 23rd. There will be two functions on that day where you can meet and hear Dr. Gilbert.

The first will be lunch for Graduate Students ONLY from 12pm – 1pm location TBA. Here, food will be provided and you will have a chance to discuss whatever you choose with Dr. Gilbert. It could be his work, your work, future prospects, or even science in general.

The second will be Dr. Gilbert’s seminar “Signals from above: when the environment controls gene expression” in the West Lecture Hall at UMDNJ. This seminar will be held from 3pm – 4pm with a question and answer session following.

GSA STRESS RELIEVER EVENT

Once again, we are holding a stress reliever for the students. In honor of Earth Day we will be showing “An Inconvenient Truth” and providing earth friendly snacks! We will be holding the event in the Dean’s Conference Room on April 26th, at 6:30pm.
REMINDERS AND NOMINATIONS

- The first reminder is to get in your nominations for next year’s GSA officers. So far we have the following nominations:

  President:
  Vice-President:
  Treasurer: Yanique Rattigan
  Secretary: Courtney Mezzacappa
  Historian:

  In addition, Falshruti Patel and Chuck O’Brien will fill in whichever spots are vacant and needed.

- The second reminder is for this year’s Professor of the Year. We have a few nominations to date, including:

  Richard Ebright
  Jim Millonig
  Mike Hampsey
  Chris Rongo
  Kim McKim
  Ann Stock

- The last reminder is for next year’s Speaker of the Year. We have one nomination so far:

  Dr. Richard Huganir
  Professor, Department of Neuroscience
  John Hopkins University School of Medicine

- We are still accepting nomination for any of the three. Please email us your nominations or bring them to our meeting on the 19th. We will be holding the votes during our May meeting.

UNION UPDATE

The union held a successful TA/GA Platform party on the 23rd of March. Many new people signed up for the union. Also, contract negotiations are going well. We still need more members to give our bargaining power a boost. If you are a TA or GA and are considering joining the union, please contact me at ceobrie@waksman.rutgers.edu. I will answer any questions or tell you how to sign up or get more involved. They are planning on having another party on Friday, April 20th on Busch. More details to come.

I have a contract petition regarding our goals in negotiations with Rutgers. I will bring it to the GSA monthly meeting, on the 19th, for everyone to sign. It does not matter if you are a TA, a GA, or on a grant or fellowship – we need support from everyone.

Our joint departments are one of the most highly under-represented groups in the Rutgers’s community. Let us try to change that.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 19\(^{th}\) at 11:45am in Waksman 1001 – GSA April Meeting: Hear about events and give nomination, pizza and soda provided.

Monday, April 23\(^{rd}\) from 12pm – 1pm in the Dean’s Conference Room, UMDNJ – Lunch with Scott Gilbert, this year’s Seminar Speaker.

Monday, April 23\(^{rd}\) from 3pm – 4pm in the West Lecture Hall, UMDNJ – Scott Gilbert’s seminar with a questions period to follow.

Thursday, April 26\(^{th}\) at 6:30pm in the Dean’s Conference Room, UMDNJ – GSA Stress Reliever Event: Earth Friendly Snacks and “An Inconvenient Truth.”

Wednesday, May 9\(^{th}\) at 6pm, location TBA – Self Defense Kung-Fu class.

FEEDBACK

If you have any feedback regarding this newsletter, please feel free to contact me, Chuck O’Brien at ceobrie@waksman.rutgers.edu.

Any feedback regarding the website http://www.eden.rutgers.edu/~jmbgsa/index.html should be directed to Ayelet Klartag at jmbgsa@eden.rutgers.edu.

Any of the GSA officers may be contacted for all other comments or suggestions:
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