RGSA Meeting Minutes | January 22nd, 2015
Present: Jess Espenshade, Rebecca Stern, Kathryn Wrigley, Xiao Xiao, Bess Perry, Emil Tsao, Ariana Cano, Stephanie Juice

Proposed semester meeting times (all at 10:00am):
February 5th (Emil snacks), February 19th (Stephanie snacks), March 12th (Ari snacks), March 26th (Bess snacks), April 9th, April 23rd

Announcements:
Kathryn Wrigley: I’m the co-editor of the RSENR newsletter and this semester I am thinking of doing a revision of the newsletter. I’m hoping to get feedback in the form of an email for two things you like and two things that seem extraneous.

Open call to RSENR public: Feedback to Kathryn for the RSENR newsletter (kwrigley@uvm.edu)

Goal setting:
Hard goals: research fair, dean’s forum, com-pie-tition (occurred April 7th last year)
Mentoring program is happening again this semester with possible special events

Two days of volunteering:
Ari reached out to a couple of non-profits to look at the possibility of a RSENR volunteering day

Rubenstein ski day:
Ari is also looking into a one-time recreation day (XC, downhill, etc) for RSENR students.

Mini-grant application:
Xiao is preparing the Spring semester mini-grant app, and Stephanie has ideas on how to change it

Professional development with Carolyn:
Bess is helping to arrange a series of workshops. Official ideas so far: database design, proposal writing and literature reviews, how to effectively facilitate a meeting, life after your Masters, life after your PhD. Brainstorming ideas so far: preparing for comprehensive exams, ethics, quantitative social science methods
-Do an end-of-semester survey asking students what professional development workshops they want
-Workshops are in the process of being scheduled.

Proposing a goal: expanding RGSA’s understanding of the graduate student experience and philosophy

Setting dates?
Dean’s Forum
Research Fair
Grad student retreat: Becca will draft a few questions to see what interest is

Transportation survey:
Narrowing down to Spear St. specific questions, or bringing in transportation experts to weigh in?