RGSA Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2014

Action Items:
Look over surveys before tomorrow at 5:00 pm
Brainstorm about the retreat
Ariana: plan for the Holiday Party
Think about what to put the logo on
Send RGSA updates for the community newsletter to Emil.

Updates
Unfortunately Rez and Emil were not present today.
Bess: Tomorrow is the last seminar, Ecologist from GMC. Planning to make a survey.
There is a concern with how many surveys are going out. Need reflection for how many surveys there have been. This year has been very low attendance so is this something we want to keep having, what needs to change?
Donna: It is good to find out why people didn’t go? It is difficult to have those questions.
Bess: It might be an issue of “burn out”. Maybe next year would be a one month event where we have one speaker to come. Turn out has been low every year. The time might be an issue.
Donna: we need some slots for speakers to come talk, it would be a good idea to have the one month time allowed. Create a proposal time allowed, a combination of the time slot for presenters/speakers/ and students. Who needs to have a presentation then and higher profile talk?
Professional Development
Schedule for the Spring:
Possible ideas, holding a monthly event for Professional Development. Once more often when needed.
Social media, how to present yourself professionally? Do it on the retreat, the graduate student retreat.
Time management, how to start your proposal, how to lead a meeting; some of the other potential ideas.

Chili Cook-Off:
$173 raised from the cook-off.
$84 Humane Society of Chitteden County was donated.
Comparable to what has been done in the previous years.
Next year we should have a shorter time.

Fireside Chat:
Very successful event, 11 people showed up.
Should do one again.

Kitchen Duty Follow up:
Graduate Students now have access to the kitchen at all times BUT we need to clean-up after ourselves.
There is a sign-up sheet for clean-up duty where RGSA will encourage one week of kitchen duty.
Very simple detailed assignment.
**Deliberate Surveys**
All the surveys are available online, we need people to go in and look at them.
Committee members need to review.
Transportation survey needs to go out, there is a need for everyone to fill this out since Spear St. is an important area of the Rubenstein community.
Stephanie will send out email with the transportation survey to be taken a look at for one more time. The other two will be send out for comment and will be send out after the break.

**Holiday Party**
We will repeat personal tid bit bingo.
Last year was pot luck deserts. Sign-up for the party. Provide food for next year.
Get some nicer drinks, appetizers.
$84 from Chili Cook-Off, $150 non-alcoholic beverages.

**Graduate Student Retreat**
Early in the Spring Semester
Locations and topics of discussions:

**MLK weekend:** Bishop Booth $20 a person. Different ways it adds cost,

**Common Ground:** communal kitchen 31 people. 45 minutes away, but there are other people to come out for the way. There is access to a kitchen, places to sit around, etc.

**Seyon Lodge Park:** a pricier possibility but still very beautiful.

What should be the topic of discussion at the retreat? Perhaps two different opinions on how to present yourself and how to present yourself in a professional way.

**Tabled for next meeting:**
Logo Status
Community Notes Submission for the RSENR Newsletter
Funding Status
We need a group picture!