

Neuroscience Graduate Students' Association

Meeting Minutes for June 3, 2011

9:00 a.m. Good earth Coffeehouse

Attendance: Ian Surdhar, Scott Travis, Curtis Benson, Kam Dhami, Baska J, Andrea Shafer, Nina Weishaupt, Yushan Huang.

Ian (President) called the meeting into order. Scott (VP Secretary) outlined the agenda for the meeting.

Member Reports

President – Ian reported that for our club status we needed to report a minimum membership number of the quorum, or voting body. This is only the minimum number of people required to make changes to the constitution. It was proposed that this number be 5 or 7. A vote was taken, with 7 votes for a five-member quorum, and 2 votes for a seven-member quorum. Five-member quorum motion carried.

VP-Secretary – Scott Travis - as per the new regulations, it must be stated in the meeting minutes that as the new Execs, Ian Surdhar (President), Scott Travis (VP Secretary), and Curtis Benson (VP Treasurer) are approved to have transferred to them signing authority on the NGSA account at CIBC. Ian, Scott and Curtis will meet at CIBC on Monday, June 6th at 11:30am to transfer the signing authority.

VP-Treasurer – Curtis Benson – no updates from Curtis –just waiting on transfer for signing authority

VP-Sports – Kam Dhami – NGSA won their last game by default, the other team was no-show. This week's schedule has not been posted yet but will let us know when it is.

VP-Communications – Nina Weishaupt – for the next meeting, Nina will be taking a group photo for the NGSA website. We encourage people to be in attendance so you can be included. Also looking for photos from NGSA members to post on the website.

Keynote Speaker suggestions. Trying to fit the theme of macro research to diversify from last year's speaker as well as attract attention from other departments.

1. Ian started us off by listing some candidates that we could aim high for.
 - a) VS Ramachandran, in UC San Diego. Mirror neuron and phantom limb pain research.
 - b) Mike Gazzanica, UC Berkley, split brain research.
 - c) Joseph LeDoux, Gazzanica's student, NYU, helped found emotional memory and fear conditioning within the amygdale.
 - d) Nancy Kanwisher, MIT, fusiform gyrus and facial recognition.
2. Cam suggested
 - e) Adrian Owen, University of Western Ontario. Consciousness and neuroimaging, detecting awareness in a vegetative state.
3. Nina suggested
 - f) Morris Moscovitch, U of T, autobiographical memory
 - g) Peter Reiner, UBC, neuroethics, commercialization of neuroscience
 - h) Jose Carmena, UC Berkeley, Brain-machine interface systems, prosthetics.
4. Scott suggested

i) Michael Graziano, Princeton, Cortical Control of movement, whole gesture stimulations.

With these suggestions we have generated a short list, and Ian will begin contacting those on this list starting with the big fish, Ramachandran, LeDoux, Gazzanica, and Adrian Owen.

The next meeting for NGSA will be on July 8th, 2011.