**Women in Genome Sciences Organizational Meeting**

**Date: 11/2**

**Location: S-448**

**Recorded by: Cecilia**

**In attendance:**

Melissa Chiasson

Lindsay Pino

Sarah Hilton

Alice Popejoy

Beth Morton

Amanda Watts

Eliah Overbey

**Budget update:**

Our full budget request was approved including funds to bring in an external career speaker in 2017 (possibly add on to the series in April). Plan is to start brainstorming potential candidates in a Google Doc. Two initial possibilities are Donna Dean (AWIS) and Kate Rubins (NASA).

**Upcoming events:**

* Journal club discussion with Jevin West next week, Beth is working on advertising. Take a look at the paper and start thinking about questions/ conversation starters since he will only be doing a short intro.
* Coffee with Fiona Brinkman 11/9 – Eliah and Sandi are going to send out a signup ASAP and we will see how many people are interested but will shoot for ~6-10 people.
* Discussion of spring speaker series - inviting a female GS faculty for February
* Received several career speaker suggestions from Debbie, including Magdalena Skipper, former editor at Nature who will be in Seattle in November-December.
* She’s Coding movie showing: can get it from the UW library, will try for a showing in Foege auditorium beginning of winter quarter (tentatively January 5)

**Other planning/announcements:**

* Peer mentoring program: idea proposed by Elizabeth Nance (Chemical Engineering), to create a program of peer mentoring circles for graduate students across the sciences, facilitated by WiGS/Women in Chemical Engineering/Women in Chemical Sciences. General goal is to provide a space (group of 4-6 fellow science graduate students) for constructive career discussion outside of lab and department.
	+ The consensus was general interest but would depend a lot on who signs up initially and how active they are. Debate about whether to start very far-reaching and trying to include all science departments/women-in-STEM organizations, or to start by focusing on this core group of structured organizations. Could see how much interest there is in a wider survey.
	+ Alice pointed out that GPSS has been trying to start a peer mentoring program for grad students called Grads Guiding Grads (G3), and have some money and infrastructure for this purpose. We may want to connect with them and see if it would make sense to organize this as a component or offshoot of that program to take advantage of those resources.
* Another event idea: Lightning idea panel featuring female GS faculty

**Organizational work:**

Whether to register as an RSO – the main benefit would be travel funding for additional external speakers. TBD.