



graduate planning student association
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

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Minutes April 29, 2010

Display Cases

- Pictures from events during the school year are being collected to post in the department's second floor display case
- Send digital or photo prints to EBoard members

Outreach to Local Schools

- Ambassadors program for Fall 2010 to involve local public school students into planning
- Lewis will get in contact with schools during the summer and establish a schedule

Albany 2030

- There was a discussion of City's last set of Albany 2030 public meetings
- The issue of poor public turn-out because of the seemingly poor outreach being made by the City was brought up
- Additionally, the City's and GPSA/MRP's relationship moving forward in student involvement in Albany 2030 projects was questioned. (The City has not yet responded to the data we have collected and sent from the UAlbany 2030 event)
- It was mentioned that we should look at other Capital District communities that would be more accepting of MRP helping in that community's issues, Cohoes for example. And that we can get an in through that community's Neighborhood Meetings to see if there are any planning issues/projects we can get involved in.

Accreditation

- The department passed Accreditation and will be for the next 6 years!
- Prof Laws is seeking student input on a possible online Exit Survey. An email will be sent with the link to the draft survey to get student's thoughts about future use of such a survey.

End of Year Event

- Friday May 14th 5pm
- Tentative Venue
 - Professor Scally or Bunnell's backyards
 - Hollywood Cafe
 - Possibly on campus, behind campus center, can get permit for alcoholic drinks
 - Colonie Town Park
- Some funds will come from faculty to provide food/beverages from the event
- Expect 40-60 ppl, students, alumni, professors, area professionals
- Fundraiser at the event: 50/50, raffle

CDPA & GIS/WTP Day Event

- CDPA bringing keynote speaker: Helen Caldicott
- Concerns about her political speech has been raised in the past which is why it's still being decided.
- Students should check into the Caldicott's topic area (<http://www.helencaldicott.com/about.htm>) to see if it's a speaker they are interested in. Feedback will be given to CDPA to assist in choosing a keynote speaker
- Looking for more topics/speakers. Send ideas to CDPA reps, Kisha Santiago or DJ Hogenkamp.

Burlington, VT Summer Trip

- Tentatively scheduled for June 25th to 27th
- GPSA will be contacting local planners there to have a tour of good planning parts of the city, along with hiking and camping.

Incoming Students Orientation

- During the summer a series of events will be organized to welcome incoming students.
- Ideas include an orientation session, presentation, and video
- Past idea: pairing current and incoming students to doing a scavenger hunt in Albany