

## SWIG Business Meeting Notes: February 1, 2007

### 1. SYWIG day

We have 3 middle schools that are interested in participating so we are anticipating anywhere from 30 (possibly 40) girls! SYWIG day is scheduled for Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We are currently looking for volunteers for a few SYWIG committees. They are: the welcoming crew, food ordering crew activities crew and miscellaneous/extra hands crew. If you were not at today's meeting and would like to sign up to help out please do so on the SWIG bulletin board near Walker 304.

### 2. SYWIG Philly

Nicole has been working on building relationships and allies for SYWIG Philly and has been successful! She is currently in contact with women geographers from Temple University. We are thinking that SYWIG Philly will be either the end of April (after AAG) or beginning of May. If you are interested in helping out and/or participating, please sign up. Again, the sign up sheet will be posted on the SWIG bulletin board.

SYWIG off-campus (or on) Next Fall

In terms of doing an off-campus SYWIG day next Fall, Kristen H suggested reaching out to a school in Harrisburg. She knows Deena, the science teacher who is very enthusiastic and excited not only about teaching, but the possibility of having SWIG come out there to do some activities. The school is predominantly female with a diverse background. This could be a really great option for us in the Fall! If we invite the students here to Penn State, they will need travel assistance. Jodi suggested working with Kathy Lyons the new Dean for Diversity in the college of EMS.

### 3. Toolkit Series

The next workshop in this series will be held on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 12-1:30. Lunch will be provided and our speaker will be Susanne Adair discussing issues of diversity. Basically, it will be "Diversity 101" thanks to Nicole for putting this together. If you are interested please sign up on the sheet posted on the SWIG bulletin board. In order for this to happen, we need to know there at least 10 people are interested!

### 4. UPAC/AAG

Katie has worked super hard and has turned in our AAG funding application to UPAC! Thanks Katie! If you weren't at today's meeting, please visit the SWIG

bulletin board to let us know the days that you will be attending for hotel room reservation reasons.

#### **5. Incoming Student Recruitment**

Beth has talked to Deryck Holdsworth and has some great news! Deryck told her that once official acceptance letters have been sent out, that he will provide her with a list of names and email addresses so we can begin contacting potential women students.

Also, the officers received an email last week from Keiron about targeting the same kind of outreach to minority students. We all agree that this is a really good idea and Beth has offered to ask Deryck if we can get this contact information as well.

#### **6. Drive for Soldiers in Iraq**

Mamata has been talking to Margaret one of the Master's students in the department and it looks like we are going to be organizing a drive to send items to soldiers in Iraq! This is really exciting and we will be asking the entire department to participate. Margaret has made a list of items that we can purchase for soldiers and also has contact information for people to send the items to. Basically, SWIG will be sponsoring one or two groups of soldiers.

The next question is: how are we going to raise money to send the packages? Kristen had a great idea of hosting some kind of lunch in Walker Building. We could have a day where we bring food and sell plates for \$5 a piece. It was agreed that something like this would be very popular in our department!

Kate is going to ask her husband Todd who is a chef at Spat's if we could somehow coordinate something with them. Kate, Kristen and Beth have volunteered to figure out the theme of the lunch and how we can possibly find collaborators. Thanks a bunch ladies!

#### **7. Spring Creek Clean-Up Day**

Kristen has been in contact with the Wetlands Center and it looks like SWIG members can join the Wetlands Center for the clean-up day. Kristen will be sending out an email with the details. Many of you may not be able to go because it is the Saturday of AAGs but if you are going to be around, please join!

#### **8. Girl Scouts**

Kristen went to a WISE meeting and there is a Girl Scouts Committee type thing here on campus. The committee handles all of the details, but is looking for

people who are willing to host some sort of science related lesson so girl scouts can earn their badges. As Kristen said, since SWIG already has these types of activities planned out, we may be perfect candidates to participate.

#### **9. New Child Policy**

There isn't much update on this topic but Kate brought up a good point that there are various organizations throughout campus working on this initiative and it seems like geography is pretty well represented in all areas. The groups are: GSA, Commission for Women, SWIG and Eva Pell.

#### **10. EMEX**

EMEX will be Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Geography has a room and if any SWIG members would like to participate please see Jodi.

#### **11. SWIG Message Board**

Katie has set up an anonymous message board on Angel. Please use this message board to voice any and all of the concerns you have regarding SWIG, what our mission is, about our constitution etc. We will bring any concerns that have been posted to our business meetings and have an open discussion about them.

Also, if you would like to not be anonymous, please sign your name within your message post.

#### **12. Movie Night(s)**

Amber has put together a Black History Month movie night. The first one will be February 5<sup>th</sup> in 112 Walker. She has received over 15 movie requests! Hope to see you all there!