

02/02/04 BSGSA Meeting started at 17:00

Members Present: Mark Davis, Alegra Galle, Matthew Smith, Todd Boonstra, Susan Spinar, Bryan Safratowich, Dave Rogowski, Shawn Hawks, Will Clark, Nicole Very, Joni Johnson, Greg Forcey, Rachel Bush, Jim Church, Jason Vinje, Haijun Liu

Shelia Kath Award nominations will be due on March 1, 2004. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the BSGSA's website <http://biology.ndsu.nodak.edu/bsgsa>. This award recognizes an individual who has contributed to increased quality of graduate student life.

Applications for the BSGSA's equipment grant are available on the BSGSA's website. <http://biology.ndsu.nodak.edu/bsgsa>. They also will be due March 1, 2004. Money from last years award was never spent therefore, this year's award will be in the amount of \$1,000 to be given to one or more recipients.

Shawn reported that the annual BSGSA fundraiser will be held on Wednesday March 24th in the Memorial Union's recreation area. Shawn requested items for the silent auction, especially baked goods. It was also suggested that Greg and Will could contribute photographs for the silent auction. Ticket sales for the event will be \$7.00.

Greg reported that the webpage is proceeding well and that the software for other computers in the department has been ordered. Greg asked that members help enter information into an alumni database to track past theses/dissertations. It was also suggested that a section be added to the employment page to advertise local jobs for NDSU professors and graduate students.

Matt reported that the BSGSA Symposium was a success and there have been multiple suggestions on how to improve it in the future. Modifications that will be made to next year's symposium include moving the date to the spring semester, holding it on a Friday, not having a theme, and allowing online registration for the event. The budget has been increased for the event to ~\$5,000, and a lunch will be provided at the event.

Mark and Matt reported that Science Olympia and the Governor's school are approaching and members should be thinking about participating in the events. A registration sheet was passed around for Science Olympia.

Meeting concluded at 17:45.