

Mini-GEM Steering Committee Minutes

December 9, 2018

Present: Jacob Bortnik (via Skype), Paul Cassak (running the meeting), Allison Jaynes, Christine Gabrielse, Ryan Dewey (student), Matthew Cooper (student), Brian Walsh, Seth Claudepierre, Shin Ohtani, Alex Glozer, Chris Mouikis, Raluca Ilie, Matina Gkioulidou, Vania Jordanova, Chih-Ping Wang, Dan Welling, Hyunju Connor, Bob Clauer, Howard Singer, Lisa Winter, John Lyon, Josh Rigler, James McCollough, Robert Rankin, Steve Petrinec

1. Welcome and Dinner

2. New Organizers: UNH

Chris Mouikis discussed future GEM Workshop plans

2019: Santa Fe, NM June 22

- CEDAR-GEM joint day meeting on June 22nd (Saturday)
- Conference hotel: La Fonda
- Overflow hotels: Hilton for students and Chimayo for scientists

2020: Back to back meeting with SHINE, July 12-24, in Hawaii?

- Cost is reasonable
- 2020 is when DKIST in Maui comes online in early summer (Big year for solar physics)
- Not totally random place
- Umbe is the meeting planner for SHINE and GEM

2021: June 20-25, Joint with CEDAR? Location: Colorado?

- CEDAR came to us and asked if we would do a joint (same time) meeting in 2021
- No decision immediately made. See discussion below.

New Program: Family care grant

- Goal: To help GEM members with young children attend the summer workshops
- Grants are intended to help offset the cost of childcare. Recipients will be responsible for arranging their own childcare.
- 8 grants of \$400 each to offset childcare costs. Could include babysitting costs at hotel, contributions to daily expenses of spouse/relative to care for the child. Recipients supply a receipt or proof of payment.
- Grant paid by registration fee.

Discussion

Concerns were brought up of the travel expenses to Hawaii: Cost prohibitive?

- Can we look into cheaper hotels?
- Sometimes when hotel is over per diem, government employees can justify, or go to cheaper hotel.
- NSF is not worried about funding students to Hawaii.

2021: Joint with CEDAR or not? Some like it. Some like to see how CEDAR runs its meetings, since it is organized differently from GEM. Others said last time they felt there was little interaction between the communities. Others said they ran joint GEM-CEDAR sessions that were completely full, showing the strong community interest.

In 2016, CEDAR was in El Dorado but GEM was in La Fonda. It was hard to move between the groups. Must be carefully planned if we do this again.

Some GEM SC members heard complaints that GEM/CEAR were separate entities with no overlap, but if you attended the intentionally joint sessions you learned a lot. Affected career trajectories!

3. Lisa Winter: New NSF MAG representative

She introduced herself, suggested GEM could have professional development presentations as part of student day for students to learn things like speaking, etc.

4. Student reps report

They hosted the annual student townhall that morning. Low turnout, but formalized best practices like new student rep selection, poster competition, student dinner, etc.

We do have a best practices document on the GEM website on the front page. The idea is for us to periodically update it. Publish an updated version by the end of the calendar year.

ACTION ITEM to all SC Members: Read it and update it by end of the year.

5. New Focus Group Selections

- Three FGs ended this year:
 - Geospace Systems Science
 - Inner Magnetosphere Cross-Energy/Population Interactions
 - Quantitative Assessment of RB Modeling
- SC can approve as many new ones as desired.

Discussed each individually (discussion details redacted):

- Shock FG (Lead: Lynn Wilson)
- System understanding of Radiation Belts (Lead: Hong Zhao)
- Time-scales (Lead: Ashley Greeley)
- Enhancement and Loss in Earth's RB (Lead: Maria Usanova)

Move to discuss all four. (Discussion details redacted)

Moved to discuss just the 3 RB FGs

Vote: Details redacted. Zhao's FG was ranked highest and was chosen. Now we need to vote if we want a 2nd RB FG; result was to leave another RB group open for next year to have something more different; don't want two FGs that are too similar. Also, we avoid having both rotating off the same year.)

Suggestion: Make suggestion to Usanova do suggest session for next year's joint session with CEDAR. ← **ACTION ITEM:** coordinate with Usanova group to have them propose a joint session with CEDAR in 2019 on the overlapping Saturday.

Discussion on topic of "Do we allow students to propose in the future?"):

- Do we want to have something in the future to discourage students to serve as FG leaders? We should not disqualify them on that account because it's not in the rules, but if we want to exclude it going forward we should make it explicit in the rules.
Action: Save voting for a different date.
- We consider leadership of co-chairs, experience, etc., for all FGs: not just students. We didn't apply a different standard to them.
- We decided not to make a rule disallowing student FG leaders for now. A different group could deal with it differently (e.g., main leaders may be late career, a student could be a supporting FG leader, etc.)
- Note, the Greeley proposal was not turned down simply because some of the leaders are grad students.

Moving on to decide about the Wilson proposal. (Discussion details redacted)

Vote on Lynn's proposal: selected as a focus group.

ACTION ITEM: give them the feedback from tonight.

6. Anti-harassment

The community was asked to comment on the GEM Anti-Harassment document. One person suggested some minor changes. In the interest of time, it was agreed to continue this discussion by email.

7. Subcommittee discussion by Allison:

- Coming out of the anti-harassment, thinking of making a subcommittee, more panel discussions, etc.
- The session on microaggressions in the 2018 summer workshop was widely discussed by GEM members
- Panels on how to bring more underrepresented people groups to the room
- If you want to be a part of that subcommittee, email someone (Allison?, Jacob, Paul)

Paul: Introduce subcommittees more broadly. Possible examples include:

- DEI (Diversity, equity, and inclusivity)

- Recruitment
- Outreach
- Methods and Validation

Each at-large SC member could head one subcommittee (we have 4 at-large SC members)

8. MM&V updates

- Proposals:
 - Add one MM&V coordinator to steering committee to coordinate methods and validation within GEM
 - Instead of a FG, take those four people and have a standing committee that serves GEM. Not a FG. Idea is to have 2 rotate on, 2 rotate off, every couple years. Centralized. Doesn't have to pretend to be a FG.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Read the document, we'll vote next summer.

9. Directions for future of GEM (Seth, Raluca):

- Lost sight of GEM's original goals: To build a global model of the magnetosphere. We're getting away from that.
- Bill Lotko, Jeff Hughes, Mike Liemohn, and Katariina Nykyri wrote a white paper about GEM in 2013. Some of the SC tasks listed in the document are not being carried out.
 - Previous SCs had an additional meeting between FG chairs and RACs setting the course.
- Big data/AI/machine learning revolution is coming, so we need to be strategic and embrace it. Should SC take a more active role in encouraging and fostering this within GEM?
 - We definitely should.
 - It is good to keep in mind as we plan the plenary talks for next summer.
 - Counterpoint - GEM is from the bottom up, so community should determine the role of big data. Part of the role as RACs is to encourage people to come out with new ideas for FGs.
- Don't like the emphasis on modeling. A balance is important. LWS community is also interested in AI but we lack the expertise. Maybe we need to bring these people onboard. It's not that we aren't interested, we just don't know how to approach it.
- More people in Solar are doing this.
- Encourage everyone to read the Bill Lotko et al., white paper. Should be required reading.
- **ACTION ITEM: Seth or chairs will send out the White Paper for Steering Committee to read.**

Meeting Adjourned