

October 9, 2020, GEM Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
(virtual meeting, conducted via Webex)

Attendance - Vania Jordanova (Chair), Adam Kellerman (Interim Vice Chair), Allison Jaynes, Yihua Zheng, Lynn Kistler, Chia-Lin Huang, Chris Mouikis, Steve Petrinec, Matina Gkioulidou, Chih-Ping Wang, Seth Claudepierre, Raluca Ilie, Shin Ohtani, Hyunju Connor, John Lyon, Agnit Mukhopadhyay, Mei-Yun Lin, Andrew Dimmock, Howard Singer, Joe Borovsky, Lutz Rastaetter, Shasha Zou

1. Welcome/Agenda (Vania Jordanova)

2. Mini-GEM (Vania Jordanova)

The SC discussed the possibility to provide a framework for a virtual Mini-GEM, to be held this year in place of the usual meeting. The goal of Mini-GEM is to touch base with the community half-way between the GEM summer workshops and to have some informal FG discussions that could help with the planning of GEM 2021 summer workshop. The GEM SC reached out to FG leaders to gauge interest in such a meeting, and received responses in favor of a virtual mini-GEM in January 2021. However, the SC did not hear from all FG leaders, and several committee members raised concerns in regards to yet another virtual meeting, given that AGU and COSPAR are occurring in December and January. These concerns were also echoed, privately, by some FG leaders. After much discussion, the SC voted (unanimous), to hold a Mini-GEM in the week of January 18, 2021. Each FG will have the opportunity and is encouraged to schedule a 2-hour Zoom session. The morning time slots will allow our international colleagues from Europe to participate. The Meeting Organizers will work with FG leaders to schedule the times and release them to the community.

3. GEM Vice-Chair Search (Vania Jordanova)

The search continues for a Vice Chair, and the steering committee will send out additional advertising regarding the position. The SC will include specifics regarding the selection process in the Best Practices document for increased transparency.

4. GEM Bylaws (Vania Jordanova)

The SC voted (unanimous) to update the GEM Wiki and implement the revisions approved by the SC at previous meetings to the GEM Bylaws. The SC discussed reporting from the RACs, and how that should take place on an annual basis. It was suggested to have the RACs meet to discuss a unified format for reporting progress in the GEMstone newsletter. A template suitable for the FG report will be drafted by the RACs and presented at the next SC meeting for discussion.

5. GEM Governance during crisis situations (Seth Claudepierre)

The GEM SC discussed the option of an executive council, to provide additional leadership in case of an emergency. The SC voted (unanimous) to form an executive council, which will play a passive role, only acting during an emergency situation when

the Chair and/or Vice Chair are not available. The SC also voted (unanimous) for a 3-person council, which will rotate members on a 6-month automatic basis.

6. Meeting adjourned