

**May 14, 2021, GEM Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**(virtual meeting, conducted via Webex)**

Attendance - Vania Jordanova (Chair), Adam Kellerman (Vice Chair), Agnit Mukhopadhyay, Allison Jaynes, Brian Walsh, Chia-Lin Huang, Chih-Ping Wang, Chris Mouikis, Howard Singer, Hyunju Connor, Ian Cohen, John Lyon, John Manuel, Lisa Winter, Matina Gkioulidou, Mei-Yun Lin, Seth Claudepierre, Shin Ohtani, Steve Petrinec

**1. Welcome/Agenda (Vania Jordanova)**

**2. GEM FG Extension and RAC Terms/Rotation (Vania Jordanova)**

The Steering Committee (SC) approved the requested 1-year extension of Focus Group (FG) terms. In addition, the Research Area Coordinator (RAC) terms were updated to stagger the terms so that a major part of the SC does not rotate off at the same time. The SC will solicit applications for 2-3 new RAC members each year. Due to the virtual format of the meeting, this year's RAC rotation will occur after the summer workshop. These changes will be updated on the GEM Wiki.

**3. GEM Description (Vania Jordanova, Adam Kellerman)**

The GEM description on the Wiki and Workshop website includes outdated information regarding the use of "campaigns" to address GEM goals. This process has been replaced with the use of Focus Groups (FGs) in five research areas (RAs). The SC discussed updating the GEM Wiki and GEM Workshop website to represent current GEM practices.

**4. GEM Summer 2021 Workshop Update (Chia-Lin Huang and Chris Mouikis)**

The development of VGEM 2021 workshop website is underway. This year's meeting will utilize Gather.town for the poster session, to improve upon the experience in VGEM 2020. An announcement will go out soon to advertise the opening of the registration and poster submission for the meeting.

**5. GEM Plenary and Decadal Subcommittees (Adam Kellerman, Ian Cohen)**

Plenary speakers have been chosen for majority of RA's, agencies, and the student-invited speaker has been identified. The SC discussed the speakers who were invited to give the talks on the historic and future perspective of GEM. It was discussed that a panel may be more suitable, to allow for more voices to join the discussion. The Plenary Subcommittee will reach out to invited speakers and moderators.

It was suggested that students put together a presentation of what they see for GEM in the next 30 years. The SC discussed expanding this to post-docs and early career members to contrast the views. This discussion led to the idea that there should be community-chosen representatives for the post-doc and early-career cohorts.

It was suggested that the Decal Subcommittee considers the ground-based aspect in GEM's future; this will be discussed in the next Decadal Subcommittee meeting, together

with the preparation of the GEM community for the Heliophysics Decadal Survey and upcoming missions.

**6. GEM DEI Subcommittee (Allison Jaynes, Adam Kellerman, Vania Jordanova, Chris Mouikis, Hyunju Connor)**

The GEM Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) mission statement was presented and discussed. It was suggested that the statement on land acknowledgment included in it might be too specific and out of place for the more general mission statement. It was decided that the land acknowledgment should be moved to its own place on the Wiki. This will be actioned soon. By unanimous vote, the mission statement document will be put on the Wiki, with the land acknowledgment removed.

The loss of Sam Bingham last year became an example that resonated throughout the community of why we need to care about mental health, and in a greater sense, community care. It was proposed to create an umbrella name for these activities such as “Sam Bingham Community Care” sessions/initiative, to honor Sam’s memory and to help the community find such information. The SC voted unanimously to accept this idea.

The DEI Subcommittee also proposed a mentor program for GEM. The idea is to provide support for younger members of the GEM community in the lead up to VGEM 2021, and potentially going forward. The “Mentor application form”, designed to collect potential mentors was discussed. The GEM SC agreed to accept the Mentor program, and then voted on the four suggested names for the mentor program, resulting in the final name as GEMEE (acronym to be finalized). The GEM SC will advertise the program in the GEM Messenger and will post links to it on the workshop website.

**7. GEMstone Update (Allison Jaynes, Vania Jordanova)**

There are still some outstanding reports. Each RAC will reach out to their FG leaders to obtain their reports. The SC discussed a new section within GEMstone “In Memoriam” where the community would be invited to submit obituaries. This discussion is ongoing.

**8. GEM Liaisons (Vania Jordanova)**

The SC was contacted regarding the role and application process for International Liaisons. Due to time constraints, the discussion on this was postponed until the next SC meeting.

**9. GEM Logo (Chris Mouikis and Chia-Lin Huang)**

Sixteen new GEM logo designs were received from the community. A google form has been created to allow SC voting on each logo design. A decision was made to release a short list of GEM logo designs to the community for feedback and vote and to reveal the winning design at the VGEM workshop.

**10. Meeting adjourned**

## **May 22, 2021, Addendum**

### **Rotation of NASA Liaison (Vania Jordanova)**

We were notified by Mona Kessel that she would like to rotate off the position of NASA Liaison and recommends Jesse Woodroffe, who recently joined HQ as a civil servant, as her replacement. She recommended him as highly qualified and willing to take this role.

There was a brief discussion by email among the SC voting members, followed by voting, and the SC approved Jesse Woodroffe in the role of GEM liaison to NASA. The GEM Wiki will be updated to reflect this rotation.