

April 4, 2022, GEM Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

(Virtual meeting, conducted via Webex)

Attendance: Vania Jordanova (Chair), Adam Kellerman (Vice Chair), Allison Jaynes, Chris Mouikis, Chia-Lin Huang, Chih-Ping Wang, Elizabeth Vandegriff, Howard Singer, Joe Borovsky, John Lyon, Keven Genestreti, Lisa Winter, Lunjin Chen, Lynn Kistler, Mei-Yun Lin, Raluca Ilie, Sarah Vines, Steve Petrines, Yihua Zheng, Ying Zou

1. Welcome/Agenda (Vania Jordanova)

2. GEM 2022 Summer Workshop and GEM-SHINE Days (Chris Mouikis)

The GEM meeting will be held during June 19 – 24, 2022, at Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach Hotel, Honolulu, and SHINE will hold a meeting at the same venue on the following week. There will be a joint GEM-SHINE meeting in between the two summer workshops. After further discussions with SHINE and due to the limited DKIST attendance capacity, it was decided that it would be better for both communities to have joint activities for the students during the GEM-SHINE (Jun 25-26) days, while the visit of the DKIST Observatory will be scheduled towards the end of SHINE (Jul 1) for SHINE student participants only.

GEM registration is open through PayPal; there was a glitch for a couple of days, but we are back online now. Graduate student and young scientist financial support application deadline is April 8. Undergraduate students will not be supported and international participants will also not be supported.

The Meeting Organizers (MOs) have reached out to the Focus Group (FG) leads regarding the schedule, and asked them to identify sessions that are/will be related to SHINE, to assist with scheduling those towards the end of the week. They have also reached out to the hotel regarding zoom support. The hotel has reported that they will install new Wi-Fi support, and the MOs will purchase dedicated laptops for each room.

The MOs have looked at facilities in Snowmass, CO, for a GEM workshop in 2023. They are now negotiating the price and coordinating with CEDAR to have back-to-back meetings. Other possible venues in Colorado were suggested. We currently do not have a full commitment from CEDAR for the joint meeting, so stay tuned for more information.

Joe Borovsky updated the Steering Committee (SC) on the GEM-SHINE joint meeting. The meeting will occur during two days, Jun 25 and 26; all GEM meeting rooms will be available as needed. The plan is to organize GEM-SHINE joint sessions in the mornings and have an open schedule in the afternoons to provide time for one-on-one interactions, small group discussions and some social activities (especially for GEM-SHINE students). The GEM-SHINE coordination subcommittee will organize the sessions; information whether breakfast would be provided will help with scheduling.

The student representatives, Mei-Yun Lin and Elizabeth Vandegriff, have been working on the idea of a student poster award prize. These are typically announced at GEM on Friday. The emphasis should be on what is valuable to the student such as a textbook or gift card on the order of \$100. This expense would come out of the registration fees.

Adam Kellerman gave an update on the plenary session organization. A Geospace Dynamics Constellation (GDC) session is being organized at CEDAR and there is a suggestion for potential joint sessions with GEM focus groups. This conversation is carried out via email. Subcommittee members are working on primary and secondary speaker selections for all plenary-related sessions.

3. Focus Group Proposal Selection (Vania Jordanova)

The FG proposal selection process was presented and discussed. There were concerns with bias in decision making and conflicts, originally brought up in the DEI subcommittee meeting. SC members overheard folks who cited a good professional relationship with the applicant as something that enhanced their application. The SC discussed ways of mitigating such unconscious bias problems. Better community input is one suggestion to ensure that the proposals are reflecting the community interests. Conversely, concerns have been raised that the GEM SC does not have a sufficient leading role and so the SC discussed ways of balancing SC leadership with community voice/input.

Several suggestions were discussed to improve the FG selection process:

- a) Ask each committee member to review the proposals before the meeting, and send a brief summary with a score for each proposal to the SC Chair. Then, the proposals will be discussed at the SC meeting based on the review summaries/scores. However, it was noted that it might be hard to select proposals only based on the scores; what to do if there are 5 excellent proposals?
- b) Have the Research Area Coordinators (RACs) provide a summary of the most key areas for research in their RA at the SC meeting before the proposal selection. This could help clarifying the impact and timeliness of each proposal.
- c) Another suggestion was to have a vote from the GEM community. These community member votes could serve as a guiding principle, considered by the steering committee.
- d) Have the FG leads pre-record their proposal presentations, allowing for community voting prior to the Q&A. That way, the community members have a chance to give feedback, even if they are not able to attend the Q&A session at mini-GEM.

Discussions regarding ways to improve the FG selection process and their implementation will continue offline and at future SC meetings.

4. GEMstone Newsletter & Photos Archive

Allison Jaynes reported on the status of the 2022 GEMStone newsletter, she has received most FG reports and has reached out to several RACs to finalize inputs. She is still collecting the Liaisons reports. At the time of this meeting there had been no submissions for the *in memorium* section. The SC also discussed the photos collection from the GEM 30th anniversary meeting last year, and that the presentation will be made available on the GEM workshop website, similar to last year, and could be shown during some workshop breaks or at the banquet.

5. Statement on War and Violence

The SC discussed whether to make a statement about war and violence. It was voted by anonymous poll (75%) for the DEI subcommittee to draft a statement for presentation to the GEM SC in the future.

6. Meeting Adjourned