Notes for SNR-GSA Meeting on March 11,2011.

* Crystal Bergman
	+ Meeting started at 12:05pm, Friday March 11, 2011
	+ Break Room
		- Thank you to those who helped clean the break room
		- Quite a big difference
			* The freezer, fridge and microwave have been cleaned, the cabinets have been organized and signs have been put up telling people to please keep it this way
			* Now the only thing we have to do is maintain it
* Brittany Potter
	+ Travel Grants
		- Applications for grants are due by March 18th
		- If there are any questions please contact Brittney Potter or Sharmistha
	+ Bulletin Board
		- The board has not been updated in some time
		- Would like to update it, post pictures of the SNR-GSA committee and some of our outreach activities
	+ Photo Exhibit at Severe Weather Symposium
		- Good opportunity to advertise SNR-GSA and draw new people in
		- Ideas for outreach are welcome
* Atefeh Hosseini
	+ Not much has changed with the Treasury since the last meeting
	+ $1451.55
* Crystal Bergman
	+ For Sarah Becker - Nothing new to report from Safety and Facilities
	+ For Joana Chan – Please see e-mail that went out earlier in the week from her regarding GSA activities and nominations for awards
* Becky Puta
	+ Put up a sign on the snack cart downstairs asking people to pay for what they take and it has been quite effective
	+ The last bake sale took in around $40, with everything selling out
		- The next bake sale will be held at the Severe Weather Symposium all day from 9am to 4pm (April 9th)
		- Email Becky Puta if you would like to participate
	+ SNR T-Shirts
		- Designs for the shirts are due next Monday by 12 noon
		- Shirts can be sold in the Nebraska Maps & More store at 10% commission for the store
		- It would be a good idea to gauge interest in how many people would like to purchase the shirts before going ahead with the designs
		- Cost to have the shirts made will range from $7.50 to $8.50, although discounts are available for orders over $100.
* Eric Hunt
	+ Graduate Committee meeting
		- The previous meeting discussed admissions
		- The next meeting hopes to focus on the TA Rights and Responsibilities form, progress is being made
	+ Emailed Mark Pegg regarding Comprehensive Exams for Masters students
		- Masters students are required to take Comprehensive Exams
		- The format of the exam is up to the discretion of the advisory committee
			* Can be written, oral or in the form of a proposal
		- Students must be able to record the date they complete their Comprehensive Exam
* Brittany Potter
	+ Outreach at McPhee
		- The last science club visit happens next Tuesday, March 15th
			* Volunteers will leave Hardin Hall at 3:15pm and return around 5:15pm
		- Judges are needed for the McPhee Science Fair next Thursday, March 17th
			* The science fair will be held from 1pm to 2:30pm, volunteers will leave Hardin Hall at 12:40pm
			* UNL IDs are needed to enter the school.
			* Brittney is willing to drive, although a second car may be needed.
				+ Dorian also volunteered to drive
		- After the science fair, outreach will no longer be done at McPhee elementary due to construction at the school next fall
			* The incoming Outreach Chair will have the option to pursue outreach opportunities at other schools, either elementary, junior high school, high school or adult education
			* The degree of commitment will be largely up to the incoming Outreach Chair
* Crystal Bergman
	+ The end of semester BBQ at Ed Harvey’s will take place the same day as the last SNR-GSA meeting for the semester, April 8th
		- It will be a potluck, with Ed Harvey providing the BBQ trappings and everyone else bringing side dishes
* Adam Yarina
	+ Social gathering at his and Brittney Potter’s apartment tomorrow at 6pm
	+ Free pizza will be provided courtesy of the SNR-GSA
	+ Plans discussed for an outdoor picnic at Pioneer’s Park towards the end of April
* Crystal Bergman
	+ Elections will be held for next year’s Executive Committee at the next and last SNR-GSA meeting (April 8th)
		- To run for a position, someone must be nominated either by themselves or someone else, whereupon the SNRGSA will vote (all graduate students welcome to attend April’s meeting to vote)
		- Positions will be Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer
		- Outreach Chair, Fundraising Chair, Social Chair, Safety and Facilities Rep, UNLGSA Rep, and SNR Grad Committee Rep will be appointed by the new chair with Executive Committee’s approval
	+ Each student currently in a position discussed their responsibilities and the time commitment required for the position
* \*Jim Brandle had to leave at this point, but wanted to mention to make sure that we only nominate people that have actually agreed to fill the position\*
* Crystal Bergman
	+ “I will be here all of next year so I will be available for help and support,” for whoever decides to take over Chair of SNR-GSA
	+ Chair position involves organizing monthly SNR-GSA meetings and the SNR Open House events
* Adam Behmer (currently Co-Chair)
	+ Assists the Chair with anything they need help with
* Crystal Bergman
	+ Secretary position (currently held by Andrea Coop)
		- Takes notes of each meeting and types them up so they can be emailed out to the SNR graduate student listserv
		- Must be able to make most meetings
* Atefeh Hosseini (currently Treasurer)
	+ Not a very time-consuming position
	+ Great opportunity to gain lots of knowledge about UNL and the SNR department and meet new people
	+ Must be organized, especially regarding receipts and reimbursement forms for SNR-GSA related expenses
* Crystal Bergman
	+ Other positions are standing Committee Chairs
		- Outreach Chair, Social Chair, Fundraising Chair
* Brittany Potter (currently Outreach Chair)
	+ This position will be different in the next school year due to planned construction at McPhee
	+ However, it’s very important to keep this position alive, as it’s a great way to reach out to underprivileged children and help the community
	+ The time commitment is ultimately up to the Outreach Chair
		- Outreach activities can be done every week or as little as once a month, for example
	+ As Outreach Chair I have tried hard to keep previously used supplies and activities around for re-use
	+ I also plan on organizing the supply room to make it easier for future Outreach Chairs
	+ Anyone who is interested in taking over the position should come talk to me personally
	+ I will do my best to advertise the outreach program to anyone who may be interested as I think this is very important
* Becky Puta (Fundraising Chair)
	+ Position is not as time consuming as others like the Outreach Chair
	+ Responsibilities involve maintaining the fruit and snack cart in the Hardin Hall 1st floor lobby
		- e.g. Making sure things are well stocked and that the cash jar is emptied on a regular basis
	+ Also responsible for organizing bake sales, and approximately two are held per semester
* Crystal Bergman
	+ All of these committee chair positions are very important
		- The Social Chair is important for getting new students involved and helping them feel welcome, especially if they’re from out of state or out of the country
		- The Outreach Chair is hugely important, it shows that SNR and UNL are dedicated to helping the community and giving back
		- The Fundraising Chair is important because without it we would not have the money for outreach supplies and social gatherings
	+ Representative Positions
		- All of these are also important as they are the liaisons between SNR and the rest of the UNL community (the UNL-GSA, Graduate Committee and others)
		- UNL-GSA Representative (currently held by Joana Chan)
			* Attends UNL-GSA meetings that are held once per month and reports back to the SNR-GSA
* Eric Hunt
	+ Graduate Committee Representative (currently held by Eric Hunt)
		- This position is really important, as you help form the collective voice for graduate students
		- The Graduate Committee decides how things are changed for graduate students, for better or worse
			* They decide what new courses to implement, minimum requirements for stipends, graduate student rights and benefits and a host of other graduate student issues
		- This position is not a huge time commitment, although you must be able to make it to every Graduate Committee meeting, which are held once a month
* Crystal Bergman
	+ Executive Board positions are held for an entire year, from April to April
		- If you run, be sure you can fulfill the position for an entire school year
	+ Once new members are elected at the final SNR-GSA meeting in April they effectively take over responsibility
	+ “I hope that those of you who will be here all of next year will consider running.”
	+ It’s very important that we have a good turnout for our last SNR-GSA meeting on April 8th
* Brittany Potter
	+ It’s important to remind people that anyone can show up to SNR-GSA meetings and that anyone can run or volunteer for a position
		- It’s not necessary to “join” the SNR-GSA as everyone in SNR is automatically a part of it
* Crystal Bergman
	+ When I send emails out about the April 8th meeting I’ll stress that point
	+ Those of you already in Executive or Committee positions, think about who would be good to take your place, and approach them
	+ I would not have gotten involved as Chair if I wasn’t approached to do it
	+ Are there any questions or anything else that anyone wants to discuss?
	+ Meeting adjourned.