MCS GSAC Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2013

In Attendance:
John Pettersson (Biology)
Melissa Lawson (Chemistry)
Patrick Mende (Physics)
William Huhn (Physics)
Sergio de la Barrera (Physics)
Curtis Meyer (Associate Dean)

1. We started with a discussion of how the TOC conference went. There were a goodly number of attendees, but it sounded like the people that had the best experience had registered in advance, and tried to set up interviews. Those that just walked in had the impression that some of the recruiters did not know what to do with Ph.D. students.

2. In the follow-up for next year, we thought that getting the word about the conference out went well, but we should encourage people to register and set up interviews in advance. We also thought it would be useful find out if companies are sending former CMU science graduates and let people know about these.

3. Curtis also noted that there is another event coming up on October 9 that is specific to MCS. This is the Career Catalyst event that is going to focus on opportunities in the Sciences.

http://www.cmu.edu/career/career-fairs-students/fall-2013/Catalyst.html

He was unable to get into the site to see what was there, but suggested that people go ahead and look at this.

4. We then discussed the TartanTrak site, which most people know about. Will was going to forward some "deep links" that can get you past the registration.

5. The last thing was the career center in general, and Melissa felt that it could be useful to have Brittany Duncan organize an information session in Mellon Institute. Curtis agreed to connect them up.

6. Curtis brought up the idea of setting up a bike safety course for graduate students. People thought that this would be a good idea, but that it would likely be more useful in the spring rather than later in the fall. There was a comment that the bike storage area in Mellon is always over flowing with bikes and people had trouble putting their bikes somewhere.

7. We the discussed the fall event which will be held on Monday November 4 from 4:30 to 6:30pm in the Singleton Room in Roberts Hall. This event will center on a poster session where we are hoping that people will bring posters that they presented about their research over the last year, and show
them. We will have University Catering handle the event for food and drinks to make things a bit easier on setup and take down. Curtis will set up an account at Kinko’s in the UC for people to get posters printed if they want. This is up to a maximum size of 24" by 36" and people just need to tell Kinko’s that it is for the MCS Poster Session" to have it billed to his account. This is limited to one poster per person. We also agreed to start getting the advertisement poster together for the event so we can get it up by the middle of October.

8. The next meeting will almost certainly be after the Nov. 4 event. Curtis would propose Tuesday, November 12, for the date.