

Attending: Bly, Massaro, Rooker, Weber

1. **MGSC Website** Current layout looks good. When new website launches, the plan to include helpful links for graduate students (to old prelims, useful forms, dissertation template, student-advisor pairs, etc.) will be incorporated. Website will be mentioned at upcoming Town Hall.
2. **Email Privacy** Tennessee's Sunshine Law means any email from any public entity can be acquired by any member of the public. In particular, this means that while the MGSC can guarantee we will not directly reveal the identity of anyone who has emailed us something in confidence, we cannot guarantee any email to us will be completely private since no emails to or from any public entity are.
3. **Collecting Data on Other Grad School's Student Hrs of Work** Efforts are being made to use personal connections to acquire such information. Future efforts will target the top 25 public universities in particular. Regarding our own department, are students on 8hr commitments also working 20hr/wk under the new definition of workload?
4. **Town Hall** Anticipated date is October 9, at 4:45pm after colloquium. Snacks will be served at 4:30pm. Darrin will be booking the rooms and reporting back so that Kelly can email the students with two weeks in advance this Friday, September 25. Mentorship program will be discussed last to ensure previous items will be able to be addressed with proper attention given.
5. **Prelim Consistency** Students have observed differences in levels of prelim consistency between different exam subjects. Is there a department-wide standard procedure in print regarding the composition and/or grading of a prelim? Is there a de facto procedure being followed for composition and/or grading that is effectively consistent? Could this process, whether currently in print or not, be publicized to the graduate students? Knowledge of this process being in print would quell student unrest both before an exam occurs and after the results are known. Contacting Dr. Feng to meet and discuss our plan of acquiring information in this regard is intended.
6. **Professional Development** Next Wednesday, September 30 at 11:15am-12:05pm is targeted for the first luncheon. Lind, Day, Knox, and Kobayashi can attend. Finotti cannot. Finding a faculty replacement (Frazier? Rosinski? Gross? etc.) would be beneficial. Tyler will be finding such a replacement. An email invite from Kelly is planned for this Wednesday, September 23. Tyler will sort out lunch ordering and payment.
7. **Apple Picking** Sunday, October 4 is the date targeted for this event. Sending an email out to notify students of the details late this week or early next week is intended.