

SIAG/GS Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 14, 2017, 12:00-12:45
Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Room H13
Erlangen, Germany

Sorin Pop, the Program Director of SIAG/GS, started the meeting with a presentation that included updates on the activity group, and a history of the GS conference. The slides will be made available on the website, and a meeting survey will be circulated. There were 446 attendees at the 2017 meeting, compared with 495 registered participants at Stanford in 2015 and 552 at Padova in 2013.

SIAG/GS Prizes

Currently SIAG/GS awards an Early Career Prize and a Career prize. The audience suggested to include a third prize because candidates for the Early Career Prize have a wide range of experiences. This ranges from being a graduate student to having three calendar years of experience past the PhD. The following points were brought up for consideration for the Early Career prize or potential third prize:

- Clearly define when the clock starts or stops.
- Young people should receive an honorable mention

The prize committee finds it difficult to get good nominations. It was suggested that officers advertise prizes more intensely, and earlier, and not rely on SIAM to send out the announcement.

GS19

For the next SIAG/GS meeting the audience said a group of members is willing to organize it in Texas including in Austin, Dallas, San Antonio, or Houston. If the meeting is in Texas it would be good to hold it in late March, April, or early May, while June is too late. Members like Austin, except for March because of SXSW, but SIAM has shied away from Austin.

There was a suggestion for the meeting to be held in September, but the audience thought that it would be difficult for faculty in US to be away from campus during that time. For faculty in Europe, there are no classes in February and March. SIAM CSE is in early February 2019, CMWR is in even years and Interpore in usually mid-May so there shouldn't be conflicts March-April 2019.

Audience members said it is not possible to have the meeting on campus in TX because transportation, lodging, food etc. is too complicated. The audience agree to hold the meeting in Texas.

SIAG/GS Membership

SIAG/GS is the 7th smallest activity group in SIAM. Some suggestions for a wider membership included making the fees more economically advantageous. This could occur if there was an economic advantage to participate in one SIAM conference (not two), or include participation in other conferences such as AGU to get a break in fees.

Another way to increase membership would be to market the group to other people in the geosciences by organizing minisymposia at meetings other than SIAM.