

**Notes from GRAM Steering Committee Meeting
10/26/19, Dalton State College, Dalton, GA
Compiled by Loris Magnani**

First thanks to the Local Organizers, Samantha Kaj Blair and Xinghai Zhong for putting on a great meeting.

Jim Sowell from Georgia Tech rotates off the Steering Committee for this year and two people agreed to rotate on: Gregory Feiden from the University of North Georgia (who will host the meeting next year) and Matt Marone from Mercer University. The current composition of the Steering Committee:

2017/20 – Chris DePree (Agnes Scott College), Robin L. Shelton (UGA)
2018/21- Monica Aller (Georgia Southern), Richard Schmude (Gordon College)
2019/22 – Jay Dunn (Perimeter College)
2020/23 – Gregory Feiden (UNG), Matt Marone (Mercer University)

Loris Magnani (UGA) continues to serve as the unofficial secretary to the Steering Committee
Jim Sowell (GT) continues to maintain the website and e-mail list for GRAM

In addition, we have two commitments for sites for future GRAM meetings: 2022 Mercer University in Macon and 2023 Georgia Tech.

The list of sites for future meetings is as follows:

2020 – University of North Georgia – Dahlonega
2021 – Agnes Scott College – Decatur
2022 – Mercer University – Macon
2023 – Georgia Institute of Technology – Atlanta

An interesting suggestion was made by Matt Marone to create a subgroup within GRAM involving campus observatories and the common issues they all face. This subgroup could be a clearinghouse for information about the equipment and software and also include an inventory of equipment that might be available for sharing or borrowing. If the Steering Committee provides me with some ideas and guidelines for what this subgroup should entail, I will compose an email to be sent to all GRAM members requesting the information and I will organize and collate the information for inclusion on the website.

One of the things that future organizers need to remember when putting together their meeting is that some funds and support may be available via the Georgia Space Grant Consortium which is administered by Georgia Tech. Their website is here:

<https://gasgc.org/wp/>

Similarly, the American Astronomical Society may be a source of support for regional meetings. I will make inquiries to the AAS about this before the end of the year and report back to the Committee.

One of the items that needs to be kept in mind is that we will need someone, at some point in the coming years, to take over the website from Jim Sowell. He has kept the website going for well over a decade and is basically the person who sends messages to the GRAM list. Ideas on how to handle this critical information distribution system need to be proposed so that we can assure continuity.

I am including the emails of everyone on the Steering Committee below and I encourage discussion of these issues in the coming months. If you are on the Steering Committee and you prefer a different email address for this type of correspondence, please let Jim Sowell know.

Chris DePree	cdepree@agnesscott.edu
Robin Shelton	robin1@uga.edu
Monica Aller	moniquealler@gmail.com
Richard Schmude	schmude@gordonstate.edu
Jay Dunn	jdunn1@gsu.edu
Gregory Feiden	gregory.feiden@ung.edu
Matt Marone	marone_mj@mercer.edu
Loris Magnani	loris@uga.edu
Jim Sowell	jim.sowell@physics.gatech.edu

Respectfully,
Loris