The December AGEP Community Meeting began with the introductions of 3 new members and the re-introduction of members who were away for the semester. Our CrossTalk presenters were Crystal Eddins, graduate student in African American and African Studies and Rickey Caldwell, graduate student in Mechanical Engineering.

Ms. Eddins’s presentation was titled, “Road to revolution: Haiti, religion, rebellion 1750-1791.” In her literature review, Ms. Eddins focuses on communities of consciousness from 1750-1791, to look at social networks by way of social movement theories. Mr. Caldwell’s presentation was titled, “Good vibes: Output only modal identification.” He discussed various types of vibration depending on the object, the length of the object, the shape or the material, and the type of dampeners involved to reduce vibrations. In a real world context, he discussed the flexible body dynamics involved in rocket launchers for the Navy.

The Science in the News segment was led by Khalfani Herman on the topic, “Ethics of Publishing in a Publish or Perish Environment”. The discussion suggested that the University system has incentivized misconduct in research and publishing, because the rewards can be robust, if only temporarily. Additionally, the topic expounded upon the consequences for the researcher, as well as the institution they are directly associated with.

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