

**HGSA**  
General Meeting Minutes  
Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Members Present: Lee Ann Hall, Lorelei Sterling, Jennifer Brown, Christopher Schlect, Grant Fruhwirth, Nathan Roberts, Laura Arata, Jennifer Reynolds, Torsten Homberger

Meeting called to order, 12:10 pm.

**Bylaws Report—**

- Bylaws Committee will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am in Nathan's office

**Endowed Chair Search—**

- Narrowed to 5 candidates who have formally applied
- Some candidates have applied before and been rejected
- List will be taken to the administration of the College of Liberal Arts for final approval
- Interviews are to begin next week and be done by early December—hope to offer the position by Christmas, February at the latest

**Officer Reports—**

**Graduate Faculty Representative: Jen Brown**

- Dr. Sun is still trying to meet with graduate students and faculty—wants to see those he saw last semester again
- Ad Hoc Committee formed for academic assessment / accreditation
- Discussion of possible reduced teaching load for tenured faculty from 3-2 to 2-2
- A2P2 Report—Academic Program prioritization
- Money to fill gap came from Gen Ed last year—ongoing discussion of changing Gen Ed classes to standardize them, make numbers more even across sections
- Budget cuts in the history department—cut some old courses off the list
- Moratorium on new courses lifted as of Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>
- Might be possible to have a Grad Student Representative on the Gen Ed Committee (in addition to our GPSA rep who would be assigned)
- Dr. Hodge will be teaching a 469 class in the spring—Russian History
- Budget cuts in the CLA
- CLA may take over running Gen Ed program, making classes more uniform. History has the majority of the TA slots, but Anthropology, American Studies, English would all be impacted too.

**Graduate Studies Representative: Lee Ann Hall**

- Focused primarily on overhauling the PhD program—fields of study, track system
- Some proposed changes that have been advocated for a really long time



- Program currently weighted heavily to training teaching professors, not research professors
- Proposed changes would involve getting rid of Track 1, focusing on Track 2
- Overhaul of admissions for new students based on the availability of professors

PhD Representative: Torsten Homberger

- Working on meeting with individual PhD students

Masters Representative: Laura Arata

- Need to discuss mentoring program—see about the possibility of HGSA taking this over, assigning duties to the MA Rep and PhD Rep, and Secretary (assigned committee) to assign mentors to new students
- Working on meeting with individual MA students
- Attempts to create greater visibility in the department seem to be working for students and faculty

GPSA Representative: Nathan Roberts

- RSO Status—we are on probation, pending Dr. Pietz's signature and a necessary training, which Nathan and Jen R. will do next semester
- We currently have enough registered members for fulfill requirements
- Next semester we will be taken off probation
- Bank account is set up, needs Dr. Pietz's signature
- GPSA is writing a letter of protest in response to the Graduate School's restrictions on work hours outside of TAs' appointments.
  - o Needs letters and impact statements from current students
  - o Recognize that jobs need to be understanding of our commitments—school jobs are more sympathetic to this than outside jobs in most cases
  - o We have to maintain standards to keep our funding already
  - o Laura will send out an email to Grad students about this

Colloquium: Lorelei Sterling

- Faculty has not been responsive thus far to our desire to hold colloquiums
- Lorelei will send out an email with sign-ups, we will attempt to organize something for next semester along the lines of a brown bag lunch series
- New title avoiding the term "colloquium?"

Meeting adjourned, 1:00 pm.

LJA