

HGSA Meeting

October 7, 2009

- I. Attendance: Torsten, Laura, Andrea, Tess, Sara, Paul, Nathan, Beth, Jen and Mandy
- II. Meeting called to order: 9:08am
- III. TA Rep Position:
 - a. Heather suggests this rep have at least some TA experience, has to be current TA
 - b. Comments/Questions:
 - i. Paul-in a perfect world should be a world history
 - 1. Include Johnna due to her past experience as a world history teacher
 - ii. Nathan-rep should have experience in the dept to understand particular issues of dept.
 - iii. Jen-At least one year TA experience would be best-need the background, work load issues/consistency
 - iv. Torsten-need to understand politics of this dept
 - v. Nathan: this rep should come to HGSA meetings to brief us on what's going on
 - vi. Tess-needs to be a voice for the TA's, critically important , TA's should be able to comment on the effectiveness of the GenEd professor-committee should know this
 - c. Criteria/Requirements for position:
 - i. Year experience of GenEd TAing
 - d. Nominations: Laura, Ben Smith, Tess
 - i. No one in Vancouver interested in this position-Nathan checked
 - e. Election Process: Sara and Jen
 - i. Nathan will send email that nominations have to be into Jen by 4pm today
 - ii. Elections Friday 10/9-will tally; will have results Monday 10/12/09
 - iii. After elections concerns over GenEd TA situation will be emailed to this rep
- IV. Reports:
 - a. Jen-nothing from grad studies
 - b. Beth-Faculty: search for Japanese/World historian
 - i. Had to rank what we wanted in terms of positions
 - 1. Japanese ranked #1, Colonial historian ranked #2
 - ii. Dr. McCoy on leave
 - c. Torsten: Pre-Lims looking well; only problem is language requirements
 - i. We need to explain these requirements better to incoming PhD's to better prepare them.
 - ii. Connect people with the language department right away-meet speakers of the language you're studying
 - iii. Nathan: could this be brought up to the grad studies committee (Jen)
 - iv. Andrea: this may not be helpful because speaking it may be different than translating
 - v. Tess: consistency is a problem

- vi. Torsten: meeting with those in language department before exams would be helpful, could make requirement to meet the person who proctors the test
 - 1. Nathan: could strongly suggest this
 - 2. Torsten: can we do practice runs with them
- vii. Language dept not necessarily very helpful
 - 1. Paul-unacceptable to have different standards for different fields
- viii. Laura: can we use "special study skills" like ASU for Americanists, maybe have something more applicable to their field
- ix. Nathan will set up meeting with Ray to discuss this.
- d. Paul-GPSA
 - i. Wiley Exposition-competitive, prize is \$1000
 - 1. Needs combination of visual and narrative
 - ii. Contingency of grad students interested in providing more grad resources
 - 1. Increase in free copiers etc
 - 2. Others want to do bake sales, ice cream socials-networking
 - a. Not having very good attendance-bad advertising
 - 3. What do we as history grad students want to happen?
 - a. Nathan-want printable microfilm machine in grad room
 - b. We want more resources!
 - iii. No environmental committee on GPSA
 - 1. Nathan-there is one for WSU
 - iv. Travel Grants-deadline coming
 - v. WSU going to sell some of apartments
 - 1. Dramatic alterations; increase in price, smaller space
- V. Send comments for TA rep to Nathan so he can send it to them on Monday
- VI. Mandy-MA Rep-nothing to report
- VII. Meeting closed 9:51