

HGSA General Meeting – Wednesday, September 12th, 2012

Call to Order at 11:01 AM by Laura Arata

In attendance: Laura Arata, Dulce Kersting, Michelle Winmill, Shawna Herzog, Johnna Lash, April Grube, Alex Marris, Kristopher Skelton, Sikang Song, DongJo Shin, Brett Bell

New Business

1. RCI Steering Committee
 - a. We have received approval from Dr. Spohnholz and Dr. Sun to put a graduate student representative on the RCI Steering Committee
 - b. Position would be a formally recognized voice, but would not have voting privileges
 - c. Nominations will take place this week, the election will be next week
 - d. HGSA proposes that whoever becomes the RCI Grad Rep will be the chair of a subcommittee concerned with reevaluating how conflict mitigation is handled.
 - i. Discussion of what the current procedure is for conflict mitigation; there is confusion regarding the formal process and what the precedence for conflict mitigation is
 - ii. Subcommittee would likely be made up of 2 or 3 additional grad students
 - iii. Subcommittee would meet a few times to draft a proposal that would then be presented to the RCI Steering Committee
2. Sexual Harassment Training
 - a. Dr. Sun would like the entire department to complete the training
 - b. Everyone is required to print a certificate of completion and present it to Dr. Sun by Jan. 1st, 2013; but sooner is better
3. Writing Groups
 - a. Shawna presented the idea of forming writing groups within the department which would provide participants with the opportunity to get peer feedback on first/rough drafts before presenting the paper to one's advisor.
 - b. Shawna will be organizing these groups this semester. If you are interested, send Shawna an email that includes your research interests and availability, and she will then do her best to organize small groups. Shawna's email is sherzog2@wsu.edu.
4. History Club Opportunities
 - a. Laura had a chance to meet with Dr. Thigpen who has asked for more HGSA involvement in the History Club because those students are generally very motivated and may be interested in graduate school
 - b. One possibility would be accompanying the club on a day trip or excursion to places such as Hanford or the arts and culture museum in Spokane

- c. Dr. Thigpen is also trying to get a peer-reviewed journal for undergraduates off the ground. There is a proposal in the works for some external funding to facilitate this project, but she would also like to extend opportunities for editing to graduate students.
5. Colloquium
- a. Dr. Sun would like our input on whether there should be combined or separate colloquiums for graduate students and faculty
 - b. Laura opened the floor to discussion about ideas for revitalizing the colloquium program
 - i. There is need for a survey to gauge interest on potential topics and available times
 - ii. There has been some informal discussion among faculty members about the need to have separate colloquiums, graduate students indicated that some overlap would be beneficial but total integration is not necessary.
 - iii. Fewer faculty research presentations; many more student research presentations, regardless of whether those individuals have conferences coming up
 - iv. Some professional development colloquiums would be beneficial
 - v. Colloquiums should be framed as a research presentation for graduate students
 - c. There will be a colloquium next Friday, September 21st. It will be a round-table discussion with Dr. Kopp of New Mexico State University, where he is the Director of Public History.
6. Phi Alpha Theta
- a. MA students should be aware of the regional conference in March which will be hosted by Portland State University.

Called to Close at 11:46 AM by Laura Arata

DLK