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.

de. Paul-GSPA

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 GSPA
   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