PRESENT:
Jeffrey A. Johnson (Faculty Rep.), Mathias D. Bergmann (Grad. Studies Rep.), Amy Harrington (GPSA Rep.), Robin Payne (GPSA Rep.), Michael Evans (At-Large Rep.), Vicki Dehlbom (Non-Funded Rep.), Summer Hahn, Cindy Kaag, Heidi Kyle, Brian Pentilla

OFFICERS ABSENT:
Jason Blazevic (Ph.D. Rep.)
Amanda Van Lanen (M.A. Rep.)

ISSUES DISCUSSED:
1) Faculty Committee Report:
   A) Department praised for its past recruitment efforts (undergraduates) and urged to continue efforts
   B) Raised concern regarding the number of graduate students teaching summer courses instead of faculty
   C) Public History Search:
      • The dean has decided to allow the department to conduct a Public History search, despite previous freeze on all searches
      • The chair has not yet appointed a committee
      • Johnson noted that the chair should include a graduate student in that committee and will pursue the matter

2) Graduate Studies Committee Report:
   A) The proposal to create a field in the American West will be re-discussed in the spring semester
   B) Proposal to Adjust the Language Exam Process:
      • Steve Kale proposed that the department hand over the examination and assessment of Ph.D. language exams to the Foreign Language Department
      • The structure of the exam would remain the same as before, but there is a $30 fee for the services of the Language Dept.
      • The GSC is divided 2-2 over the proposal

   • Arguments For:
      --Let the professionals examine the foreign language skills of students
      --This will bring professionalism to the requirement
      --Most history departments and many WSU departments use this system

   • Arguments Against:
      --Concern that the $30 fee may dissuade students from taking the exam, postponing its completion and possibly delaying their program of study
      --The History Department loses control over the standards
      --Modern language not necessarily reflective of the language skills needed for historical researching in a foreign language—history professors best know the language requirements for specific periods of study