HGSA General Meeting

November 18, 2009

9am

I. Attendance: Jen, Mandy, Laura, Andrea, Nathan, Adam, Paul, Torsten, Cherri, Kaci, Beth

II. Meeting called to order 9:05

III. TA Rep-Cherri: update on TA uniform policy
   a. Approved through GenEd committee (job description, responsibilities of TA’s, what professors can expect of us)-overwhelmingly approved
   b. Cherri should get a copy over Thanksgiving break
      i. Wants us to see it and put in our opinion
      ii. Thoughts on how to disseminate to grad students?
         1. The only thing Cherri can see being a problem is that there isn’t an assignment limit but an hour limit-Heather hasn’t made it through all the GenEd syllabi yet
         2. Cherri will email week after Thanksgiving break to all Gen Ed TA’s graduate students-we can send comments to Cherri
         3. Paul has questions about hour limit on assignments rather than assignment limit
         4. Have next meeting Wednesday after break
         5. Adam: reward at end of semester to recognize our professional development?
   c. There will be 2 Clickers tutorials in December with Theresa Jordan

IV. Grad Studies Rep: Jen
   a. Foreign Lang Exam: Dr. Sun hasn’t met with foreign lang dept yet
      i. Asked Ray if there would be $$ for foreign lang training-handout
         1. Asked for payment of first exam, help pay for summer courses (due to lack of funding during the summer-lack of upper division language courses), include language software (Rosetta Stone)
         2. Call for motion to approve letter to be submitted to Dept and Grad Studies Committee
            a. Laura motioned to approve-unanimous approval
            b. Jen will make changes and send to Ray
   b. Revision of MA program-need feedback from email Jen sent out earlier in week
   c. WETZ/AMS
      i. Background: came up b/c Vancouver needs World Civ TA’s, PhD students might go before coursework finished
         1. Faculty here worried about increase of WETZ courses which might cheapen the experience
      ii. Feedback: has received feedback from most Vancouver students, positive and negative feedback
         1. Quality of experience ranges greatly
iii. Solution options: suggest work on quality, maybe create sub-committee with Peabody and students
   1. Better advising for students who do not want to take WETZ classes
   2. If have to offer more WETZ courses dept should develop more alternatives
   3. Meeting with Vancouver students more often will foster better grad community
   4. Grad students need to retain autonomy
   5. Nathan: suggest digital workshop for professors who might teach WETZ course—probably issue for sub-committee

V. Colloquium: Kaci
   a. Going off what Lorelei did last year—suggestions?
   b. Jen: could we hook up AMS for Vancouver to participate
      i. In future should spread it out over the year so it’s not so congested in the spring
   c. Nathan: begin compiling list of presenters for next semester
      i. Send email for people to reserve their spot, signature sheet in office
      ii. Should add some of this to the bylaws for structure
      iii. Noon on Wednesdays (not first or last week of courses)

VI. MA Rep: Mandy
   a. Will spread the word for people to respond to Jen’s email about the MA program

VII. PhD Rep: Torsten
   a. Nothing to report

VIII. Faculty Rep: Beth
   a. History 540 will be offered in spring, no prof yet
   b. Dr. Sun has met with many grad students but still needs to meet with others
   c. History of sexuality course on hold pending discussion with women’s studies—probably won’t be offered next semester
   d. Creation of University College: where does world civ fit in?
      i. For undergrads
   e. 5 year hiring priorities
      i. Faculty expressing preferences/gripes
      ii. Cross roads of dept-debate on department’s philosophy
         1. Capitalize on potential or go with what’s working
            a. Typically very strong in American history but now world civ doing very well
         2. Discussion tabled

IX. GPSA: Nathan and Paul
   a. Nothing to report really
   b. Will be 8 football tickets available to dept—see Nathan

X. Meeting adjourned 9:52
   a. Meeting tentatively scheduled for Wed after Thanksgiving—wait till after Cherri sends out document
Adam-grad students coming to Pullman to meet up (possible graduate colloquium)