# HGSA Meeting Minutes October 28, 2015

**9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.**

**Brian Stack called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Brian Stack, Jason Hogstad, Renee Torres, Calen Rau, Brianna Webb, Karl Krotke-Crandall, Carey McCormack Greg Atkins

# Chair’s Report

After recently returning for the Western History Association (WHA) Conference Brian encouraged other members to look into the significant conference/organizations for their field and to join if they had not already.

Brian also emphasized that we need to be aware of registration (early November) and to sign up for classes as soon as possible.

GPSA Senator

# Officer Reports

The major report from Jason regarded a letter writing campaign in which the DOLA is pushing. In particular, GPSA is asking us to compose letter expressing the difficulties of graduate school, especially in regards to research and travel funding, loans and interest rates, or other financial hardships. “Horror stories” are encouraged.

Hogstad emphasized affiliate funding is due this Friday, 10/30/2015. Additionally there is a GPSA Strategic Plan Meeting on 11/12/2015 in the CUB Senior Ballroom in which we can attend to put forth suggestions and concerns.

Colloquium Representative

Renee Torres announced the two final colloquiums for the year which will focus on helping students find, develop, and alter research projects (with heavy emphasis on RCI and LRAs) and on developing lectures and successful lecturing techniques. Renee and Calen Rau will meet with Dr. Stratton ASAP to get a hard date set up.

RCI Representative

Calen Rau discussed the syllabi reviews ongoing on the RCI Steering Committee.

# New Business and Discussion

Several members raised questions about the nature of departmental funding. In particular, questions were asked about winning multiple awards, the potential of receiving feedback on applications, and clarification of application guidelines. Brian Stack also emphasized that again there had been far too few applicants according to Dr. Sutton, which is concerning considering the amount of available money for research or accomplishments.

Brian Stack offered to speak with Dr. Sutton for clarification on some of these questions in the near future.

The next HGSA meeting will be on Wednesday November 18 @ 9am. There will also be a Conference meeting on Wednesday November 4 @ 9am.

# Conference Discussion

Several members brought up continued concerns over lack of interdisciplinary buy-in from other departments. General consensus was to orient the conference around the Roots of Contemporary Issues Program, though we need to meet with Dr. Stratton and Dr. Spohnholz to confirm that this will work. Calen Rau offered to speak with them this week.

Brian Stack raised concerns about planning both a budget and a program as soon as possible. Though these are contingent on the comments of Dr. Stratton and Dr. Spohnholz, tentative committees were set up for each of these issues. Stack noted that the previous conference costed about $1000 and that Phi Alpha Theta is unlikely to be able to provide the support that they did last year. There is also a concern about if the conference shifts to an RCI model, how we can still frame it in an interdisciplinary way.

Finance Committee

Karl, Sarah (Sociology), Brian

Programming/Outreach Committee Calen, Renee, Brianna, Karl

All were in agreement another meeting is needed as soon as possible devoted to the conference. Nov. 4 @ 9am was settled upon. By then, Dr. Stratton and Dr. Spohnholz will have been contacted and we should a better idea of what faculty support looks like and their suggestions. Additionally, all involved are encouraged to continue to think of suggestions for organization and budgeting, which will be the main topics for our next meeting.

# The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am by Brian Stack.