

SAGE Minutes

Monday, March 1, 2010

Wescoe 4046

Attending: Jana Tigchelaar, Rob Topinka, Colin Christopher, Erin Williams, Kari Jackson, Meghan Kuckelman, Nathaniel Williams, Daryl Lynn Dance, Jennifer Nish, Kristen Lillvis, Ann Martinez

Call to Order, Minutes approved; Christopher moved, E. & N. Williams seconded.

Officer Reports.

a. Presidents' Report: 1. Thank for great turnout at meet & greets, 2. Call for Mabel S. Fry committee volunteers; deadline for nomination letters extended until Monday, March 22; Lillvis explains the award criteria. E. Williams, Nish, & Jackson volunteer. 3. Remind of best practices forum on Grad Student Study & Writing Blackboard page. Plans to put stuff on Bb as things are contributed. Nish asked if all should have access to this Bb page; Lillvis asked her to check, and other first-years as well. 4. Update on emails about Plan B. 5. N. Williams discusses the issue of enrollment and federal student loans; if students reduce to one-hour enrollment, they will no longer qualify for federal student loans. Some discussion ensues. Dance mentions a brown bag luncheon in the SILK office/Wheat Room in the KUnion on Friday, March 5 from 12-1 p.m. to clarify dissertation hours. Lillvis mentions students with questions can talk to N. Williams as well. 6. Discuss new suggested wording on priorities for appointing GTAs and lecturers. Lillvis and Martinez pass around a handout detailing this wording. Lengthy discussion ensues, particularly about students who are currently in the program, do not have GTAships, and who would like GTAships next year, who are ranked lower on the list. Some concern was also expressed about students who enter the program with fellowships or GRAships, and whether they are guaranteed GTAships in subsequent years (where do they fall on the list?). Several students suggest that accepting fewer new students would free up positions for currently enrolled students who need GTAships. E. Williams also articulated the need to distinguish between new GTAs and entering students, as the two should not be conflated. Martinez and Lillvis move to table the issue for the time being.

b. Secretary's Report. No report.

c. Treasurer's Report. Our account currently holds \$779 in the treasury.

d. FY Liaison Report. No report.

Committee Reports

a. Academics Anonymous. Nish mentions that the research workshop was "lovely."

- b. Advisory Committee. N. Williams states that their next meeting is Monday, March 8.
- c. FSE Committee. E. Williams points us to the 102 textbooks survey.
- d. Graduate Assembly: Topinka: No report.
- e. Graduate Committee: Jackson brings up that there are two deadlines for application to the graduate program; voted to move that to one deadline (Dec. 31). Jackson mentions that there is some interest in adding a few links to the department web site, including information about what the committee would like to see in students' application. There was some concern about editorializing about the climate of the academic job market in a web site geared to prospective students.
- f. GTAL Committee. E. Williams states that they met and discussed hiring criteria. Lillvis brings up Phillips' interest in reducing the course load for MAs. Some questions are raised about whether this would square with standards across the nation
- g. Lecturers/Readers Committee. Hume emailed: no report
- h. Library Committee: Behre emailed; The Library Committee has been charged with surveying members of the department about how they use, or would like to use the library, and then "to develop a "wish list" or set of priorities for future purchases of databases, audio-visual materials, and other research aids, as well as books and journals." The committee has expressed a particular desire to get graduate student feedback when the survey goes out and include our needs and priorities in the final report. Please start thinking about how the library could better meet your research needs, and keep your eyes out for announcements of the survey. E-mail Behre (ksbehre@ku.edu) with any questions.
- i. MFA Committee. Jackson: haven't met, 19 going to AWP in Denver; working on making Cottonwood a more nat'ly recognized
- j. Professionalization Workshops Committee: DeRoux emailed: She has established a panel for April 12 for the professionalization (non-academic workshop: it will consist of Marta Caminero-Santangelo's friend Joel (who is an Art Director at Syracuse), Heather Emge, and Shelley Stonebrook (the editor of Mother Earth in Topeka).
- k. Public Face/Alumni Relations: Kuckleman states that the committee met at 3 p.m. They will be sending an email out about soliciting alumni donations and reconnecting alums with the department. Also, the english department facebook page will be utilized to network with alumni. Homecoming: the committee is seeking volunteers to come on campus and host an open house, film alumni stories. Interested parties should let N Williams, Kuckleman or Sousa know.
- l. SAGE Advice: Jackson is going to re-email in hope of more response

m. Social Committee: No report.

n. Summer Institutes Committee: Egging emailed: The committee is working on who to ask for summer 2011. Egging recently sent out an email asking for votes and nominations on who grad students would like. Many have voted—if someone hasn't, they still have until the 8th of March (just sent Egging an email).

o. Supplemental Funds Committee: Turner emailed: no report.

p. Sustainability Committee: Brox emailed; she reports that attendance was good at the electronic grading workshop, and she thinks we had a really productive discussion about using Blackboard and Word track changes for grading online. Brox will send out a follow-up email soon to people who attended and those who expressed interest in receiving an email about what we went over in the session.

q. Webmaster's Report: Thomas emailed: no report

Old Business. none

New Business. Dance announces that on March 11 at 11 a.m. there will be a coffee with the dean event at the Sabatini Multicultural Center; if you are interested, email Dance. Library resources will be discussed. Tigchelaar announces the SAGE travel awards recipients: Ali Brox and Alicia Sutliff-Benusis.

Motion to adjourn: Jackson moved, N Williams seconded, approved.

Meeting Adjourned.