History Graduate Student Organization
General Meeting
17 October 2006
6:30pm
Roadhouse Restaurant

Minutes

Officers Present: Cristina Moody, Joshua Schier, Jonathan Thurn, David Zwart.
Members Present: Brian Becker, Elise Boneau, Emilie Bruce, Michael Cheyne, Rachel Graf, Keena Graham, Joshua Koenig, Andrew Peim, David Shoup.

I. The meeting came to order at 6:40pm. The agenda and previous meeting minutes were distributed and accepted without amendment.

II. Old Business

A. First Fall Faculty Research Colloquium. David Z. reported on the successful first Faculty Research Colloquium that took place on 6 October in the Dean's Conference Room. Twenty students and faculty attended the event. The lunch costs, covered by HGSO, amounted to $115.

B. Spring Speaker Invitation. No additional speaker nominations were made after the last meeting. David Z. moved, Criss M. seconded, to vote on the spring speaker by a show of hands. The motion passed. It was noted that there were two absentee ballots—from David DiTucci and Karl Baughman—for the vote. David Z. moved, Joshua K. seconded, to accept the absentee ballots. The motion passed. After a brief review of the qualifications of each speaker, the members invited David Nirenberg by a vote of 10 to 5. The secretary will make contact with Dr. Nirenberg and report whether he will accept the invitation by the next meeting.

C. Second Fall Faculty Research Colloquium. David Z. reported that Prof. Heasley accepted our invitation to present her research at a second colloquium, scheduled for 17 November at noon. She will make her book available in the common room and recommends reading the introduction and one additional section in preparation for the discussion.

D. Save East Campus Letter. The letter to Interim President Haenicke was tabled until the next meeting.

III. Committee Reports

A. Faculty. David Z. reported that the department will hire a visiting professor in East Asian studies with an appointment for the Spring semester. Next year, the department will hire a visiting professor in the medieval area with an appointment for the 2007-2008 academic year. These appointments are possible as Prof. Yoshida's research grant has freed his regular salary.
B. Graduate Studies. Joshua S. noted that the Graduate Studies Committee will be meeting later. He notes that the committee will undertake issues on history education, graduate student funding and teaching, and medieval and other area studies. He mentioned that he'll send out an email with the topics to be covered a week before the committee meets to solicit graduate student input.

C. Undergraduate Studies. Elise B. reported that the committee created HIST 290 by melding HIST 390 and HIST 190, the major requirements will be defined to include this change. Also the committee will evaluate 300 and 400 level courses for appropriate fit in the 300 and 400 level requirements.

D. Events. Keena G. mentioned that the Events Committee has not met. She mentioned that there had been a fund raising party each fall for emeriti, this years will be planned around Christmas.

E. Research. Andrew Peim tenured his resignation of this committee appointment. Travis Bruce was appointed to serve on the committee.

F. GSAC. David S. reported that GSAC has increased the maximum event grant from $2000 to $2500 effective 1 January 2007.

IV. Financial Reports.

A. Criss M. noted that we spent $115 on the recent, successful research colloquium.

B. She also reported that soda sales are netting the organization approximately $0.10 per soda, $0.20 per soda when we recycle the can. Please help us save the environment and boost our revenue by recycling your empty aluminum cans in the appointed receptacle in the common room.

C. The CafePress proposal was reviewed with no new information.

D. Criss M. reported that $160 has been collected from dues thus far. She thanked those who have paid their dues, but indicated that only sixteen of all history graduate students have done so. Please support your department graduate student organization by paying your dues if you have not already done so.

V. Announcements

A. David Z. reminded members that the annual Hamner Lecture, with Dr. Kenneth Mills of the University of Toronto, will take place on October 26 at 7pm. A reception at the Oaklands will precede the lecture at 5pm.

B. David Z. also announced that Prof. Berkhofer and Prof. Szylvian will hold an “Applying to Ph.D. Programs” seminar on Wednesday, 1 November 2006, from 2pm to 3:15pm in Friedmann 4413.
C. In addition, David Z. mentioned that Prof. Julien is holding a funding workshop on 1 November.

D. Finally, the Graduate College Research and Travel grant deadline is 1 November. There is one more round of applications for these grants; the final deadline is 15 March 2007.

VI. Other

A. Joshua K., in his capacity as Head TA, asked the membership that graduate assistants may bring issues to him. He will present them to Prof. Gray and Prof. Palmitessa at his future meeting with them.

B. Emilie B. recommended that the organization sponsor a film viewing. Examples include a WWII documentary. She mentioned that the cost for such a viewing would be between $600 to $1000. David Z. moved, Criss M. seconded, to request more details from Emilie for the next meeting. The motion passed.

C. David Z. asked the membership to consider whether we will have a party at the end of the semester. This was tabled for the next meeting.

D. The next HGSO meeting was set for Tuesday, 7 November, at 6:30pm at the Roadhouse Restaurant.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Thurn
Secretary