HGSO General Membership Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2015

Presiding Officers: Kyler Williamsen – President, Claire Herhold – Vice President, Joseph Helzer – Treasurer, Michael Kuethe – Secretary

I. Call to Order – 6:21 PM

II. Approval of the Agenda
   • Savannah Shipman requested that the agenda be amended to list her as the representative of the History Department’s Graduate Studies Committee
   • Approval of the agenda motioned by Claire Herhold, seconded by Joseph Helzer, approved 12-0

III. General Announcements
   a. Set Date for Next Meeting
      • date for the next meeting set as December 11th

IV. Representative and Committee Reports
   a. Faculty Representatives and Other Organizations
      i. Graduate Studies Representatives – Savannah Shipman
         • Graduate Studies Committee met on October 26th
         • Committee reviewed the Graduate Activities Reports for the fall semester
         • Committee discussed amending the doctoral portfolio, to clarify the synthetic exam curricula and the circumstances for a doctoral candidate to receive a failing grade
      ii. Faculty Committee Representatives – Kyler Williamsen, Emily Potts
         • Committee viewed a video providing information on active shooter situations on campus that may be shown to the entire department
      iii. Undergraduate Studies Committee – Ruth Aardsma-Benton
         • the committee’s representative was not able to attend the meeting, but delivered a written report of the committee’s recent activities to the HGSO executive officers
      iv. Research Committee – Joseph Helzer
         • D. James Young’s lecture, originally schedule for November 16th, was rescheduled for the spring semester
         • HGSO members were encouraged to attend the 2015 Hamner Lecture on Monday, December 7th
         • Research Committee also announced the theme for next year’s lecture series: unconventional history
v. Teaching Assistant’s Union – Kyler Williamsen, Claire Herhold
   - Enrollment fees are still being negotiated in good faith by the TAU and the university administration
   - Discussions are also on-going concerning unused credits continuing into the following semester
   - TAU will hold an information and planning meeting on Monday, November 16th at 7:00PM in Tremp Hall to discuss the organization of a grade-in in December

vi. Phi Alpha Theta – Joseph Helzer
   - Organized a viewing of the movie *Bridge of Spies* on Thursday, November 12th
   - PAT is planning a fieldtrip for the spring semester, potentially at a museum in St. Joseph, Chicago, or Detroit

vii. GSAC – Kyler Williamsen, Jeremy Killion, Patrick Hargis, Alexander Milnikel
   - Attendees of the most recent GSAC meeting participated in team building exercises which were not well received

viii. Faculty Committee – Kyler Williamsen
   - HGSO members encouraged to attend the History Department retreat on December 11th

b. HGSO Committees

   i. Fundraising – Lindsey Schmidt, Alexander Milnikel, Joseph Helzer, Spencer Hunt
      - Committee is laying the groundwork for holding a coffee sale in partnership with Water Street Coffee in the spring semester
      - Discussing organizing a cider and cookie sale using donated materials
      - HGSO membership also discussed the sale of green books to students at exam time with the profits going to HGSO

   ii. Social Affairs – Lindsey Schmidt, Rachel Hekman, Jeremy Killion, Patrick Hargis, Alexander Milnikel, Savannah
      - Halloween party was well attended and very well received
      - Social Committee will be involved in providing food for the History Department retreat in December

   iii. Workshop Committee – Ruth Aardsma-Benton, Michael Kuethe, Spencer Hunt
      - HGSO membership brainstormed ideas for next semester’s workshop events

   iv. Spring Speaker Committee
      - The Spring Speaker lecture will take place on March 29th at 7:00 PM
      - The application for funding will be submitted to GSAC before the next general membership meeting of the HGSO

V. Treasurer’s Report – Joseph Helzer
current account balance: 1,165.26
cash total: 133.35
total funds: 1,253.61
outstanding expenses: $45 pending reimbursement to Alex Milnikel as part of Social Affairs expenses

VI. Miscellaneous Business

a. Claire Herhold encouraged the HGSO membership to Like the Facebook page for the Saint Joseph Heritage Museum’s event scheduled for October 16th

b. Michael Kuethe explained how to access the HGSO Google Drive material with Western Michigan University emails and passwords; the secretary will make Committee folders available to committee members in the following days

Meeting Adjourned; motioned by Claire Herhold seconded by Joseph Helzer – passed 11-0