History Graduate Student Organization Notes for 2/16/18

Ben Toth, VP, acting Note Taker in the Absence of Mr. Jacob Judd, Secretary (Illness)

I. Meeting Called to Order
   a. Seconded

II. Agenda Approved
   a. Seconded

III. Faculty/University Committee Reports
   a. Graduate Studies
      i. Meeting, doing admissions
      ii. Throwing offers out once the budget is known.
   b. Undergraduate Studies
      i. Essential Studies – Dealing with fluctuations/reevaluations on which
course go into “essential studies”, or “Gen Ed.” classes.
      ii. Undergraduate internships are being discussed. Funds may be allocated to
help cover cost of unpaid internships, travel fees, etc.
      iii. Discussed relations with community colleges, ways to market the history
department to undergrad students via social media/marketing.
      iv. Mentoring graduate student TAs.
      v. General committee work
   c. Faculty
      i. Met twice since last meeting
      ii. 1/31 Meeting
         1. Up 80 students from last year, 1,871 students and 52 grad students.
2. May do two joint hires with sociology, maybe hiring someone to do immigration studies.

3. Portage Parks wants to give the Department money to help add prestige to the city via a summer internship for public history students in the department. This will allow students to do summer work there, perhaps publish some work. They are also thinking of making a museum. As of now they want 2-4 Ph D. students and 4 or so M.A.s. Process will likely start in 2020.

4. New course ideas: History of Drugs, Queer History, Religions, Gunpowder and Empires; making new, interesting courses.
   
   a. All Professors will have to use e-learning.

5. Discussing accredited graduate degree program for undergrad students who are up to the task.

6. Graduate Students had to be nominated for awards still.

7. Perhaps allowing “non-human” languages to count towards the grad degree, i.e. coding.

8. History Day was discussed.

iii. Wednesday, 2/14 Meeting

1. Dr. Wilson had a book come out “Meat Makes People Powerful”.

2. We got as many funds this year as last year, budget has remained the same since last year.
3. List of graduate courses not taught in a while were brought up for possible cancellation. One may be 6030 “Readings in History”, as well as others.

4. Winners for awards were announced – Claire Herhold won, Sydne Johnson won, and Derek Benson won awards. Congratulations to them!

5. Trying to decide on Ph D. students and Masters students at the moment.

d. Research/Events

i. Two Brown Bag Lunches have occurred thus far.

ii. Dr. Pyneson has a Breisach Brown Lunch coming up on 2/26.

iii. Dr. Kyle Lincoln will be presenting one in March.

iv. Ancient Ales talk will be held on April 12, and should be a good time.

v. There will be more talks in the near future, all should come and check them out.

e. TAU

i. Bargaining began this week to work on the new contract for the T.A.’s of the school. Thus far bargaining has been going well, going through non-economic facets of the contract right now.

ii. Kickball event was a couple of weeks ago, very well attended.

iii. Delivered valentines to the President, Provost, and others.

iv. An organizing blitz is occurring next week, looking to talk with members and non-members to muster up support and possibly new members.
f. GSAC Committee
   i. No meeting since HGSO’s meeting.

g. Phi Alpha Theta
   i. Some unofficial involvement with History Day.

IV. HGSO Committee Reports

a. Fundraising
   i. Potential Fundraisers
      1. Coffee Fundraiser
      2. Sponsoring a “Puppies During Finals Week” type event.
      3. For future ideas please contact a member of the committee.
   ii. K-College Interview
      1. Upcoming, will be a possible joint-fundraising opportunity/talk.

b. Social Affairs
   i. Past Events
      1. Super Bowl Party at Nick and Alicia’s was a hit.
   ii. Future Events
      1. This Thursday, 2/22 at 7:00PM there will be a party celebrating Derek Benson’s newest job offer.

c. Workshop Committee
   i. Contact Emily Potts for ideas for workshops.

V. Spring Speaker Committee

a. Date – April 11th at 7:00 PM, Reception preceding at 6:00 PM.
   i. Dr. Schoenig will arrive Tuesday the 10th, depart Friday the 15th.
ii. Application with GSAC is currently planned to be submitted 2/26.

b. Lodging – Likely will put Dr. Schoenig up at the Oaklands.

c. Venue – Aiming for the Fetzner Center for the talk.

d. Transportation – Dr. Schoenig will be flying in to do his lecture.

e. Commitment from Graduate Students

   i. Still up in the air, but the committee was planning on doing a catered lunch at some point, possibly a coffee hour with the Goliards.

   ii. Perhaps having a specific evening for a Graduate Student dinner with the speaker.

VI. Research Awards

   a. Nora Faires – Begin working on applications, cultivating research ideas for application.

      i. Committee will form once the award is due to make recommendation to the department.

VII. Treasurer’s Report

VIII. Announcements

   a. Still looking for judges for State Competition of History Day. If you wish to judge in Bay City towards the end of April, 4/28, for History Day a Kalamazoo car pool can be set up. Please think about signing up to judge! Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

   b. This upcoming Wednesday, 2/21, the Medieval Institute will be hosting the first part of a Film Festival for the Genesis Course. The film will be “East of Eden”, beginning at 7:00PM in the Large Conference Room in Friedmann Hall. A
second film will be shown on March 21, and the film will be “The Fountain”.

MDVL 6000 is a course on Genesis, and so both films relate to the topic and course.

c. Someone will cover the Faculty Meeting on the 28th, as our current attendee will have a conflict on this meeting.

IX. New Business

X. Adjourn

a. Meeting called to adjourn

b. Meeting Adjourned.