GEA Meeting

Friday September 22, 2017

JHB 719 4:00-6:00pm

1. The President, Owen Kane, called the meeting to order.

Members in Attendance:

Owen Kane

Sean McPhail

Meg Desmond

Joel Faber

Kayla Prior

Apala Das

Daniel Bergman

Chelsea Latremouille

Kyle Kinaschuk

Kyle Murdock

Chris Geary

Racha Al Abdullah

Stephanie Redekop

Naseem Rine Reesha

1. Owen proposed a motion to approve the agenda which was seconded unanimously
2. General Announcements
3. Pub Night 6:30 at the Fox and Fiddle
4. First Brown Bag Lunch will be October 26
5. There will be a SSHRC/OGS Fellowships Workshop on Thursday, September 28 from 1-3pm (before the GEA Welcome Reception at Hart House).We are still seeking experienced volunteers who have received fellowships to serve as mentors in the workshop.
6. Reports
7. President’s Report:

Let me open by saying welcome back and that it looks to be an exciting year for the GEA. Welcome to all our new students in all cohorts. Thank you all for coming today and showing interest in the GEA.

I would also like to thank each of the volunteers who dedicated their time and energy to make orientation a great success. We operated with only a few volunteers, but the good will of these volunteers and the assistance of all the reading group leaders made the orientation go wonderfully. Thank you of as well to all the reading group leaders who came and helped to show the vibrancy of the informal intellectual life of the department.

Finally, I would like to thank Tim Lem Smith, Daniel Kennedy, and Sean McPhail who, along with the faculty members of the Student-Staff Relations Committee, put together a very successful Student-Faculty Softball Game. We had a large number of students new and continuing, a large number of the graduate faculty, their children, and a few random neighbourhood kids who came to play and bolster a slightly lagging faculty team. The student-led team was victorious, and as such there will be baked goods every other week sent to the GEA coffee room. This is an achievement of obviously tremendous importance.

I do not have much else to report now, other than a few items to look ahead towards. We will be hosting the Fellowships Workshop next Thursday from 1-3pm. I have already received a number of responses both confirming attendance from applicants and confirming mentorship from SSHRC and OGS winners. The department is just beginning to schedule its meetings for the academic term and I expect that they will take place in early October. We will have reports from the various meetings presented at the October GEA meeting. There are a number of high profile job searches this year that we will need student input and participation in. There will also begin a departmental review of the graduate program over the next and a bit. Once details of the review are released, we will share them and plan graduate participation that will best reflects the strengths and the wants of the program.

Other than that I just want to mention a few housekeeping things. We will begin to work to update the GEA website information this term. There are some coffee hours coming up, and I’m hoping to have a meet and great one with the GEA as well. I have begun to book Brown Bag Lunches and the first one will be at the end of October.

That is all I want to say for now. Let me just end by saying thank you to last year’s executive. Thank you to all of you for being here. And I am very much looking forward to working with everyone going forward. Lastly, I hope you all decide to come to the pub night to celebrate the beginning of term and our first meeting. This year will be one to continue celebrating for sure.

1. Treasurer’s Report:

Finances are in good shape so far this year. As you will see from the numbers below, we’ve only spent about half of the money we had anticipated spending by this point in the term:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Event** | **Budget** | **Actual** |
| September GEA drop-in reception | $100 | $0 |
| Softball game | $150 | $112.96 |
| Fall pub Night | $150 | ~$100 (event is two hours in future) |
| TOTAL: | $400 | $212.96 (=$187.04 under budget) |

1. Secretary’s Report: N/A
2. GSU Report: N/A
3. CUPE Stewards’ Report N/A
4. MA and MCR Reports: all is well so far
5. PhD1: Settling in, all is well
6. PhD2: Everyone doing well, comps is over.
7. PhD3: All good; proceeding to special fields and ABD
8. ABD: n/a
9. New Business
10. Elections:

* Vice President: Stephanie Redekop
* GSU Reps: Open
* CUPE Stewards: Emily Halliwell Macdonald, need to solicit others
* ACCUTE Representative: Daniel Bergman
* MA Rep: Nassim Rine Reesha, Kayla Prior
* MA CRW Rep: Mitchell Gunn
* PhD1: Chelsea Latremouille
* PhD2: Open
* PhD3: Open
* ABD: Open
* International Students’ Representative: Apala Das
* Equity Representative: Racha Al Abdullah
* Social Committee: Owen Kane, Kayla Prior, Racha Al Abdullah, Daniel Bergman
* Conference Committee: \*Kyle Murdock\* (committee head), Sean McPhail, Kayla Prior, Racha Al Abdullah, Apala Das, Chelsea Latremouille, Kyle Kinaschuk, Chris Geary
* Delegates to Graduate English Council: Owen Kane, Nassim Rine Reesha, Joel Faber, Kayla Prior, Stephanie Redekop, Apala Das, Kyle Kinaschuk
* Delegates to English General Meeting: Owen Kane, Joel Faber, Kyle Kinaschuk, Kyle Murdock
* Webmaster: Joel Faber

1. Open Forum: Discussion of GEA Calendar 2017-8.

* Fellowships Workshop proposed date change to September 28, 1-3pm. Approved by members.
* Research Roundtable: October 27. 2 panels, 3-4 speakers each. Speak on proposed theme, 5-10 minutes per speaker, 40 minutes of discussion, coffee break. Need feedback on what theme should be. Members proposed the following themes:  Citizenship, refugees; movement; media; the future, prophecy, and prediction; form; bodies; psychogeography; uncritical topographies; spaces; performance; uncertainty; separations.
* Karma Yoga (or other travel grant fundraiser): still ironing out the details; Owen is working on it.
* English Department General Meeting: October 4th.

1. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.