

Association of English Graduate Students Executive Board Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2008

1. General Business

- a. Welcome to newly elected members Kathleen Burt (Liaison to First-Year MAs) and Emily Blanchard (Secretary)
- b. Thanks to the Gillespies for hosting August party
- c. Brainstorm/update 08-09 goals
 - i. Connect with undergraduate English majors to create a campus presence for the department
 - ii. Possible meet & greet opportunities: Pre-Registration Party, Advising Party (talk about life as a graduate student or working professional)
 - iii. Sell t-shirts to create identity for English at the University *and* raise funds
 - iv. Plan book sale to occur in AMU during little sibling weekend; solicit books from professors and graduate students
- d. November 9-10 provost visit to ASF; time to be scheduled this month
- e. Treasurer nomination: Buddy Storm elected to Treasurer position
- f. ASF Happy Hour: October 31st afternoon

2. Individual updates

- a. Eric Dunnum, Vice President (John Malloy delivered report in Eric's absence)
 - i. Students should apply for \$300 matching conference funds from the graduate school
 - ii. The Graduate School and the Graduate Student Organization are conducting a survey of the graduate student to determine if students would support a mandatory \$41 fee to pay for unlimited use of the Milwaukee Public Transit Bus System's UPASS for graduate students
- b. Maggie McKinley, Liaison to GSC
 - i. Attended GSC Meeting on Wednesday, August 27th
 - ii. The policies for extensions and financial aid from the graduate school were discussed, and recommendations will be passed along to the Executive Committee
 - iii. The department will make efforts to recover several TA positions that were lost when Comm 11 was introduced to the curriculum
 - iv. The policy for course requirements was addressed, and it was confirmed that the number of course credits for the PhD has been lowered from 30 to 24
 - v. The DQE checklist and Dissertation Defense checklist were revised and approved by the GSC
- c. Kelsey Squire, Liaison to FYE
 - i. Rubric for oral presentation for RC 2 currently in development
- d. Colleen Fenno, Liaison to PFF (and ASF maintenance liaison)
 - i. Possible printer and monitor coming to ASF lounge from Dr. Paula Gillespie
 - ii. Solicit computers for ASF lounge from ASF offices with multiple or unused PCs
- e. Daniel Burke, Liaison to Faculty
 - i. Continuing development of team teaching initiative for advanced PhD candidates
- f. Emily Blaser, Liaison to PhDs
 - i. PhDs requesting increased transparency of changes in PhD program

- ii. Develop list of FAQs from DQE and dissertation defense
 - iii. Need for small groups to meet, network, and keep each other on deadline?
 - iv. Arrange for PhDs going through dissertation process and recently hired graduates to talk about experience, answer questions, and share advice
- g. Tom Massnick, Liaison to Second-Year MAs
 - i. Study groups meeting once per week with rotating schedule of topics
 - ii. Considering asking PhD candidates and professors to talk to MAs about exam
- h. Kathleen Burt, Liaison to First-Year MAs
 - i. Arrange a social hour to meet each other
- i. Buddy Storm, Public Relations and Treasurer
 - i. Send news of publication, conferences, and achievements to Buddy
 - ii. Eagerly anticipating Christmas Party
 - iii. Approximately \$2200 in conference funds
 - iv. Ask IT services to create listservs for ASF, English graduate students, and English grad students & faculty