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