

FEBRUARY ESA MEETING
Thursday, February 6, 2020
6:30 PM in the English Lounge (4406)



(Pizza provided by the ESA using DSC funds)

6:30 PM - 6:45 PM Fellowship and mingling

6:45 PM - 7:00 PM Co-Chair updates and announcements

History program governance structure revisions discussed at the December Graduate Council meeting (12/11)

- Find the agenda here (pages relevant to program revision begin on 58):
https://www.gc.cuny.edu/CUNY_GC/media/CUNY-Graduate-Center/PDF/Provost/GC-agenda-December-2019.pdf
- Find GB's informal meeting notes here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/11teMTwnVGyMRTCx4dQncunKSuxbacl4DAuS11sBdy64/edit?usp=sharing>
- Essence of the matter: **History program** is looking to restructure itself in a way that **makes student voices more prominent** while also **limiting the extent to which consortial faculty** can shape departmental governance
 - History EO wasn't present at the Grad Council meeting; there were, however, 2 or 3 faculty present who were able to telegraph that these proposed restructuring measures are hotly contested
 - Many on the Council wanted more information; approved motion to table the issue until further presentation could be made on:
 - Executive Committee final vote count on the governance matter

- More thorough presentation about the proposed changes from the History EO by way of the Graduate Council's Structure Committee
- The English Program has 3 student voting members (Genevieve Bettendorf, Chris Carpenter, and Stefano Morello); given our own Program's ongoing discussion about the role of consortial faculty in administrative matters, it seems only prudent to discuss this as a group

Executive Committee met on 01/31 - see our notes [here](#)

ESA Governance Changes - Implementation of the "Olivia Amendment" to the ESA Constitution.

- See New Constitution [Here](#)
- See Olivia's Proposed Amendment (ratified in last two meetings) [Here](#)
- Some general questions - should we formalize "chairs" amongst larger committees, i.e. having a method for their being an ESA Admissions Chair or ESA Diversity Chair? Do we want other "Program" Chairs like an ESA Secretary or ESA Treasurer?
- Future Questions to consider - Do we want to change how any committees are staffed? Do we need more/less members in a committee, or do we even want to disband or rebrand a committee?

Potential surplus monies:

- It's looking like we might have some extra funds at the end of the semester, so we are considering what to spend the additional monies on - (small) travel grants? Decorations for holidays/Revels? (Karaoke Machine anyone?)

Results of the mentorship survey circulated in December:

- **TBD - FILL OUT THE SURVEY [HERE!](#)**

7:00 PM - 7:30 PM Committee updates

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Members</i>	<i>Updates</i>
Admissions	Chris Carpenter Sharanya Dutta Christian Lewis Emily Price Sophie Riemenschneider	-Big admissions meeting is Friday, 2/7 -We've had many issues with the admissions process including a lack of clear communication about timeline, no application evaluation guidelines, student members in round 1 were not given applicants based on our interests, and original policy for who would/wouldn't advance was not followed
Alumni	Stefano Morello Queenie Sukhadia	

		I contacted Nancy for info on alums who have been doing more public-facing work post graduation/working in non-academic careers, to profile them for the website. I'm trying to think about how a humanities training prepares one for work/careers both inside/outside the academy and at the intersection of the two. I'm in the process of contacting these folks.
Co-Chair	William Arguelles Genevieve Bettendorf Christina Katopodis	See Above
Conference	Jessica Lugo Jesse Rice-Evans	We have received and organized the submitted proposals, and have a draft of the conference program and promotional materials. After getting not many GC submissions with our initial submission deadline, we bumped it back and got more. We are trying to figure out funding now.
Course Assessment	Onur Ayaz Sharanya Dutta Beth Sherman Olivia Wood	Kent has emailed us the evals for our assigned courses with a due date from Nancy.
Curriculum	Michele Chinitz Eric Dean Wilson	At the end of last semester, courses were discussed and sorted for next year, with an understanding that possible budget cuts will affect offerings.
Diversity	Jacob Aplaca Shoumik Bhattacharya Filipa Calado Miranda Hajduk Daniel Hengel Jessica Lugo	We unfortunately did not receive the funding to which we applied last semester. We are hoping to meet in the coming weeks to discuss the possibility of applying for funding through the DSC participatory budgeting program.

Editorial	Miranda Hajduk Queenie Sukhadia Eric Dean Wilson Olivia Wood	We have all the orals lists compiled, and our next goal is to post them
Elections	Bradley Nelson	
Executive	Jacob Aplaca Filipa Calado	See Above
Faculty Membership	Shoumik Bhattacharya Stefano Morello	
Friday Forum	Chris Carpenter Jason Nielsen	No updates. Spring '20 FF schedule in place--lots of student presence on FF for spring '20 semester. One event is off (Zahid Chaudury) because dates didn't work out. Kandice mentioned that there might be talks yet to be scheduled related to faculty search--but around FF already scheduled.
Library/ Lounge	Onur Ayaz Stefano Morello	Stefano and I stickered narwals and stamped a ton more books. We realize there's a lot of books now and are thinking of donating books we may not need in the book giveaway.
Placement	Bradley Nelson Mikey Rumore Robert Yates	No updates.
Recruitment	Daniel Hengel Maxine Krenzel	
Website	Jojo Karlin	How about adding Stefano and/or Jacob to the committee since we're down to one person? According to Bradley, Stefano and Jacob are the alternates. (see my comments) - CK

7:30 PM - 7:45 PM Conclusion and Clean-Up

Vote to adopt amendment to constitution approved unanimously (12 Yeas, 1 vote-counter abstention)

Notes on possible committee amendment(s):

- Might be good for conference committee to have more people
 - Standing members who can help out with and staff conference events regardless of conference "content"/subject (as proposed by the
- Website committee:
 - Significant issues inherent to current code/structure mean that
 - Rob volunteers to help coordinate, Olivia says she has some of the knowledge to alter Wordpress theme/make changes
 - Original creator: Paul Hebert
 - Dainy: while cochair, website committee did a lot of research on accessibility
 - Also should think about front- and back-end matters relating to first-year examinations, orals lists, dissertation prospectuses, and the like

Motion seconded to discuss consolidating Website and Editorial committees

Three motions seconded to discuss revising the description of and number of students on the following committees:

- Conference Committee
- Website Committee
- Course Assessment Committee
- Admission Committee (w/r/t cluster or field designations/allocations)

Will solicited names for the ad-hoc committee on mentorship

Notes from the Admissions committee:

- Would be helpful to nail down process (timelines, clear statement of process and staging, etc.) well in advance of the actual beginning of the application season; necessary to get it on paper/in writing
- What of the composition of the committee? Students on committee this year seemed to be reading applications not in their disciplines (this also could have been a Kandice sorting/labor issue)
 - If we're going forward with the cluster model, elected committee members (or nominees for the committees) can say which clusters they subscribe to during elections so they can be properly allocated applications based on their areas ("clusters") expertise

Re cluster model:

- Would moving to this model require a Graduate Council-approved changes?

Re unused space in the library space:

- proposal to designate space for individuals to use empty
- Need more narwhal stickers

Dainy's proposal:

- Host our undergraduates at the Graduate Center to present papers as a recruitment event
- Partner with Mellon or pipeline conferences?
- Friday Forum-ish format and vibes

16 members present:

Filipa Calado

Will Arguelles

Miranda Hajduk

Genevieve Bettendorf

Sam O'Hara

Cary Fitzgerald

Sukie Kim

Emily Price

Olivia Wood

Destri Maria Sisley

Rob Yates

Christian Lewis

Dainy Bernstein

Eric Wilson

Queenie Sukhadia

Onur Ayaz