

## **SAGE Minutes**

**Thursday, November 6, 2008**

**4:00 pm, 1015 Wescoe**

**Attending:** Heather Bastian, Stephanie Scurto, Shelley Stonebrook, Kari Jackson, Kristen Lillvis, Jessica Isaac, Eric Hood, Jana Tigechelaar, Masami Suguimori, Nate Williams

**Call to Order,** Minutes approved, call to order.

### **Officer Reports.**

a. Presidents' Report: SAGE has sent three thank-you notes, and all present signed them. They were sent to Dorice for the Adobe Software for the website (\$100), to Dean Steinmetz for increasing the flexibility of the GTA lines, and one to Dr. Harrington for coming to the last SAGE meeting. Center for Sustainability Leadership Awards: Ceremony on Nov. 11 for the nominees. The awards for people who make KU and the community more environmentally friendly; SAGE nominated Shelley Stonebrook.

b. Secretary's Report. No Report.

c. Treasurer's Report. \$742.91 in the treasury; Lillvis is still working on the checking account.

d. FY Liaison Report. Hood reports that a lot of the new students are not aware of the resources available through the library and through IDS and CTE. This information wasn't covered in orientation, and though it is sometimes covered in 800, not all students are required to take 800 and many do not take it until their second semester here. Our concern falls into two categories: the short term concern for students' needs this year, and in the long term, which might be a responsibility the department/program takes care of. Eric has spoken with Buschbaum about an Endnote Workshop and a specialized library presentation. Bastian thinks we should wait until next semester. All agreed that this should be mentioned to the Graduate Committee. Tigechelaar suggested that it would be prudent to offer multiple opportunities to attend workshops. We might also send out an email to get feedback from graduate students.

### **Committee Reports**

a. Academics Anonymous. Sugimori reports that it will be next Tuesday 5:15 pm 4001 Wescoe with Dr. Barnard. The next one will be Nov. 18 with Jennie Joiner. Their topics are specific to American Literature, but will be applicable to everybody in terms of methodology.

b. Advisory Committee. No Report.

c. FSE Committee. Scurto reports that currently there are subcommittees pertaining to 101 textbook reevaluation, for assessment (goals for FSE 100 and 200-level classes), and the spring awards. Sonya will be sending out emails asking for feedback—please respond to her emails to help out the committee. Grade norming will be coming up this spring and will be directly related to doing the assessment.

d. Graduate Assembly. Sevenker reports by email: 1. Roberta Pokphanh [Poke-pawn] (The Program Coordinator for Graduate Professional Development) came and gave an excruciating talk in which she asked us what kinds of programs we would like to see in terms of professional development. I sat quietly, said nothing, and felt smug because English grad students (mostly because of SAGE) get more help with professionalization than students in other depts. can even dream of. Anything that Pokepaw puts together (because it has to apply to grad students across all depts.) is going to be a sad sight in comparison to what we are already doing. SAGE rocks. 2. KU is now officially a Coca-Cola campus, and we as an organization can get funds or products from Coke for all of our events so long as we agree to plaster their name all over everything . . . SAGE Halloween party brought to you by Coca-Cola--"Live on the Coke side of life." Coke presents Academics Anonymous--"Coca Cola has the taste thirst goes for." Lillvis adds that if you have contact with any of the officers of grad. Assembly, they are asking for feedback (an outside group will be evaluating them). Contact Lillvis or Sevenker

e. Graduate Committee. No report.

f. GTAL Committee. No report.

g. Lecturers/Readers Committee. Williams reminds us that the Gunn Lecture, "Objects and Subjects, circa 1960 (A Note on Philip K. Dick)" by Bill Brown, University of Chicago, November 13, 2008 at 7:30 pm in the Alderson Auditorium. He does work with material culture, so it will be of interest to more than those interested in science fiction.

h. Library Committee. No Report. Egging is, however, participating in a library usability study (thank you for volunteering, Katie!).

i. MFA Committee. The website is updated with new students and new information for prospective students. Jackson will be meeting with the committee on Nov. 18. On Dec. 5 they are doing a creative exchange with UMKC (they will come here that day and our MFA students will go there the following).

j. Professionalization Workshops Committee. Workshops will be coming up soon.

k. Public Face/Alumni Relations. Stonebrook reports that *Update* is used to keep in touch with graduate alumni, and they are thinking of pulling information from that to send to undergraduate alums. They're also thinking of making it more flashy. They want to make it available online. The website will be adding a donations page (for alums to go donate, this is a common element of department websites); they also discussed sprucing up the English Department website in general. They also discussed a way for alums to keep in touch through something like Facebook, but it would be complicated to set up.

l. SAGE Advice. No report.

m. Social Committee. The Halloween party was a smashing success. Still haven't heard anything from the other departments for the Wescoe mixer, so our fall activities are concluded.

n. Summer Institutes Committee. No Report.

o. Supplemental Funds Committee. No Report.

p. Webmaster. No Report.

q. Sustainability Report. There is a big new recycle bin in the copy room, which is making a difference in terms of how much is recycled in there. Currently there is a trial run for staff with desk-side trial bins, though the staff has to empty them themselves. This is something that Stonebrook would be interested in getting for faculty and students (she can get one for you for free, though you will still have to empty it yourself). About Make a Difference Day Stonebrook reports that everyone met out at Clinton Lake to pick up trash; there wasn't a huge turnout, but it was a beautiful day and they worked along the lakeshore, trails and parking lot, and took it upon themselves to recycle the majority of what they found. There was, fortunately, minimal interaction with dangerous wildlife. This is something we could definitely do in the spring semester, Tigechelaar suggested doing something for Earth Day.

**Old Business:** Finalized volunteers for the travel awards committee. Scurto volunteers. The committee will consist of Andy Anderegg, Kari Jackson (the MFA committee person), and Kristen Lillvis for now, and we will email for another.

**New Business:** Reduced Load Lines Memorandum to the Department, discussion of amendments. Tigechelaar applauds Scurto and Behre for striking the right tone with the memo, and stating the concerns well. This will go to Dorice, and will be an inter-departmental memo. The motion to accept the memo passed unanimously.

Scurto asked if we needed a December SAGE meeting. The room agreed no.

**Meeting Adjourned.**