

## **SAGE Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 7, 2009**

**5:00 pm, 1016 Wescoe**

**Attending:** Nate Williams, Shelley Stonebrook, Ann Martinez, Meghan Kuckelman, Rob Topinka, Katie Egging, Heather Bastian, Jana Tigchelaar, Eric Hood, Keri Behre, Kristen Lillvis

**Call to Order,** Minutes approved, Tigchelaar moved, N. Williams second.

### **Officer Reports.**

- a. Presidents' Report:
- b. Secretary's Report. No report. Thank you to our three co-presidents for another good year.
- c. Treasurer's Report. Our account currently holds \$795.46, soon to be increased by \$20.00. We can apply for more funds from GPA—any ideas for a banner? Bastian suggested using those funds for materials for the SAGE Library (they would have to be purchased through the Oread Bookstore).
- d. FY Liaison Report. No Report.

### **Committee Reports**

- a. Academics Anonymous. Martinez reports that many came out for Tidwell's presentation last week, and we had a good turn out for Kuhn's presentation.
- b. Advisory Committee. No report.
- c. FSE Committee. Bastian reports that they are meeting again to decide on the 101 textbooks. She wants to thank everyone who gave feedback on the textbooks.
- d. Graduate Assembly. Sevenker reports: 1.) April 17 is the deadline to request additional funds from GPA. We can get up to an extra \$400 dollars. The committee suggested that such additional funds could go toward retroactively reimbursing travel expenses for students who went to conferences this past year, if nothing else. June 30th will be the deadline to make all final purchases with these funds. 2.) Results of BLOC funding meeting: A total of \$3,000 was taken from the GSO allocation funds. The finance officer said that this doesn't necessarily mean a cut in each GSO's funding, however--there are many inactive or barely active GSOs whose funds will likely be partially or completely cut, leaving full funding for active GSOs like SAGE. Also, there will now be a push to get GSOs to apply for unallocated funding by drafting legislation through GPA. This unallocated money goes quickly, so SAGE would have to think ahead and apply for funds early for any SAGE events or business that could be considered beneficial to the entire student body. (Unallocated funds are for student body events, allocated are for private SAGE business: office supplies, travel, SAGE parties, etc.) Also, GPA officer salaries were cut, limiting their summer hours. Just be aware of this in case you wanted to apply

for such a position. You can contact the exec. committee for more info about these positions, if you're interested. 3.) Student gov. elections will be held from April 15-16. You can vote on Enroll and Pay. Get to know the candidates and vote for those who are "graduate friendly." Topinka is running, Envision is more graduate friendly—the candidate running with them is more interested in getting grad. students involved.

e. Graduate Committee. E. Williams reports: The Graduate Committee is tackling the ranking of Summer Research Fellowships (graduate students on the committee are recused from this process). At our last meeting, we were still debating the GRA/GTA teaching reduction wording, and we're taking a document to that effect to the Voting Department. Thomas reports: It has been determined at this point that a 5 year MA/Ph.D. program in literature is not feasible. We will continue to explore this option in an attempt to streamline the degrees and time to degree. Faculty members of the Grad Committee will be reviewing and ranking submissions for the Graduate Division's Summer Research Fellowships. Ranking is required by the Graduate Department. This is a \$5,000 Fellowship. Deadline date is April 8th. Student representatives on the committee **will not** be involved in reviewing and ranking.

f. GTAL Committee. They are discussing creating clearer guidelines for teaching self-assessment. They are deliberating whether a teaching self-assessment should be required for GTAs at the end of every year. The room felt that it should remain optional (since grad students are so busy at the end of the semester).

g. Lecturers/Readers Committee. Met on Friday to go over the nominees for next year's lecturers—they're making offers currently. Next Wednesday is the Urrea presentation: Alderson 7:00 pm.

h. Library Committee. Have had a flurry of recent activity. Met with library officials to discuss the upcoming budget cuts (a 10% cut is possible but not yet set in stone), last time they had to make cuts, when people voiced concerns over losing certain journals etc. they responded very well—so if something is getting cut that you feel strongly about, be sure to voice your concerns. This might be a reason for someone to be on the committee next year. The other important point is that our liaisons encouraged us to let them know our preferences (our library representative works as a contact for that) and they'll help you out. Doing it online is possible—Behre has used the online request multiple times and they have purchased it within weeks. Tigechelaar asks about lost books—Egging is going to check it out.

i. MFA Committee. Nothing reported.

j. Professionalization Workshops Committee. Kuckelman is stepping into that committee, Katie Conrad is hoping to have a workshop before the end of the semester about the whole Plan B discussion over email. Professionalization is planning to help out with that, and then asking attendees what they are interested in scheduling for next year.

k. Public Face/Alumni Relations. No report.

l. SAGE Advice. Nothing reported.

m. Social Committee. The Wescoe Mixer at Louise's on Friday, will probably be the last. We might add a pizza party to a second Make a Difference Day the week after finals.

n. Summer Institutes Committee. Hume reports that she has no report.

o. Supplemental Funds Committee. They are making a decision on the Patricia Cleary Miller Award for Graduate student travel soon.

p. Webmaster. Thomas reports: Susan is in process of updating older webpages to remove last names of graduate students as requested.

q. Sustainability Report. Stonebrook reports two things: 1) a reminder that in the upcoming move, Stonebrook has gotten a books/catalog/cardboard bin—it's out in the hallway on Wescoe 3 across from the pop machines. 2) Make a Difference Day Part 2 in May—any thoughts/responses? Most seemed to agree that doing it the week after finals week would work best.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Meeting Adjourned.**