

November 18th meeting minutes

Roll call – 7:32

Invocation

- Motion to set the adjournment time at 8:30
 - Seconded, and passes
- Officer reports
 - Emily's report about the budget
 - Layers and layers of bureaucracy . . .
 - About \$40,000 short – Emily has gotten that back, but we should have more, based on our actual enrollment numbers
 - Still working on that
 - Part of the problem is the way the university does the budget
 - Treasurer: budget update
 - Showing the chart – what's been spent, and what money is there for the spring
 - Roll-over from last semester for events
 - Conference chair presentation regarding conferences
 - Promissory note needed before the conference
 - Submit as soon as you know
 - Two week deadline for submitting receipts for reimbursement
 - Professional development chair
 - Email Amanda if you have ideas for other events
 - More writing workshops in the spring?
 - Add another one at the end of the semester?
 - Amanda will look into it
 - Still accepting applications for parliamentarian
- Old business: dissertation thesis scholarship fund
 - Jessica is working on making the application look more professional
 - Medieval and Byzantine Studies, MBU (never come), Early Christian Studies, Canon Law
 - We'll contact them.
 - Can those serving on the committee also submit applications?
 - Conflict of interests?
 - What if you scored other applications lower to improve your own chances?
 - Time commitment? Do they really have time to review applications and work on their own dissertation?
 - Include in the guidelines that if they serve on the committee they cannot submit an application that year
 - EC has discussed whether or not to provide some kind of “thanks” to the volunteers, such as lunch or a small honorarium
 - What about using the money for software purchases, payments for participants in studies – questions from psychology chair
 - Payment for participants – psychology has guidelines for this sort of thing
 - Has to be reimbursement – can't just cut people a check

- We discussed this some last semester, but there just isn't a way for GSA to give someone the money before the trip (or purchase of equipment, etc.).
 - The committee should be able to see whether it is a wise use of money
 - So we shouldn't need to worry too much about prodigal spending
 - Motion to select representatives from departments present at this meeting, so that we can finalized the selection committee
 - Motion seconded, but the vote doesn't pass
 - Motion to let Jessica select new departments if she doesn't hear back
 - Seconded, and passes
 - Timeline: by Friday afternoon
 - Motion, seconded, and passes
 - So Jessica will contact the departments selected, and if she doesn't hear back by Friday, then she'll chose other departments/schools and contact them
 - Approve Emily Clough from LS and Abby Ridge Anderson from Psychology
 - Emily – approved
 - Abby – approved
- New business: a new account for conferences/research fund reimbursement to include traveling for job interviews
 - What about internship interviews? Internships are a part of the psychology doctoral degree program, and they might go interview for as many as 15
 - Some in the DC area, but others could be farther afield – would the GSA reimburse for those? Not a job, per se, in academia, but still an integral part of finishing the degree and being able to get a job after graduation
 - What about broadening professional development?
 - Currently, there are no guidelines for job interview reimbursement in the current professional development position
 - Her plate is full regarding what she does – writing workshops, other programs, etc.
 - Processing conference rebates is its own GSA position, and presumably if GSA start giving rebates for job interviews, that would require a similar time-commitment
 - You would either need to double her hours or create a new position
 - Also need to allocate more money to professional development, which would mean cuts somewhere else
 - What are the parameters for academic job interviews?
 - Equity for all graduate students – some students might travel for a job interview for a job that isn't in academia
 - Do we have the budget for this?
 - We'd have to pull from other places or eliminate something
 - Vote on this at the next meeting – in January?
 - Good idea, but there are equity issues
 - Also just issues with the budget in general – do we really have the money for this?
- Announcements

- RSVP for the Dec. 2nd meeting at Brookland Pint, preferably by Friday, so that we can reserve a space – to Esther or Amanda
- Motion to adjourn
 - Seconded, and passes
- Meeting ends, 8:24