HGSC Meeting Notes – December 4, 2018 (meeting #3)

**Present:** Chris Marsh, Steven Langlois, Tyla Betke, Emily Kaliel, McKelvey Kelly, Kiera Mitchell, Derek Cameron, Dimitry Zakharov, John Bird, Andrea Ens.

1. **Online Banking discussion**

Marsh says the main barrier to setting up online banking is that only one person can have access to the service which compromises the established checks and balances of having multiple signing authority. Marsh does not like this as it removes control for a potentially unscrupulous future executive. Betke mentions how convenient e-transfers are. Kaliel discusses how she had people sending e-transfers to her personal bank account at last year’s Book Pub without her knowledge and it made her uncomfortable. She suggests being stricter people bringing appropriate payment to events. Betke asks whether or not having an e-transfer is truly riskier than cash and asks whether the password could be shared amongst the co-signers for transparency. Marsh says if we did do this, we wouldn’t know who would be accessing the account. Bird comments that someone could just drain the account before the other co-signers would be aware of an issue. After this discussion, the committee decides the convenience of online banking is not worth the risk.

2. **New HGSC logo discussion**

There will be 3 logos designed by Danika with the offered option of two rounds of changes. Marsh asks for general ideas of what types of logos the committee would want. Bird requests Danika’s portfolio for her established style. Betke says Danika wants input from the committee regarding our preferred design. Betke suggests a circular logo so it will fit as our Twitter profile picture. Committee agrees on a circle with HGSC and the full name incorporated into it. Betke wonders if there are university rules about colours or designs. Committee is not unsure. Kaliel suggests adding the department and college information on a banner if we need to specify information. Marsh wonders if the design should include the USask coat of arms. Betke says this would be difficult due to rules about not modifying the design in any way of the USask coat of arms. Committee agrees on green and white as the colour palette. Marsh requests to be CC’d on the emails between Betke and Danika. Marsh proposes $125 fee for hiring Danika to redesign the logo. Seconded by Kelly. Unanimously passes.

3. **Report on Master’s Colloquium**

Cameron reports that the colloquium went well from his perspective, other than discovering he needed to order coffee for noon hour. Bird says he enjoyed the new question format. Betke said
she appreciated the strict fifteen-minute limit on for the talks. Kelly clarified that the questions were interspersed between the talks which allowed for everyone to receive questions equally. Kaliel requests a programme pamphlet for future colloquiums. Marsh asks whether Cameron felt rushed in planning it. Cameron says it was fine and that he felt supported doing it.

4. Christmas Party discussion

Marsh reiterates that the Christmas Party will be a potluck gathering. Langlois offers to bring leftover wine and pop from the Halloween Party. Marsh asks if the committee wants to have an ugly Christmas sweater contest. Kelly suggests there could be a small little prize for best ugly Christmas sweater after a casual vote at the party.

5. Book Pub Discussion

- Marsh brings attention to Presber’s resignation as one of three Social Directors.
- Marsh points out that the fundraising effort is a little behind compared to last year. He suggests obtaining roughly seven donations from businesses that have historically donated to the Book Pub event alongside a majority focus on donated baking, knitting and crafts, which have traditionally done very well as auction items. Marsh says he felt the auction went really long in the prior year and believes it has to dialled back a little as far as lots are concerned. Betke expresses concern about who will offer to do the baking, knitting and crafts as it is extra work. Marsh says the donation call was late last year and he believes this was the main issue with obtaining donated labour. Marsh also points that he wants men to offer goods and services. In previous years they have done so with editing hours, GIS work, and homemade pizza nights. He would like to see a bigger variety of goods and services offered. Marsh suggests that the call for donated goods and services be marketed as such instead of a call for baking and crafts.
- Zakharov says that the spa gift certificates were particularly popular last year and suggests offering these again in the auction. Betke agrees and says she believes this is because people can clearly see the worth of gift certificates.
- Zakharov also indicates that the committee needs to work on getting professors to show up. Marsh says we should expand the base of participants in general. The committee discussed inviting honours undergraduate students.
- Betke suggests that we should expand the kinds of volunteer activities beyond activities traditionally done by women by actively suggesting a wide variety possible donated labour.
- Betke also comments on the book auction not being given enough attention and suggests it perhaps could instead be part of the official auction. Zakharov suggests having a separate mini-auction for the books and then the usual auction. He also brings up needing to select a good MC. Langlois says Mark Meyers has enjoyed this role in the past. Zakharov agrees on contacting Meyers.
- Zakharov also raises the issue of needing to cull the donated book collection. Bird and Betke both have ideas of possible places to donate the books. Kelly says she already organized the books by price so it should be easy to sort them for disposal. Zakharov asks
where the collected books came from. Kelly clarifies these are donated books. Marsh says a bulk of the collection are due to faculty retirements.

- Marsh suggests having a date chosen for the Book Pub to propose at the next meeting. Kelly suggests sending out a call for donations as well. Betke asks if we could have a day to organize all the donated books so we don’t have to price them the day-of.

6. Faculty Meeting report – Emily Kaliel

From the faculty meeting on Nov 7, 2018

- Presentation from Dean of the College of Arts & Science, Peta Bonham-Smith. She expressed the college’s priorities: renewing department standards and college standards. They wish to grow enrolment. Some faculty members questioned the enrolment of EAL students in courses as they feel there are inadequate language supports. Marsh asks for a clarification on whether enrolment is to be boosted for department or college. Kaliel clarifies that this is a task from the university executive for the Arts & Sciences College.

- The college is also working to retain students. Marsh asks for a clarification of undeclared students’ college membership status. Kaliel clarifies that students who are undeclared do not belong to any college. There was also a discussion of the Box Top Policy in History Department. This policy allows for a relief from teaching based on faculty obtaining particular achievements (supervising grad students etc.) and accumulation of Box Tops reduces teaching requirements. The college doesn’t like this and they wish to mandate a minimum amount of credits to taught per semester by each faculty member.

- There is also a mandate from Provost to update standards. The Department of History already regularly does this and will do their update in February 2019. There is a possibility of a Tier 1 CRC in The History of Medicine. If successful, the college will be searching for 2022 history of medicine tenure track position. There is a five-year position in gender and sexuality upcoming. Marsh asks about when those interviews will be held. The gender and sexuality application already closed with a pending decision in January 2019 and interviews in February.

- The faculty extend a reminder of the holiday party on December 11, 2018.

- Dr. Ashleigh Androsoff reported that 5 PhD and 8 MA for PhD applications were sent on from the SSHRC pool.

- Undergrad Committee Report from Dr. Simonne Horowitz: 25 people showed for workshop on applying for a MA in history.

- Research Committee from Dr. Jim Clifford: There was further discussion of Box Tops. It was explained that the college was unhappy with the assignment of duties. The Dean is not particularly hostile but wants all students to have equal access to faculty members. As of 2015, a more generous Box Top policy was established. The college wishes to institute rework the language of the policy and institute a minimum of 6 credits taught per year. If a faculty member is on a half sabbatical, they teach 3 credits per year.

- News from College: They are pessimistic about positions in next year. They requested for the department to rank which positions they would like to get if there are opportunities for a tenure track position opening. Still, they don’t believe there will be opportunities.
Debrou Lecture: Dr. Valerie Korinek has agreed to present. Kaliel originally wanted to hold it on March 7, 2019, but that overlaps with a language course. The faculty has suggested March 5, 2019. Dr. Dyck wants to do large public outreach through advertising for the lecture. Kaliel says Korinek’s books will be sold at the event. Zakharov confirms that this is okay with library policy. Betke volunteers to sell books at this event. Dr. Dyck is planning to gather oral histories on Dave Debrou. Betke confirms that Dr. Dyck is speaking to Danika about video editing this for the event. Betke suggests checking if the library has capacity to show video.

7. **GSA Meeting report – McKelvey and John**

Bird reports the dissolving IGSC which ends this group’s representation within the GSA. Both the Brazil Club Student Association and Student Club of India were ratified at this meeting. Betke reports that the next GSA meeting is during the department party. Committee confirms that it is okay if Kelly and Bird do not attend due to the conflict.

8. **Other business**

- **Website:** Betke asks if we should remove or edit Presber’s name on the website as she has stepped down from her Social Director position, but still remains on a sub-committee. Marsh suggests changing her name.
- Marsh asks Ens about a professional development workshop that Dr. Dyck as expressed an interest in running. Ens says Dr. Dyck plans to pursue this next semester. Kelly asks for clarification on which sorts of professional development skills will be taught. Marsh states it will be professional development pertinent to the historical profession such as article writing, presentations etc.

No other business. Meeting is adjourned.