

# ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

## **Business Meeting October 30, 2004 Charlotte, North Carolina**

President Tom Moore (Winthrop University) called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

### **I. Minutes**

The minutes from the November 8, 2003, Business Meeting in Napa, California were distributed and reviewed. They were approved as they stand.

### **II. 2005 Conference**

Jo Ellen Lundblad from the University of Minnesota presented information on the upcoming 2005 conference, scheduled to take place October 7–9 in Minneapolis at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The conference will be cosponsored by the University of Minnesota and Hamline University. The conference theme—*Creativity and Innovation: The New Story*—will incorporate the innovation studies program and creative writing track at the two respective institutions.

Jo Ellen encouraged the membership to think about new stories in our own institutions and new ways of thinking that we bring to our students. Paper proposals of 500 words or less will be due to the University by April 15.

Margo Galt (Hamline) emphasized the conference's attempt to add participation to the meeting—it will not be all passive attendance. They hope to include innovative teaching examples, best practices, and risk taking examples.

Jo Ellen reviewed the many resources in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area that could contribute to the conference, including the Walker Gallery, research centers, art galleries, etc.

### **III. President's Report**

Tom Moore opened his report with the presentation of the 2004 National Faculty Award. John Gruesser (Kean University) introduced this year's recipient, Carole Shaffer-Koros, as a model MALS teacher, scholar and administrator. Tom expressed AGLSP's appreciation to Carole, and the membership followed with an enthusiastic round of applause.

Tom reported on the move of the national office from the University of Delaware to Duke University. He explained that the conditions had changed and that the UD office was no longer able to effectively serve the organization. Tom and Donna Zapf (Duke) visited the Delaware office over the summer to facilitate the move. Ellen Levine is the new administrative manager and is a competent and effective addition to the national office. She was in attendance at the annual conference through Friday.

In his farewell remarks, Tom offered an apology to the membership. Due to the nature of his job change at Winthrop from Dean to Vice-President Academic, he was not able to pay attention to all the details required by the AGLSP presidency. His association with AGLSP over the past several years has been of great personal and developmental significance and he thanked the organization for the opportunities it gave him as he moves off the board this December. In particular, he has appreciated the organization's willingness to discuss and debate ideas of significance and to acknowledge weaknesses. AGLSP is the least pretentious and competitive organization that he knows. It offers a voice that needs to be part of something important to our respective institutions and to the national educational scene.

With parting words, Tom acknowledged one of the most important leaders in AGLSP who has made his above observations possible. Phyllis O'Callaghan has worked in the GLS program at Georgetown University for 30 years and recently received Georgetown's presidential award. She has attended almost all AGLSP conferences, missing only last year's California conference. Tom expressed both the organization's recognition and gratitude to Phyllis. Tom also acknowledged the hard work and excellent job that Barbara Amen (Reed College) completed as secretary/treasurer over the past two years, during a difficult transition in the national office.

#### **IV. Financial Report**

Barbara Amen presented the financial report (January through September, 2004), copies of which were distributed to the membership. She noted additional charges this year necessitated by moving the national office, and expressed her strong confidence in the new management of that office by Ellen Levine. The national office closed the Merrill Lynch Ready Assets money market account and the WSFS checking account and have moved those funds to new accounts at Wachovia Bank in Durham, NC.

Barbara explained that because \$12,000 of the 2003 conference revenues was reported in 2004 and this year's event will likely clear about \$8,000, the year-end balance should be solid. She estimates that we will end the year approximately where we started. However, this masks the fact that 2004 membership dues have been very slow to come in. Many of the institutions with outstanding dues (49 in total, for a deficit of \$7,300) are in attendance at this conference; Barbara made a plea to those in arrears to pay their dues before the end of this fiscal year. Barbara has a list of who is current and who still owes and would be happy to consult with anyone in doubt about their status at the end of the meeting.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

- Membership: David Gitomer (DePaul University) reported for the membership committee, which included Trent Gabert (University of Oklahoma) and David Dougherty (Loyola College, Maryland). He expressed appreciation to Lauren Clarke (Dartmouth College), the former chair of the committee, who completed much the work on some of these new memberships. David noted that he hoped to build a stronger connection between the treasurer's office and the membership chair, to help address the issue of membership dues and status. His intention is to clearly state in the membership dues invoice sent by the national office which year each school is being billed for (as some have been in arrears for more than one year). After the second notice, an institution in arrears will hear directly from David.

David reported that there are three new associate members:

- Central Connecticut State University—in the planning stages of a GLS program.
- Utica College—Alan Bessette and Larry Aaronson were at the conference but had to leave before the membership meeting. They are running the current program at Utica.
- University of Washington-Tacoma—Sam Parker is the current director. The program is up and running.

David then reported on applications for full membership.

- The University of Findlay was approved for full membership last year, contingent upon a presentation at this year's business meeting. Given a change in leadership at the university, however, this presentation will be postponed until 2005.
- Paula Marks made the presentation for St. Edwards University. Their program was started in fall, 2000, and is in its fifth year with 36 students. Trent Gabert and Lauren Clarke made the site visit and recommended acceptance. The membership approved full membership for St. Edwards.

▪ *The Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies*

Tom Moore explained that the RFP for journal production was not sent out as planned. It will be resent soon with requests for proposals due by the end of this calendar year.

Barry Levis (Rollins College), editor, reported that the journal was in its tenth year of production and includes papers from GLS graduates, faculty, and current students (who often submit work from their final projects). Occasionally the journal also will include information from programs, such as conference speakers and national faculty recipient speeches. Journal production is a large part of the AGLSP budget. Barry reviewed the costs of different levels of institutional support and made his annual plea to program directors for their help in promoting both submissions and subscriptions. In particular, journal editors would like more submissions in the sciences and social sciences. This year the fall issue will take a new approach by publishing papers exclusively from single course (at Arcadia University). Barry also noted the desire to broaden membership in the editorial board. Some current members have served the entire run of the journal and it is time to include new institutions not currently represented. Institutions that officially sponsor the journal have representation on the board, but membership is open to others, as well.

Some programs noted that they use the journal as a text in their writing classes and encourage its use in that way. Others inquired about a possible electronic format for the journal in the future. Tom responded that this is something being considered as the Board reconsiders the journal format and how it represents the AGLSP vision.

▪ *Nominations Committee*

Donna Zapf, committee chair and in-coming president, reported that there are three replacements and two executive office vacancies for next year: Tom Moore as president and Barbara Amen as secretary/treasurer are stepping down, as well as Tom Rivers (University of Southern Indiana) as a member at large. Donna consulted Phyllis O'Callaghan (Georgetown)

and Lauren Clarke (Dartmouth) in putting the slate together. Donna introduced the nominees:

- Melissa Hilbish (Johns Hopkins University)— member at large, 3-year term
- David Rankin (Winthrop University)—member at large, 3-year term
- Mike Keen (Indiana University-South Bend)—member at large, 3-year term
- Jim Pappas (University of Oklahoma)—current board member, secretary/treasurer, 2-year term
- Linda Paulson (Stanford University)—current board member, vice president, 2-year term

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was accepted unanimously.

Donna then recognized with kind words and gifts the three departing board members for their years of service, noting in particular her appreciation of president Tom Moore's encouragement for dialogue and intellectual generosity that she hopes to continue in her tenure as AGLSP president.

- 2004 Conference  
Tom Moore expressed the organization's thanks to Dave Rankin who "did it all" to make the 2004 conference a grand success. The membership gave Dave a standing ovation.

## **VI. New Business**

- Phyllis O'Callaghan (Georgetown) provided an update on her progress in developing a PhD in liberal studies. It has been five or six years in consideration and is formally proposed as a Doctorate in Liberal Studies (DLS). They have the support of the Provost and hope to have the program in place by next fall. She suggested celebrating AGLSP's thirtieth year anniversary conference at Georgetown. Tom Moore noted that Phyllis is still taking the association to new levels and wishes her and the Georgetown program great success.
- Dick Wertime (Arcadia) raised the prospect of a student membership in AGLSP. Tom responded that the Board is considering this and will report back at the next conference.
- A member from the floor mentioned that two years ago the membership passed a resolution stating that the US should not go to war in Iraq. For the record, he wryly noted that the current administration did not follow our advice.

Tom adjourned the meeting at 12:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Amen, Reed College  
5/4/05

34 individuals signed the attendance roster for the business meeting.