**GSFF Meeting – October 18, 2013**

* GSG Meeting
  + Graduate research conference
    - Driscoll ballroom
    - They want each
  + Pioneer carnival next week
    - Taste of DU – they want each GSA to have a table at this (Gates Field House, 5-7PM, October 26th)
      * Should we have a table for this? Or just not since we do not have anything planned at this point?
  + Would we come to the Law School for a happy hour where there were alcohol and appetizers provided? Answer: Yes!
  + Send an email to one of the GSFF officers when you have an event you want people to know about
    - GSG will send out this email every Friday
* Contribution to the Graduate Research and Performance Symposium
  + They want $500 from each GSA to help put it on.
  + Will they charge for attendance?
  + We have a $5000 cushion
  + Maria moved to donate the $500. Nathan seconded this. All in favor. We are donating $500.
* Discipline Conference Survey
  + What problems are we having with this?
  + What is this going to be used for?
  + GSPDG wants to create clarity about which conference presenters ‘deserve’ the most support. Inferring that they are looking at both the quality of the conference and the amount of attention that the DU student will get.
    - Use it to understand what conferences are important to each individual departments. Therefore they can consult this list to see which conferences are considered ‘primary’.
  + How will we work with this considering different concentrations/foci in different departments? (i.e. art history 🡪 medievalist vs. contemporary art historian)
  + How should we handle this looking at constructing a hierarchy of conferences?
  + Fear that if conference is on the ‘list’ it will get funding and, if it is not, it will not.
    - It is hard to specify ‘top conferences’ because most graduate students are not able to present at these depending either on department or student status
    - Could change ‘top conference’ to ‘most beneficial’ conference
    - What conferences are most important to us as graduate students?
  + What about conferences that have yet to be created? (i.e. astronomy 🡪 new conferences arise based on new satellites going up)
  + What if we don’t put a list of conferences and then specify why? What could we put in that would take the place?
    - Could we keep the letter describing why we think that the conference is important, according to DU’s values, your program, you career plans, etc.?
  + Math 🡪 joint meetings that you should go to in order to try to get a job. However, you don’t generally present at these. Where does this fit in?
  + EDP is not having a problem with listing conferences but everyone else seems to be having one.
    - Provide a statement as to why we don’t feel ‘comfortable’ with giving a list but potentially also include it
    - Maybe we could discuss how, within your discipline, is a conference important?
  + Nathan volunteered to compile and compose a joint statement
    - Each department should send a statement to Nathan discussing why listing conferences will not be beneficial
      * Do this in the form of bullet points so each department doesn’t have a page-long essay
    - We object to the idea of having a list of conferences to determine which individual conferences deserve funding.
    - Will be sent out before the 9th week to get everyone’s approval
      * Send the statement by November 1st
      * [Ng.duval@gmail.com](mailto:Ng.duval@gmail.com)
  + Question about what kind of conference presentation we do in each discipline?
    - For example, difference between poster sessions in different disciplines. Make sure to say what it means in each conference.
    - For example, sometimes a performance is considered very prestigious however is oftentimes not recognized as such.
* Funding Application Deadlines
  + Accepting applications currently from May 11th – October 25th (1st day of week 8 of Spring Quarter to the end of week 7 of Fall quarter)
    - Travel must be completed by October 25th
  + All receipts must be in hand
    - Their name, date, vendor
  + November 1st is the day that these applications are due to the departmental representatives
    - Send this information to each of our departments
    - Reps need to review application to make sure it is correct prior to the meeting
  + Signing 🡪 generally the four officers but anyone else is welcome to join if they want
  + Thorough guidelines are found on the portfolio page
    - Specific things are required for GSPDG 🡪 There is a checklist
    - Remember to check the box if you want to apply for GSPDG!
* GSG Elections for Vice-President and Director of Communications
* Each of us can edit the Portfolio site if there is anything up there that is inaccurate or if we don’t want it there
* Conversation about doing a grant system as opposed to reimbursement?
  + Nikki and Maria met with Paula to discuss GSPDG, GSG said that there was problems with this
  + Need to set up the grant process at a higher level first and then we can possibly imitate this process at a later time.
  + What if we didn’t reimburse travel, per say, but set up a grant based system where you apply for money and are given it if you qualify. This would fund research and travel, if possible, and would bypass a lot of the hurdles
  + Why don’t we just give out more money? Need model so we can bring in revenue consistently and, ideally, don’t have to adjust much.
    - We set-up limits in order to try to even out funding. Could we do models to project the money we are taking in and how much money would be sustainable to fund on a grant-based system?
  + Applying for a grant is a notably different process than applying to get travel reimbursed.
    - This would actually help graduate students with the grant process that they may need to work with in the future
  + Would be good to set this up for each of the four faculties that we deal with so we aren’t ‘competing’ with people from different departments with vastly different academic/research needs
  + Will likely table this conversation until winter quarter
    - Need to set up a clear outline so that we know where to begin back in January
* Invited to talk to Dean Nancy Allen from the library – Chairing the committee for the search for the new AHSS dean
  + If there is anything you want to be addressed email Maria