

Minutes of the Anthropology Graduate Student Association

Jan.26, 2006, 2:00 pm
Graduate Special Events Room

Present:

Melanie Mintmier
Yuka Hasegawa
Naomi Furnish
Patricia Fifita

Summary of Proceedings and Decisions:

1. New schedule

The schedule for the semester has been decided and posted online. We will continue meeting on Thursdays at 2 pm, the preference of the majority of those attending AGSA. The only exception is the last meeting of the semester, which will be held on a Monday.

2. Dues

There will be an upcoming announcement regarding dues for members.

3. Bulletin board space

Melanie Mintmier is checking to see if the AGSA can use a portion of the announcement board by the elevators to post AGSA information.

4. Mission statement

A mission statement has been drafted and will go to the faculty in February.

5. Upcoming events and needs

a. Japan Wizards Competition

Toru Yamada requested student volunteers to help with the Japan Wizards Competition. The event is an academic competition for high school students enrolled in Japanese. The competition will be held on February 4, 2006 at the Sheraton Waikiki. There is a need for volunteer moderators, judges, registrars, and more. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Please contact Elizabeth Stanton-Barrera for further details at sbarrera@jshawaii.org or (808) 524-4450.

b. SHAPS conference—peer reviewers

Yuka Hasegawa has requested peer reviewers of abstracts for the upcoming SHAPS conference. Peer reviewers will read four to five one-page abstracts and complete a short evaluation form on the abstracts. The abstracts will be sent to reviewers via e-mail in early February. A variety of reviewers from many disciplines are needed. Anyone interested in being a peer reviewer can contact Yuka at yukahase@hawaii.edu

c. AGSA workshops

This semester AGSA hopes to host two workshops. Topics under consideration include: using Endnote, using PowerPoint, conducting library research, getting an academic job in anthropology, and securing funding. Workshops are projected to be held at the end of February and the end of March/early April. AGSA participants discussed faculty and/or other knowledgeable graduate students who could conduct a workshop.

6. Annoying e-mail issue

Some discussion ensued regarding the potential to reduce the number of e-mail coming into graduate students' boxes. Some suggestions included printing the e-mails by category and compiling them in a folder, or posting them on a website or in a folder. At this point AGSA does not have the capacity to post them on our website, and there is little that can be done except confer with the department office, which is the origin of the bulk of the forwarded e-mail.

7. Ethnographic skills class

Patricia Fifita announced that some students are hoping to take a class with Dr. Blake on ethnographic skills in the fall. Currently the class has six people interested; more people are needed for the class to be offered.

8. Social events

Patricia Fifita commented that she could help provide kava for a social/fundraiser event. Melanie Mintmier reported that others suggested asking the department to consider funding snacks for AGSA socials and/or meetings.

9. Grant file

Yuka Hasegawa noted that she, Heather Young-Leslie and others are trying to compile a folder of funded grant applications to serve as a reference for graduate students.

10. Committees in need of volunteers

The outreach committee (headed by Kelli Swazey) and the orientation committee (headed by Eric Cunningham) are in need of volunteers. Patricia Fifita expressed interest in joining the orientation committee.