

EGU Meeting Agenda

April 12th, 2024

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Meeting Link: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/86502009157>

Password: EGUgr@d234

Officers Present:	Leah, Quinn, Thais, Jazzie, Yvette, Caleb, Katya,
Visitors Present:	Shelley, Cristina, Anuj, Sheyda, Josie

Online Access Statement (template provided by the UA Disability Cultural Center)

- Exist in the space in whatever ways are most comfortable to you
- Please state your name when speaking to assist the captioner (e.g., “Alyx is speaking”)
- Allow others to fully finish their thoughts before beginning to speak

Co-Chair Reports

1) (Charlie)

- a) No updates

2) (Leah)

a) 3/25 Meeting with Dept. Head (Cristina)

i) Follow-up to UA Press event

(1) I reiterated request for hybrid events to accommodate grad students unable to attend in-person

(2) I brought up grad students appreciating the insight shared about book publishing mainly but also wanting more guidance related to publishing articles

ii) Cristina shared [these notes](#) from the 3/14 Program Directors meeting minutes where support for smaller incoming and continuing cohorts was discussed

iii) *I will meet with Cristina one more time on 4/30 so please let me know if you have questions or discussion points you'd like me to bring up

b) 4/5 Council Meeting

i) Dean Poloni-Staudinger has told English to halt any conversations about the Writing Program separating from the Department of English at this point

ii) Ideas around how to unify department and Writing Program and encourage buy-in from everyone were shared

(1) Disciplinary-specific ENGL100-level courses that encourage Lit and CW TT faculty to teach in the Writing Program and/or let CT faculty and GATs with those disciplinary backgrounds use their expertise and gain experience

- (a) These could also be used for recruiting undergrad students to Lit and CW majors
- (2) Collaboration across programs to plan events and promote widely
 - (a) Showing up for each other's events
- iii) SBS wants TT faculty to take priority in teaching core undergrad courses
 - (1) After TT faculty, priority goes to GATs and then CT faculty
- iv) SBS Dean has communicated that the English Department may have to consider a single PhD program with opportunities to specialize
 - (1) Addresses issues around multiple small incoming cohorts and consolidates Program Director labor
- v) Status of WRIT prefix change
 - (1) Initial conversations between English Department and upper admin have occurred, but no clear timeline or next steps at this point
- c) Next Department Meeting is 4/19, next Council Meeting is 4/26

3) General Discussion

- a) Please fill out the officer [nomination form](#) before Wednesday, April 17th!
 - i) You can complete the form again and nominate more folks if you have already submitted once.
 - ii) Especially need nominations for EGU co-chairs, Writing Program committee co-chairs, and program reps
- b) Friday, April 26th - End-of-Semester Party
 - i) Tentatively 5 - 7 PM
 - ii) Venue?

Rep Reports

- Secretary (Jazzie):
 - [Notes from meeting with Shelley and Cristina](#)
- EDI Co-Chairs:
 - EDI Co-Chair / AIME (Thais):
 - No new news.
 - EDI Co-Chair / WPC Difference & Inequality Committee Co-Chair (Josh):
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- Writing Program Council (WPC) Committee Co-Chairs:
 - Assessment Committee (Alona):
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 - Awards Committee (Grace):
 - No report.
 - Curriculum & Instructional Materials Committee (Sean):
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 - Professional Development Committee (Dilara):
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 - Bylaws Committee (Caleb):

- Bylaws committee hosted two feedback sessions on our proposed revisions and our points for discussion over the past two weeks. Points raised by WP constituency members have been very helpful and ranged anywhere from redefining quorum/majority rules as they exist (or rather do not exist) in the bylaws currently to reenvisioning the relationship between the WP director and the WPC/Voting constituency and enshrining that relationship in the bylaws.
 - We are meeting next week to finalize changes () before they are sent to the WP for an advisory vote.
 - Take a look through our work/points of discussion here: [Copy \(2\) of CURRENT WP Bylaws Approved 11/29/21](#)
- GPSC Rep (Kriti):
 - Following the Supreme Court ruling on abortion, GPSC has allowed any relevant grant that is open to be used to access healthcare. More help with the applications can be requested at GPSCtextline@gmail.com. GPSC can also assist in finding reproductive healthcare organisations.
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- Social Chair (Josh):
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- First-Year Rep (Thais):
 - No new news.
- CW Rep (Yvette):
 - No report
- EAL Rep (Katya):
 - The MA TESL program will bring in 3 new GATs and one student with a tuition waiver in Fall 2024.
- LIT / Lit Grad Curriculum Rep (Larissa):
 - We had a great literature graduate student social event last week! Thanks to everyone who came out.
 - No new literature faculty report—they have not met this month yet.
- RCTE Rep (Kelli):
 - Creative writing requested seats for the two MA students who declined an offer
 - RCTE is considering the request
 - Dean has indicated the English may have to combine doctoral programs in the future/rethink the number of programs we have.
 - Faculty members mentioned concern about it ruining our placement rate. RCTE has historically excellent job placement
 - Other faculty members mentioned that having a PhD in English and different specialties would benefit students in terms of collaboration, mentorship, and coursework.
 - It might be good to characterize this as ‘rethinking’ our grad programs and being proactive rather than ‘consolidating’
 - Perhaps the rethinking is more about defining the mission of English Studies as engagement with language, rhetoric, writing, and critical theory
 - There is no deadline on this, only the sense that it is coming and a desire to think about it before it comes down.

- RCTE wants to approve affiliation of Mariya Tseptsura so she can mentor and serve on committees
- **Feedback solicited from RCTE students:**
 - What benefits do you foresee with creating a combined English PhD program (not consolidating the MFA)?
 - What concerns do you have about creating a combined English PhD program (not consolidating the MFA)?
- SLAT Rep (Name):
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- Undergrad Curriculum Rep (Quinn):
 - No further meetings; nothing to report.

Project Reports

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Projects & Tasks:

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Conversations:

- Might be nice to say a “thank you” to the department/donors for the changes to the Collaboration Room. The space looks nicer and more inviting. (Larissa comment).

Questions:

- ONGOING: How do we continue to maintain the care systems? How can these care systems continue to evolve going forward, and what can future care systems look like?
- ONGOING: What is a good funding model? What could help us, the GATs, as the structures shift?

New Concerns & Homework:

- ONGOING: Remind people of travel, research, professional development, and other funding with low-stakes application processes!
 - [EGU Travel Awards for “official university business” travel](#) - up to \$500 to cover costs of presenting work at a conference
 - [English Graduate Student Research Fund](#) - up to \$500 for research travel/field work. Money can no longer be used for local research costs as of Spring 2022 (including buying books, transcription software, etc.)
 - [GPSC Travel, Research, and Professional Development grants](#) - three separate applications for different types of opportunities; up to \$750 for eligible research travel or research project costs, up to \$1500 for eligible Professional Development costs
 - [GPSC Basic Needs Microgrant](#) - up to \$200 “to alleviate some of the financial burden students might be experiencing by helping cover healthcare, academic, hygiene, childcare, transportation, and/or housing-related essential costs;” four deadlines throughout year; awarded on first-come, first-serve basis via lottery selection

