**EGU Meeting Agenda**

**September 25, 2020**

**4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

[**https://arizona.zoom.us/j/96754693926**](https://arizona.zoom.us/j/96754693926)

**Password:** 363653

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| **Officers Present:** | Casey, Hannah, Claire, Colleen, Martin, Ruixue, Sovay, Alyx, Lauren, Analeigh, Leah, Hongni, Marisa, Kelli |
| **Visitors Present:**  | Hannah |

**AGENDA:**

1. Rep reports, one after another without discussion if possible so that we can get through every report
2. Circle back to everything with comments and questions about each report
3. Co-chair reports + list of projects at end of document. Who wants to do what? Are there others that need to be added, too? Let’s make decisions today about who will work on which project and a rough timeline of when we want those done. + Spam issue

**Co-Chair Discussion Items (Sovay and Martin)**

**Spam issue: how can we address this?**

The EGU Co-Chair email is separate from the Arizona system for protection, but this means now that the emails go straight to spam, being out of the system.

**Notes from meeting with Shelley (Martin)**

* It looks like there won’t be new GATs next year (but possibly new Graduate students? Is there any funding for graduate students outside of GATs made by the department?)
	+ - The literature program at least could only support self-funded or state-funded grads (no GATs)
* WP is mostly worried about enrollment in the spring (after the university promised and has not delivered on face-to-face teaching, which may lower numbers among jaded students).

**Notes from meeting with Aurelie (Sovay)**

* No news. Next monthly meeting to take place on Oct. 5
* Please email me with questions or concerns to address with Aurelie if you have them.

**Notes from Department meeting (Martin):**

* New GenEd courses

**Discussion items from Reps**

* Secretary (Claire):
	+ Approving minutes from 9/11 ([here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pfakTGel0gTzyA8yvxcks66BCa2MQHM6enwoB5xoRQE/edit?usp=sharing))
	+ No new reports. All approved minutes can be found on the EGU page [here](https://english.arizona.edu/english-graduate-union).
* First-Year (Josie):
	+ Currently coordinating with Ruixue to set up a social event for first years. We will send a survey to first years by the end of the day to get it started :)
	+ Nothing to report from first year students.
* EDI (Alyx and Claire):
	+ The AIME survey for WP instructors about the textbooks closes TODAY (9/25)
		- <https://forms.gle/b6KdcG7LGS517Qbe7>
	+ AIME met with Aurelie about the textbook survey and requested that she draft a statement about intimidation and retaliation in the workplace to combat fear in the workspace
		- Shelley possibly changing promotion policies (?) being investigated further
		- We are compiling record of these emails (such as the November 2019 textbook email), so please send us or the co-chairs your emails.
		- A concern is brought about the most recent email assuring us that we could “take a night off,” implying that our job is 24/7
* WriPACA (Leah, Lauren, Marisa):
	+ General: no news, next full WriPACA meeting is 10/6
	+ Bylaws (Leah):
		- Met for the first time last week; still setting goals for the semester; currently focusing on: more representative voting, way to account for open hour on Fridays and hopefully move WriPACA meetings to that time, and increased transparency in WP; meeting again 9/30
	+ Assessment (Marisa):
		- Met last Friday (9/18) to discuss the portfolio assessment that’s happening this semester; we’ve selected reviewers (who will be getting $300 stipends) and will begin norming sessions this upcoming week. To account for the transition to remote learning last semester, we’re doing a qualitative, descriptive study.
	+ Curriculum (Lauren Harvey): Notes from Meeting 9/15
		- Tasks/Charges: resources surrounding and editing of the guide
		- Changes to guide: plans
* Consistency across sections
* Cost: rethinking our bundle
	+ Our costs are already lower because of inclusive access
	+ Can we add things from the handbook to the guide? OER? Stable resources?
	+ Add readings to the guide: bundle from publisher? OER?
* Possible extended license for guide (allow faculty across campus to reference/assign readings from the guide)
* Connections with gen ed/WAC/writing attribute
* Textbooks and materials at microcampuses, Global, etc.
* Big questions: what kinds of content/revisions do we want to focus on for this “round”?
* CW (Hannah): department meeting recap
	+ Met earlier today (9/25): much the same as the last meeting (lost students down to eight in the cohort, not a lot of transparency from admin, organizing alumni to write letters of support for the MFA program’s survival, slight acknowledgement of graduate students’ struggle)
* EAL (Eric): Absent, No News
* RCTE (Analeigh): no news
* Lit (Casey): Program Meeting (9/18) Recap (in short: it’s triage mode, folks)
	+ Lynda Zwinger is organizing a search committee for a new Lit Grad director and staff suggestions. Vote should be within the next weeks. The two names on the table are Jennifer Jenkins and Lauren Mason.
		- In answer to a question posed, there is no replacement for the General Graduate director - that position is being replaced by a collaborative committee between the programs.
	+ There may not be a terminal MA program going forward (not as cost-effective nor will replenish course offerings as quickly).
* GPSC (Kelli):
	+ Grad students ***can*** request travel grant money for virtual events
		- Would likely cover event registration fees
	+ Psychological and psychiatry services are currently no copay with student insurance and triage through CAPS (across the city)
	+ GPSC is sending reps to NAGPS (virtual) to meet with national and state reps and lobby on behalf of grad students
	+ Rec center is open despite shelter in place order because they have received an exception through Pima County.
		- Students still have the option to choose between attending the traditional Rec center and the outdoor solution
	+ Currently, I cannot speak in GPSC meetings, and I cannot attend strategic meetings. If you would like me to be a voting member of GPSC on our behalf please add your “signature” (I need 10) here: <https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8H8cYMK46op9X9j>
* SLAT (Hongni and Rachel): Had a discussion with Jaime (President of SLATSA) about the number of SLAT reps. While me (Hongni) and Rachel still both serve as SLAT representatives, only me (Hongni) will be the SLAT rep for EGU from now on.

Not sure if we have a list of SLAT students who are currently working in the WP/English Department. I will look into that in the next SLATSA meeting.

* Lit Grad Curriculum (Casey): Grad Lit program is \*unofficially\* (but very likely) zero admit for F21. This directly impacts the lit curriculum offerings for the next 4-5 years--[You can find the table and an explanation here.](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1d_gyFebXDHnsAZ8rKtcjrCigVVn5Mxx91dCwg07xFCM/edit?usp=sharing) (Feel free to text/email/reply here with any questions and I’ll field them as best I can)
	+ This directly impacts course offerings in the future, obviously
	+ This is also where the idea comes that admitting only phd-level students comes from--it enables us to recover (in terms of course offerings) slightly faster.
* Undergrad Curriculum (Colleen): Next meeting is October 16th
* Social Chair (Ruixue): Co-organize the first-year gathering with Josie. We’re now trying to draft a survey for first-year graduates. It will likely be sent tonight to gauge interest in both first-year students and returning students.

**Projects/Tasks**

* *Are we happy with how EGU is operating/organized?*
* Results of nomination--need to fill roles. We have some doubling up going on. How do we want to handle this?
	+ Should this be a part of the constitution revision? There is a lot of overlap in guiding questions. (this is a generally popular idea)
	+ Coalition instead of union?
* Relevantly, we should discuss how to make EGU viable in the future? If we have a hard time filling roles, is there a way to handle this?
	+ We need a list of each representative’s description/role that is easy to read so that we can link those when we hold elections so that ppl can quickly see what the position entails.
		- We all need to work on this to make the EGU more transparent and make polling easier to participate in.
	+ Finish revising constitution
		- [Here are Stefan’s proposed revisions](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oGHhaqpTmQjBw_L5qkX5TDdVx5PNQyFh/view?usp=sharing). There was no vote and no other revisions, but Kathleen offered to work with anyone interested in carrying this project further.
		- This is likely a longer project than an academic year
			* Kelli has prior experience and is interested
			* Casey posits that we all as a group (or at least a larger group) works on the constitution
			* Should we start from scratch? (regardless, we need to finish it)
	+ Reflect the possible revision of the English dept as they work to market English and its workings (GTAs as instructors of record, course loads, etc) as they make it work along with the logic of the university
* Finish/continue working on new grad student guide
	+ Create list of resources for new graduate students
		- Colleen
		- Leah
		- Claire
* Archival work to include on our website on the English department page?
	+ Link with Secretary?
	+ Ponder these things
	+ Archiving past notes, past initiatives, past documents (like the emails)
	+ Independent website? (wix, blogspot, etc)
* I am adding last year’s table of projects here, so we have some reference (note: this was pre-COVID)
	+ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/17UJJAqvAVNVR0bh6j4qVMR4wZixVeBlB0MHfapHL6is/edit?usp=sharing>
* Posited solution in making smaller committees that report back at a chosen timeline
	+ What’s left?
* Revisioning Committee sign-up
	+ Hannah
	+ Marisa
	+ Kelli
	+ Casey

**Conversation:**

* Is excessive CC’ing of people (who do not appear to be involved) in emails proper netiquette or intimidation?
	+ Should we consider discussing this odd situation of vague communication and possible intimidation in the inbox (which is also a workspace).
* Inviting a member of CAJUA to come talk to EGU (hopefully set up a meeting time)
	+ Conext: CAJUA (/maybe a new union? Distinction still unclear) advocacy group on campus
		- [www.cajuarizona.com](http://www.cajuarizona.com)
		- Arizona is a Right-to-Work state, so there is no legal power allowed against administration in contract form, but CAJUA is a chartered union (subset of larger union) who takes dues and gives resources
			* $8/month dues ($4 to the larger group, $4 to local budget) -- dues are calculated on salary
	+ Hannah offers to possibly do this or find someone

**New Concerns:**

* Has the English department ever addressed the textbook situation (aside from WP)?
	+ We believe there was some advocacy in the past but since the Head before Aurelie wasn’t an advocate for grad students, we don’t have much of a record here.
	+ Perhaps we need to act independently.
* Provost Folks, Andrew Carnie, and Graduate Concerns
	+ Marketing GATs as “labor-based” and want “orientation-based” future (with no concrete ideas about what that replacement would be).

**Going Forward:**

* Continue making clear our value to the university and to make us more visible on campus

**More Ways to Get Involved:**

* CAJUArizona (on Instagram under this tag)
	+ Involved in inclusive access textbook reform, social justice at the UAz, etc
	+ There is also a newly formed wall-to-wall union (for all UAz employees)
* Attend Department Meetings
* Go to Open Hour meetings (Fridays at 3pm)
	+ English & WP Open Meetings
		- These are open, no agenda, meetings to allow folks to process what is going on at this point in the term/year.
		- Fridays (<https://arizona.zoom.us/j/94211011308>)
			* 1:30pm-2:30pm: 9/18
			* 3:00pm-4:00pm: 9/11, 10/9, 11/6, 11/20
* Come to EGU!