**EGU Meeting Agenda**

January 22. 2021

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

[**https://zoom.us/j/95266234904?pwd=UHVhcHhrM0o1bEYxQ2M5Y2xCUmNYZz09**](https://zoom.us/j/95266234904?pwd=UHVhcHhrM0o1bEYxQ2M5Y2xCUmNYZz09)

**Password:** 3ngGr@dz

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| **Officers Present:** | Hannah, Martin, Alyx, Marisa, Josie, Lauren, Leah, Casey, Kelli, Eric |
| **Visitors Present:**  | Nina, Samiha |

**PROPOSED AGENDA:**

1. Opening ~5-minute quiet reading buffer time to review rep reports and co-chair reports
2. Discussion of most pressing or largest topics
3. Plan for spring ([Martin’s new spreadsheet](https://docs.google.com/document/d/15MOPATkCwx-rXnAcD350NYWKa2Vvf54vPc-4pCIMCM4/edit?usp=sharing) of positions for 21-22 AY)
4. Project/committee reports:

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

**Notes from meeting with Shelley ()**

* Meeting date still needs to be determined

**Notes from meeting with Aurelie ()**

**Notes from Council Meeting ()**

* Next council meeting 2/12

**Notes from Department Meeting ()**

* First department meeting is 1/29 (open to all)
* Martin:
	+ Aurelie, Shelley, Hannah, and I all met
		- How would people feel if we gave a day for Aurelie and a day for Shelley to come to EGU to talk to us?
			* In-meeting conversation in Conversation below
	+ I would like to expand EGU reach by contacting the Provost, Vice-Provost, and Dean. I want to establish lines of communication (if possible).

**Discussion items from Reps**

* Secretary (Claire):
	+ Last meeting’s minutes for approval ([12/4](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11n3ZPSa2saS1TkFhITykkoll6kOu5X9cShjH7WJ1fRo/edit?usp=sharing))
		- On this note, I deleted goals from this agenda for space, but last meeting’s agenda would be a great reference for where we left last semester.
	+ All approved minutes can be found on the EGU page [here](https://english.arizona.edu/english-graduate-union).
* First-Year (Josie):
	+ No news.
* EDI (Alyx and Claire):
	+ Update on the Preceptorship situation: after the students involved met with Shelley, they were moved as a group to a new class with a new instructor.
		- Since no EGU members were involved, we cannot say how this process might be streamlined in the future (in response to that question); however, people point out that this sounds like something the WP can help us with or perhaps AIME can advise us on.
	+ Conflict Resolution Language will meet soon as well to finalize work
	+ Alyx will meet with the AIME committee on 1/25
		- Status of the preceptorship/textbook climate survey to be issued for Spring 2021 currently unknown
* WriPACA (Leah, Lauren, Marisa):
	+ General:
		- Next Large Group Meeting is scheduled for 2/2 at 2:00 PM
	+ Bylaws (Leah):
		- Next meeting is scheduled for 2/16 at 2:00 PM (time could change)
	+ Assessment (Marisa):
		- First meeting of the semester was day! We discussed our plans for a mini portfolio assessment, where we’ll be looking at portfolios from fall 2020 to see how a fully-online semester affected student engagement.
	+ Curriculum (Lauren Harvey):
		- Continued work on OER resources (determined more specifically what resource materials we are looking for, what gaps we need to fill)
		- *Students’ Guide* still looking for student writing samples. Get in touch with Kelli if you have any questions or suggestions (today, if at all possible, to allow time for contacting students and getting their completed waiver).
* CW (Hannah): nothin
* EAL (Eric):
* RCTE (Martin):
	+ We met on the 20th, everyone was mostly distracted by the Inauguration. Talked about making fellowships more apparent and how Faculty can better access money for incoming students
	+ Concern over number of incoming students and how it’ll impact Faculty and teaching (for Faculty)
	+ Discussion of Independent Study and how it impacts teaching (for Faculty)
* Lit (Casey): No news--haven’t met yet
* SLAT (Hongni): absent
* GPSC (Kelli): We have not met yet.
* Lit Grad Curriculum (Casey): no news--haven’t met yet
* Undergrad Curriculum (Open):
	+ The question of how soon this needs to be filled is prompted.
* Social Chair (Ruixue): absent

**Projects/Tasks**

* Constitution Revision
	+ This is something I would like to talk more about. There seems to be a need for clearer representation/identity, such as further discussion of name change for EGU, more responsibility for Program Reps, recruitment/spread of information of what EGU actually does and how it benefits our peers.
	+ Aurelie and Shelley are interested in all of these processes, as well as record-keeping, etc. that we have, as the EGU, been discussing all year. Through more conversations with them and each other, we might be able to write more stuff into the constitution regarding relationships in the department, not just our own rules of order.
* Archiving EGU achievements, procedures, members, etc. for future Officers

**Conversation:**

* Martin has updated the positions open for next academic - for the current members, we need to think ahead on tapping/advocating for replacements for these positions
	+ He also had a question on how WriPACA will change (bylaws committee will be gone, etc)
		- Lauren answered that the finalized versions won’t be decided until probably early next fall.
		- Leah confirmed that Assessment & Curriculum are standing committees; proposed Nat’l DAy on Writing as a standing committee; can have up to 6 subcommittees (and who knows what EGU will look like)
	+ By-laws still figuring out EGU position - they meet next February.
* Update on the preceptorship situation: EDI’s officially haven’t talked to or heard anything from WP. The students updated the chairs on their success in switching classes, but they are not sure exactly what happened and how we could make this a streamlined process.
	+ A participant points out the stickiness of the situation and how complicated the relationship between Shelley, Aurelie, and us as employer, teacher, etc.
	+ Aurelie is interested in the spaces we need to collaborate and this is probably the most pressing space. (update from Co-chairs)
* Ideas on hosting Shelley and Aurelie
	+ The idea is generally met well
		- As someone who is new to the program, a participant feels that that would give them personally a lot of context to have them here, where they are talked about a lot. They feel it would connect some dots.
		- Maybe that would provide continuity to others too, even for those who have been here a while.
		- It would also be a bridging event; a chance to work together and build bridges with a token of good will, should it be needed
		- The idea of coming with a specific topic we'd like them to speak on is proposed
	+ Q&A format?
		- a 20-30 minute presentation on a pressing issue (like the options grad students have for reporting discrimination or EGU's role as a mediator) and Q&A sounds good.
	+ Not here the whole time
	+ Suggestion of a “Social idea for new TAs: "Meeting the Department Leaders" and have it be a social event?” through EGU
		- Food in person, games in the meantime
	+ A way to combat latent (explicit) antagonism from WP admin?
		- Remembering power dynamics - we are literally just graduate students that cycle in every year (sometimes without idea of what is happening)
	+ The question posed: should we schedule something afterwards to limit time?
		- Everyone needs to come up with questions
* A note: your student fees are ratioed to the hours you take.

**Questions:**

* Nina’s question: given a .25 FTE for both semesters and was told that “that was just how it worked out” by accountants. (along with fellowship) despite teaching two sections.
	+ Why do other people’s contracts read WP when they are TAing for other programs in the department?
	+ Another student had this happened and was sent a new contract without the language of .25 fte, but she did not for Nina
	+ However, this means that she is getting paid from the Right Size pool and not SBS/income
	+ Surely this is a larger issue; perhaps larger than SBS (if WP admin have these problems too)
	+ Solution for Nina: ask Aurelie? As head she should know and may be able to explain/assure.
* Casey shares their weird encounter (combined section listed as two; late, late NOA)
* This seems much larger, unaccounted, and on different levels to where we might need to find many people to talk to on many levels.

**New Concerns/Homework:**

* Out-reach/Getting people interested in EGU
* Look at Slack
* Determine questions for Shelley and Aurelie

**Going Forward:**

* Continue making clear our value to the university and to make us more visible on campus
* Possible share rationale behind by-laws decisions between the grad student reps
* Constitution Committee: what practice should we have for ad hoc elections/nominations in contingencies where positions are left unexpectedly empty mid semester?
	+ The point is made that right now, we can ad hoc elect people, but with the new interest in EGU, there must be a focus in making a clear and equitable election process to allow those interested into the group.

**More Ways to Get Involved:**

* The EGU Slack can be found here
* [CAJUArizona](https://www.cajuarizona.com/) (on Instagram under this tag)
* Attend Department Meetings
* Attend Open Hour meetings
	+ English & WP Open Meetings
		- Link and times to come