**EGU Meeting Agenda**

March 19, 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 R., Claire, Martin, Leah, Casey, Marisa, Josie, Alyx, Kelli |
| **Visitors Present:**  | Hannah I. |

**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
	1. non-WP TA Application processes -- EGU input requested from the Undergraduate Committee
	2. New GAT Allocation and Faculty Disagreement
3. Plan WP/EGU joint meeting
4. Project/committee reports:

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

**Notes from meeting with Shelley ()**

* Next meeting 4/07

**Notes from meeting with Aurelie ()**

* nothin’

**Notes from Council Meeting ()**

* I pushed this to 2.b.

**Notes from Department Meeting ()**

nothin’

**Hannah:**

* **Remind people to fill out their FAFSA?**
	+ CARES funds for students are being dispersed automatically, as cash payments through Bursar accounts, based on FAFSA filings
		- There are multiple emergency/relief funds/aid for students, and some of them involve applications. For the CARES funds, however, you do not take any action at all to receive-- the university uses your FAFSA to determine whether to disburse funds to you or not. The timeline is unclear and I'm not sure if it is possible to get more information.
		- https://financialaid.arizona.edu/faqs#caresacthighereducationrelieffund
		- Question about last name problem with the social security admin affecting FAFSA filing.
	+ the university deems you eligible and no action, other than filing a FAFSA, is necessary to receive money
	+ not sure if it is too late to file, though it seems dispersal has been ongoing since last May

**Martin:**

* Pushing the WP/EGU meeting back; I will bring up the discussion with WP/Dept Head on 3/23
* Questions for Shelley and Aurelie for 3/23 meeting
	+ 1. Reschedule WP/EGU event
	+ 2. Concerns of in-person training and safety procedures
	+ Any others?

**Discussion items from Reps**

* Secretary (Claire):
	+ Last meeting’s minutes for approval ([3/5](https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/1tZwC1QuPb5qVpzwSs_Al9M-UWR2c9bQobZ4s1xAX5rY/edit))
	+ All approved minutes can be found on the EGU page [here](https://english.arizona.edu/english-graduate-union).
* First-Year (Josie):
	+ In the continuing interest of involving first-years in opportunities to get to know others in the department as well as EGU members…
		- Working on increasing first-year presence on the Arizona EGU Slack
		- Brainstorming a social opportunity for this semester. Last semester’s trivia night was, according to attendees, very fun. I thought so too.
			* Comment any opinions/ideas you have about this idea. 🤗
			* Collaborating with Ruixue on this.
* EDI (Alyx and Claire):
	+ Next AIME meeting will take place on 3/29.
* WriPACA (Leah, Lauren, Marisa):
	+ General:
		- WriPACA sent out bylaws voting policy draft and writing & wellbeing subcommittee proposal for vote, but we have not heard the results yet
		- Next full WriPACA meeting 4/6 @ 2 PM
	+ Bylaws (Leah):
		- Met 3/18 to discuss next steps in revising other sections of the bylaws and review the work of last year’s subcommittee on issues outside of the voting policy
		- Meeting again 3/23 @ 2 PM (and will hopefully have news on whether or not the voting policy draft passed)
	+ Assessment (Marisa)
		- Met today 3/19 to discuss different approaches to scoring student reflection; we found many portfolio assignments prompt students to stay in the present and reflect only on what an artifact taught them; however, our qualtrics survey scores portfolios higher if writing depicts transfer, future-oriented mindset.
		- Will meet again 4/16 @ 11 AM to draft recommendations for WriPACA on how instructors could embed more reflection throughout the semester, as opposed to waiting until the final portfolio to directly discuss reflection.
	+ Curriculum (Lauren Harvey): (Absent)
		- Continuing to work on OER identification and organization
		- Plan now is to get an initial set of resources organized and hopefully pilot with WP instructors within the next several months (fingers crossed!)
* EAL (Eric): absent
* RCTE (Interim, Martin):
	+ I still need to finish the survey, but hopefully it will be sent out mid-April!
* Lit (Casey): No news
* SLAT (Hongni): No news. I Can’t attend today’s meeting. Sorry :(
* GPSC (Kelli):
	+ Graduating this year?
		- email GPSC@email.arizona.edu for a free tassel
		- graduation is “in-person.” No audiences, but sweet camera streaming.
		- Gap and Gowns purchased (new this year) available to rent out. Email if you want to rent one out
	+ Elections
		- Currently no one has applied for ANY positions for GPSC next year? Do we want to put someone in the SBS or Officer positions
		- <https://gpsc.arizona.edu/elections>
	+ Events
		- There’s a Graduate Student Appreciation week coming up. GrabNGo breakfast, zoom painting classes, Grad student awards, etc
		- Financial Literacy Class for Grad Students: <https://gpsc.arizona.edu/financial-literacy> Check out the social media challenge for GrubHub gift card
		- Professional Development workshops: <https://gpsc.arizona.edu/professional-development> Check out the social media challenge for gift card
	+ UArizona Divest
		- a group of students are asking the University of Arizona to Divest from fossil fuels. The investments (66 million dollars) in these companies earns money from investing in oil. See their website for better information
		- They received an unfavorable response letter from The University of Arizona Foundation
		- Sign a letter of support: <https://uarizonadivest.squarespace.com/contact-us>
* Lit Grad Curriculum (Casey): No news! Meeting with Dr. Mason to go over registration for lit sometime in the next week.
* Undergrad Curriculum (Open): non-WP TA application proposed process - EGU feedback requested! (more info at top of agenda)
* Social Chair (Ruixue): planning a social event with Josie for the first-year grad students. We will post or discuss more on Slack.

**Projects/Tasks**

* Constitution Revision
	+ Sorry I truly ghosted on this process… let’s talk today in our working time!

-Hannah

* Conflict Resolution/Retaliation Packet
	+ Alyx, Claire, Kelli
	+ Thank you for the feedback! We will be editing these documents and sending them to external groups (AASA, Disability Resources,) for their feedback as well.
		- We all three struggled to meet with our chosen groups, but we are continuing to remain in contact.

**Conversation:**

* Sylvia Chan from D&I is organizing a discussion on how to support AAPI instructors and students this Tuesday 3/23 at 2 pm. It would be a good idea to invite more folx to attend.
* Proposed new GAT allotment for the future (2-3 years in future, perhaps)
	+ Not a current issue but perhaps something to take tabs on regularly
	+ There is currently a lot of dependence on the programs keeping up GATships, which stresses faculty as they juggle four programs
	+ The proposal likely looks like the one Casey shared with us in November
	+ A concern is how are program rankings connected to survival. This all is a bit dramatic overall, but lots is still to be decided.
	+ JP (the dean of SBS) is looking to cut costs
	+ Andrew Carnie (grad college) is trying to find other options outside of GAT
		- Right now it seems that the program’s solutions is wholly focused on GATships
		- Andrew Carnie wrote a thing called "Doctoral Excellence" that you can read about the "future" Graduate studies across UofA
	+ The department meeting did not present this as a threat to us - this is a concern for faculty now but will possibly trickle down in different ways to us as GATs
	+ The programs are fighting for us and future students, though - take comfort in that.
	+ A question is posed as to whether certain programs are more concerned about survival/growth (such as CW).
		- CW has different metrics of success, but basically no one knows what to think at this point
	+ The concern about this stress falling onto new cohorts is discussed
		- The fact there is no fall cohort could be helpful in alleviating stress
		- The first-year attendants say they do not feel that ripple effect yet, but they also haven’t been to the school officially
* Andrew Monson has been working on non-WP GAT application process
	+ Streamlining and furthering knowledge of these opportunities within each program and crossing them (think ENGL 248B: Fairytale)
	+ Should certain programs have exclusive rights to certain classes? Unknown as of yet.
	+ Hopefully those last-minute calls for applications will stop because of this planning.
	+ Hannah shared the screenshot of the proposed document and clears up some questions about language.
		- The primary criteria right now are:
			* Experience in material
			* Excellence of application materials
				+ General confusion over what exactly that means

An argument for demonstrating ability to fit job description listed rather than experience or general ability in topic.

* + - * + Generally, GATs would have similar abilities for intro courses, which doesn’t make for that much distinction.
				+ Those with the opportunity to apply at a week’s notice then are prioritized rather than those who are “best for the position”
		- The secondary criteria right now are:
			* Opportunities for teaching after graduation
			* Professional development in teaching opportunities
			* DEI goals
	+ There is a concern for how these things are ordered - the secondary concerns seem important alongside the primary, or somehow try to make up for the “quality” based system of the primary criteria.
	+ The concern of students being pressured to disclose financial situations is brought up, though likely (hopefully) it would ask if you have a TAship for the next semester.
	+ A concern over how the calls go out - who sends them, and when?
		- There is supposed to be a plan for making this more regimented and scheduled.
		- We could help the first-year folks by making them more aware of these positions
	+ Adding rejection letters or conferences to the mix - if this is practice for the job market, then explain why?
		- Additionally, we often know the people making the decisions, as they are our advisors, teachers, etc.
		- This practice would also counter the concern of favoritism.
* EMAIL HANNAH WITH FEEDBACK ON THIS -- see current proposed criteria below.
* Reminder that the next 4/2 meeting is cancelled.

**\*\* PROPOSED (NON-WP) TA SELECTION PROCESS CRITERIA**

**“Primary Criteria for Evaluation**

* Academic/professional preparation, background, and appropriate expertise for teaching the class as demonstrated in the app materials
* Excellence and appropriateness of the application materials to the proposed teaching opportunity

**Secondary criteria for evaluation:**

* Demonstrated relevance of teaching this class to the applicant’s professional ambitions and areas of study
* Spreading teaching opportunities around when possible to those students who are currently unfunded or who have not had these opportunities before.
* When possible, providing teaching opportunities to students in English graduate programs
* Serving the Department’s Commitment to Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity

**Questions:**

* none

**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

**More Ways to Get Involved:**

* The EGU Slack can be found here:
	+ **Link (may need updating):** [**https://join.slack.com/t/arizonaegu/shared\_invite/zt-l3b1j8nr-tlhmBZofUm1L9cnGv74REA**](https://join.slack.com/t/arizonaegu/shared_invite/zt-l3b1j8nr-tlhmBZofUm1L9cnGv74REA)
* [CAJUArizona](https://www.cajuarizona.com/) (on Instagram under this tag)
* Attend Department Meetings
* Attend Open Hour meetings
	+ [Link to all Spring 2021 WP meetings](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14AYzPB8ny8tAzkgHRJSJMxfVH1sW5dbegmXlU3k9iss/edit)