

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
THE GRADUATE ENGLISH SOCIETY
WESTERN UNIVERSITY
December 9, 2016**

Call to Order: The second general meeting of the 2016-17 academic year, held in AHB 1B08, was called to order by Caroline Diezyn at 2:30 p.m.

Attendees: Adam Bowes, Courtney Church, Caroline Diezyn, Danica Facca, Jeremy Johnston, Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay, Nahmi Lee, Lori Maddigan, Jackie Reed, Cameron Riddell, Colton Sherman, Tom Stuart, Lisa Templin

Regrets: Visiting Speakers Committee Rep. (David Huebert), Writer-in-Residence Committee Reps. (Sharon Lindenburger and Heather Stephenson),

Proceedings

1. The Agenda was approved without amendments. (Motion: Caroline / Second: Tom)
2. The Minutes of the meeting of September 22, 2016 were approved as circulated. (Motion: Caroline / Second: Jackie)
3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes: NOTHING TO REPORT
4. GES Co-Chairs' Report (Diezyn):
 - a. Caroline suggested that the GES establish regulations specifying whether individuals, not currently members of the GES (i.e. department staff and faculty), should be approved as members of the GES Facebook group.

ACTION ITEM: **Caroline and Adam** to table for a vote at the next meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report (Maddigan):
 - a. Lori presented the revised budget report. Of note:
 - i. Opening balance reported at September 22, 2016 meeting (\$596.28) failed to account for an outstanding payment to the Grad Club for the year-end party (May 2016). Accordingly, the actual opening balance was \$124.07, (\$175.93 less than plan).
 - ii. English Department subsidy increased from \$200 to \$250.
 - iii. \$100 added for Miscellaneous events (like today's coffee & treats in the Grad Lounge).
 - iv. Profit from first book and bake sale: \$943.80 (\$243.80 better than plan).
 - v. Balance as of today: \$1067.87.
 - b. Lori asked members to let her know of any potential plans impacting the budget.

ACTION ITEM: **Danica and Jeremy** to find out when the SOGS subsidy is expected and to confirm if the planned amount (\$300) is accurate.

6. Social Coordinator's Report (Templin):

- a. Lisa reported that over 50 people have confirmed plans to attend the Holiday Party tonight. More faculty are expected to attend this year; this positive outcome is attributed to the work of the social committee, hand delivering invitations to professors.

7. Academic Coordinator's Report (Stuart):

- a. Tom is working with Adam Bowes and the Writer in Residence to host a Gala evening/avant-garde poetry night January 11, 2017.
- b. The speaker series is planned to start in January, 2017. A CFP should be out next week to recruit volunteer speakers. The program offers graduate students an opportunity to talk about their work in a congenial environment, providing experience that can be included in a CV/Resume and helps prepare students for future speaking events, such as the McIntosh Prize.

8. New Business:

- a. No new business items raised.

9. Notice of Motions:

- a. Lisa, seconded by Jackie, moved to approve the following:
Whereas the Ground and the Fury has become a successful weekly event and it involves the consumption of coffee;
Whereas the GES currently does not have a budget line dedicated to this ongoing event;
BIRT the GES allocate \$150 to the Ground and the Fury.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

- b. Lisa, seconded by Jackie, moved to approve the following:
Whereas bylaw 3.6.6 states that the Fundraising and Social Coordinators shall "solicit volunteers from the GES to contribute to projects and events";
Whereas volunteers are needed for a variety of social events throughout the year;
BIRT the GES officially strike a Social Committee to be chaired and appointed by the Fundraising and Social Coordinator(s).

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Caroline declared the meeting adjourned by unanimous consent. (Motion: Caroline / Second: Jackie)
Meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.