

Agenda / **Minutes** for Fall Board Meeting time slot Friday, 16 Sept 10:30 am

Minutes in this font and color

I. Re-introductions and welcome to in-person meeting up: **Many thanks to Joan Reeves, Sheila Byrd, and Leigh Ann Rhea from Sigma Kappa Delta for joining us at the meeting. Present: Catelyn Errington, SASR; Anthony Quigley, FWSR; Brett Iarrobino, SA; Amy Gates, Midwestern Regent, Elfi Gabriel, CO and Diane Steinberg, IPP, who is taking these minutes.**

II. Fall Meeting Tasks in Denver

A. Gathering Materials to share with students about Denver – local eateries, good coffee shops, local sights, hotel information, public transit information. Take snapshots, collect menus, etc. **Students had excellent suggestions and are writing paragraphs to be combined into a post; these are all sent to Katie Mudd. They are also going to look for access to art supplies for Chapter Displays and check out the Tattered Covers branch at Union Station.**

B. Can we have volunteers to write future blogs about Denver to increase interest in the convention? Please volunteer for a topic or discard a topic or dream up your own: **yes, see above note re paragraphs**

1. What's fun about this hotel?
2. Local coffee shops?
3. Good places for lunch or dinner?
4. 16th Street Mall?
5. Union Station?
6. Public transit without fear?
7. The Colorado whatever tourist site, such as the Denver Zoo?

III. What changes are we instituting for Convention 2023 and any questions about them?

. Denver Literary Scene Event Wed at 7 pm

1. Asking three SL's to introduce the three speakers – 1-2 minutes tops, introduction must be written in advance and okayed by Kevin Stemmler. Introduction due Tuesday Jan 17. **Catelyn Errington has volunteered to introduce Nicky Beer and is purchasing her volume of poetry and submitting the receipt with her expense account. Will recruit two more ASR's.**
2. Need Faculty or Alumni or SL Moderator for this event **Will ask a past president such as Glen Brewster**
3. Need more speakers but Kevin is on this. **Tattered Covers had a couple of suggested authors which I have already shared with Kevin: Kali Fajardo-Anstine, author of the novel *Woman of Light* and of the short story collection *Sabrina and Corina*. Also Eleanor Brown, author of *Any Other Family* and *The Weird Sisters*.**

A. Bringing Back the Abecedarian Meeting Wed at 8:15 pm – I plan to be part of this event, but I'd like at least a few others onstage to also take questions. Definitely should have an SL there. **We will recruit an experienced SL and a past president and Elfi will also attend this event. There will definitely be info on how to chair and moderate a session.**

B. *Rectangle* Reading is back to Wed evening – 9:00 pm Carie King will emcee

C. Open Mike I “Hemmed” – this year, we are trying two Open Mike Events (in response to too many readers and not enough time in 2022). This first Open Mike will take place AFTER the *Rectangle* reading and Carie King is asking for a volunteer emcee for it among her *Rectangle* interns. Same space as all other Wed evening events, so a more formal seating arrangement. **There was much support for two Open Mike events, and students will be able to sign up for Open Mike slots inside the App. Perhaps students should only be able to select one Open Mike slot instead of being able to sign up for both nights?**

D. Chapter Advisor Workshop and Breakfast will run 8 am to 10:50 am on Thursday, with both regional break-outs and “topic” break-outs. Looking for Chapter Advisors / Board Members / Past Board Members willing to do a topic breakout.

1. Asking Felicia Steele to do a topic breakout on crafting an induction ceremony that highlights Authors of Color – **I am no longer doing this as Regents is on this task.**

- ~~2. Asking Leigh Dillard as chair of Regents to coordinate this event – I am recruiting a chapter advisor to run this event. Anne Stapleton has been suggested.~~

E. Professional Development Workshops 9-10:50 am. Alumni solicited to do this event and offered honoraria **Some applications have already been received. More are welcome. Applications due Oct 10.**

F. Mini-Session on Thursday before dinner for Research in the Round and Chapter Share. Chapter Share is yet another way for students to be in the program.

G. Author Spotlight Keynote on Thursday at 8:00 pm with authors of *The Toni Morrison Book Club*

H. Bad Poetry on Thursday – not bringing back Dry T Shirt skits at all. Need Bad Poetry Emcee(s) – probably a duo because this event can get complicated: **Will ask student leadership.**

I. Business Meeting / Regional Caucuses running from 11:00 am to 12:50 pm (extra thirty minutes). This squeezes everything else on Friday afternoon a bit later. We will absolutely schedule all the Regional Caucuses close by the Business Meeting. **Stressing that we’d like at least some attention paid to “selling” student leadership opportunities to convention attendees. We discussed renaming Regional Caucuses to Regional Break-Outs as we will not be voting.**

J. Delaying the President’s Reception a bit to help folks be able to be in Brenda’s book signing line.

K. Open Mike II “Unhemmed” after dinner and before the Friday Literary Pub Night. Do student leaders want both events in the same space and to sort of run one after the other? Do student leaders still want to solicit trivia questions sent in by chapters who cannot attend convention? Are you thinking of a Google Form? Survey Monkey? I love the idea, and think that you can also credit chapters for their questions. **Likely to run both events in the same space.**

L. Saturday is very much unchanged from 2022 – three morning break out sessions, a 30 minute break, and then the GALA. **I’m going to put together a blog post on convention awards to try to increase interest in the GALA.**

IV. Very short printed program this year, listing the overall schedule of group events, moderator duties, chair duties, student leadership opportunities, a hotel map, convention paper awards given, list of judges, list of current student leaders, board members, CO staff, in case of emergency contact phone number, paid ads, teaser about 2024 Centennial, info on professional development workshops and roundtables, and a description of what a break out session looks like for new attendees.

V. Convention Tee Shirt – I like the sky blue (darker) rather than the light blue, but what does the committee think? [Link](#) We selected the sky blue design.

VI. New Business: SKD and Elfi planned out their schedule of break outs and meetings. [Janine Utell](#), from MLA, will attend our convention at MLA expense and will do a professional development workshop for us on opportunities that come with an English degree. We've offered her a table at which she can display MLA and ADE (Assoc. Of Depts. Of English) materials. Student Leadership requested a games room. We are thinking about Beverly (room with a big pillar in the middle.) I am reaching out to the National Humanities Alliance about another possible professional development workshop.