

Convention Committee minutes – Fall Board Meeting

19 September 2024

In attendance: Tiffany Nolde, Donna Newsome, Bradley Sides, Nicole Adams, Crystal Dilling, Namon Kent, Matt Hlinak, Chris Lockwood, Katie Mudd, Autumn Koors Foltz, Michaelann Nelson, Kevin Stemmler, Leigh Dillard, Shannin Schroeder

- Book Club update. Collaboration between us, SL, and Service. Focused on titles related to Convention. SLs working in pairs.
 - Book Club kits for banned book titles. Allows student engagement at multiple levels
 - Working template
 - Models for community outreach, encouragement to act
 - For chapters who might not have book clubs
 - Synchronous events (Regents as Zoom hosts)
 - Accessibility
 - Chapters can use full kit or just elements within kit
 - NEHS involved through titles that interest HS (ELA, too)
- Roundtable or Session topics
 - Responses from Partnership (include past internship, alumni), other combined Committees;
 - journals and interns;
 - what to do when the chapter structure crumbles [membership tools, spin positively]—connect to the decline in the discipline;
 - English Ed;
 - funding; [mini station about funding?]
 - One of Ours—who has been published, who has expertise in areas we didn't know about?
 - Coaching others through submitting a roundtable or finding the moderators whom we'll help
- Student Leadership and Professional Development? Should the discipline/chapter struggles go in here instead? No need to resolve today.

- Student Leadership Programming - confirming the things SLs commit to. How do we want to function at Convention, without being overburdened? Keeping a lot of the same things—very effective:
 - All SRs have attended Convention, helpful and informed
 - Student leadership workshop [with breakfast]
 - Trivia as social event
 - Partnering with RITR
 - Social salon fizzles out, and that's okay
 - Potential for programming for former Bad Poetry space (fun, informal)—movie night, reading/book club? Book to movie adaptation space/show movie or conversation about the book
 - Let co-chairs know so we can help and advertise
- Professional Development
 - Adjustment: Thursday, 9:30-10:45 and then a second round against RITR
 - Add value for alumni and faculty as well
 - Selecting alumni for these sessions rather than inviting them to apply
 - Gathering topics, asking for feedback (journalists, for example, can get left out)—editing, legal profession, tech/prof writing, education, PR, marketing (overlap in many of these areas)
 - E.g., Number of alum own bookstores
 - Involvement after graduation, and staying engaged with your home chapter
 - Returning to the Honorary Member list and the Conv theme has made us go back and think “who are our alumni”; expanding to include former chapter advisors and Board members

New Business

- Roundtable forum/new ways to find participants/coaching through how to submit
 - Small chapters with a student or two who want to participate.
 - Discord? Like the alumni Discord.
- New idea for a Conv travel grant

- Considering Regents' equity scholarships
- Call for apps; lottery; covering registration and hotel for the student
 - Reimbursement after is difficult, still
 - Must be a presenter
 - Don't want to put a burden on us
 - Return to idea; still issues—grad students aren't Pell eligible (will address them next year?)
 - NEHS version includes sponsor (“oversee kids”)
 - Five to start, might not cover everything, but it helps—can benefit up to three additional attendees in their room.
 - Looking to approach LULAC, etc. so that we can get additional travel grants
 - Up to \$1500
 - Regional spread? Pay for airfare in advance?
 - The motion to approve the idea of the Travel Grants, with the motion going forward to the Board, carries
- No additional new business