

Service and Partnerships Meeting

4-2-24

Committee Members: Kaine Ezell, Kassia Krone, Kaitlynn Sass, Kevin Stemmler, Chris Lockwood, Jessica McCole, Jeannine Szostak, Rachel Harvey, Zoe Talbot, John Pruitt, Donna Newsome

MLA proposal update: We requested 1500 dollars for an MLA internship. Matt requested we get reciprocity from MLA. They offered us three things: Maps Leadership Institute representation at the end of June, at table for us at MLA convention, a panel at Sigma Tau Delta convention about student research manned by an MLA representative.

Library of Congress update: they have internships for high school students and adults. We can not have a priority candidate or a guaranteed spot due to federal rules. They agreed to send over applications, and they want to see how much interest is out there from NEHS. Students can get stipends to intern at the library of congress. Students must be U.S. citizens or VISA holders. There is an archival project that wants local interns. Felicia sent these chapters the appropriate information about this. Students could work with exhibitions department
Action Item: We will follow up on the Washington Institute with Matt.

Kevin suggested we partner with the museums in Pittsburg. There are several wonderful options that might give our members our discounts during the conference.

LULAC Update: They want to work with us. We need to wait for written confirmation. They are willing to work with students, faculty, and graduate students. They would be willing to work with us on classroom library grants provided it allows for Hispanic Heritage books. There is scope for growth long term. They are big players, and we can leverage this partnership for other partnerships. They see this partnership as being long term.

Charge updates:

Should the service and partnerships committee be two committees as it has been in the past? Several people felt that it could be divided into two committees because this committee's responsibilities have grown significantly over the past few years in the area of partnerships. The service component has been overshadowed, and needs its own space to shine. These have been two separate committees in the past, and it might be a good time to return to that model. Should student leaders take a more central role on this committee? There could be person from the board (Chris and Katie were suggested) and a student co-chair.

Motion: Kassia motions that the service and partnership committee be divided into two separate committees moving forward with the service committee being co-chaired by a person from the central office and a student leader.

Kevin seconds the motion.

It was a unanimous decision to move the motion forward.

New Business:

Build a Bear Foundation partnered with NEHS to help fund a literacy program in town. Katie and Chris discussed the possibility of having NEHS members getting more involved with the program.

The Smithsonian scholarship had 14 applications. We plan to scholarship a teacher to attend this workshop.

The Harvard Crimson Editorial Board asked for money, but gave us an internship instead for NEHS students. The board is made up of former NEHS students.

Double Good has offered to partner with us so that NEHS students could fundraise by selling their popcorn. The popcorn fundraiser went well at some schools this year. For example, at one school two students raised \$500 dollars in 4 days time. There is no set up fee for the chapters. Chapters get 15% of what they sell. They will ship anywhere in the country. Everything is purchased through an app. It is very straight forward. It is worth it to do this with Sigma Tau Delta chapters? Is it possible for them to add literary puns? If we become a significant partner we will get more benefits.

Jeannine recommended her friend's cotton candy business as another potential partner for fundraising.

We've brought in several writers from Grey Wolf Press. Could we work with them in the future to sponsor an award, provide an internship, provide books to students, or something else? Diane and Felicia have talked to them in the past, but maybe this is something we should revisit. It is our social obligation to forge partnerships with independent presses, especially since some are going out of business. Can we talk to Carl Phillips about brokering a meeting with his editor? Would they be willing to create a Sigma Tau Delta anthology?

Sigma Kappa Delta will be celebrating 30 years soon. We could launch the 30th year celebration at the Pittsburg convention.

NCTE may be coming to us and asking for assistance in judging the papers. They are expecting 9X the amount of applicants this year.

Poetry out Loud may be able to partner with us if we are willing to provide them with judges from our organization.

Poetry.org has resources for educators. We could potentially partner with them as well. Perhaps they will sponsor a competition for students.

Our convention is the training ground for the future literary world. We need to see ourselves that way and be willing to sell ourselves as such to these potential partners.

Every partner that we have should be offering a workshop at our convention or offering a webinar to students. We could record these sessions and put them on our website.

Zoe has collected data for 100 for 100. It has been difficult to communicate with individual chapters and chapter advisors to promote the event. Can this go into the annual report so we can collect data from other chapters? Can we tweet this out from central? Can we make it a contest and make announce this at the next convention? These should be evaluated by impact of project. Can we separate this out so that smaller chapters are not competing with larger chapters? There are hashtags available for chapters to promote their projects. There's a way to put this in the app. We can feature this on our website.

Shout out to the central office for advertising for all of these student activities and internships. We have record amount of students applying for these positions and scholarships.

Action Steps:

Chris and Kevin will follow up with the Smithsonian.

Chris and Katie will continue talks with Build a Bear.

Chris and Kevin agreed to talk to Grey Wolf Press.

Chris and Kevin are working on a writing award from LaMDA.

Zoe and Felicia will work on a press kit for the 100 for 100.

Kevin agreed to reach out to Poetry out Loud.