

LIS Alumni Board – meeting minutes

April 14, 2015

The LIS Alumni Board meeting was called to order at 6:29 p.m., in the Information Commons in the Columbus School of Law building. In attendance were: Ana Elisa de Campos Salles (presiding); Katherine Stinson; Mark Brzozowski; Liz Greeley; Elizabeth Mariani; Jean Lee; Bill Kules; Katie Kane; and Kathy Kelly.

Review of Previous Minutes

Katherine Stinson moved to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2015 meeting with some edits. Mark Brzozowski seconded. Motion passed.

Accreditation Updates

--With Bill regarding the overall process

Bill Kules said he last met with us in early March, and that LIS has collected feedback on the draft presentation since then. The final draft plan for the program presentation has been submitted to the ALA Committee on Accreditation (COA). He said it shows in detail how LIS goes about planning for the accreditation review, e.g. how committees are structured, membership of each, various constituent groups, and the timeline of what we've done to this point and what we will do through July of next year. LIS will have a conference call with ALA COA, and get detailed feedback on the plan. LIS will then take that feedback when writing the first draft of the Program Presentation, get feedback from constituents, write a second draft, have another public forum (also webcast) and online feedback forms, revise again, and in December submit a draft of the program presentation to the ALA COA again, to which they will provide more feedback. This process is every seven years. A lot of time is spent collecting and analyzing data and getting feedback, so it's hard to make major programmatic changes while it's going on. Two key things are important. The first is that systematic planning and assessment is an ongoing process in which you analyze data, make decisions, and then assess things again. The other thing that's important is student learning outcomes and outcomes assessment, so we can become more intentional about how we articulate what is important to learn from the curriculum; and then to assess how well they are learning, to determine our strengths and weaknesses which can be evaluated. So coming up in June we'll have the first draft of the plan.

The other part of the plan is a list of all sources of evidence we will use to prove we are meeting the standards. Bill said what ALA wants to see is that programs are meeting the standards, but also that they use this as a formative process to help improve the programs. The Program Presentation we create needs to look back, look at the present, and look forward in addressing our meeting the standards. The next public forum will be in September 2015. The ALA COA site visit be April 3-5, 2016; they will meet with Alumni on Sunday, April 3.

--With Katie Kane regarding the Capstone Review Committee

Bill thanked Katie Kane for what she's been doing; she is the alumni representative on the Capstone Review Committee. Katie gave an overview of what the committee has been doing for the past several months. They started meeting a few months ago and are reviewing the comprehensive exam process. They are looking at what other LIS programs are doing, and what other units in CUA Arts and Sciences are doing for their comprehensive exams. They're looking at the failure rates and reasons for them, and ways students are prepared for comps, and will be making recommendations to the LIS Faculty meeting in May. Katie said Bill would be the person who could answer whether Capstone was an ALA requirement [Bill later reported to the Board that it is not; that many LIS programs have a capstone, but

not all; and that the capstone experience varies, e.g. comps like ours, a portfolio, or a thesis, etc.].

Katie mentioned the committee could take comments from alumni about the value of comps. Ana Elisa suggested the Capstone recommendation could be some options tailored to the professional interests of the student. Mark Brzozowski suggested that there could be a mentorship with a professor with an outcome of publishing. Liz Greeley suggested that question selection be examined, so questions are not too similar. Katie reiterated that she was hearing concerns about tailoring, questions, and format which she would take back to the Committee. Kathy Kelly suggested there be a greater selection of questions, with some representing the core courses, and some representing areas of specialization. Katie said there aren't a lot of programs like our program in Arts & Sciences, which makes it hard to compare them. Katie said Bill and others involved in the assessment process have data covering the current format of comps and the previous format. Elizabeth Mariani suggested there could be a preparation session with the faculty. The goal is to finalize recommendations for the faculty meeting in May, so input should be sent to her by then. Her email is katherine.g.kane[at]gmail.com.

Webpage Updates

Kathy Kelly noted that the approved February minutes and some March updates to LIS Alumni News were posted on the LIS Alumni web site. She noted that Ross Taylor had created a webpage dedicated to the February mentoring event, which contained a news brief, photos, and a link to the video of the event. Ana Elisa posted info about this year's lecture on the Stone Lecture page, including a means to RSVP. Elizabeth Mariani will look into getting Kathy back on the LIS Alumni Board email list.

Old Business

Update on the Von Dran Award

Carter emailed Ana Elisa and Kathy to say that he received the Von Dran plaque. Liz Greeley will introduce the recipient of the Von Dran Award at the Stone Lecture, and present the award.

Update on preparations for the Stone Lecture, Friday, April 24

Ana Elisa said we were successful in getting GSA lecture funds for the Stone Lecture, which is slated for Friday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m., room 204 in the CUA Law School, featuring speaker Linda Ueki Absher. Emily Wagner will give us \$200 from GSA as a stipend for the speaker, and some money for refreshments. Emily is speaking with Aramark about AGLISS paying for the wine, beer, and bartender. Ana Elisa said we'll go with Mark's suggestion for using Whole Foods for the food. Ana Elisa will send us the details about the food and prices. Ana Elisa needs someone to get the food from the P Street Whole Foods. Mark volunteered to go with Carter to help pick up the food. The pledge cards are prepared for donations to the Stone Scholarship Fund; Elizabeth will pick them up, as well as the programs. Ana Elisa asked the Alumni Office to see if they can print the program. Ana Elisa will double check with Margaret Pooley about whether LIS has asked for relaxed parking. Elizabeth will look into computer setup for the lecture, as well as the videorecording of the event. Jean Lee will help at the registration table with signing in, programs, and program distribution. Collecting emails will be the start of our developing a mailing list. Ana Elisa will make sure Mark has Emily Wagner's phone number, in terms of logistics related to paying for the food. Ana Elisa will do the opening remarks; the Von Dran award will be presented; then Ana Elisa will introduce the speaker; the speaker delivers the talk; then the Past President gives the closing remarks. Mark suggested we invite staff from the CUA Alumni Office.

Update on Call for Nominations for Alumni Board – May

Ana Elisa will draft an email for a call for nominations for Vice-President/President/Past President

track which she'll share with us. We will post the call for nominations on the LIS Student list, LIS Alumni list, and HIT list. Ana Elisa will put out the message to these lists in early May.

New Business

ALISE Cooperative Reunion at ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco

Bill Kules announced that Dave Stokes asked him to remind us that we've purchased a cooperative reunion table from ALISE at the upcoming ALA conference in San Francisco, as we did last year. Bill asked us to help get the word out. Ana Elisa thanked Bill for the Department doing this again. Bill said we're doing a shared LIS program booth in the exhibit hall, in which usually 10 or 15 programs participate and get time slots. Bill noted volunteers would be welcome, and that Dave Shumaker will send out info when it's available. The Cooperative Reunion is Sunday June 28th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Mark Hopkins San Francisco – Intercontinental Heritage Hotel.

Next Meeting

The Board agreed that the next Board meeting will tentatively be on Tuesday, May 12, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. in the Brookland Pint or other venue to be determined. Mark moved to adjourn. Katherine seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.