

LIS Alumni Board – meeting minutes

June 9, 2015

The LIS Alumni Board meeting was called to order at 6:31 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; Carter Rawson; Elizabeth Mariani; Ingrid Hsieh-Yee; Jean Lee; and Kathy Kelly.

Review of Previous Minutes

Mark Brzozowski moved to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2015 meeting with some edits. Carter Rawson seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business

Accreditation Updates

--With Ingrid regarding the overall process

Ingrid Hsieh-Yee said Dr. Choi will be the future liaison for the Alumni Board. Ingrid updated the Board on the overall accreditation process – a review every 7 years, with a self-study completed. The Department submitted the plan on April 5, and met April 18 – Dave Shumaker, Bill Kules, and Ingrid were on a conference call with ALA COA. After that, they shared written notes about the call with the faculty. ALA COA sent us a letter in late April about two issues they would like us to address: faculty hiring and how enrollment decline has affected our ability to achieve our program objectives and mission. The Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies (2008) cover 6 standards (http://www.ala.org/accreditedprograms/sites/ala.org/accreditedprograms/files/content/standards/standards_2008.pdf), and the LIS Department has formed 6 standards committees to address the standards. The co-chairs for each standard communicate with committee members to get input and help prepare a report. Standard 1 is Mission, Goals and Objectives; Standard 2 is Curriculum; Standard 3 is Faculty; Standard 4 is Students; Standard 5 is Administration and Finance; Standard 6 is Physical Resources and Facilities. The timeline is that by June 30 each team will generate a draft report; that's when we see all 6 reports together. The Steering Committee is now Dr. Convey, Dr. Choi, Dave Shumaker, and Ingrid, who is the Chair. The Steering Committee will provide feedback by the end of July to all of the committees. Then Ingrid and another editor will put it in one document, version 1 of the Self-Study and share it with our stakeholders on the LIS web site. There will be a public forum in early September to share the accreditation process, the self-study draft, and opportunities for participation with stakeholders. The second version of the Self-Study will be done in November. Then it will be submitted to the External Review Panel (ERP) by December 6 for comments. The ERP will send us questions and issues they would like us to address in the final report. The accreditation teams has the month of January to revise the whole thing. By the end of January LIS produces a final version and sends it to a printer. Then they send it to ALA COA, and will have electronic versions for them to download. The ERP can range from 4-6 people; the one for CUA's site visit will have 4 members because of the small size of our program. Ingrid noted that she had served on an ERP in 2014 and found that experience helpful. ERP will read the self-study, visit CUA, and review LIS reports and data. ALA COA will read the self-study and also looks at previous biennial reports. The 12 members of ALA COA have the biggest say on the accreditation outcome. The ERP will visit CUA from April 3 to 6, 2016, and they will give LIS an oral report about their impressions and findings before they leave. A few weeks later they will provide a written report, to which LIS can respond. We will learn the outcome of our accreditation effort at the June meeting of the COA during the ALA Annual Conference.

Ingrid mentioned Dr. Convey was Provost for CUA from 1997-2007, and is very experienced as an administrator, and with accreditation. He is still a full professor in the Department of Education. He has helped many units in the University go through the accreditation process. She noted we are lucky he is going to help us, since after Bill Kules takes his leave, LIS will go down to 7 faculty members. He will help manage many day to day issues for LIS. Mark Brzozowski mentioned the program's strong adjuncts, and Ingrid mentioned the strengths of adjuncts have been emphasized in past accreditation reviews and we will do the same during the current self-study. Ingrid stressed that LIS really needs its alumni to show up in force at the April 3 meeting share their experience with the ERP. Board members stressed the importance of promoting the April 3 meeting in advance. The first public document will be released after Labor Day, and LIS will have an info session about the first version of their report at LIS. The Board agreed a session to bring alumni home to meet the new leaders of LIS in early fall would be very helpful, possibly at a downtown location. In February 2016, LIS will submit the final version of the self-study to the ERP and share it with all stakeholders. Ingrid encouraged ongoing comments about the program to the LIS Department from all stakeholders as part of the broad-based planning process. Dr. Convey and the faculty all recognize the importance of regular communication with stakeholders, and will continue to use meetings, surveys and other means to ensure the program addresses the needs of stakeholders.

--With Ana Elisa regarding the first Standard 1 (Mission, Goals, Objectives) Committee Meeting held Wednesday June 3rd

Ana Elisa de Campos Salles reported on the meeting from last Wednesday on Standard 1. The committee is starting out with an outline on what makes the LIS program unique. The meeting consisted of Dr. John Convey, David Mao, Dr. Choi, Dr. Hsieh, Dr. James J. Greene, and Ana Elisa. It was a brainstorming session on how to put the word out about the program, recruitment, and issues. They are going to take into consideration our suggestions and flesh them out. Committee members will review a report the committee is doing.

Webpage Updates

Kathy Kelly noted that the approved March minutes and some May updates to LIS Alumni News were posted on the LIS Alumni web site. She mentioned that Margaret Pooley sometimes forwards her some alumni updates. She also noted that the Von Dran Award page had been updated to include James King's name as this year's award winner.

Happy Hour Debriefing

A LIS happy hour organized by the LIS Alumni Board was held at Smith Public Trust on Friday, May 8. There were about 15-20 people, and it was a nice venue and mix of people, and Ana Elisa picked up the tab. It was a test run for a happy hour to toast the graduates and encourage them to keep in touch. Next year there may be a budget from the Association of Graduate Library and Information Science Students (AGLISS) for this event.

Commencement Debriefing

Commencement was on May 16, and it went well. We did not have pins this year. Katherine Stinson, Carter Rawson, and Liz Greeley attended. The Department gave out CUA LIS key chains. Mark Brzozowski suggested that whenever we re-engage alumni, we can have pins available. The LIS ceremony was in the Atrium of the Law School. Students enjoyed it, and there was a nice buffet.

New Business

ALISE Cooperative Reunion at ALA Annual Conference: Sunday, June 28

Ana Elisa asked if anyone else is going to the ALA conference. There will be an Association of Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) Cooperative Reunion at the American Library Association (ALA) conference. It's in a nice hotel reception room with nice spread of food, and tables representing different universities. LIS purchased a table. The reunion is Sunday June 28th at 5:30-7:30 p.m. In the Mark Hopkins San Francisco – Intercontinental Heritage Hotel.

Nominations for Board of Alumni

Ana Elisa did not receive any replies to her promotion on the listserv of the Vice-President/President-Elect position availability. Ana Elisa, with the Board's approval, will reach out to specific people to help fill the position.

Mailing list update

Ana Elisa asked Elizabeth Mariani about email addresses we've been collecting at mentoring events and the Stone Lecture. She asked if we can we sign these people up for a distribution list. Elizabeth asked if we want to create a new list. Ana Elisa will compile a spreadsheet of people who said they want to receive news from LIS. She'll check to see if they're signed up for slisalum list already or not. Elizabeth will put in a ticket to get a list of the current subscribers of the slisalum list. When Ana Elisa is Past President, she wants to work on our mailing list issues, and an online depository of documents useful to the Board.

Next Meeting

The Board agreed that the next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the Information Commons. Mark moved to adjourn. Katherine seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.