LIS Alumni Board – meeting minutes

September 9, 2014

The LIS Alumni Board meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m., in the Information Commons/LIS Suite in the Columbus School of Law building. In attendance were: Chris Corrigan (presiding); Rob Schneider; Mark Brzozowski; David Stokes (new Recruiting Coordinator for LIS); Bill Kules; Elizabeth Greeley; Ana Elisa de Campos Salles; Jean Lee; and Kathy Kelly.

Chris Corrigan went over what we do as a Board, including educational programming (Stone Lecture in the spring); he noted the lecture is also a benefit for the Stone Scholarship Fund, which provides funds as needed for students in need of help with tuition costs. He noted we also do an annual holiday party, a Mentoring program, and a picnic during new student orientation weekend. He mentioned we also work with the Department on the accreditation process, promoting town halls and other outreach methods, and that a lot of what we do depends on our relationship with the Association of Graduate Library and Information Science Students (AGLISS), which sponsors our programs with financial support.

Review of Previous Minutes

Rob Schneider moved to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2014 meeting. Chris Corrigan seconded. Motion passed.

Webpage/Email Updates

Kathy Kelly noted that the approved May 2014 meeting minutes had been posted on the Alumni Board Documents page (http://slis.cua.edu/alumni/Documents.cfm); and that August updates had been the most recent updates posted on an August Alumni News page (http://cuaslis.org/wp/august-2014-alumni-news/) linked from the LIS web site's News and Events page (http://cuaslis.org/wp/category/news/alumni/). She mentioned that the CUA Alumni Relations Office was lately sending her LIS Alumni news for our use, and that she was sending the Alumni Relations Office our news for their use in their CUA Class Notes. Kathy also noted she was sometimes having trouble seeing in her email the announcements of news she had submitted to the slisalum listsery; it was explained that the way the listsery works, the person posting news on it doesn't see the listsery email announcement in their own email account. Alternatives for confirming one's submissions are posted included subscribing to the listsery from a different email account from which one posts news to the listsery, or asking someone else to confirm they've seen the postings on the listsery.

Update from Dr. Kules

LIS Associate Professor and Chair Bill Kules had 4 items to share.

- 1. He thanked the Board for organizing the picnic part of the Student Orientation weekend. He liked seeing the cafe packed with students, faculty, adjuncts, and alumni. He said it made people feel really welcome. He thanked everyone also for responding to the Alumni Survey, and said they had many responses, and are still digesting the data.
- 2. There are 2 new staff; David Stokes is the new Recruiting Coordinator, this is his second day, he already has a to-do list, and he may come back to the Alumni Board again with ideas on how the Department can work with alumni. Larry Roeder, an alumnus from the 1970s, will be the accreditation data manager. He has had an interesting career with the State Department and in international negotiations and crisis management. It's a two-year position.

- 3. Accreditation updates: We have accreditation committees for each standard; editors are starting to communicate with various committee groups, will pull together draft chapters of the report over the fall and spring. Bill wants to do an alumni meeting or Town Hall meeting in the fall to give everyone an in-depth briefing on the process, where we stand, and an update on the standards. The other thing we'll be doing is to put together the public facing accreditation page to give updates on status; as drafts come out, we'll publish them. Part of the purpose of the Town Hall is to give everyone a chance to provide feedback and input. We want to make sure in our planning processes that we're engaging with our stakeholders, who can see what we're doing and comment on it. Liz Greeley asked if there is a plan to stream it online so alumni elsewhere can see it. Bill said we could set up an AdobeConnect meeting. Chris Corrigan asked if the committees will convene before the Town Hall; Bill said that's up to the committees, and he suspects they will do so. Chris also asked if Bill could report on the Alumni Survey next month and Bill said he would. Liz also asked how far into the accreditation process we are. Bill said (working backwards): July 2016 is the official meeting where they reaffirm status; spring of 2016 is the ALA site visit, involving meetings with stakeholders; around October or November 2015, we submit a complete draft of the program presentation for comment; and we'll have drafts available for comment about 6 months before that. He noted we already have committees and a plan for data to be collected. Jean Lee asked about Board involvement; Bill noted we can help with outreach.
- 4. Bill noted that one thing that came up in terms of the Stone Lecture is how we coordinate between himself, the Department, and the Board, including in invitations to speakers, in case of potential conflicts. Dave Shumaker has been helping Ana Elisa with names of potential speakers for the 2015 lecture. Bill indicated we need to coordinate on events and dates pretty closely. When Board members asked about sources of information on planned Department events, Bill mentioned we're trying to move note of events onto the LIS website. Rob Schneider asked how far into the future the academic calendar is planned out; Bill said it's planned out for several years, but some things like comps are not set by the academic calendar, but by the individual academic units.

Old Business

Board Officers for 2014-2015

Chris Corrigan mentioned that during the last Board meeting we decided to reach out to Liz Greeley, who has since agreed to serve as Vice-President/President Elect for the new Board year. We also nominated people to continue serving in their positions. Kathy Kelly explained she had noticed the Constitution/By-Laws had not yet been edited to reflect a 2010 SLIS alumni vote which impacts length and number of terms for certain officer roles. The Board discussed the language of the changes passed by alumni vote in 2010, implications of the time that had passed since the vote, and when and how to implement changes to the Constitution/By-Laws document. Rob Schneider moved that the language in the Constitution/By-Laws document be updated to include all revisions up to date, and that beginning with the Board year starting November 1, 2014, all officers and directors (except President, Vice-President, and Immediate Past President) will begin to serve a 2-year term and may be re-electable for another 2-year term after which their term concludes. Chris Corrigan seconded. Motion passed.

Picnic-Recap

Chris Corrigan noted Bill Kules had re-capped the LIS picnic during his report.

SAA Recap

Chris Corrigan reported that the CUA LIS reception at the Society of American Archivists (SAA) conference during August in Washington, D.C. had gone well. Kathy Kelly noted the reception was mentioned in August LIS Alumni News on the LIS web site.

Mentoring Program for the Fall

Chris Corrigan said we had done a mentoring event on non-traditional federal library jobs, then one which was planned to feature both Human Resources managers and library hiring managers to go over how you have to stand out to both (though we were not able to get the HR managers), and that we were going to do one for Health Information Technology (HIT) careers this fall, but that will have to be moved to the future. He said Katie Rodda, new AGLISS President, told him that a resume review/career information session night where students could talk with professionals from their chosen areas of librarianship would be of interest. Chris asked if we want to do something like that this time around, instead of a panel. Ana Elisa de Campos Salles suggested we pick a week night so it conflicts with least numbers of classes. Bill suggested we could also set the time so it overlaps with end of some classes and start of others. Mark Brzozowski suggested we could ask students to register for the event. Ana Elisa said we could help get alumni to review the resumes. Liz Greeley noted the career/professional events held by AGLISS were well-attended by students. Bill suggested AGLISS could help pull in CUA Career Services, and alumni could help pull in content people to help with resume reviews. Kathy Kelly suggested some sort of speed mentoring could be featured, and the Board discussed Dave Shumaker's experience with Knowledge Cafes, where people can mentor on specific topics. Chris suggested that the Mentoring Committee convene to hash out ideas and report back to the Board. Ana Elisa suggested the persons involved in mentoring try to discuss the issues initially over email. Chris will bring the ideas to Katie Rodda, and later on there will be an in-person meeting. Bill suggested it may be good to coordinate with some of the other student groups (e.g. ASIST, SAA, SLA).

New Business

Holiday Party

Ana Elisa de Campos Salles raised the topic of accessibility as a factor in choosing the holiday party location, and asked if anyone has found any instances where it became an issue in recent years, since she liked Bistro D'oc, and would be open to having it there again. Chris Corrigan noted he thought it important to have it in an accessible location whether accessibility has come up as an issue or not. He also noted that accessibility had been an accreditation issue. Last year it was in the Pryz Great Room C. We had tried to get the Atrium of the Law School, but didn't get it. The Board discussed a few ideas for venues, and Liz Greeley and Ana Elise de Campos Salles will check into venues and get back to the Board.

Other New Business

Ana Elisa de Campos Salles noted we had talked about reserving Great Room C for the Stone Lecture. Chris Corrigan said he'd follow up with Louise Gray about Great Rooms C, B, and Caldwell Hall Auditorium for March 6, 13, 20, and 27, and April 10, 17, or 24. Kathy suggested the Board discuss potential Stone Lecture speakers. Ana Elisa noted Dave Shumaker suggested someone from Google. Ana Elisa also suggested some outside-the-box people from the library blogging world. Liz Greeley likes idea of someone from Google or library blogging world because it shows versatility of our degree.

Next Meeting

The Board agreed that the next Board meeting will be on October 14, 2014, 6:30 p.m. in the Information Commons. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.