Members present: Allison Faris (AF), Phillip Griffith (PG, by proxy), Amy Martin (AM), Iziar de Miguel (IdM), Thomas Muzart (TM)

TM calls meeting to order at 2:13pm

I. Approval of Agenda
AM motions to approve the agenda with the emendation of new business b. Program Internal Evaluation, AF seconds; passes unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes from Sept. 12, 2014
TM motions to approve the minutes from Sept. 12, 2014, AF seconds; passes unanimously.

III. Old Business
a. Course Evaluation Form
AM notes that she hasn’t heard from Mariana about this item. AM motions to table this item until a student proposes specific changes, AF seconds; passes unanimously.

b. Conference Committee Election Results
AM remarks that the winners were announced via email, and AF and TM were the winners. The conference will be on Friday, Feb. 13, 2015. AM motions to ratify the members of the committee, TM seconds; passes unanimously.

III. New Business
a. Graduate Student Experience Survey Award
AM reports that:
- we won $2000 either by having one of the highest participation rates, or by having one of the best increases in participation over last year;
- the money must be spent this academic year (ends June 30th);
- the use of money will likely work on a reimbursement scheme, like all GC funds;
- the money may not pay for alcohol, but she will follow up with Carole (the APO);
- the DSC might be able to hold this money, in which case the money could carry over to next year. The DSC leadership has to clarify the mechanism for doing this;

IdM enters at 2:25pm
TM asks how much of this money could be used for the 2015 conference.
AM asks AF what the budget was for last year’s conference.
AF notes that it was $1750 total ($1000 Henri Peyre, $750 DSC).
AM responds to TM that if Henri Peyre chooses not to contribute to the conference, the conference committee should then be able to use this award money to make up the difference.

b.  Program Internal Evaluation
AM reports that Dr. Przybos (the Executive Officer) has requested that students draft an internal review. This is a demand of the Provost’s Office. She suggested the various areas of professional development.
AF notes that Chris Brandon and she were talking about workshops about publication, for example.
TM notes that we should have workshops during the early years.
IdM notes that mentoring with first article publications would be welcome and useful.
AM reminds students that the GC has a Career Planning and Professional Development office, which will shortly be hiring a supervisor for a teaching center, and which aspires to also host a writing center (this was all part of the strategic plan that the GC put together a few years ago).
TM asks if we are being asked to review something that doesn’t exist yet.
AM responds that we’ve had professional development events, they’re just few and far between.
TM suggests that we should definitely have students involved in this evaluation; we should send an email on the listserv to find interested parties.
AM will email EO, responding that students agree that this is a good subject, and we will include in our draft survey questions about one-on-one work with advisors as well as workshops, etc.

IV.  Reports
a.  Student Workshop Committee -
AM reports that there are only 4 members on the goal setting blog, and that we would love more!

b.  Conference Committee
AF reports that things are going well. Todd Reiser from University of Pittsburgh will be the keynote speaker. The CFP is on Fabula and other sites for calls. Word of mouth has been good.
She has contacted the Center for Humanities (haven’t heard back), QUNY (haven’t heard back), CLAGS (said they have no money, but would be willing to do advertisement). Marguerite Van Cook has agreed to design the poster.
TM notes that the only real problem right now is having the Segal Theatre only until 4:30pm.
AF wonders if it would be a problem to have the key note in the lounge right before the reception.
AM notes that we have had many speakers in the lounge, so this seems like a good idea.
IdM leaves at 2:54pm

c. **Ad-hoc Committee for French Students’ Lounge Beautification**
   From PG (via email): “lounge beautification: Marguerite should have the prints to us this week and we can have the frames on the wall by end of next week (hopefully).”


d. **Graduate Council Representative**
   From PG (via email): “grad council: not too much happened at the last meeting. the GC is moving ahead with plans to purchase land and build new student housing in LIC. there are plans to drop the application fee for holders of other CUNY degrees (we have the highest app fee of any NYC institution). dropping the fee for CUNY degree holders would incentivize and aid CUNY undergrad and MA students in applying to the GC. and the 9th floor build-out, pending a decision from the city's landmarks commission, could begin as soon as february!”

e. **DSC Representative**
   AF reports that the BDS resolution didn’t pass, 31 votes for, but 39 votes were need for a quorate majority. There was a long debate.
   AF reports that email accounts will be changing, starting in Dec. of this year, the domain of the email will change to @gradcenter.cuny.edu. There will be forwarding until June 2015. Two cohorts from now, the students will have their address as Firstname.Lastname##@gradcenter.cuny.edu.
   AM notes that we will have access to Microsoft Office 365 once the email change happens.

V. **Announcements**
   AM: Ali Nematohlly is speaking tomorrow night as part of the Henri Peyre Food Series.

VI. **Adjournment**
   TM motions to adjourn, AF seconds; passes unanimously.
   The meeting ends at 3:06pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy Martin.