Comparative Literature Graduate Association

Meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2015

155 Hodges

Start Time: 4:20

Attendees: Kristina Gibby, Amy Catania, Thana Mohammed Al-Shakhs, Guillermo Severiche, Agnès Dengreville, Ana Ciamparello, Vida Owusu-Boateng, Mulin (Lily) Wang, Stacey Stingle, Jingyuan Liu, Lázara Bolton, Ben Howland, José (Nano) Rojas, Samantha Belmont, Pengyi Huang, Manhua Li, Dr. Adelaide Russo

Old Business:

* Review our multilingual conference idea.

New Business:

* Election of Officers
* Presentation from IWL participants, Kristina and Manhua
* Good of the order

**Proceedings:**

1. Pengyi nominated Guillermo for President. Amy seconded the nomination. Guillermo was unanimously approved.

2. Amy nominated Nano for Vice-President, and Kristina seconded the nomination. Nano was unanimously approved.

3. Guillermo suggested that Amy remain the Secretary and that Pengyi remain the Treasurer. This suggestion was unanimously approved.

4. Pengyi nominated Agnès for the Ambassador of Social and Cultural events. Amy suggested sharing the position with Manhua, as Agnès will be leaving in December. Both Agnès and Manhua were unanimously approved.

5. Samantha explained about her class project building a website and offered to build CLGA’s new website.

6. Kristina discussed the sessions that she attended at the Institute for World Literature (IWL), which was held this year at the University of Lisbon in Portugal. She spoke about the guest speakers, weekly lectures, a Portuguese poetry reading, David Damrosch’s lecture, visiting museums, the opportunities for daytrips, various performances, and about her first session seminar instructor, Debjani Ganguly, and her second session instructor, José Luís Jobin.

7. Manhua read a prepared statement thanking the LSU Graduate School and the Department of Comparative Literature for their generous support. In this same statement, she also highlighted her experiences at IWL. Her first seminar session was with Franco Moretti, and her second session with Gisèle Sapiro. She had an opportunity to present an essay and got good comments and feedback from her fellow attendees. Manhua reiterated how beneficial the program was for her as both a scholar and an academic.

8. Dr. Russo provided a summary of the history of IWL from its inception in 2009. Damrosch, and a group of other scholars, during an MLA conference, began speaking about world literature and the idea behind IWL was born. One of these scholars was Dr. Pizar from LSU. These scholars decided to create what is now known as the Institute for World Literature. LSU was one of the founding members of IWL.

9. Manhua showed pictures from her experience in Portugal, including a river cruise she went on, a museum that she visited, and a day trip to Cascais. Manhua was especially impressed that attendees could make an appointment with scholars from IWL even after IWL ended.

10. Dr. Russo suggested a drop box for the readings from IWL and reiterated the importance of the program. Dr. Russo mentioned the IWL panel on jobs from the summer 2013 sessions when the program took place at Harvard University.

11. Dr. Russo introduced her new student helper, Brant Butler.

12. Guillermo briefly described the purpose of CLGA and encouraged others to attend the general meetings, which are often events. He emphasized that CLGA was a way to address Comparative Literature students’ concerns, get mentoring, get help with classes, and provide helpful solutions to problems. CLGA provides an opportunity to rely on each other, and collaboration is emphasized. Guillermo will be sending an e-mail out to all Comparative Literature students containing information on the next steps for CLGA. He suggested that CLGA might meet once a month or possibly less.

13. Guillermo invited all Comparative Literature members to come to an informal gather at the Chimes on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 9:30 p.m.

14. Amy suggested revisiting Angès’ ideas from previous meetings, including the “Creative Workshop” and “City Lights” proposals.

15. Dr. Russo emphasized the importance of other meetings concerning writing abstracts, prospectuses, etc.

16. Amy and Guillermo discussed the website paperwork with Samantha.

17. Guillermo reminded Executive Board members about the Executive Board meeting next week, Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 4 p.m. in 155 Hodges.

Future Business:

**Announcements:**

1. There will be an informal gathering at the Chimes, Thursday, September 17, 2014 at 9:30 p.m.

2. The first Executive Board Meeting will be Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 4 p.m. in 155 Hodges.

Minutes submitted by: Amy Catania

Signature of secretary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of president: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

End time: 5:22 p.m.

A signed version of this document will be included in the official binder for CLGO.