

NERWHA Executive Council Minutes
April 28, 2012

Chairing: Dane Morrison

Meeting called to order at 8:25

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer's Report (Mary Jane Maxwell)**
 - Mary Jane Maxwell reported that with we have well over \$1500.00 in our account, with more coming in today. We collected \$440.00 in the Fall Symposium, and \$740.00 in the Fall membership drive.
 - Dane requested a check to pay for cleaning of the room following the conference; Salem State did not pay for cleaning this time, although they did pay for coffee and pastries.
 - Al Andrea recommended that we should now consider awarding a “purse” (essentially an airplane ticket) to help send a student who is presenting at the WHA in Minneapolis 2013. We need to pursue this via email.
 - The EC decided that we need to send a “thank you” note to the graphic designer for creating our new logo at such a reasonable cost.

- **Program Committee Report (James Diskant, David Burzillo, Al Andrea, Michele Louro)**
 - James reported that they did not receive very many proposals on the first call, and then a plethora arrived after he contacted Heather Streets-Salter and Barbara Brown.
 - The morning's roundtable was cobbled together from Barbara's input, and the afternoon papers were all graduate students from Northeastern.
 - James encouraged NERWHA to work closely with Barbara Brown as she is a valuable resource for us. BU's African Studies Center is also bringing out Trevor Getz next fall, and he would make an excellent keynote speaker for NERWHA's Fall symposium. Barbara Brown promised his services to NERWHA at no cost to the association.
 - Jim was unhappy with the current program format: he wanted workshops in the afternoon. However, he was congratulated on his creative use of working with the proposals he received.
 - There was discussion about the number of Northeastern graduate students on the program. Some were concerned with the high number, others made note that we must welcome every student proposal we receive and make every effort to recruit students.
 - James reported that he recruited Heather to the EC council – all approved.

- **Webmaster report (Mary Jane Maxwell)**
 - Mary Jane reported that Christian will be teaching her how to post Events and Resources in the coming months. He will still do the difficult stuff.

- Discussion on how to increase NERWHA members' contribution to the website i.e., syllabi, research, papers, links to published research, and so forth. The EC members agreed to send in items by June 1 to post on the webpage.
 - Discussion on how to make the webpage more "dynamic." Angela will continue to update our Facebook page, and we will move it to the homepage. Grad students and the younger generation in general need this Facebook link visible.
 - Jim raised the point that his loyalties were divided – he had to post for WHC as well. Discussion on why not both?
 - Ideas how to make the webpage more dynamic: post a calendar of events on the main page. Need to get more events on the calendar; need for everyone to contribute.
 - David Kalivas reminded us all that the forum for dynamic discussions is H-World. We have the dynamic forum already in place; let's utilize it and plug NERWHA when we do.
- **Outreach Committee (Nick Russell)**
 - Nick met with Heather Streets-Salter (Northeastern), Barbara Brown (BU), Tufts, Primary Source, and Five College Center of East Asian Studies.
 - Discussion about print advertising. [Nick sent print advertising for the symposium to members of the Executive Council. We discussed the usefulness of print advertising and electronic advertising. Most report that email is the most effective means of communication, as well, we should continue electronic advertising on H-World, MCSS, NHCSS, the AP listserve, NEHTA (Jeremy), and WHA.
 - Nick asked for volunteers to notify local organizations: NEHA (Al); CT Council for SS (Jeremy); VT Alliance for Social Studies (MJ); Maine Council for SS (Lincoln -- maybe). Nick will send materials to pass along to the right contact person to post on the newsletters of these organizations.
 - Discussion that Northeastern students could maintain a blog on the symposia on the Facebook page.
 - Upcoming NEHTA conference on the War of 1812 to be held on October 12-13, 2012 at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester. This is a good opportunity for NERWHA to put together a panel; Dane volunteered to coordinate this. Jeremy will update us on the NEHTA conference after his May 12 meeting. James Moran is the contact person.
 - Another upcoming conference that NERWHA may want to participate is the NEHTA Vietnam War conference in 2013. Steven Armstrong will be the contact person. Jeremy will have more information after May 12.
 - Whitney will coordinate the NERWHA Award (a book) for the 2013 National History Day event, and Angela will help.
 - Al reminded all that we need to send in an affiliate report to the WHA (Mary Jane has been doing this) and also an article on today's symposium

for the *Bulletin*. Goal -- 100% WHA membership from NERWHA members.

- **Other Business (Dane)**

- Dane will not be running for president next year. NERWHA still needs Salem State as an institutional home, and he encouraged Michele to run for president.
- Need for a Nomination Committee – Al and Heather volunteered.
- In the Fall, we need elections for the entire Executive Council as well as President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer.
- For the Fall Symposium, we may want to take advantage of Barbara Brown's kind offer for Trevor Getz to speak for free.
- Will the next symposium be focused on Africa in World History? Will it be held at another site other than Salem State University? Boston University's African History Center? Shall we ask book publishers to sponsor the event?
- Michele Louro proposed that Salem State (as institutional home) host NERWHA teaching and researching world history workshops next year. This will be in coordination with existing Global History Seminars held at Northeastern. Recommendation that NERWHA hold teaching workshops around the same time that Northeastern holds its Global History Seminars
- A NERWHA panel should be present at NEHA. NEHA is also a good opportunity for the graduate students to present.
- A NERWHA newsletter should appear in June and September – in time for upcoming elections and a membership drive.
- Date for next HERWHA symposium. NEHA is in October and NEHTA on October 13. Early November? Late September?
- Heather is planning two Global History Seminars at Northeastern in the fall, and two in the spring. There will also be a grad-conference in the spring.

Some EC members left the meeting at 9:30 to set up registration for attendees waiting in the hall. The secretary, too, left to greet the attendees waiting to come inside. The meeting adjourned shortly thereafter.

Submitted by Mary Jane Maxwell, Secretary/Treasurer NERWHA
May 5, 2012