World Affairs Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 13, 2013
Alumni House California Room

Minutes

Present: Toni Hill, Shahla Alavi, Stephen Amundson, Barbara Amundson, Megan Hartman, Bob Young, Carol Lilly, Pooja Shrestha, Matt Mims, Bonnie Payne

Absent: Will Aviles, David Wiebe, Lorma Wiebe

I. Committee Make Up
   a. Payne introduced new members Pooja Shrestha (President of International Student Association) and Shahla Alavi (Information Technology Services). Megan Forgey (International Studies major) will be at future meetings.
   b. No reply to invitations to join from Victoria Goro-Rapoport.
   c. Stephen reported that Student Senate will appoint someone to serve in April.

II. Title of Conference
   a. Most discussion was related to Lilly’s suggested title, “Thoughtful Tweets? Can Social Media Really Change the World?”. The main question was if “Internet” needed to be in the title, or was it implied in “Social Media,” or vice versa. Megan Hartman suggested “Thoughtful Tweets? Can Internet Really Change the World?”. The decision was made to go with Megan’s suggestion.
   b. Poster should include common icons related to social media such as the “Like” thumbs up, etc.

III. Speakers
   a. Payne is trying to get the contract for Harry Wu signed by VCBF Johnson but has had to request some changes from the agency before she will sign. Should be receiving an acceptable addendum soon.
   b. The committee will invite UNK Alumnus Mahabir Pun to speak about his efforts to bring wireless internet technology to remote areas of Nepal.
      i. Payne will report this to community member, Bill Ballou, who has agreed to raise funds for airfare.
   c. Matt Mims invited representatives from Dakota State University in Madison, SD to speak. Two people will speak about the government sponsored lab that trains students to catch high profile hackers. Either a dean and professor, or professor and student will come. Mims asked if we could cover their transportation. Committee agreed that we will provide reimbursement for mileage, lodging and meals for 2 people.
   d. Matt Mims also plans to invite his brother-in-law to speak. He is Microsoft computer program problem solver.
   e. Stephen Amundson will talk to several B&T faculty members to find other speakers.
   f. Bob suggested inviting PayPal. Stephen will identify a contact person for them.
   g. The question was raised as to whether or not we should invite Xpanxion to participate again. Payne will make contact with Paul Eurek to see if he feels the theme is a good fit for them.
h. The question was also raised as to whether or not The Buckle would be a good fit for this conference. There was no further discussion about this.

IV. Transportation
   a. Payne informed committee that Carrie Stithem is no longer able to assist with setting up transportation. Payne will ask Ramesh Neupane if he will help with this and other aspects of World Affairs.
   b. Sherry Morrow will still help, with a co-chair, but does not want to be the lead.
   c. Morrow is going to see if Killian’s is willing to rent us a van and allow us to use retired faculty/staff who have had the van driver training. Another idea Payne has is to hire retired faculty/staff temporarily for driving.
   d. Stephen Amundson suggested trying to find drivers on campus instead of incurring the expense of renting a van or hiring drivers. He will ask student groups he is in contact with if they would volunteer. Matt Mims will ask Student Affairs students. Payne will ask International Students.

V. Other
   a. Stephen Amundson has been unable to set up a meeting yet between some Faculty Senate members and some WAC committee members to talk about the Artists and Lecturers funding.
   b. Stephen Amundson asked Payne to fix the February 14, 2013 minutes to correctly reference Jake Messersmith as Secretary, rather than President of Faculty Senate. He also requested that minutes and agendas be completed in Microsoft Word rather than in Outlook emails, so he can forward to Jake for inclusion in the Faculty Senate packets.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, April 11, 3:30 p.m. in COE B155.