KPA Executive Meeting – 9/17/2022

The 52nd Kentucky Philological Association meeting began at 10 am at Centre College. The following people attended the meeting:

David Powell

Shayne Confer

Ryan Sergent Payne

Christy Sulfridge

Rebecca Brackman

Valerio Caldesi Valeri

Karen Taylor

Craig Steffen

Scott Vander Ploeg

Jody Ballah

We began the meeting discussing the branding issues of the KPA. David Power suggested a few new names for the group. However, he was partly joking. He does think we need to rebrand the group, but he is not sure what direction to go with the name.

The CFP was pitched and approved with the verbiage about the firm deadline for submissions. Powell hopes to send it out this week.

Valerio asked about submitters receiving confirmation that their submissions have been received. Rebecca confirmed that those who submit would be sent an email confirming that their submissions have been received.

The discussion moved on to Plenary Speaker for the Conference this year. Powell suggested Dr. Heather Fox and asked for other suggestions. Rebecca suggested that we ask Andrew Raven. There were no other suggestions and the committee moved forward with the plan to move forward by asking Heather as a first choice with the theme of “Recovery”.

Rhonda asked if the speakers could tie their topics to modern societal conditions if they were talking about classical literature. She stated that in today’s world the feeling towards higher education seems to be why teach the past to students today? Many feel that classical topics are not relevant to today’s society. Rebecca and David answered this question by stating that we cater to a diverse generalist audience that would need a broader topic outside of literature for it to be useful.

Engagement Strategies

Powell focused on recruiting from four institutions that had been involved in the past. Those institutions were Berea, Transylvania, Georgetown, and (did not get this information). So far there has been one person recruited from those institutions. Valerio stated that he is looking to help recruit presenters from U.K. David stated that he thinks we should reach out to more institutions, He wants to get into border states for which travel would not be too formidable. David also stated that everyone should be working to recruit presenters from their institutions and others. David further suggests that we should begin including the entire state of Kentucky instead of just one part. Rebecca stated that this hadn’t been done in the past because of distance and the need to travel for the conference. David thinks that even with those rationales we should include them to begin building a more robust conference.

Valerios suggested that we include panel presentations along with the usual paper presentations we ask for. David agreed to include the request for Panels in the CFP.

David has been speaking with Amanda Capelli about partnering with the Elizabeth Madox Robert Society to help recruit presenters from the authors society. He also suggested that we should work to partner with other authors’ societies in the surrounding areas to improve relationships between ourselves and these groups while also using them as a recruiting tool.

Karen stated that she would send the CFP to the Honnor Society Round table meetings happening this fall.

Valerio brought up the possibility of a hybrid conference as a way to entice more people to attend. Karen seconded this. They both believe that this will help relieve the need for travel for those who may not have the ability or the want (COVID and other illnesses are an issue) to travel and be around a group of people. It was stated that it was more of a maybe situation but it would lead to more issues for those running the tech and the conference.

Price

$60 for Faculty

$20 for students

Stipends & Prizes

$500 for the speakers

$200 for grad student

Other expenses

Craig and Shayne are working on paying for the website renewal. We will continue to use “In Motion Hosting”. They have a great support system and have worked well with us in the past.

To save on printing costs there will be only a few printed copies of the program. There will be a PDF version of it available for everyone.

Submissions

Rebecca asked if we should continue to use Gmail for submissions or should we shift to JotForm? Using Gmail is tedious and is hard for us to collect data from submissions. It was agreed that we will use JotForm and the KPA website for submissions. The CFP will be changed to reflect these changes. Rebecca and David will continue to monitor the Gmail account.

There will be a distinction on the website for Creative, Scholarly, Pedagogical, etc. This will help with creating the conference program.

Publication

Creative presenters can submit up to five poems but only three will be considered for publication.

KPR was rough on the technical side this year. Working with words has become an issue and dealing with the technical issues is taking up far too much time. Karen would like to take a course on Word but cannot find one. She has asked members of the Tech department at Morehead, but they had nothing to suggest.

Karen is working on getting a physical copy of the KPR available for the conferences but is not sure she will have it completed. It was suggested that we order 25 to 30 copies. We will give a copy to everyone who is published within the journal. It will be placed in their registration packet. Karen can order copies of the journal at cost so we can order more copies if we need them later. There will be a question about wanting physical copies on the conference eval.

Karen raised the questions about printing single volumes or sticking with the double volumes we currently print. It was decided that we will only print double volumes but the single columns of the KPR will be available in digital format.

Karen and Dom have been working on the digital repositories at EKU for the digital version of the KPRs.

Karen tried to move the KPR production schedule up to work on it over the summer when she felt that she had more time. This was not successful and she will go back to working on the original schedule that has her working on it in the fall.

KPA business updates

Rebecca suggested a change to the program director position on the executive committee. It was decided that it would be proposed at the executive meeting, taken to the business meeting at the conference and hopefully passed.

It was decided that we will go back to doing the presidents address at the banquet.

David and Rebecca mentioned that the by laws for the KPA need to be updated. David volunteered to complete the re-writes.

The meeting concluded with the plan for David to follow up with John about other conference details not mentioned in the meeting.