

Committee on Student Affairs (*ad hoc*) (Kristen Ehrenberger and Niki Nibbe, Co-chairs)

Annual Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee for Student Affairs
of the American Association for the History of Medicine

Continuing the Ad-Hoc Committee's tradition of rotating student leadership, Niki Nibbe (University of California, San Francisco) became a Co-Chair after the 2008 meeting in Rochester. Kristen Ehrenberger (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) will step down after the 2009 meeting in Cleveland after three years of service. Walt Schalick (University of Wisconsin-Madison) continues to act as Faculty Advisor.

There are currently just over 50 members on the list-serv we run through Yahoo! Groups: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AAHM-student-section/>.

2008 AAHM Meeting—Recap

At the 2008 AAHM meeting in Rochester, NY, almost 40 students participated in the second annual AAHM Graduate Student Luncheon. Thanks to student liaison Brian Simon for organizing it at the Main Street Bar & Grill, the restaurant at the hotel just a block from the main conference venue where student housing had also been arranged. There was food, conversation, and announcements, including a visit by perennial student advocate John Erlen (University of Pittsburgh), who shared information about the European Union archives at U Pitt.

For this meeting Kristen Ehrenberger tried to design and order "promotional" buttons for Student Section members. Unfortunately, there was a mailing mix up, so the buttons were not available at the meeting. The company subsequently went out of business over the summer, so we were neither able to obtain new buttons nor recoup the costs. Design constraints nixed a second attempt with another company.

Finally, the Report on the fall 2007 survey of students in history of medicine was very well received by the Council. Partly in response to the knowledge gained by the survey, President Bruce Fye created asked Kristen Ehrenberger to represent student interests on the new Ad-Hoc Futures Committee, chaired by John Eyler.

2008 Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Medicine—Recap

The 7th-annual Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Medicine took place on September 26-27, 2008, at Yale University. It was ably hosted by Yale Medical School's Section of History and Medicine and led by Julie Irwin, Chair, and Marissa Mika, Program Chair. One change made this year was that presenters were required to be students at the time of the conference (instead of merely being students at the time of submission). A good time and interesting discussions were had by all. The Steering Committee for the Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Medicine would like to thank the Sigerist Circle for its continued assistance and financial support in helping to underwrite this conference.

Student Section Webpage

In August 2008, as part of the redesign of the AAHM website, the Student Section website, originally designed by Nathan Moon (Georgia Tech), "went live." Many thanks

to Webmaster Matt Scanlon (University of Kansas) for making it happen! We are attempting to update it 2-3 times a year, mostly to keep accurate conference information available.

2009 AAHM Meeting—Plans

Profuse thanks also go to Pat Gerstner (Dittrick Medical History Center) for helping us navigate planning challenges for the 2009 meeting in Cleveland, OH. For the first time, student housing was managed through the online registration form, instead of through the Student Section. In addition to matching roommates by email, Niki Nibbe is also coordinating the third annual Student Luncheon, to be held on Saturday, April 25. For reasons of cost and convenience, the Luncheon will be catered, but at the student-friendly price of \$10 per person.

New this year is a Conference Buddy Program the Student Section is piloting for AAHM. As we are trying to become (even) more welcoming as an organization, the idea is for seasoned AAHM veterans to be “Buddies” to conference “Newbies.” Kristen Ehrenberger is matching online registrants without regard to field before the conference, and Niki Nibbe will facilitate the introductions during Thursday evening’s reception. After this one-time obligation, it is hoped buddies will continue to check in with each other. If the program is successful, it may be made a formal part of the AAHM meeting experience.

2009 Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Medicine—Announcement

The 8th-annual JASHM meeting will be held October 9-10, 2009, hosted by the History and Sociology of Science Department at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA. The Call For Papers can be found at <http://www.jointatlantic.org/>. The deadline for abstracts will be in May 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
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