

Yannis

Report to Council, August 14, 2003

I. New Members of Curriculum Committee for Council Approval

The following people were selected by lottery from those who volunteered for the Curriculum Committee. With the approval of Council, they will serve a three-year term ending in 2006: Dan Cukier, Alex MacColl, Maureen Moore, Gillian Morbey, Diedrick Snoek, and Harley Unger.

People Bumped from First Choice Seminars

At the time of the lottery in June, three people who had selected Buddhism as their first choice were lotteried out. Since then, one person has replaced someone who dropped out. Eleven people were lotteried out of the Italian Renaissance. This leaves a total of 13 people who did not get into their first choice seminar. If they do not get in, then they will be placed in their first choice seminar in the spring, ahead of others. There are waiting lists for some seminars based on second and third choices.

Encouraging New Moderators

Of the 34 moderators and co-moderators for this fall, six are first-time moderators. The committee is continuing to explore ways to encourage people who have never moderated a seminar to do so. One of the most effective means seems to be to bring people in as co-moderators.

IV. Different Formats for Seminars

We are also continuing to encourage different types of seminars and different time-frames. For the fall, Exodus sessions will last 2 1/2 hours and a second session of seven weeks has begun that will end after Labor Day. The committee approved a similar short story writing seminar for the spring at its meeting on August 7.

V. Seminars for Spring

The deadline for proposals for the spring is October 27. The committee has already reviewed three proposals and approved one. Another half-dozen or so ideas for seminars have been discussed with the committee but proposals are not yet in.

VI. Registrations for Fall Seminars (see attached)

VII. Dates for Fall Events

September 29
October 16
October 27
December 7

December 8
Fall seminars begin
Moderators' Reception
Deadline for proposals for Spring, 2004
Holiday Open House and Catalog Distribution
Last week for most seminars

5CLTR Council Meeting August 14, 2003

Minutes

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2003 @ 2:30 p.m.

Present were: Naomi Yanis, Jon^o Hanke, Elizabeth Armstrong, Dottie Gorra, Bob Grose, June Guild, Jerry Rosenthal; committee chairs: Dottie Rosenthal, Jean Curran, Eleanor Shattuck, Sheila Klem, Gillian Morbey
President Naomi Yanis called the meeting to order at 2:30 and welcomed everyone to a new LW year. She especially welcomed Jean Curran who had not previously attended a Council meeting.

Minutes of the Council meeting of June 12, 2003: motion to approve by Jono Hanke, seconded by Bob Grose. All in favor.

Naomi developed an agenda for the meeting by asking who had reports or comments to bring for discussion. The following areas of LIR business were discussed.

1). Curriculum Committee:

Dottie Rosenberg reported that eleven people had expressed interest in the six vacancies of the committee. According to established procedure, a lottery was held and the following people were selected: Dan Cukier, Alex MacColl, Maureen Moore, Gillian Morbey, Diedrick Snoek and Harley Unger. It was moved by Bob Grose and seconded by June Guild that the Council approve the appointment of these people to the Curriculum Committee. All in favor.

There was a suggestion about retaining the names of these people for future vacancies or other committees that might need help. k m would like to have the names for his files.

Seminars: lotteries for Buddhism and the Italian Renaissance
Seminars were held. Thirteen people did not get their first choice of seminar. A total of 34 moderators and co-moderators are involved in the Fall Seminars, many of them new to moderating. There are ten seminars that can still take new registrants- among them Autobiographical Writing, Playing with Clay, Classical Mythology, Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain, and The Civil War.

distribution

Calendar: Oct. 16 Moderator's Reception at the Field House

Oct. 27 Deadline for Spring '04 proposals

Dec. 7 Holiday Open House at Red Barn with catalog

Following a discussion on the various timetables possible for the Open House, it was decided that a format which presents the moderators first, followed later for refreshments, might be an improvement over the current schedule.

2) Special Events:

Dottie Gorra reminded Council members of the lecture series scheduled for five weekends in the autumn on the topic "Emergence".

3) Summer/Winter programs:

Gillian Morbey reported that the various summer programs were on the whole well-attended and enjoyed by members. No-shows for the free programs were a problem that needs to be looked at. The recent riverboat cruise was enhanced by an excellent speaker provided by Northfield. Naomi suggested that our appreciation be relayed to that individual.

4) Meetings:

June reviewed the plans for the September 18 picnic at Look Park. It was decided not to arrange for access to miniature golf. In future years, should the event continue there, it is possible that the membership would support that recreational offering by the Park. The current charge is \$3.50 per person. Gillian recommended that the meetings committee contact the park for their policies regarding recreational equipment being brought in by visitors. If that is not a problem, games such as frisbie and croquet might be

enjoyed. Naomi pointed out the necessity for a PA system being available.

5) Newsletter:

Eleanor Shattuck relayed a request from a member to publish a story which he had written. After some discussion, we reiterated the position that the function of the newsletter is to disseminate information about the organization and occasionally share some material, edited for brevity, which

has been developed in seminars.

6) Membership:

Jean was encouraged to arrange a tea party or other such function on a Sunday afternoon in the Fall for new members in order to present an orientation to the organization and some further explanation of the seminar system. She will provide the names of recent members to the newsletter editors for them to use in the upcoming edition. There was some discussion,

without any concrete outcome, about the fact that recently a number of people have joined LIR but then have not signed up for seminars.

Other: Naomi will discuss with the 5CLIR coordinator the question of whether membership in LIR constitutes "enrollment in the 5 colleges" as defined by PVT A. In the past we have encouraged seminar participants to use the buses where possible rather than private cars. It would be helpful to know whether they are still free.

Feedback from the Loomis/Hampshire College survey: Jon^o has heard that there were 1100 or so responses and that the next exploratory steps are being taken. Bob Grose agreed to find out informally what the status of the project is; the issue of interest to LIR is the possibility of space being allocated on the campus. Otherwise we have no organizational stake in this project.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Diversity Task Force. Jim Harvey, chair, distributed a report from this ad hoc group, Recommendations of the LIR Diversity Committee. Naomi led a discussion of the five suggested steps; Jim's group will be asked to propose specific language for item #1: "make a clear policy statement and put it on the website and in the newsletter." Council members recommended that "diversity" be a topic for the "Conversations" (formerly Conversations over Coffee) program. A discussion among members with inter-racial, or other "diverse" grandchildren seemed appealing also. We agreed that person-to-person contact is probably the most effective way to achieve a more diverse LIR membership.

Naomi expressed the Council's appreciation to Jim and his group for their efforts.

Old business: The "Conversations" program will be reformatted to encourage more participant conversation rather than presentation of information. The social needs of LW members are also an important part of this program. Topics for the upcoming year may include diversity issues (see above) and health care. State Senator Stanley Rosenberg was suggested as a facilitator for a discussion on health care.

Chuck will see that recent Five College retirees receive our membership brochure. He has not had an opportunity yet to tabulate the results of the survey form from last June.

PVT A bus use. Until we learn otherwise, we may plan on using our 5CLIR membership card to validate free use of the buses. UMass has not officially acted on our inquiry.

New business: LIR member Dan Cukier has requested that LW sponsor a literary magazine. After discussion about costs and time requirements for such a publication, we agreed that we would not do so. The website will

continue to be available for sharing papers from seminars.

The meeting as adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth S.Elizabeth S Armstrong