

ISSM Executive Board Meeting 12/12/22 3:30-4:50pm

In attendance: Renée, Luiz, Alexandra, Kyle, Carol, Christina, Leah, Angela

Started meeting with general introductions.

Everyone was asked to review duties of their respective positions on website.

- A few specific questions were answered to the best of the board's collective ability with the caveat that a lot is still being established
- Census of membership interests, etc., begun by Luiz will be continued in the new year by Luiz, Leah, Rebecca, Christina, and Kyle; Leah will send an email about this in January
- Request that ISSM express support for grad students and contingent faculty trying to unionize; leadership will look at a write-up of proposed language for this

YWiM update

- Double issue is currently being worked on with hope of early 2023 release
- Issue 37 will be focused on SGKG
- Largest limitation continues to be time; coordinating schedules can be tricky
- Some tech snafus as well, especially with Renée losing access to Google Drive
 - Suggestion that part of the website might become a wiki or moodle for storing journal content and other information was met favorably as it would continue trend of moving ISSM content away from specific universities and individuals as well as help with the hiring archive
- Having one or two assistant editors would be helpful at this point, too, especially if they can be paid internships; Carol will add this to her fundraising goals

Conference(s)

- ISSM 2022 wrap-up began with thanks to everyone involved as hosts, presenters, attendees, and tech support
- As conference got closer, the number of in-person attendees dropped significantly
 - There were roughly 25 people in-person and they all had a good time, but there were twice as many people online
 - While understandable, with COVID (and other stuff) circulating, it becomes a financial and logistical issue as well; conference organizers broke even but barely, and they had to charge online attendees a fair amount to do so in order to feed and lodge those who were there and pay support staff
 - In an age of institutions wanting to make money, is this feasible moving forward?
- How do we want to proceed in the future?
 - Next year's conference will be online only, so we should revisit these questions after that experience
 - Hybrid will most likely get easier the more it is done, so there was interest in trying it again
 - Travel budgets are decreasing at many schools, so hybrid options are important for financial as well as other forms of accessibility

- Many campuses have different levels of funding support for different kinds of meetings and since we don't currently have a dues system in place, we need to be very aware of this for planning future conferences
- Those who have hosted recently should come up with a "best practices" document for future organizers
- We need to build up our membership again; having more members will relieve some of these stressors
- ISSM 2023 update
 - Starting to move along well.
 - Unicorn Castle has an advisory board and IT assistance
 - CFP is up but not being actively publicized yet; please review it in light of language query outlined below
 - Because this conference is entirely online, it might be a good time to try to increase our international presence and membership; how do we do this responsibly?
 - Should the CFP be translated into different languages? If so, which ones? We have expertise in French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, and ASL, with contacts who might be able to help with Russian, Hindi, and Italian
 - If we go this route, and there is interest in doing so, then we need to be clear about what our linguistic support abilities and limitations are so as not to isolate anyone
 - One possibility would be to limit the languages in which someone might present
 - Another possibility would be to make it clear that we might host one panel in a variety of languages if there is interest
 - Still another would be to allow interested parties to organize a panel in a specific language
 - It is hard to resolve this issue without a clearer sense of what presenters and members might be interested in, so some of this will be on hold for the foreseeable future
 - We can poll members about interest in non-English panels
 - Everyone please look at the CFP and brainstorm what addendum about language we think would be most useful at this point
- Future ISSM conferences
 - 2024 might be in NJ co-hosted by Angela and Elizabeth but logistics still need a lot of discussion, so it might need to be online
 - 2025 might be a summer affair in Lincoln
 - Given difficulties of finances and logistics alike for university-based events, suggestion was made that we investigate hotels and conference centers for future events, especially as we start building our own sources of revenue
- Other conferences
 - Angela will reach out to the medieval/renaissance organizers for regional PCAs
 - We are running six Kalamazoo panels in 2023
 - There is interest in New Hampshire Medieval/Renaissance Forum if hybrid is an option

Communication

- Expect a January 2023 query about what types of social media and other online footprints we want ISSM to have and what should be prioritized within those suggestions
- Next meeting will likely be in February or March—more information on that in the new year
- Listservs will move away from Kent State and toward an exterior host—maybe MailChimp?

Finance

- Bank account will be opened in Ohio
- Two main strategies fundraising: selling merchandise and grant work