SIG HFIS Meeting at AM 2016 – Copenhagen DENMARK

October 17, 2016 – 1:00pm-2:15pm - Thames 1

1. Attendees
Ken Herold, Michael Buckland, Richard Smiraglia, Lynn Westbrook, Lai Ma, Stacy Wykle, Tim Gorichanaz, Jenna Hartel, Lynnsey Weissenberger (remote)

Apologies were received from Fidelia Ibekwe-SanJuan (past chair), who is in another meeting at the same time.

Voting: meeting attendees agreed to a ballot, that the chosen ballot had enough names for a board. Ken Herold (staying on as chair for Jenna Hartel), Lynnsey Weissenberger (incoming chair), Stacy Wykle (secretary/treasurer), Sarah Buchanan (web)

The annual report for 2016 has been filed.

Discussion of History Awards: iStories initiative – invites, awards handed out and posted online. Last year’s work still requires administering. Newsletter will go out after conference.

2. Activities during FY16 and Outlook for FY17
Latecomers to the meeting: Gita Manaktala, MIT Press; Gabor Szommer, independent scholar from Hungary; and Michael Buckland.

- Gita mentioned proposals for book projects.
- Gabor’s work concerns the Dutch East India Co., how corporate decision making occurs. Discussion of listserv: journal of some sort and moving toward publication
- Buckland noted that many of the papers submitted for the HFSIG history paper award this past year were not that good. Panel for coming year needs to be chosen. Also, Bob Williams is gravely ill.

SIG needs to file budget plan.

News: SIG Cabinet meeting discussed training of new officers with news, videos, and other features to help with communication and organization.

Buckland led discussion of how the HFSIG is of unique importance:

- No history means no identity.
- Important for HF at ASIST to focus on the practical aspects of IS & but this needs to be balanced with some focus on the history of ideas.
- Need to maintain the quality of the SIG.
- Need to justify SIG’s existence by putting on activities that get attention.

Herold: requesting money from ASIST budget to meet these needs; returned to mention of Chinese information science field, that there are library science and iSchools in China and that the younger generation of Chinese IS & T students and scholars is encouraging.
Hartel: She was invited to China in Jan/Feb 2017 and would want to include her work in the program of the pre-conference that Ken wants to propose.


Smiraglia: address Chinese according to their political designations? Buckland: disagreed and said to address all as Chinese

Hartel: building the SIG is a challenge because iSchoolers in the US have little interest in or understanding of H & F; panels appeal to membership at large and are a good strategy because they may be the most interesting to HF SIG formally

This was followed by a discussion of what H & F means generally led by Buckland who opened with the point that it would be useful to identify people who have done H & F work in IS & T by topic.

3. The ASIST History Fund Research and Best Paper Awards
[no further discussion]

4. Communication with HFIS members
[Ken was able to work with HQ to remove the vast amount of spam spoiling the HFIS mailing list manager process. Thanks to Fidelia for reporting the problem last year.]

5. Updates from SIG Cabinet Meeting
[not reported]

6. Officers: Changing of the Chair
[Voting reported above]

7. Advisory board for next year:
[In 2017, HQ updated the informal process by which the HFIS Chair nominates the jury for the newly named Bob Williams History Fund for ASIST. -Ken]

As no further points were raised, the meeting formally concluded at 2:10pm