

Society of Professional Journalists

IUP Chapter

Meeting minutes

March 25, 2007

The Commonplace Coffeehouse

Convened:

8:00p.m.

Present:

Present:

Anthony Fucinari

Elizabeth Gaffron, secretary

Landon Garside

Brandon Gill

Anna Goth

Rose Huber, treasurer

Kaitlyn Johnston

David Loomis, adviser

Mary Sir

Kendra Sledzinski

James Taylor

Business

Committee Reports:

- **The Penn** – Anna spoke for The Penn committee in saying that, in spite of recent events, they would still like to proceed with holding journalistic workshops. Penn staff present said that was fine by them. The committee is also interested in recruiting more journalism students for writing articles, by using the experience and clip-collecting factors as incentives. There was also an idea mentioned that it should be mandatory for all Penn writers to attend one workshop before getting paid for articles.
- **Finance and Fundraising** – There's going to be an SPJ benefit concert at the Brown on April 12 at 10 p.m. Ray's Firecracker Grits will be playing. There will be a \$3 cover.
 - θ James designed a flier for the event and showed it at the meeting. A discussion was held over whether the \$1 drafts or SPJ logo should be on the fliers. It was generally concluded that only one or the other should be included. The general consensus was that the drafts would be a bigger draw, but that the band would mention the SPJ onstage.
 - Also, Dr. Loomis asked those planning on attending to watch out for your friends and not be drunk and disorderly. Only one or the other allowed, people.

- **Programs, Workshops and Conferences** – no report
- **Alumni** – This group is going to draft an e-mail to journalism alumni to see if they'd be interested in coming to speak to us. They would also like to possibly draft a questionnaire to those not interested in coming to find out about careers in communications. Also, we had the idea to have Dr. Loomis and other journalism faculty talk about their former jobs in journalism in a question/answer session.
- **Publications** – no report
- Other Business
- **Diabetes Symposium** – It will be held Tues., April 3. At least three SPJ members have approached or e-mailed Dr. Loomis about wanting to help out. They will need help from about 8 a.m. to around 4:30 p.m. If anyone else would like to help for any part of that day, let him know.
 - There will also be a (free!) dinner the night before with two Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reporters and a few people working in broadcast news. Any SPJ members who are interested in joining that dinner party should also contact Dr. Loomis. ~~There's no limit on who can attend.~~
- **Elections – Elections will be held during the next meeting**, unless there are objections to that. Nominations should be circulated via e-mail to the group. Rose said she would start the process.
 - θ It was discussed whether only members who have paid their dues should be able to be nominated. Liz suggested was that any member who pays their dues by the end of the year should be eligible for a position. Liz is interested in remaining secretary. Bill, Rose and Jared are graduating this spring.
- **Indy Week** – The show's open for ideas for the rest of the year. Rose was interested in doing an interview with Eric Schlosser last week, but it just didn't work out. Liz would like to do a show on religion on this campus. Brandon expressed interest. Anyone else who would like to work on that should e-mail Liz at E.R.Gaffron@iup.edu. Possible ideas and interview subjects include Campus Crusade for Christ, Spirit of the Oak, Graystone Presbyterian Church's student group and Tim Metcalf (the preacher in the Oak Grove). It's a wide-open subject, so Mary suggested turning it into a series if it gets too long and involved for one week. The idea is to do it the week after Easter.
- **End of the year reports** – This chapter needs to file a report with the national organization by the end of the year. One person from every committee should send Liz an e-mail about what they've done this year.
 - θ It looks good for us if we have as many (**official**) members by the year's end. Right now there are 15 official members but 48 people on the e-mail list. Student membership is \$36 a year. You can get the paperwork from Dr. Loomis, or take care of it online at <http://www.spj.org/join.asp>?
 - θ If your membership has expired, you can renew it through mail or online. If you are curious about whether you are an official member, contact Liz at E.R.Gaffron@iup.edu.

Adjourned : 8:50

The next meeting hasn't yet been announced. If you have questions or concerns, contact Dr. Loomis or an officer:

Bill Harder, el presidente: W.L.Harder@iup.edu

Jared Stout, vice president: J.P.Stout@iup.edu

Rose Huber, treasurer: B.R.Huber@iup.edu

Dr. David Loomis, adviser: dloomis@iup.edu