

## **Minutes of the Women in Spanish Portuguese and Latin American Studies Meeting held on 16 April 2005 at Heriot Watt University**

### **In attendance:**

Ann Davies, Claire Williams, Kirsty Hooper, Par Kumaraswami (Chair), Jill Ingram

The meeting opened at 10am with a welcome to Heriot-Watt from the Chair.

### **Apologies for late arrival:**

Ann Davies, Lesley Twomey

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2004 were approved.

### **Matters arising.**

None that were not covered in the agenda.

### **Conference 2005**

- Sara Brandellero's investigation of Oxford as the 2005 venue had proved abortive since conference fees were only lower if the venue was booked very early. Claire Williams had stepped in and checked on the possibility of using IRS. It was possible for her to use the pre-booked dates if the conference was interdisciplinary. Cost would be £250 to cover the room, equipment and admin. costs, photocopying advertising via email lists, forms and registration, pre-registration. It was IRS policy that all speakers pay the registration fee of £25. Claire to check whether this fee goes to WISPS or to IRS.
- Theme should be interdisciplinary. It was agreed we could target invitations to our own institution for dissemination via email lists to colleagues in the other disciplines. Titles were discussed and the subtitle *Addressing the Past and Assessing the Future* was agreed. Panels should be broad based and inclusive and could include the Canon, Publishing, Body, Images. It was agreed an initial email should go out quickly to set down a marker given the problem with the St Andrew's clash, resolved by the downgrading of the St Andrew's conference to postgraduate seminar only. It was agreed that Par's handling of the situation had been exemplary. KH to take charge of the initial email.
- Message to publishers should go out quickly informing them of the date. There should be a charge although not for Tamesis as Ellie is a member. LT to write to publishers inviting them. Charge £50.
- Discussion took place over bidding for funding for inviting a speaker. Laura Freixas or Lucía Graves to be invited as keynote speakers. LT offered to investigate this.
- Future conferences. Correspondence had been received from Durham offering to run the 2006 conference LT to request them to postpone until early Autumn.
- There was an offer to run the 2007 conference in Birmingham from Pat Odber.
- Some of the Irish members might be approached with regard to the 2008 conference

### **Website**

KH reported all is going fine.

Study day information to be posted although not all speakers had supplied notes from their sessions.

## **Postgraduates**

- J I reported 12 postgraduates out of 60 members. She reported that the AHGBI P/G lists are now out-of-date. There was a discussion about how best to reach P/Gs, and it was agreed to approach via supervisor and through departments. PK to approach L Hayward for the Cambridge list.
- LT to amend last year's bursary form. The call for papers was to state a date of end June for submission of abstracts and P/Gs would also submit their applications at the same time. Call for papers to go out end April.

## **Fifth Anniversary volume**

Nine papers had been received and all papers submitted had been read. Co-editors at the point of contacting all those who had submitted to give them feedback. Keynote speakers to be approached to see if any would submit their papers. Reports were to be prepared from the editors. D Severin would write the foreword and AD was writing the proposal. Tamesis had expressed interest initially.

## **Studies in European Cinema**

AD reported that the publishers have come back with a YES on this. Deadline 12 months. Perspectives on looking to the future and on women film directors.

## **Retreat**

- The Burn is provisionally booked for 1 July to 3 July 2005. Cost £54 for staff, £34 for postgraduates. Timings: Friday lunch to Sunday lunch. Facilitation: Jean Gilkison to supply preparative materials but would be unable to attend. Work groups to contact each other before the date
- The numbers which could be accommodated are approximately 25.
- PK to book Jean's presence for 2006 but agreement was that we should go ahead for 2005 and have the retreat as self-led. Initial email should go out giving information about the venue and date, and inviting members to it.

## **Newsletter**

Next to be in the summer to include the retreat

## **Research-teaching database**

## **Regional chapters**

It should be straightforward to begin a Scottish chapter. The NW was about to begin one.

## **Next meeting**

To be held in London at the AGM

## **AOB**

### **Preparation for AGM**

1. LT advised that job specs should go out inviting members to stand for the jobs of PG rep, secretary and treasurer. LT to circulate nearer the AGM. JI to send some details of her role. It is proposed that two ordinary members be appointed to the committee as well as the named members.
2. Postgrad rate: single rate proposal should come to AGM for approval
3. Membership rates for 2005-6 should remain the same. LT and AD to liaise over renewals, which cannot wait until AGM.