



WCGS Executive Meeting

29 April 2020, 9:30am

Virtual – Microsoft Teams

Present: James Skidmore (JS), Gary Bruce (GB), Michael Boehringer (MB), Ana Ferrer (AF), Ann Marie Rasmussen (AR), Misty Matthews-Roper (MMR)

NB) Action items/next steps in red

1. Centre Operations Continue despite COVID lockdown
 - a. JS and MMR utilizing various online platforms to continue WCGS work
2. Director Activities past year (highlights)
 - a. CTV interview regarding recent decision in the Oberländer case
3. Director's Report for 2019-2020
 - a. Number of well-attended events
 - i. Nathan der Weise – Stratford play, talk, and dinner
 1. Intended to be a thank-you event for our members (attended by UW and wider Waterloo community)
 - ii. Fall lecture series
 1. On and Off campus events all well-attended (Birgit Schreyer-Duarte; Jim Diamond; Lynne Taylor, etc.)
 - iii. Sponsorships (highlights)
 1. International Week at UW – partnered with Goethe-Institut, GSS, French, Spanish, and Waterloo International to bring in Alexandre Trudeau (well-attended by high school students from the area, could have been better advertised at the University)
 - iv. More information on the events will be available in the Annual Report set to be published later this summer.
 - b. Book Prize 2018
 - i. Winner – Michael O'Sullivan
 - ii. The issue was raised that our book prize seems to favour German history
 1. This year the book prize committee will be mindful of this (through new juror evaluation forms). But may also be that History scholars are more used to writing for broader audiences.
 - iii. Issue was raised that we are having difficulty finding jurors (we are expecting them to read plus 20 books)
 1. Possible solution - offer an honorarium to the jurors. Should fall in the range of \$500 - \$1000. GB mentioned that the prize money is only \$2000 the prize and the juror honorariums need to balance. **JS will make a decision and let the executive committee know.**
 - iv. Prize Money – currently the winner receives \$2000 as a prize.



1. Is this enough? Should it be given as cash, research stipend that WCGS can pay out over 1-2 years? Should the prize winner get a choice? **JS will look into this and inform of the committee of any changes.**
- c. Grimm 2020 - became online event when UW campus shut down during the pandemic
 - i. Paid \$2,000 for A/V services to ensure a smooth online lecture experience
 - ii. Well-attended (200 plus visitors on the night of and over 700 views on the YouTube video)
 - iii. Gave the Grimm Lecturer a higher honorarium (from \$1000 to \$1100)
 - iv. Overall the event did very well. One disappointment for the Centre was that the Faculty of Arts (Dean's Office) declined to co-sponsor the event and discouraged WCGS from asking other departments to sponsor. Reason given was healthy WCGS finances.
- d. Scholarships
 - i. Over 80 applicants for travel scholarships to 10 different programs (all of which were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic)
 - ii. The funds roll over for next year
 - iii. Grad scholarship - Piller awarded as usual (one winner in GSS (Stephan Jakob, PhD candidate) and one winner from History (Hayden Bulbrook, MA candidate))
4. Finance
 - a. Most funds used to run events and administration (staff salaries/Director stipend)
 - b. Book Prize 2018 - we budget up to \$5000 for this, but so far have been unable to bring a Book Prize winner to the CAUTG annual meeting
 - c. We have two sources of income - Trust (donations that can be used in full) and Endowment which generates income
 - i. Due to the current COVID crisis unsure how much the Endowment will pay out
 - ii. Even if income falls to zero (an unlikely situation), the Centre will be able to run for the foreseeable future
 - d. Income for 2019 - 2020: **\$202,796.56**
 - i. Expenditures for 2019 - 2020: **\$62,496.03**
 - ii. Expected funds for 2020 - 2021: **\$205,700.53**
5. Planning for 2020 - 2021
 - a. Unknown if public in-person lectures can occur. **JS is looking into running some online lectures (perhaps with Book Prize 2018 winner). JS has also been in talks with ENV/Planning professor to bring in a German city planner.**
 - b. Germans of Waterloo (GoW) - KW community is restless for the book.
 - i. JS was contacted by the book's editors (Schulze, Liebscher, Siebel-Achenbach) that the editing is almost complete



- ii. Not much more WCGS can do at this point. Funds have been set aside for the book's publication and launch.
6. Public German Studies (PGS)
- i. Summer 2020 - JS and MMR will work on making the PGS website a reality. The website will have two sides, a blog-like section where academics can publish non-peer reviewed articles on scholarly topics, and a formal open access journal. Both sides of the website are to be oriented towards public scholarship. Some goals include inspiring young German studies scholars to publish for broader audiences and creating an open-access hub of "all things German."
 - ii. Approx. \$25, 000 budgeted for PGS including salaries and professional services (copy editing, web development, etc.)
 - iii. AR concerns about how the editing/publishing of these articles and blog posts will occur. GB also concerned with traditional journal model of publications and how the peer-review process might work. **JS will work on this and propose a framework this summer.**
 - iv. GB concerns with "all things German Studies." Might be too broad a category and won't draw and audience. **JS will investigate and think about how to define the journal.**
 - v. AF wonders if we could do webinars and online lectures as part of this website. **JS, yes, the other side of PGS is a fellowship for graduate students that will include workshops/conferences/podcasts.**
 - vi. Overall, general interest in this project and approval for WCGS to move forward.
 - vii. **Updates will be sent to the executive committee as they arise.**

WCGS Finances (April 2020)

WCGS Operating Expenditures

	2019-2020 (actual)	2020-2021 (est.)	Notes
Salaries			
AA	28,537.95	30,000.00	
Director	7,262.55	20,000.00	Director research stipend carryover
Command Centre			
General	374.56	1,000.00	
Publicity	3,363.38	3,000.00	
Carryover expenses	232.50	-	
Sponsorships			
General	6,347.85	4,000.00	Trudeau; UofT film conf; miscellaneous
Reading Group	141.11	500.00	
Book Prize	2,199.90	2,500.00	
CAUTG Speaker	-	-	Book Prize winner; COVID cancellation
Lectures			
Lectures	4,313.45	4,000.00	
Grimm Lecture	5,525.92	10,000.00	COVID reduced costs
Events			
General	-	-	
KinoFest	-	1,500.00	
Member Appreciation	4,196.89	4,000.00	Nathan der Weise
Germans of Waterloo			
Book	-	3,000.00	
Book Launch	-	2,000.00	
Public German Studies			
Administrative	-	7,000.00	Preparation of site
Grad Fellows	-	10,000.00	Training scholarships
Tech support	-	3,000.00	Website hosting, webinar hosting, etc.
Editorial Support	-	5,000.00	Copyediting, transcription services
TOTAL	62,496.03	110,500.00	



7. WCGS Scholarship Expenditures

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	2019-2020 (actual)	2020-2021 (est.)	Notes
Stork	8,000.00	20,000.00	
Piller	8,000.00	8,000.00	
Weigel	1,000.00	10,000.00	
TOTAL	17,000.00	38,000.00	

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10. WCGS Disbursable Income

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	2019-2020 (actual)	2020-2021 (est.)	Notes
Operating Carry Forward	97,203.28	129,858.78	
Endowment Income	95,151.53	65,000.00	Conservative est.
Trust Account Carry Forward	5,383.86	7,841.75	
Trust Account Income	2,457.89	3,000.00	
Nathan the Wise Ticket Sales	1,900.00	-	Membership event
Sponsorship Income	700.00	-	Grimm sponsorships
TOTAL	202,796.56	205,700.53	
Stork Carry Forward	1,781.07	14,135.04	
Stork Endowment Income	20,353.97	13,000.00	Conservative est.
Weigel Carry Forward	4,000.00	9,000.00	
Weigel Trust Income	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Piller Trust Disbursable	8,000.00	8,000.00	
TOTAL	39,135.04	49,135.04	

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13. WCGS Accounts

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	2018.05.01	2019.05.01.	2020.05.01.
WCGS Endowment	2,646,163.72	2,718,714.85	?
WCGS Trust	2,884.62	5,383.86	7,841.75
eCommerce Account	1,303.22	1,122.22	2,895.92
Stork Scholarship Endowment	566,333.96	581,542.07	?
Piller Scholarship Trust	44,187.50	36,187.50	28,187.50
Weigel Scholarship Trust	---	4,000.00	9,000.00



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