

GOHWP Meeting Notes 10.19.18

Attending: Morrie Mullins, Mary O'Neill Berry, Mahima Saxena, Recia Gomez

Morrie provided an update on the elections. Voting will remain open until Saturday October 27, just before midnight. At that point he will close the survey, download the data, and send the list of individuals who voted to Recia in order to verify membership status. Once Recia verifies whether each individual who voted is either a full member or a student member, Morrie will tally the votes per the by-laws and send the spreadsheet to Mahima (as the only attending member who is not running in the current election) to double-check the tally. Once the tally has been verified, the newly-elected leadership team will be privately notified prior to any public announcement being made. Once the leadership team is confirmed, Morrie (as the team member who has worked with the website and communications portfolios this year) will update the email forwarders to make sure information sent to gohwp.org is distributed properly to the new leadership team. **This election protocol was developed based on perceived best practices, and is reported in order to ensure transparency of the process and replicability of the election process in future years. The incoming board is encouraged to utilize this process, or one which provides further confidence in the security and meaningfulness of GOHWP elections.**

Mary asked about response rate for the election survey. Morrie indicated that fewer than 10% of the membership has voted and that he has asked Erik Zito to send out more reminders. He also encouraged the members of the GOHWP Board to engage in informal encouragement of their HWP networks to “get out the vote.”

Website: Morrie informed the Board that while reviewing the website recently, he noted a number of issues with the front page, including a link to the GOHWP Forums. The Forums have not been active in years, and Morrie would not recommend reactivating them due to spam-related concerns (most of the several thousand spam accounts registered on gohwp.org were probably created in order to spam website forums). In reviewing the front page, Morrie also saw that some of the font colors and fonts no longer showed up well, which may have been due to an update to the core theme used for the Wordpress site. Because he could not figure out how to modify the front page of gohwp.org, Morrie reached out to a former board member, Drew Mallory, who graciously took a few hours recently to clean up the front page and fix the issues with it. The site should be in good shape for the transition to the new board.

Personnel: The assembled board members discussed issues related to board member engagement. Although it was not discussed in the meeting, clearer expectations for board member activity should probably be written into the GOHWP by-laws. Recommendations about staffing the board based on the prior year's activity will be made to the incoming Chair.

Annual report: Morrie volunteered to pull together the GOHWP annual report, and asked the assembled members of the leadership team to please send him reports on their activity, along with recommendations for the incoming board, as soon as possible.

Morrie thanked the members of the Board for the opportunity to work with them, and agreed that if his schedule allows, he may be able to attend the first meeting of the new board to provide whatever input he can to ease the transition. Members in attendance expressed their appreciation for his contributions.

Meeting adjourned, 3:35 pm eastern time.

Respectfully submitted,

Morrie Mullins
GOHWP Executive Board