

## **Group Recognition**

### *History Across Borders Workshop*

The History Across Borders Workshop, a graduate student group dedicated to fostering academic exchange, professional development training, and a sense of community among graduate students engaged in transnational historical research across a variety of departments.

Incorporates both PhD students and Masters students. Established in 2012, but they are seeking institutional recognition. Wish to promote the group beyond the history department. Approximately 15 students attend each meeting. Hoping to plan an international conference (~2015) on the topic of migration and human mobility. Looking forward they wish to have recognition from the university to help them plan an event of this scale.

Vote:

For group recognition: 17

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Group Approved!

### *Xingzhahui Chinese Studies Graduate Student Group*

The Xingzhahui is a graduate student-driven group that promotes the study of Chinese history and literature by organizing speakers, seminars, and professional development workshops for graduate students across disciplines and departments within the Columbia community.

Our organization provides both MA and PhD students with an invaluable platform for voicing concerns and exploring interests that might not otherwise be addressed in the standard trajectory of regular coursework. Our members span a broad spectrum of academic specializations, which range not only across the fields of history and literature, but also across pre-modern and modern time periods. As a result, the Xingzhahui is a forum where graduate students can learn directly from their peers in other disciplines, all while sharing the particular intellectual pursuits that inspire their own research.

The Xingzhahui meets regularly throughout each semester. While events vary according to graduate students needs and interests, typical meetings include guest speakers from other universities; workshops on the PhD application process; workshops on applying for research funding; panels on conducting archival

research in China and Taiwan; and graduate student presentations of research-in-progress.

The Xingzhihui also holds combined sessions with the Benkyo-kai and Khorlo graduate student study groups (which deal with Japan and Korea, respectively) to discuss issues of broad interest within the field of East Asian Studies.

The Xingzhihui contributes to the Columbia community by providing a safe and constructive space for initiating new ideas and cultivating professionally savvy graduate students whose research interests deal with China.

Purpose of group is to foster a sense of community for any graduate students studying China. Have in the past included historians, religious studies, literature studies, etc. Bring in master's students as well. Meetings occur monthly. Have had panels discussing certain topics, roundtable discussions, discussions on applying for dissertation research and applying for a PhD. About 15 people attend at each meeting, but have recently been expanding.

Vote:

For group recognition: 17

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Group Approved!

#### *Kurdish Studies Student Association*

Group will focus on the Kurdish culture, languages, history, etc. Interested in having both a graduate and undergraduate membership in the club. Cross disciplinary – founders are from the history, MEASAS, and anthropology departments. Also wish to open events to those from the larger community. Want to bring scholastic attention to this culture by holding events. Core membership of group of 5-10 people. Scholars working on contemporary Kurdish issues would be invited to speak.

Vote:

For group recognition: 17

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Group Approved!

#### *Latin American History Student Association*

The group will bring together all students of Latin American history; not simply within the history department. There is also a master's program in the Latin American department that focuses on history as well as anthropology students. They have been meeting for several years. For the past 3 years there has been a

conference at Barnard between several Latin American student groups. Also plan to host a conference this year, at least 50 people are already confirmed to attend.

Vote:

For group recognition: 17

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Group Approved!

### *Society for Quantitative Approaches to Social Research*

The aim and purpose of the Society for Quantitative Approaches to Social Research at Columbia University is to promote the understanding and utilization of quantitative methods in social science research both at the University and in academic/professional circles at large.

By organizing academic, professional, and social events, the society intends to provide more formal and structured opportunities for interdisciplinary research, learning, and the exchange of ideas among students in the Columbia community who have an interest in the application of quantitative methods and techniques to various topics of inquiry in the social sciences.

Appeals to sociology, psychology, political science, statistics, etc. Interdisciplinary approach. Looking for formal recognition to reach out to more students from different departments. Organize data dives; they collaborated with the UN to have a weekend of data analysis. Relatively new group. So far they have had informal happy hours and programming study groups.

Vote:

For group recognition: 17

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Group Approved!

### **Group Recognition Procedures**

Mr. Cavusoglu

Putting forward a proposal that a subcommittee will look at group applications and decide to approve or disapprove the group rather than spending time during plenary meetings. If a group is not approved, they would have the opportunity to appeal the decision.

Vote:

For group recognition: 16

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

## **Budget and Finance**

Mr. Cavusoglu

### *SIG Applications*

They are due February 1, and they will be voted on by the Finance Committee. To apply, download the application from the website.

### *Travel Grants*

Deadline is the 18<sup>th</sup> of February. Application will be posted tonight.

### *Faculty Mentor Awards*

Solicitation for nominations for this award. Two awards are given, one is given to a faculty member not in GSAS proper and the second is for a faculty member in GSAS.

### *GSAC Senate & Steering Committee Election Mixer*

Invitation would be extended to club executive members; event will be held sometime in late February, early March. Might be beneficial to update job descriptions.

### *Philosophy 301*

Reservations will be taken by Ann Madigan for events in April and May. There will be restrictions on the timing of the events and there will be only a 74 person capacity limit. Reserved events will be limited to later hours.

## **Alumni and PR Updates**

Ms. Chakrabarti

### *Student alumni networking event*

This will be the second event that the university has hosted. The first one was held last year and was a success. Hopefully the event will be expanding it. There is a facebook event, and it will be announced in the next newsletter.

### *Career Exploration Workshop for both Humanities and STEM students*

These will be held in the upcoming weeks. The details for that will also be on the facebook page and on the CCE website.

### *Identify your skills*

For PhD students. Held at the end of February hosted CEE.

## **Arts and Entertainment Updates**

Mr. Cavusoglu

Thoughts on discount ticket policy:

Is it better to have fewer more heavily discounted tickets or slightly more but less discounted tickets?

Voted:

In favor of expanding the number of tickets: 18

Not in favor: 1

Abstentions: 2

**Social Updates:**

Ms. Tisdale

Two events in February. Valentine's day party (February 14) will be hosted by all the graduate student councils at Columbia. They will offer a speed dating component. There will be a 1 hour open bar, food will be provided. Tickets are available for \$20. Also a ski trip in late February to Hunter Mountain, tickets are also available.

Thoughts on the final event of the semester. The boat cruise is becoming more and more expensive and less viable to host. There may be other options.