ΛΑΜΠΑΔΙΑ ΕΧΟΝΤΕΣ ΔΙΑΔΩΣΟΥΣΙΝ ΑΛΛΗΛΟΙΣ

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY FRIENDS OF HELLENIC STUDIES (FHS)**

**MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

FHS Monthly Meeting (on Zoom)

**Present:** Mariea Kazantzis, Katherine Panagakos, Tula Christopoulos

* Katherine hosted the meeting
* Mariea ran the meeting and called it to order
* Approval of May minutes: Katherine moved; Tula seconded; Minutes approved.

**Financial Report:** Tula reported that payroll deductions from Dr.Panagakos and Alice Sikora have been added to the balance sheet. In addition, FHS received a check from Dr. James Faller for $200. The absence of a notation on the memo line prompted an inquiry by Susan Werner which resulted in the conclusion that Dr. Faller check will be deposited into the FHS account. A brief discussion concerning Dr. Faller’s connection to the Pappas Center and Father Constantelos ensued.

Mariea noted that a request was made by Dr. Faller to add a name to our distribution list. Since the list Katherine uses to send out announcements about upcoming meetings contains email addresses only, a suggestion was made by Mariea to also include actual names to each email address on the distribution list. Mariea offered to work on updating the list accordingly.

**Old Business:**

* FHS website: Mariea has been adding the Minutes, Agendas and *The Hellenic Voice* issues to the FHS website. Tula reported that , on Tom’s request, Tula – with help from Lou in IT - has removed outdated entries and updated the faculty list.
* Exploring Hellenism: Mariea, Cathy, and Sophia are working on their presentations, which will be on Zoom again this year. A Save the Date announcement has been created. Tula will contact Galloway Diner and Sofia Restaurant about our decision to go virtual again this year because of Covid concerns. The entire program will be presented in one session, on Sunday, 10/17. Tula noted we should advertise and register attendants in advance as if it were being presented live (even though we plan to pre-record). The entire program will run for approximately 1-1/2 hours. Tula willMC, , segueing from one presentation to the next. Each of the three presentations should be about 15-20 minutes long. It will end with Sophia’s talk on the Souliotises and the Dance of Zalongo, which will also be our theme song. We will use a format similar to last year’s event, with Tula as the M.C. Since more than one dry run will be necessary, Tula will send out emails to the presenters and others listing several dates and times for the dress rehearsals beginning after 9/25 when Cathy returns from Greece. Mariea suggested they begin the week of 10/4. Katherine offered to be the “Zoom person” and look into Webinar options. Tula said if additional help is needed we can ask Stockton’s I.T. for assistance. In addition, Katherine will provide a brief summary of what FHS is all about and mention the Scholarships, as she did in last year’s Exploring Hellenism presentation.

**Pappas Hellenic Center Report:**

* The Troy to Ithaka program was very successful. There were about 20 participants, along with Karen Karen Matsinger Assistant Director of Counseling Services, who also attended. Thank- you cards addressed to Zoe Pappas will be sent out by Tom.
* Regarding a press release on the trip, Tula will give general information to Diane D’Amico and she will write it up.
* Tula and Tom drafted an appeal letter designed to raise money for the Pappas Center Endowment fund. The goal is to raise $50,000 by the end of the fiscal year. This will go out in October.
* The joint lecture with Prof. Kitromilidis and the American Philosophical Society will be postponed until the spring.
* Stockton’s 50th Anniversary: Tom asked Sarah to put together an exhibit about 50 years of teaching at Stockton and featuring Father Constantelos’ founding of the Hellenic Studies program. The exhibit is almost done and will be in the Constantelos Reading Room by next week. Tom will also ask Sarah to create a booklet of the exhibit and it will also be put on line.
* Greek Revolution Through American Eyes exhibit: Tom is working with a designer to complete the final order of panels which will appear in the hallway of the library in time for the 10/17 Exploring Hellenism event. Tom and Tula suggested that we announce the exhibit at that time. Translated into Greek, the exhibit will also open in Thessaloniki on 10/1 at the Museum of the Macedonian Struggle. Several Stockton students are slated to attend the celebration on that day. The National Hellenic Society has purchased an abridged version of the exhibit which will appear at their convention in Las Vegas on Columbus Day weekend. Tom will be speaking at that event.
* Tom reported that he is back to in-person teaching.
* George Georges’ endowed professorship for art and architecture has not been filled since Amy left. There are two funds that support art and architecture which are ready and waiting for fulfillment. Tom will be meeting soon with Rob Greg and Dean Honaker to discuss the issue.
* Mariea asked for an update on the modern Greek language program. Katherine reported that the classes are being held on Zoom Tuesdays and Thursdays and are going well. A total of 8-9 students are registered, including Dean Honaker.
* Regarding Exploring Hellenism: Tom was contacted by Mr. Andrew Manatos who is involved with Greek-American relations on a national level. Having read the Save the Date announcement, he asked if we would be interested in having a guest speaker join us. Her name is Carolyn Maloney, a Congresswoman from New York, and head of the Greek-American caucus. She was on a panel in December on Greek women of the Revolution. It would be a way to introduce her to us and provide us with more visibility. Mr. Manatos would want to introduce her; it would add a 10-minute block to our presentations. Mariea was concerned that there not be a partisan bent to the Exploring Hellenism event. There will be further discussion on the matter.
* *The Hellenic Voice:* Mariea suggested that, since we are still in Bi-centennial mode, we should include in our upcoming issue articles about the heroes of the Greek Revolution such as Ypsilantis, Miaoulis, Kanaris, etc. Tom noted that our newsletter has a dual purpose: to highlight our activities and raise awareness of our mission. It’s ok to continue the Greek Revolution as a topic while also concentrating on the students and their activities. For example, it was suggested that the students going to Thessaloniki in October could write an article about that event. It was decided that our next issue would go out in November to allow time for us to report on the various scheduled events and exhibitions.
* The Giving Page:A sample has been forwarded to the three co-chairs and suggestions for text and images will be sent to Tula within the next several days.

Meeting Adjourned.

*The Friends of Hellenic Studies Mission:*

*To promote and help strengthen the Stockton Hellenic Studies program and enable Hellenic Studies students acquire the knowledge first developed by ancient, classical, byzantine and contemporary Greek scholars. FHS does this through annual fundraising events which fund scholarships, student and faculty financial support for study abroad to Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, lecture series and symposia and cultural activities.*