

Minutes for ICA Game Studies Special Interest Group Business meeting - May 26, 2014

Led by: James Ivory (Chair) and Nick Bowman (Vice-Chair)

I. **Update from Amy Jordan: Pres Elect Select ICA**

- Planning San Juan, Puerto Rico May 21 – 25
- Hotel on the beach (only private beach in Puerto Rico)
- Theme: Communication across the lifespan
 - Encourage cross-division cooperation
- Collaborating with universities in Puerto Rico to bring focus to the area
- 2 conference hotels: Hilton is family friendly (\$149 night) other hotel has a casino and close to nightlife
- Preconferences will be tight; can likely have, but will likely be no breakout spaces

II. **Approval of minutes.** Move to approve last meetings minutes – motion approved

III. **Chairs report**

- Board of directors meeting
 - New employment categorz: Employment Exception
 - Not faculty but not grad students and cannot afford full membership price (e.g., adjuncts) pay a reduced conference fee
 - Will be a summer survey post-conference: please participate!
 - Will discuss structural changes to sessions in terms of acceptance rates, more or less poster sessions, etc.
 - Change in regional structure of board of directors. Will be 3 reps generally instead of 5 regionally specific members
 - New positions
 - Looking to designate a student rep to liase to student BOD members – doesn't have to be a student
 - Looking to designate internationaliyation rep
 - These new roles are unoffical voluneteer basis because the by laws have not been changed to account for new position
 - Enviornmental Communication becomes a division
 - Sports communication is a new SIG
 - ICA is happy with the promotion of individual research but looking to promote the ICA more broadly through PR
- Regional Conferences
 - Brisbane, Australia (1 – 3 October)
 - Lodz, Poland (9 – 11 April 2015)
- Mid-year board meeting will be in D.C. (JI will represent)
- 2017 Conference: SD – 2018: Prague – 2019: Washington DC
- **Game Studies Buisness**
 - Trying to achieve division status: recruit and retain!
 - Social media use has been helpful from Fox and Newbury; Bowman will continue to increase activity

- E Newbury: suggests increasing recruitment around Aug as that is when the numbers are calculated for SIG and/or division status
- The board applauds GS for being creative and innovative
- Game studies is now on its 4/5 cycle of leadership
- We have seen consistency in membership, submissions, and attendance

IV. Vice-chair's report

- 92 submissions (89 papers, 3 panels)
- 42% acceptance for papers/33% for panels
- 92 reviewers, 52% from US, 25% from graduate students
 - All papers had three blind reviews
 - Panel submissions had 5 reviews
 - Good amount of author commentary in reviews
 - Should be about as long/detailed as an abstract
- Poster sessions
 - A lot of people dont want to do a poster when they submit papers, but dont be afraid of the poster sessions. They are meant to be alternative ways to present research. Dont be afraid to check the box for poster session! It could be the difference between reject or accept due to scheduling conflicts
- Top paper certificates given to top GS paper submissions
- Thanks to Nick Bowman for running the paper competition this year!

V. Pre-conference

- Report from Elizabeth Newbury on the Game Studies Preconference
- 3rd Game Studies pre con
- 25 people in attendance
- 11 papers submitted – accepted 9
 - Large diversity in methods and perspectives
- Applause for the preconference committee: Malte Elson & Zeynep Tanes Ehle
- There was a lot of overlap for preconferences. Need to start thinking about how to collaborate with other divisions or new innovative ideas (beach preconference in Puerto Rico?)
- Thanks to the sponsors the preconference!
 - USC Annenberg, Northwestern Uni school of Comm, Michigan State, Duquane University, Muenster Uni, ERC

VI. New Business

- **Multiplayer 2 Conference: T. Quandt**
 - Games Conference in August in Muenster Germany
 - 25 presentations
 - Keynotes: John Sherry, Chris Ferguson, Frans Mayra, Richard Bartle
- **Business meeting/reception conflicts with CAT meeting**
 - But we have a joint reception
 - Vote for if we like Game Studies business meeting then reception or would like to attend CAT meeting (rather than having them conflict)

- Many vote to change the conflict so they can attend both business meetings
 - This could mean we have to choose between a business meeting and a paper session
 - Members also suggest trying to not conflict with Info Sys and Mass Comm as well
 - We don't want to divorce our reception from CAT
- **„5 paper rule“**
 - Looking for ideas on how to distinguish between submissions to avoid paper mincing
 - Feels like a nebulous question
 - Not sure if this is even a problem
 - Malte Elson mentions this is more an issue of self plagiarism not many researchers using the same data sets
 - Thorsten Quandt mentions people sending same papers to different divisions which would be more of a problem
 - Jimmy Ivory suggests we need standard criteria if we are going to enforce some kind of rule. Maybe competition chair should just be mindful if there are duplicate problems.
 - Don't need to make a resolution today – the ICA board is considering these issues already.
 - We don't want a game studies specific requirement but rather pass this up to ICA at large
- **Nominations for Game Studies Vice Chair (two year term beginning 2015)**
 - 2 years (2016 - 2017) conferences and then Chair for 2018 – 2019
 - Most work is 2 – 3 weeks after the reviews come back (localized in November/December)
 - Nominations from the floor:
 - Zeynep Tanes Ehle nominated by Elizabeth Newbery
 - Julia Kneer nominated by Malte Elson
 - Nominations open until July 2014 (email Jimmy Ivory)
- **More info on San Juan**
 - Interest in a pre conference?
 - Suggestions for pre conference committee: Jaime Banks, Zaynep Tanes-Ehle, Elizabeth Newbury...
 - *Other ideas for San Juan...*
 - Jesse Fox suggests that as our division tends to be more young have informal scholar office hours which would allow you to come and sit down and come talk to someone about an idea you have and just want to talk to someone more established
 - Matthew Grizzard: suggests you can only do it if you are a member only. Also suggests incentivizing membership by when there is a cutoff for paper competition preference goes to members
 - Mike Schmierbach: suggests that you give free division membership to student paper winners
 - Elizabeth Newbury: Cost of preconferences are going up – we need new sponsors! It would enable us to do a lot more.

For example, with more money we could have live streamed.

- Nick Bowman: it also depends on the site – if the conference is hosted at a university IT costs and rooms are often cheaper
- Suggestions for game design exhibition at the next ICA

- **Additional Buisness**

- Outgoing Secretary Joyce Neys – Incoming Rachel Kowert
- Thanks to Dimitri Williams for all his help in the past

VII. Meme Competition this year

- Send pictures related to Link/Zelda
- Asked to send pictures hoisting what you need to get through the conference

Meeting attendees:

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Minutes submitted by Rachel Kowert (Secretary)