ΛΑΜΠΑΔΙΑ ΕΧΟΝΤΕΣ ΔΙΑΔΩΣΟΥΣΙΝ ΑΛΛΗΛΟΙΣ

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

**MINUTES**

**Tuesday, February 7, 2023 - FHS Monthly Meeting (ZOOM) Start Time:** 6:42pm

**Present**: Tula Christopoulos; Sophia Demas; Mariea Kazantzis; Katherine Panagakos;

Late: Sarah Albertson; Cathy Karathanasis; Tom Papademetriou.

Guests: Dr. Panos Stavrianidis; Ms. Vasiliki Tsanaksidou joined in at 7:30pm.

January Minutes: **Katherine** moved; **Tom** seconded. Approved.

**Financial Report: Tula**: Regarding last month’s question on a perceived discrepancy in the FHS account’s balance, Sue Werner had alerted Cindy Crager, Assistant V.P., University Advancement regarding the issue. Cindy, in turn, emailed Tula an explanation clarifying the type of account FHS has and the rules governing how it is handled by the Stockton Foundation. Tula summarized the key points to the FHS group and reported that

* The FHS account is not an endowed fund and has more than $25,000 in it; therefore, the Foundation does invest the funds.
* The fluctuations in the balance month to month have been due to recent market volatility.
* Once the market corrects itself, the account balance should show an increase.

**Scholarship Updates**: Katherine said she will update the scholarship form and share it with the faculty.

* Deadlines will be comparable to last year’s.
* It will be posted on the website.
* She and Mariea will work together to update and post the form.

**Pappas Hellenic Center Report**: Tom reported that this is the Pappas Center’s 20th anniversary.

* He and Tula are working on a Hellenic Studies Impact Report highlighting achievements
  + He asked us to think about how we could celebrate this 20th anniversary.
  + Prof. David Roessel received the balance of the needed funding from the Pappas family
  + Next group of veteran students taking Worlds of Homer will go to Greece with him over spring break
* Study abroad students:
  + An event took place in the Art Gallery with Meghan Coates and Eva.
  + Eva, Tara and Olivia took three semesters online and will be in Thessaloniki for the 4th.
  + Question of financial aid affecting the scholarship was raised?
* Art and Architecture:
  + When Prof. Amy Papalexandrou left, it disappeared as a line; no replacement.
  + Dean is sympathetic
  + Tom will speak to President Kesselman
  + Tom said it is a contractual issue and must be enforced.
  + Tom stated that the FHS should act as advocates for this issue.
  + Tula suggested Tom get all the facts so that FHS could have a brainstorming session

**Old Business:**

* **FHS Website Email updates**: No updates
* **Vasilopita Celebration**:
  + Hosted at Tom and Dorrie’s home on Sunday, January 22nd 2pm to 4pm
  + Very successful; several individuals from many years ago were there

**New Business:**

* **Exploring Hellenism: The Pontian Spirit.** 
  + The event has been rescheduled to Sunday, May 7th due to the NYC Greek Independence Day parade scheduled on April 30th.
  + Dr. Panos and Vasiliki reviewed the contributions they could make to the May 7th event.
  + Tom stated he would confirm Theodosios Kyriakides as the keynote speaker and agreed that Dr. Panos would be excellent as the MC.
  + He underscored to not concentrate on the genocide but on the rich history and culture of Pontos.
  + Vasiliki will coordinate the Akritai dance troupe.
  + Conclusion: Get all the information before deciding what each person’s role will be.
* **Hellenic Voice:**
  + The next issue will be published in mid-May in order to include a report on the Exploring Hellenism “Pontian Spirit” event.
  + Tula will write an article on her recent visit to the National Hellenic Museum in Chicago.
  + Mariea will ask Ginny Kramvis to write an article on the Vasilopita event.
  + Theme for the next issue: Treaty of Lausanne; 1923 Population Exchange; Cappadoccia
  + Tom will write up a short summary for the Hellenic Voice.

**Meeting ended**: 8:07pm.

*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.*