

Young Adult Leadership in the Appalachian Studies Association
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ASA Steering Committee Meeting July 2014

The following points represent results of the session regarding student involvement held at the 2014 Conference.

- Facilitate student engagement with faculty & community members
 1. Theme-based luncheons/socials/receptions with other students, faculty, and activists in areas of interest (education, religion, diversity, activism, etc.)
 2. Student socials, and/or designated student space for conversations (“student lounge”)
 - When at ECU, had Friday lunch and Saturday evening ice cream social
 3. "Adopt" an activist/artist (message boards/ride share)—social media engagement—gives independents a “buddy”
- Anxieties around presenting
 1. Student panel or pre-conference on Thursday
 - Allows students to see each other’s work
 - Registration option to request student-focused panel
 - Check mark on registration form—Are you a student? Would you like to be in a student-only panel? Would you like a reviewer?
 - Designated commenter/reviewer if requested (possibly allow students to request this even without a pre-conference)
 - Have readers ahead of time
 - Match with mentor, preferably in their specific subject area
- Student Roles
 1. We see an opportunity for mentoring interested students and a regular leadership panel on how to get involved in ASA, as well as what programs are available at institutions/avenues for scholarly pursuit/fellowships offered
 - Appalachian Studies (Association) 101
- Obstacles to student attendance/participation (affiliation)
 1. Leverage housing on campus/home stays
 2. AmeriCorps rate
 3. Support free host institution attendance
 4. Cliquish—certain schools bring large gangs who all know each other—what’s an independent student to do?
 5. What’s the benefit of membership for a student?
 6. Student area on website—there are links to programs, but how about grants offered? Also great place to link “What makes a great presentation?” and “What makes a great proposal?”
- Poster session
 1. May be a way to solicit more student participation
 2. Timing
 3. Offers avenue for more selective presentations in sessions

Possibilities for a Student Committee moving forward? (YALL- Young Appalachian Leaders & Learners, spaces at conference, organizing meetings at the conference, socials at the conference, mentorship and juried panels)