Alex 11:13 AM

Hi all,

Just wanted to write a quick message to say how lovely it was to talk with you all on Friday. I would love to do a happy hour check-in every once in a while to keep the groove of our program going. 🙂 Our time together last week really energized me, and I think we're in a good spot to make the CH program the best ever, even with COVID disruptions.

As a followup, I'm sharing **my tasks** this week:

- Email Melissa to ask about AL and DD's status in spring 2021
- Email our enthusiastic partners from last year about curriculum needs and limitations to access (Rennette Brown is at the top of the list)
- Share a VoiceThread in #programming channel that I made last week about creating more dynamic/independent learners in the classroom
- Report back any relevant/useful information I hear about programming
- Answer any questions or concerns you might have about VoiceThread or other programming

In the meantime, **here are your tasks for the next 5-10 workdays** (see below signature for the directions that I included in my email last week):

- @DeAnna Daniels: if you're able, can you share your slides from your presentation last year in the #programming channel? This information will be useful for @Nina Cook as she builds her presentation from scratch **(highest priority, next 12-18 hours)** 🔴
- Individual one-on-one **chats** with me about your presentation; *NOTE: we can also make this a group share; respond to this message and let me know what you think!* **(high priority, next 5-7 days)** 🔴
- **EdTech training:** VoiceThread **(high priority, next 5-7 days)** 🔴
- **Project/Presentation overview** or abstract **(medium priority, next 7-10 days)** 🔶
- Your CH **profile** **(medium priority, next 7-10 days)** 🔶

I'm here if you need me; reach out with *any* questions or concerns!

ALM

- - - - - - - - -

EdTech training (high priority, next 5-7 days) 🔴
- Sign up for a VoiceThread account: https://voicethread.com/
- View this video introduction to what VT does and how to use it: https://voicethread.com/howto/
- Peruse the How-To section to see how to upload media and play around with VT: https://voicethread.com/howto-categories/creating-web-application/
- I'm optimistic that VT will be useful for our CH program during shutdown and social distancing, so please feel free to **start designing a presentation** with audio and video for the fall semester. The great thing is that once it's done, it's done, so I recommend sinking time into the presentation now before the semester gets going.
- @Nina Cook and I were fortunate enough to attend the National Humanities Center's 2020 summer residency program remotely this year, the topic of which was creating supportive environments in online environments. She would be a great resource to ask questions about the technology and other resources to use for your presentations.
- In the meantime, I'm going to ask if the HRC would be willing to purchase a license for the Public Humanities Initiative so that we can collate all our materials in one place. So keep your fingers crossed!

Project/Presentation overview or abstract (medium priority, next 7-10 days) 🔶
- Send me an abstract or outline of what your presentation **via a Direct Message on Slack.**
- Include a short list of ideas for making the presentation interactive in some way.
- Include attachments and/or links to media that you intend to use.
- You're also welcome to share a draft of your presentation via VoiceThread.

Your CH profile for HRC website(medium priority, next 7-10 days) 🔶
- One of my goals this year is to create a bigger (and better) online presence for the CH program and the public humanities initiative at Rice in general. Part of expanding our web presence will be creating online bios and profiles for each of us.
- To that end, I'm asking that you send me the following **via a Direct Message on Slack:**

(edited)

1. Full name (I recommend the name you have or intend to publish under for SEO optimization and whatnot 🙂)
2. Education credentials – where you received your BA, MA(s) if applicable, etc.
3. Home department and year in program
4. Dissertation title (if applicable)
5. Hobbies
6. What attracts you to the Civic Humanist program specifically and Public Humanities in general
7. What you'll be presenting
8. Teaching experience
9. Headshot of you looking ~*approachable and friendly*~

- Note that the items above can literally be a list. I'll write a bio for each of you for the website. And of course I'll share the write-ups with you before anything goes live to make sure that you're happy with everything and/or I'm not leaving anything out.