

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Twenty-Fourth South-Central Renaissance Conference

The meeting was called to order by President Maurice Shapiro in the Faculty Lounge of the Student Union Building at 5:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Executive meeting: Marcus W. Orr (Vice-President), Gary Stringer (Sec.-Treas.), Frederick de Armas, Albert Fields, Jessie R. Lucke, David C. Judkins, Robert H. Ray, and Marjorie D. Lewis (Immediate Past President). Clyde V. Williams did not attend. In addition, the following <sup>new</sup> nominees to the committee had been invited and attended: Willard Cooper, Art, Centenary College; Richard Kieckhefer, History, Phillips University; Louie Schuster, English, St. Mary's University. The vice-presidential nominee--Maurine McElroy, English, U. of Texas (Austin)--was <sup>also</sup> in attendance.

Brief discussion of the proposed Amendment to the By Laws that had been circulated to all conference members was held. No objections were seen.

President Shapiro called for the Secretary to mail out the annual Fall Greetings bulletin early in September. This the secretary agreed to do. The group approved the continuance of the Newsletter, and it was decided that the conference's officers would be listed in the fall newsletter.

President Shapiro mentioned the policy of having a conference representative attend the RSA meeting, saying that Joseph Satin had done us this service this year. It was agreed that the old policy of appointing whoever could attend and find his own financing would be continued in future.

The question of having an annual presidential address or paper was tabled by common consent of the committee.

All items on the previously circulated Resolution of the Executive Committee regarding the administration for the conference publication were discussed in numerical order, and the resolution was passed with the following changes. (a) Item 1, Editor, was amended to read as follows: "The Editor shall be elected for a term of 3 years by majority vote of the Executive Committee. Nominations for this position shall be from among regular members and shall be made by a committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, and the Secretary-Treasurer." (b) Item 2, Editorial Board, was amended to read as follows: "The Editorial Board shall consist of the Executive Committee plus the Editor. The Board members shall serve in accordance with their respective terms of office in the Executive Committee. The functions of the Board shall be to set policy, to act as advisors to the Editor, and to elect the Editor." (See attached copy of Resolution for full version.) Gary Stringer moved the acceptance of the Resolution, Albert Fields seconded the motion, and the resolution as amended carried unanimously.

The Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to contact the IRS about possible investment of conference funds.

Discussion followed on what it <sup>had</sup> cost to put out the first issue of Explorations. Editor Orr hazarded a guess of about \$1,100. The question of raising conference dues was raised, but dropped.

On the possibility of using conference funds to reprint out-of-print or otherwise inaccessible books of value to Renaissance scholars, it was decided to have Professor Shapiro look into the possibilities and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

The possibility of locating the conference's sec.-treas. office with the journal was mentioned, but no action was deemed advisable at this time.

Albert Fields suggested a campaign to enlist new members. For his pains he got appointed head of a committee to enlist new members.

The question of possibly increasing the terms of ~~four~~ all officers of the conference, (viz., President, vice-president) was mentioned. Another possible way to obtain more continuity was to appoint something like an executive director who would coordinate the activities of the conference, pre-plan programs, give coordination to the journal and the programs, etc. ~~was mentioned~~. The upshot was that President Shapiro appointed a sub-committee of Albert Fields, David Judkins, Gary Stringer, Marcus Orr, and Maurine McElroy to look into ways of ensuring the conference a more controlled and thought-out leadership, the group to meet that night for further discussion.

The meeting was adjourned, all business having been taken care of, and the members went off to hear renaissance music.