

Minutes of the General Business Meeting of the Twenty-Sixth South-Central Renaissance Conference, Fayetteville, Arkansas, March 29, 1977

President Maurine McElroy called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Arkansas Union and introduced the conference officers and the current nominating committee, Louis Schuster and Maurice Shapiro. A delightful concert by the Arkansas Early Music Players followed, after which the minutes of the previous general business meeting were presented and approved. Then the following meeting places of future conferences were announced: 1978--Centenary College; 1979--University of Texas at Austin; 1980--Northwestern State University of Louisiana; 1981--open; 1982--University of Southwestern Louisiana. After these preliminaries the following agenda of reports and business was considered.

Reports

1. The report of the delegate to the Southern Humanities Conference was received from Patrick G. Hogan, Jr.

2. President McElroy presented a delegate's report on the meeting of the Renaissance Society of America and on the meeting of the Central Renaissance Conference, also announcing that arrangements were being made for the Executive Council of the RSA to meet with us at Austin, Texas, in 1979.

3. President McElroy summarized the action of the Executive Committee taken the previous evening as follows:

a. The 1978 meeting at Centenary was set for April 6-8.

b. The committee declined to recommend changes studied by an appointed sub-committee chaired by Robert Collmer. These changes were: (1) the formal inclusion of medievalists in the SCRC, (2) the creation of the office of Second Vice-President, (3) the enhancement of the Secretary-treasurer's executive function, (4) the organization of past Presidents of the SCRC into an advisory group for the conference.

c. The secretary will mail out a membership list to all members in the fall of each year.

d. Incoming President Albert Fields will appoint an advisory committee for the conference journal after he takes office.

4. Marcus Orr reported on volumes II and III of EIRC. He promised to mail out volume II soon, volume III by June first.

5. On motion of Louis Schuster, chairman of the nominating committee, and second of Peter Guenther the following slate of officers was elected:

President: Albert Fields, Univ. of Southwest Louisiana
Vice-President: David B. Berkeley, Oklahoma State University
Secretary-Treasurer: Gary A. Stringer, Univ. of Southern Miss.
Executive Committee: Lester Brothers, North Texas State Univ.
Executive Committee: Barbara Jarvis, University of Arkansas
Executive Committee: Arvilla Taylor, Midwestern University

Old Business

1. Professor David Middleton asked about the possibility of distributing the minutes of the executive committee's meetings and inquired about the procedure for getting articles recommended for EIRC, suggesting a vote of the conference as a possible means of selection. Discussion followed.

Minutes of the General Business Meeting of the SCRC at Fayetteville, Ark., 1977

2. Professor Maurice Shapiro asked about the possibility of including medievalists in the conference formally and was informed by the chair that the executive committee had declined to recommend this. No action taken.

Temporary Adjournment

After brief announcements from Professor David Hart, local arrangements chairman, the business meeting was adjourned until the following morning, it being then 2:00 p.m.

Resumption of Business Meeting on Saturday Morning

New Business

1. President McElroy announced that a copy of the constitution and by-laws, together with the resolution on EIRC, would be mailed out to all.
2. The appointment of a Publications Advisory Committee was announced as follows: Patrick G. Hogan, Jr. (chairman), Marcus Orr, Robert Collier, Marjorie Lewis, Willard Cooper, Gary Stringer.
3. President-Elect Fields next took the floor and spoke about EIRC, expressing gratitude for Memphis State's generosity in supporting the publication and stating that the conference now needed a new patron. He encouraged members to inquire about support on their local campuses and to correspond with him or Professor Hogan by June first in case anything promising turned up. Interested members were encouraged to draw on the experience of Professor Orr at Memphis State. Past editorial reports indicated that a maximum of \$2,000 per year would be needed to publish the magazine, Professor Fields said.
4. President McElroy continued, introducing Wilfred Guerin, next year's program chairman, who announced as a theme "On the Discrimination of Renaissances." He encouraged members to write on the characteristics of the renaissance from the perspective of their particular disciplines for next year's program.
5. An invitation to meet in 1981 at the University of Texas at Arlington was accepted, leaving 1983 as our next open date.
6. Resolutions in commendation of all who had contributed to the success of the current meeting were passed enthusiastically.
7. President McElroy thanked especially Professors Hart (local arrangements), Cooper (program), and Stringer for their work during her tenure in office.

Adjournment

Occurred at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary A. Stringer

Gary A. Stringer, Secretary