

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, Twenty-Seventh South-Central Renaissance Conference, Shreveport, Louisiana, April 6, 1978

The meeting was called to order by President Albert Fields in the Board Room of the Administration Building of Centenary College at 5:15 p.m. The following officers and committee members attended: Lester Brothers, David S. Berkeley, Patrick G. Hogan, Jr., Barbara Jarvis, David Hart, Robert Collmer, Arvilla Taylor, Maurine McElroy, Gary Springer, and Willfred Guerin.

Reports

1. Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting were accepted (see attachment).
2. The report of the Treasurer, showing a balance of \$2051.23 (as of April 6, 1978) was accepted (see attachment).
3. The report of the Delegate to the Southern Humanities Conference was accepted (see attachment).
4. The report of the Delegate to the Renaissance Society of America was accepted (see attachment). It was noted that the Executive Council of the RSA will meet with the SCRC in Austin, Texas, in 1979.
5. The report of the Nominating Committee (chairman: Maurine McElroy; members: George Boyd and Robert Collmer) was accepted for presentation to the General Business Meeting.
6. Willfred Guerin, Chairman of the Program Committee, reported that he had contacted some thirty-odd people in getting this year's program together. He noted the continued scarcity of papers in disciplines other than English literature and reiterated the need for all to help in correcting this problem.
7. The report of the Resolutions Committee (Joe Thomas) was deferred until the General Business Meeting.
8. Robert Collmer, Chairman of the Membership Development Committee, observed that the focus of the SCRC appears to be narrowing and opined that more time and much hard work were needed in order to bring in more members from disciplines other than English literature. He mentioned the possibility of sending flyers to SCRC members for distribution among their local colleagues, and David Berkeley suggested that members might offer transportation to meetings as a way of encouraging prospective members.
9. The report of the Publications Committee was temporarily deferred.
10. Sites of future meetings were noted (see attached "Agenda"), and President Fields stressed the need to get firm commitments from the host institutions involved. President Fields noted that the University of Houston had expressed tentative interest in hosting the 1983 meeting, but had not definitely committed itself.
11. President Fields reported that the acquisition of an IRS number for the conference would become the business of the new Secretary-Treasurer, stating that investment of Conference funds would not be possible until such a number was obtained. He recommended that this matter be pursued by the in-coming group of officers.
12. President Fields announced the appointment of Ms. Diane Kaplan of the Centenary Library as Conference Archivist and said he would report further on this matter at the General Business Meeting. Plans on getting materials appropriate for the archives were discussed, as was

the possibility of adding the office of Archivist to the Conference's permanent structure. Among issues raised was the necessity of securing an agreement with the host institution regarding ownership of the archives. In light of such unresolved issues, Mr. Kaplan's appointment was authorized for the present by Executive Committee Resolution.

13. The official "Membership List" was discussed. It was suggested that, owing to the expense of assembling and distributing this list, the list be updated and distributed only every three years, with supplemental up-datings being provided in other years.

New Business

1. President Fields announced that he had been requested by the RSA leadership to nominate persons for possible service as Representatives of Disciplines in the RSA. Mr. Fields asked the group's help in identifying such persons.

2. President Fields suggested that the Committee submit to the Conference a proposal for investment of surplus Conference funds, the interest deriving from such investment to be used to defray the costs of the Conference's Delegate to the RSA.

3. Patrick G. Hogan, Jr., presented the report of the Publications Committee, which he had chaired. Past-president McElroy was commended for her efforts in behalf of the conference journal, and Mr. Hogan presented a formal recommendation that the committee ratify the acceptance of the proposal from the University of Southern Mississippi to support EIRC. This recommendation was accepted and endorsed for presentation at the General Business Meeting.

[Temporary adjournment. The meeting continued the following evening.]

Professor Hogan submitted a document, "Recommendation for Guide Lines," designed to govern the editing and publication of EIRC (see attachment). This document was discussed, and the following points adopted:

a. The President shall appoint a four-person Publications Advisory Board, the duties of which would include appointing members to the Editorial Board of the journal, filling vacancies on the Editorial Board, providing liaison between the SCRC membership and those responsible for editing and publishing the journal, and fulfilling other necessary functions related to this journal. Members of this committee shall be drawn from the Executive Committee.

b. The President shall appoint an Editorial Board consisting of six to eight regular SCRC members.

c. The Editor shall appoint Associate Editors for the journal.

d. All persons involved in the publications project shall maintain regular communication with one another.

4. Past-president McElroy recommended that the constitution of the SCRC not be amended at present to create the post of Conference Archivist, suggesting that the matter be dealt with by the new officers.

Adjournment

Respectfully,

Gary Skiff