

**Minutes of the Business Meeting of  
The South-Central Renaissance Conference, 23  
March 2013**

The meeting began at 8:05 AM.

1. President Sean Benson began the meeting by welcoming everyone. The minutes from our 2012 meeting were approved. He then thanked Tim McKinney and Catherine Loomis who have completed their terms of service for their work on the board.
2. Old Business: Reports
  - a. ***Explorations in Renaissance Culture (EIRC)***: Thomas Herron discussed the delays in publication and plans to catch up. Volume 40 (2014) will be a commemorative issues edited by James Baumlin with an introduction by Frances Malpezzi and Raymond Frontain. Herron will investigate the possibility of moving production to a professional publisher such as Brill, provided that we can maintain our editorial duties.
  - b. **Web**: Arlen Nydam, who was not present at the conference, has asked that we begin to look for a replacement for webmaster duties.
  - c. **Discoveries**: Submissions are down; please consider submitting paper from conference to Discoveries.
  - d. **Secretary-Treasurer**: Our finances have decreased due to costs of New Orleans conference in 2012. We need more funding for graduate student travel.
  - e. **Local Host**: Matthew Averett believes we will see a profit for both SCRC and Creighton University from this year's conference.

- f. **Program Chair:** Tim Moylan reported that we had 113 total papers presented, 38 panels, and 7 sessions. We also brought in a good number of scholars from local universities.
  - g. **Nominations:** The following nominations were approved:
3. New Business
- a. Our next conference will be in Tucson, AZ, April 3-5, 2014. Meg Lota Brown is the local host, and Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler is the program chair.
  - b. We will be in Raleigh, NC, March 12-14, 2015. Charles Beem and Thomas Herron are the local hosts.
  - c. Future sites for 2016 may include St. Louis or Austin.
  - d. We discussed the possibility of having a fall meeting to avoid conflicting with a number of spring conferences. Members were asked to please contact board members with their opinions.
  - e. A motion was presented to increase membership dues, which haven't increased since the 1990s, to \$25 for general membership, \$15 for graduate students beginning with our 2014 dues. Discussion followed, and an amendment was added to increase it to \$30 for general membership, \$10 for graduate students. The amendment did not pass. The original motion to increase dues to \$25/\$15 beginning in 2014 was approved by vote.

The meeting adjourned 8:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia M. García  
Secretary-Treasurer

## **Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting of The South-Central Renaissance Conference, 21 March 2013**

Members present: Sean Benson, Irving Kelter, Joan Faust, Charles Beem, Debbie Barrett Graves, Catherine Loomis, Greg Bentley, Catherine Powers, Tim McKinney, Tim Moylan, Ellen Longsworth, Pat García

Guest: Jonathan Reid, Assistant Editor, *EIRC*

The meeting began at 6:13 p.m.

1. President Sean Benson began the meeting by asking all to introduce themselves. He expressed thanks to board members Catherine Loomis and Tim McKinney who are finishing their terms this year.
2. The minutes from 2012 were approved with corrections.
3. Old Business: Reports (all reports are attached at the end of these minutes.)
  - a. Thomas Herron, Explorations
    - i. The production schedule of Volume 38 (2012) has been delayed. However, it should be out this spring, and it will be a double issue. Herron passed around an advanced copy of table of contents.
    - ii. Herron hopes to have more of our plenary speakers' lectures published in the journal. Sabine Mödersheim's and Kevin Moll's lectures from our 2012 meeting have been solicited, and both authors are currently working on drafts of these.
    - iii. Color illustrations will be included in future issues. This should attract more

submissions from art historians. Herron is also trying to diversify our submissions to areas outside literature and art history.

- iv. Yael Evan and Cheney are editing volume 39.1 on Vasari. While production is behind, it should be out in fall of 2013.
- v. Volume 40.1 (2014) will be a commemorative issue guest edited by James Baumlin with an introduction by Frances Malpezzi and Raymond Frontain. It will be a “best of” issue.
- vi. Volume 40.2 (2014) will include a cluster of essays on French literature stemming out of ECU conference.
- vii. Questions
  - i. Ellen Longsworth asked if Vol. 39.1 would be ready by September considering the delay with Vol. 38. Herron responded that this would be up to the guest editors but hoped to get the final copy from them in April.
  - ii. Catherine Powers asked if EIRC would receive graduate assistant support in the future. Herron says it is possible to lose this funding in the future and also pointed out the problem of having to train new graduate assistants in the design program. This is one of the concerns he has that has lead him to consider using a professional publisher, as Jonathan Reid discusses below. Ellen

Longsworth asked about graduate assistants working as editors.

Herron clarified that he and Reid, along with others, have final say over the copy.

- iii. Pat García asked Herron to consider notifying institutional subscribers of our delay. She also asked about the mailing costs, noting the increase. Herron stated that he would check on bulk mail costs and procedures.
- viii. Jonathan Reid: Brill Services Report
  - i. Reid and Herron feel that the current business model of the subvention plus reprint and royalty money is unsustainable.
  - ii. The long-term solution is to take the journal to academic press that would handle physical production, online publication, promotion, submissions, and possible paid advertisements. While journal costs may rise, the goal would be to keep costs low for SCRC members.
  - iii. Sean Benson asked that Reid and Herron present a proposal for such an agreement as soon as possible. An electronic discussion and vote can be done if necessary to facilitate this move before our next board meeting.
  - iv. Questions

- i. Irving Kelter would like to ensure that the current editorial board is maintained in any agreement. The board agreed with this.
- ii. Pat García asked Herron to see if any such agreement would violate our current agreements with Gale and Proquest.
- iii. Greg Bentley asked about reprint money for authors. Currently, EIRC authors receive 40% of any reprint money along with a print and electronic copy of the article.
- iv. Catherine Powers asked for a specific budget and costs to be included in the proposal.
- v. Pat García asked about the plan for an EIRC website. Currently, the focus of the editors is to move the journal to a professional publisher rather than creating the web site. The board asked that any future website for EIRC be clearly linked to SCRC and our website.

b. Pat García, Secretary-Treasurer Report

- i. Please see attached report for more information.
  - ii. A motion was made to increase membership dues to \$25 general membership, \$15 for graduate students. The motion was approved.
  - iii. Suggestions were made to establishing a PayPal account for SCRC and for automatic membership renewals.
- c. Sean Benson on behalf of Arlen Nydam, web and *Discoveries* reports
  - i. See attached report for more information.
  - ii. Arlen Nydam would like to step down as webmaster and has asked that we begin looking for a replacement.
  - iii. Discoveries needs increased submissions and a book reviewers and a book review editor. Irving Kelter volunteered to help write book reviews.
- d. Matthew Averett, Local Host Report
  - i. We oversold our initial contract for hotel rooms. The hotel added rooms at the conference rate. The catering bill estimate is \$8000. Media costs were kept low because Creighton was able to supply projectors. So far, we have collected approximately \$12,000 and our estimated costs are about \$9000 so Averett is hopeful there will be a profit on this conference.
  - ii. We had 130 participants: 90 regular and 40 graduate students.
  - iii. Suggestions to help with media costs were to ask people to bring their own

computers and adapters and to standardize media requests on submission forms. The suggestion that SCRC buy and maintain our own media equipment is unfeasible due to costs of storage and transport.

e. Tim Moylan, Program Chair Report

- i. The conference had 7 sessions, 38 panels, 113 papers, and 8 withdrawals related to budget or scheduling.
- ii. There were 3 panels focusing on music, an increase from previous years.
- iii. We need to clarify rotation of Martz lecture each year with the program chair. This year, 2 Martz speakers were invited by mistake. The problem was solved when the invited Hunter lecturer, Joe Lowenstein from Washington University in St. Louis, agreed to be the Martz lecturer for 2014 (sponsored by SRAH). One of the invited Martz lecturers for 2013 was asked to do the Hunter lecture. To clarify for future reference: the program chair invites the Hunter lecturer; the societies invite the Martz lecture on a rotation (2013 Marvell Society; 2014 SRAH; 2015 QEI Society); and the local host invites the keynote speaker.
- iv. Saturday panels in New Orleans were not well attended. We are not having Saturday panels here in Omaha, and the recommendation is that we do not have them in the future.

- v. This year, the QEI Society had more participants than panel slots. In the future, they may need to limit their participants and suggest that some submit to SCRC.
  - vi. Tim Moylan expressed his thanks to Debra Barrett-Graves for her program chair guidelines, to Arlen Nydam for help with submission forms and setting up the program on the web, and to Sean Benson and Pat García for support throughout the planning of the program.
  - vii. The board decided it would be helpful to invite the incoming program chair and local host to the board meeting.
  - viii. Debra Barrett-Graves stated the need to update submission forms and guidelines for graduate travel awards to ensure that the current vice-president receives these.
- f. Irving Kelter, Nominations Report
- i. The following nominations were approved for a vote at our business meeting: president Debra Barrett-Graves (until 2014) vice president Tim Moylan (until 2014) ; secretary treasurer Joan Faust (until 2016); board members at large Kevin Moll and Irving Kelter (until 2016); QE1 Society representative Charles Beem (until 2016); emeritus member William Levin. All terms begin and end at the conclusion of our annual meeting.

#### 4. New Business

- a. Charles Beem, local host for 2015, has written a hotel inquiry form to add to our local host guidelines.
- b. Future conference sites:
  - Tucson, AZ. April 3-5 2014
  - Raleigh, NC March 12-14, 2015
  - 2016 and 2017 possible meeting sites include St. Louis or Austin.
- c. Sean Benson suggested we consider a fall meeting date to avoid the conflict with spring conferences. Some fall conferences and meetings we would have to schedule around include SCMLA, the Sixteenth Century Society, and the American Musicological Society.
- d. A member expressed concern over inviting our own members to serve as plenary speakers. The suggestion was made that while our own members are established experts in their fields and should be invited to speak, we should try to bring in outside speakers with the hope that they will join SCRC.
- e. A motion to clarify emeritus eligibility was approved. One should be a long-standing member of the society and should be retired from his/her institution.
- f. Pat García shared the EIRC funding guidelines that she and Herron established.
- g. The Marvell Society will present the John M. Wallace Award for best paper from an early-career scholar beginning this year. This will only continue through lifetime of the anonymous donor of the award. Herron encouraged the winner of the award to submit his/her essay to EIRC.

- h. Ellen Longsworth expressed her thanks to Pat García for her service to the board at the conclusion of the meeting. (Thanks, by the way, to all of you for your support and best wishes!)

The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

PDF file containing all reports.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia M. García  
Secretary-Treasurer