

## SECOLAS GENERAL MEETING

April 20, 2007

San José, Costa Rica

### **MINUTES (Recorded by Angela Herren)**

President Paula Heusinkveld called the meeting to order.

#### **Introductions**

The SECOLAS Executive Committee officers introduced themselves.

#### **Financial Report**

Secretary-Treasurer Angela Herren presented the SECOLAS financial reports.

#### **Blackwell Proposal**

Outgoing President Stephen Morris reviewed the highlights of the Blackwell Proposal. Margaret Zusky (Associate Publisher, Blackwell) and Elizabeth Barrett Kidder (Editor, Blackwell) discussed the proposal and reviewed the main goals. Jürgen Buchenau (Co-Editor, Annals) reviewed the implications of the proposal, specifically discussing the fact that SECOLAS will pay Blackwell \$28/member over five years for the journal.

#### **Merging the Annals into The Latin Americanist**

The related issue of folding the Annals into The Latin Americanist was discussed. Changing the wording in the by-laws to reflect this requires a vote by mail. Members will vote on this. Changes to the by-laws require a vote at the General Meeting only. Lee moved to approve this change to the by-laws. Isabel seconded the motion. All SECOLAS members present voted unanimously to change the by-laws to reflect the folding of the Annals into TLA.

#### **Membership Dues Increase**

The Executive Committee recommended a rate increase in dues to \$40/year for regular members, \$100/year for a 3-year regular membership, and \$20/year for a student or international membership. It was clarified that SECOLAS is subsidizing the student/international memberships since the organization will be paying Blackwell \$28/member per year. Jimmy Huck moved to increase the dues by the recommended amounts. The move was seconded and accepted.

#### **Student Travel Grants**

The idea of providing student travel grants to increase graduate student participation was discussed. The Executive Committee reminded members that this had been discussed four years ago, but not carried out. The Executive Committee announced that a sub-committee had been formed to work on this issue. The sub-committee is Jimmy Huck, Richmond Brown, and Paula Heusinkveld. Jimmy Huck will chair the committee.

### **Future Conferences**

Richmond Brown reported that next year's conference takes place April 17-19, 2008 in Tampa, Florida. The University of South Florida will host the conference. The conference will be co-hosted by ENLACE FLORIDA and the Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean at The University of South Florida. The proposed theme for the conference is: "Engaging Latino Communities and Rethinking Latin American Studies." Paula Heusinkveld reported that Lyman Johnson and Carmen Rivera are proposed Program Chairs. Jimmy Huck reported that he is planning the New Orleans conference in 2009. Jürgen Buchenau reported that he is organizing the Mexico conference in 2010 with the help of the Instituto Mora.

### **Award Committee Elections**

Jürgen Buchenau was elected to a 3-year term for the A. Thomas book award. Jimmy Huck self-nominated and was elected for the 1-year term. Isabel Brown is the Chair of the committee. The Sturgis Leavitt committee position is based on whoever wins. Tim rotates off and the winner rotates on. The Moseley Award is for best student paper. M. Hall rotates off. Bruce Willis and Steve Morris are already on the committee. Jürgen Buchenau suggested Susan Socolow. Isabel Brown seconded the motion. Susan Socolow was voted in absentia to the Moseley Award committee.

### **Executive Committee Elections**

Carmen Collado was nominated by the Executive Committee to be an At Large Member. She was accepted by acclamation. Blake Pattridge was nominated by the Executive Committee to be the President Elect. He was accepted by acclamation.

### **New Business**

Paula Heusinkveld thanked the Host Institution and Stephen Morris for his service as president. William Harris suggested we post a list of past conferences and presidents.

William Harris moved to close the meeting. Jürgen Buchenau seconded the move. The meeting was closed by acclamation.