

**FRIDAY, March 30, 2012, 5:30-6:30 PM**  
**Reitz Union, Room 285, University of Florida**  
**Gainesville, Florida**

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**In Attendance:** 18 SECOLAS Members in attendance

**Introductions by new President Tim Hawkins.**

**Welcome and thank you to Richmond Brown for a great conference!**

- **Reports**
  - **Financial Report – Angela Rajagopalan, Secretary-Treasurer**
- Angela Herren Rajagopalan reported that the organization is financially healthy, with \$48,736.31 in the treasury. Our Oppenheimer account is very conservative, so we had no losses and a modest gain of \$3.33, ending at \$27,022.17. In our Savings account, we hold \$1,215.03 (the remaining money from Wingate University that was set aside for Greg Crider's travel). This money is not counted in the total SECOLAS funds of \$48,736.31. The current total in our Checking account is \$20,340.33 (plus pending Paypal funds of \$1,373.81). The total SECOLAS funds of \$48,736.31 includes these pending Paypal funds.
- The Secretary-Treasurer has reconfigured the reporting format to report financial accounting on an annual basis (rather than conference to conference basis) in order to make more accurate comparisons between fiscal years.
- Overall, our finances show a slight downward trend. We are required to pay Blackwell a base fee for 200 individual subscriptions and our membership generally falls slightly below that. It is recommended that we do not incur any out of the ordinary expenses and that we promote membership growth.
- Last year, we paid a fee below the normal rate and it was assumed that the journal had achieved profitability, but that turned out not to be the case as Blackwell made a mistake and later billed us the remainder.
- In 2011 the Secretary-Treasurer implemented the capability for online Paypal payments for membership. We are still working out the details of this, but it seems to be functioning fairly well.
  - **Report on *The Latin Americanist* – Greg Weeks, Editor**
- Greg Weeks reported that TLA is going along well as normal.
- Wiley-Blackwell is proposing all-electronic formatting to reduce carbon footprint. However, they are not reducing costs for SECOLAS. We can provide an option for people who do not want paper copies. Overall, Greg Weeks suggests that we stay with

print copies for now. Currently there is an electronic and a print version.

- **Report on the Annals edition of TLA – Greg Crider, Editor**
- Greg Crider reported that the Annals is coming out any day and looks good with seven articles from a variety of disciplines.
- **Announcements**
  - Greg Weeks followed up on the South Carolina issue and the 2000 resolution regarding the confederate flag at the State House. In 2000 a resolution was passed that we not meet in SC until the flag was removed from the State House. It has come down, but NAACP recommends that the boycott continue because the flag is still on the grounds. We are not bound by the 2000 resolution technically and if we want to bar it, we need to create a new resolution.
  - Discussion ensued. It was determined that the issue could be tabled and no new resolution needed to be made at this time.
    - Shavon Bell is stepping down from her role as assistant to Greg Weeks and Angela Herren Rajagopalan. Thank you to Shavon for her service these last two years.
    - Bruce Dean Willis, our book review editor, has stepped down. Thank you to him for his many years of service. Chad Black will be filling his position.
- **Old Business**
  - **Panama, 2013**
  - Greg Weeks reported that we are working on Panama as the site for next year's conference. The conference is planned for March 2013.
  - Ann Fountain reported that her husband has good contacts in Panama and would be willing to assist.
    - **Western States Region in 2014**
  - Jimmy Huck and New Orleans was discussed.
    - **Eastern States Region in 2015**
  - No specific locations were discussed.
    - **International in 2016**

- Sarah Bares said that Millsaps has a base in Yucatan and that could be a possibility.
- Cuba is still on the table but there are legal issues, including blocked funding for people coming from FL. We also have to see what policies may change after the presidential election. Jim Henderson and Ann Fountain will continue pursuing this option.
  
- **New Business**
  - **Program Chairs for next year**
- Tim Hawkins reported that the Program Chairs for next year have been selected: Sarah Bares (Humanities/Literature) and Marixa Lasso (History/Social Sciences).
  - **Carmen Rivera would like to resign from the Executive Committee**
  
- **Elections**
  - **President Elect**
- Tim Hawkins will be the next President. Frank Robinson was unanimously voted President-Elect.
  - **At Large members**
- Current members are Frank Robinson (2012), Ann Gonzalez (2013), and Sarah Wamester Bares (2014). Frank Robinson is rotating off and Jimmy Huck is rotating on.
  - **Award Committees**
    - **Alfred B. Thomas Book Award – (3 year staggered appointments)**
- Current committee consists of: Magdalena Maiz-Peña (2012), Stephen Morris (2013), and Frank Robinson (2014). Magdalena is rotating off.
- Ann Gonzalez will replace Magdalena Maiz-Peña.
  - **Sturgis Leavitt Award – (3 year staggered appointments)**
- Current committee consists of: Michael Pisani (2012), Tim Hawkins (2013), and Natalia Milanesio (2014). Michael Pisani is rotating off.
- This year's winner will be appointed to the committee. [Retroactive note: Rebecca Atencio was awarded the Sturgis Leavitt Award and will replace Michael Pisani.]
  - **Edward Moseley Award – (3 year staggered appointments)**

- The current committee is: Halbert Jones (2012), Liz Moran (2013), and James Wood (2014). Hal Jones is cycling off. Jimmy Huck will replace Hal.
- **Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 PM.**