

**SECOLAS GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Friday, April 17, 2009, 5:00-6:00 PM**  
**Room 1 of the Conference Hotel**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Executive Committee Members In Attendance:** Richmond Brown, Gregory Crider, Angela Herren, Paula Heusinkveld, Blake Pattridge, Carmen Rivera, Gregory Weeks

1. **President Blake Pattridge called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Unanimous approval of Minutes from 2008 executive committee and general committee meetings in Ybor City, Florida**

2. **Reports**

**a. Financial report – Angela Herren, Secretary/Treasurer**

- Angela Herren reported that the organization is financially healthy with \$57,133.87 total in the treasury. In 2008 we settled accounts with Blackwell and they are now handling all of the finances related to the institutional subscriptions. We continue to pay Blackwell \$28.00 per person for individual membership subscriptions. Despite the financial crisis this past year, our accounts show modest gains. The Oppenheimer account saw a gain of \$530.57 (roughly half our normal gain) and stands at \$26,998.25. We hold \$4,775.78 in funds that are reserved for operation of the journals and \$25,359.84 in our general accounts. Angela indicated that we may want to consider raising the student/international rate to \$28.00 to cover minimum expenses owed to Blackwell.
- On the secretarial side, Angela reported that the membership database was transitioned to Filemaker Pro, a much more efficient database program. She has been working on cleaning up the database this year and is better able to target individuals whose membership status has lapsed. The membership count is up for this time of the year. This year we had 143 members at the time of the conference, while last year we had 104 members at the time of the conference.

**b. Report from editor of *The Latin Americanist* – Greg Weeks)**

- Greg Weeks reported that The Latin Americanist journal is doing well. The online submissions process is active and is much more efficient. Our exposure is much broader because of the online databases.
- The Annals is now officially the first issue of TLA each year. This year (2009) is the beginning of the publication of four issues per year. The last one will be on the Mexican Revolution. We will have guest editors for a few years until the four issues per year become established.
- The quality of submissions is up.

- There was a general discussion about keeping the membership numbers up and a reminder that we need at least 200 members at a minimum. It was suggested to send an email regarding a membership drive. The issue of raising student/international membership fees to cover the basic Blackwell expenses was discussed. A general vote was held and the group unanimously voted to approve raising the student/international membership fees to \$28.00.

### **3. Announcements**

- Jimmy Huck and the program chairs, Scott Beck and Elizabeth Moran, were thanked for their service.

### **4. Old business - Discussion of future conference sites:**

#### **a. Mexico City 2010 (Carmen Collado)**

- The Mexico City conference will take place April 7-10, 2010. It will run from Wednesday to Saturday the week after Easter.

#### **b. Mississippi 2011**

- The 2011 conference will most likely take place at Mississippi. Rich Brown is in discussion with Buddy Arrington. Memphis is also under consideration.

#### **c. 2012**

- Coastal Carolina University is a tentative location for 2012.

#### **d. 2013**

- A location in Cuba is under discussion for 2013. Cien Fuegos was suggested because there is a relationship with Coastal Carolina.

### **5. Elections**

#### **a. President-Elect**

- Carment Rivera was nominated by the Executive Committee and unanimously elected President-Elect.
- The Executive Committee nominated Tim Hawkins to serve a 3-year term as At-Large Member and Elizabeth Moran to serve a 2-year term as At-Large Member. They were unanimously elected.

### **6. Announcement of Award Committees.**

#### **a. Awards committees – rotations and replacements (3 year staggered appointments)**

##### **i. Alfred B. Thomas Book Award – (3 year staggered appointments)**

- Isabel Brown and Jimmy Huck are rotating off. Magdalena Maiz-Peña will serve a 3-year term; Scott Beck will serve a 2-year term; Jürgen Buchenau will serve a 1-year term and will be the chair of the committee.

##### **ii. Sturgis Leavitt Award**

- Angela Willis is rotating off. Michael Pisani (the 2009 winner) will serve a 3-year term; Tom Rogers (the 2008 winner) will serve a 2-year term; Lyman Johnson (the 2007 winner) will serve a 1-year term.

**iii. Edward Moseley Student Paper Award**

- Steve Morris is rotating off. Hal Jones will serve a 3-year term; Paula Huesinkveld will serve a 2-year term; Rich Brown will serve a 1-year term and will be the chair of the committee.

**Meeting Adjourned.**