

Minutes of the Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL/ASOR Annual Meeting – May 14th, 2011, 1:15 pm
Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA

Welcome and Announcements

- a. Linda Schearing gave general announcements about the evening banquet and transportation from the banquet reception to the Red Lion.
- b. Roger Anderson announced a reception for the ASOR plenary speaker, Martha Joukowsky, from 5:00-6:30 pm in the Jepson lobby on Saturday.
- c. Norm Metzler called the meeting to order.
- d. Doug McGaughey welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Gonzaga University for hosting the event.
- e. Doug McGaughey announced the number of registrants: SBL=57; AAR=73; Students and others=36; ASOR=10

TOTAL = 176 registrants

Old Business

- a. **2010 Minutes.** The minutes of the May 8, 2010 business meeting at the University of Victoria (distributed to the tables) were approved as written.
- b. **Financial Report:** The treasurer's report (distributed to the tables) was approved as written. Ardy Bass highlighted the cost of expenses from the University of Victoria meeting.

Jeff Staley expressed concerns about the cost of the University of Victoria meeting given the numbers found on the Financial Report. Given these concerns, an audit committee was formed to review the 2010-2011 finances. The audit committee includes these volunteers: Norm Metzler, Jeff Staley and Dennis Jowers.

It was stressed that given the upcoming changes to restructuring of the regions through the national AAR and SBL, finances will be dealt with differently in the future.
- c. **Student Paper Competition:** Rob Hauck reported there were not as many papers submitted for the awards this year. He requested that members encourage students to submit in the future. Rob reported that for the AAR, two undergraduate papers were submitted and two graduate papers. For the SBL, there were three undergraduate papers submitted and no graduate paper submissions. Rob thanked the readers for their work, especially at such a bad time of the year. A sign-up sheet will be circulated for readers for next year.
- d. **AAR National Report:** Doug McGaughey reports that changes are coming to the regions, particularly because of liability concerns since the national office subsidizes our meetings. They are reevaluating their relationship to the regions. Each organization has come up with a solution to cover this legal problem and we will need to create a hybrid out of our three organizations (AAR, SBL, ASOR) to address these concerns. Doug stressed that these changes are primarily administrative and that those who participate and attend the meetings should not note a

significant difference in the way the meeting is run. The upside is that we will continue to have excellent services from these organizations. For example, online registration is provided entirely through the national AAR without charge to us as well as on the online Call for Papers, again without charge to us. We will have non-profit status, which means the Region will be able to accept donations and members will be able to take a tax deduction, something that we cannot do at the present time. Doug stressed that in the future financial auditing will take place through the AAR at no charge to the region.

- e. **SBL National Report:** Ardy Bass reported that she echoes what Doug says about the reorganization of the region. The national SBL has two proposals for the regions to choose from and, unfortunately, they are completely different from that proposed by the national AAR. These two options for regions are available on the SBL webpage if anyone is interested in reviewing this. The changes will be, as Doug said, primarily administrative.

New Business

- a. **Election of Officers:** Dennis Jowers of Faith Evangelical Seminary thanked all who served on the nominating committee.

Heidi Spzek of Central Washington University (SBL), the current vice-president, was elected as president next year. All were in favour.

Jim Wellman of the University of Washington (AAR) was nominated to be vice-president, president-elect. There were no more nominations from the floor. All were in favour.

Ardy Bass of Gonzaga University (SBL) was nominated to be the executive secretary and SBL Regional Coordinator. There were no more nominations from the floor. All were in favour.

Eric Cunningham of Gonzaga University (AAR) was nominated to be the secretary/treasurer and AAR Regional Coordinator. There were no more nominations from the floor. All were in favour.

Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen of Pacific Lutheran University was elected to join the Nominating Committee. There were no more nominations from the floor. All were in favour.

- b. **Meeting Venue 2012.** The meeting will take place at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon from May 11-13, 2012. Norm Metzler is the host and contact person.
- c. **AAR/SBL Restructuring Commission.** Doug presented a proposal for a commission of eleven members: five AAR, five SBL and one ASOR. Each group would meet separately and then the entire commission would meet together to discuss options for our region.

The Restructuring Commission Proposal reads as follows:

The region proposes to establish a Commission consisting of five representatives each from the AAR and SBL along with one representative from ASOR to examine and implement the new organization structures for the AAR and SBL in the PNW region. In the course of the 2011-2012 academic year, the Commission plans to hold one face-to-face meeting of society members separately and two face-to-face meetings of all eleven representatives. The Commission will

bring its recommendations to the annual business meeting of the PNW region in the spring of 2012.

The PNW Region will request financial assistance from the AAR and SBL to fund the meetings of the Commission. Funding would cover travel and accommodations for the ten members of the commission.

Doug stressed that there is no guarantee we will be successful in securing funding from the national offices.

AAR volunteers for this commission include Doug McGaughey, Dennis Jowers, Eric Cunningham, Norman Metzler and Priscilla Pope-Levison. Doug McGaughey will chair the AAR side.

SBL volunteers include Ardy Bass, Jon Taylor, Heidi Szpek, Beth Hayes, and Roger Anderson (also ASOR representative). Ardy Bass will chair the SBL side.

Since Roger Anderson (ASOR) is also a member of SBL, his presence on the commission means only ten members are required.

The proposal for the commission was moved and seconded.

- d. **Fee Structure.** A motion was advanced and approved stating the Executive Committee will meet to explore the current annual meeting fee structure for the region.

Future Meetings

May 11-13, 2011 at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon.

In 2013 we should meet somewhere in Canada. We are also looking at meeting at the University of Washington in Seattle as an alternate site.

Adjournment

Norm Metzler adjourned the meeting at 1:57 pm. Approximately 70 people attended the business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Ardy Bass