

ASOR Committee on Publications Minutes
November 16, 2000
Loews Vanderbilt Plaza, Nashville, TN

Present: Ann Killebrew, James Weinstein, Peter Feinman, Piotr Michalowski, Michele Daviau, Victor Matthews, Eric Cline, Al Leonard, Brian Hesse

Ex-officio: Billie Jean Collins (DoP), Rudy Dornemann (Exec.Dir.), Joe Seger (ASOR Pres.)

Guests: Jerry Vincent, Larry Herr

1. Al Leonard called the meeting together at 4:15pm.
2. Ann Killebrew (Nominations) put forward two names for appointment to the committee for the class of 2003. The nominees were Andrew Vaughn and Jonathan Tubb. After a brief discussion the nominations were voted on. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. DoP, Billie Jean Collins, recommended a revision to the current procedure for approval of book manuscripts. Due to a need to ensure the financial viability of book titles, it was proposed that once a book editor receives positive reviews, (s)he submit a provisional letter of acceptance. The DoP then prepares a cost analysis of the volume and prepares a recommendation to the Chair of COP. If the Chair approves the title, the author is sent a final letter of acceptance. Discussion followed the recommendation. Ann Killebrew asked why such a measure hadn't been taken before. Collins responded that we had never had the problem of too many manuscripts in the past and that other organizations, such as SBL, were also struggling with how to monitor manuscript flow in the face of budget constraints. A motion as suggested was made and seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
Collins deferred the presentation of the remainder of the Director of Publications report to more pressing issues.
4. Journal editors James Weinstein, Piotr Michalowski and Brian Hesse, presented brief reports on the status of BASOR, JCS, and NEA, resp.
5. Budget Report.
Collins presented a detailed written report on the budget, including a revised budget projection for FY01 as had been requested previously by the Finance Committee. The Committee discussed the budget line-by-line addressing needs and concerns. President Seger addressed the board presenting the Finance Committee's viewpoint on the budget and the perceived need for major cuts in expense projections. A heated discussion followed.
Collins presented a cash flow analysis prepared by a consultant to the Committee that projected a positive cash flow and a list of suggestions for improving revenues.

RESOLVED, that COP request the Baghdad Committee to provide an annual budget to the Executive Committee, part of which would cover past JCS [51 and 52] subvention and part would cover ongoing additional funds for JCS. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. This is advisory to the Executive Committee.

RESOLVED, that until financial analysis of the publication budget is completed we put the \$30,000 [transferred to the Opportunity Fund] back into operating funds as working capital. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. This is advisory to the Executive Committee.

6. The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie Jean Collins