

COP Meeting Minutes, Cambridge MA  
November 18, 1999

Present: Al Leonard, Vic Matthews, Brian Hesse, Jim Weinstein, Ann Killebrew, Michelle Daviau, David Schloen, Peter Feinman, Gary Herion, Larry Herr, Rudy Dornemann, Billie Jean Collins, Eric Cline. Absent: Nancy Lapp, Gloria London, Piotr Michalowski.

I. Leonard called the meeting or order at 4:15 pm.

II. The minutes of the November 19, 1998 meeting were read and approved.

III. Nominations to COP class of 2002.

Al Leonard suggested Peter Feinman and Eric Cline be elected to class of 2001. Motion seconded, and passed.

IV. Nominations for editors.

Motion to renew Nancy Lapp and Gloria London for second terms as editors of the Annual and Arch.Reports respectively. Motion was seconded and passed.

Weinstein reported that the new/renewed members of the BASOR Board are A. Simmons (renewed), Pierre Bikai and Sharon Herbert (elected).

Hesse reported on list of proposed new board members for the class of 2002: Andrea Berlin, Linda Bregstein, Doug Clark, Dan Fleming, Ted Lewis, David Small, Jane Waldbaum, Sam Wolff. These had yet to be contacted and confirmed.

Discussion followed nomination procedure. Daviau suggested that names be circulated prior to the meeting. Seconded by Leonard. Collins called for a volunteer to fill the vacant position of nominations committee for COP Board. Ann Killebrew agreed to serve.

V. Director of Publications Report.

Collins reported on status of journals and circulation. Reviewed volumes in manuscript queue. Raised problem of camera ready copy versus subvention. Discussion followed. Weinstein made motion that authors be required to provide a subvention to cover the full cost of copyediting as well as of preparation of typeset copy. Motion seconded and passed.

More discussion followed concerning procedure. Schloen emphasized importance of high standards; suggested giving precise guidelines to authors, then reviewing mss. and assessing them for copyediting costs. Killebrew asked about funding for young scholars. In response, Collins and Dornemann referred to the planned use of the Publications endowment for publication awards, which still needs defining and implementation but may be possible next year.

VI. Budget. Collins reported on the status fo the budget for FY99, which reflects increased income due to good sales, particularly of NEA and BASOR and the books.

VII. World of the Bible. Update on the status of that relationship was provided.

VIII. Closing of Scholars Press

Collins reviewed recent history and made a recommendation to raise subscription rates for institutional subscriptions to the journals as there had been no increase in 8 years. She further recommended keeping book and journal production and marketing in-house for up to two years while considering the commercial options. An extended discussion followed.

Presentations by Mitch Allen from AltaMira Press and Paige Larkin from Blackwells.

Motion made, seconded and passed to keep book and journal production and marketing in-house for up to two years giving Publications a chance to better understand its goals and priorities.

#### IX. New Business

Weinstein suggested that BASOR editor receive a stipend in view of BASOR's projected revenue. Motion was made, seconded and passed that Al Leonard negotiate a stipend with Weinstein for the BASOR editorship to begin July 1, 2000.

Collins outlined the need for an additional position in the Publications office. Matthews made a motion to hire an assistant in the Publications office to begin July 1, 2000. The motion was seconded by Herion and was passed.