

Agenda: Business Meeting
BYZANTINE STUDIES CONFERENCE
Princeton 1993

1. Introduction and Thanks
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 1992 Conference
3. Election of Members to the Board (to serve until 1997 Conference)
4. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees
 - a. Secretary-Treasurer's Report
 - b. BSC-Dumbarton Oaks Liaison Committee Report
 - c. 1992 Program Committee: Graduate Student Prize
Byz. Meds - stipends
5. Announcements
 - a. International Committee Report
 - b. 1994 Conference Announcement
6. Other Business

*Byzantine Studies
Association*

Business Meeting Minutes
Byzantine Studies Conference
Princeton, Nov. 6, 1993

President Jeffrey Anderson opened the meeting with thanks to the local arrangements committee and the program committee.

1. The minutes of the previous business meeting at University of Illinois were presented and accepted.
2. The candidates for the Governing Board (Helen C. Evans, Elizabeth A. Fisher, Ralph W. Mathisen, Daniel J. Sahas) were elected.
3. Denis Sullivan presented the treasurer's report; a question was raised from the floor about a decrease in the BSC treasury. Sullivan indicated that the fund was higher than when he assumed the treasurership and suggested that legal fees of incorporation and having conferences run by university conference centers with little or no return to the BSC may have been factors in a longer term decline. The treasurer's report was accepted.
4. Susan Harvey presented the report of the BSC liaison committee to Dumbarton Oaks which took place on May 1, 1993: the main issues discussed included the response of the BSC to the state of the discipline in universities, monuments at risk and the DO acquisitions list.
5. Jeffrey Anderson announced that Mary Lee Coulson was the recipient of the Graduate Student Prize, a Byzantine gold coin provided by an anonymous donor.
6. John Barker presented a report from the US National Committee on Byzantine Studies, describing the nature of the committee and its executive board, identifying members of the executive board present, noting the criteria and process of membership and encouraged consideration of nominations and applications.
7. Ellen Schwartz, chair of the local arrangements committee for the 1994 conference, read a letter of greeting from Provost John D'Arms of the University of Michigan, site of the 1994 conference.
8. Jeffrey Anderson asked participants to check their address on copies of the mailing list in the lobby to facilitate corrections.
9. Other Business:
 - a. Warren Treadgold commented that he had problems gaining access to the Dumbarton Oaks library on evenings and weekends and indicated that he had personally written to the president of Harvard regarding the issue. He proposed that the Byzantine Studies Conference also write to the president of Harvard to insure such access to the library. The motion was seconded and discussion began. Jeffrey Anderson questioned the appropriateness of the BSC seeking to influence Harvard policy. Susan Harvey noted that the BSC Liaison Committee to Dumbarton Oaks found this one of the issues most

commented on by BSC members and that the committee had raised it at the liaison meeting. A question from the floor - 'how many people could not gain such access?' - could not be answered definitively. Angeliki Laiou, Director of Dumbarton Oaks, asked if the liaison committee was not satisfied with the discussion, noted that the Byzantine library was open without charge to all qualified scholars and with open stacks, while Widner Library charged a fee; that there were only 2 guard staff in the building after normal business hours; that the same policies applied to all three libraries at Dumbarton Oaks; that there had been a significant growth in the number of former fellows and Byzantinists generally, thus increasing demand. Ioli Kalavrezou asked the difference between limited and unlimited use and that was clarified (i.e. unlimited = after 5 pm and on weekends, in addition to Monday-Friday 9-5). David Evans, who noted that he had served as the first chair of the BSC liaison committee, asked if a letter was the best way to approach the issue, commented that the present Dumbarton Oaks administration was much more open than previous ones, and moved to table the motion and return the issue to the liaison committee. The motion was seconded. The motion to table passed by a vote of 75 to 49.

b. Nancy Sevckenko noted that the Medieval Academy meeting would be in Boston in 1995 and that Byzantinists were welcome to submit proposals.

Jeffery Anderson closed the meeting, asking the Board of Directors to meet at 6:15.

Submitted by,

Denis Sullivan

Secretary/Treasurer