

Princeton, November 6, 1993

Members present: Jeffrey Anderson, Mary-Lyon Dolezal, Helen Evans, Elizabeth Fisher, John Fine, Christine Kondoleon, Jacqueline Long, Ralph Mathisen, Eunice Dauterman Maguire, Timothy Miller, David Olster, Marios Philippides, Lucille Roussin, Daniel Sahas, Nancy Sevckenko, Susan Stevens, Denis Sullivan.

Eunice Maguire opened meeting, distributing the agenda.

1. The issue of voting rights (both new and departing members?) was considered; it was agreed both may vote.
2. Denis Sullivan presented the minutes of the previous year's meeting. It was suggested that they be given to board members prior to the meeting; Sullivan indicated that they had been distributed in the preceding February; it was agreed that it was preferable to distribute at the conference and prior to the board meeting. The minutes were accepted.
3. The issue of tax preparation (law firm vs. secretary/treasurer) was discussed - the board agreed to have the secretary prepare them if willing.
4. The issue of financial assistance to students was again considered. John Fine suggested giving each student \$100, requiring no registration fee, and spending down the bank accounts. The possibility of running conferences without using campus conference services to save money was discussed, also whether potential financial emergencies and liabilities would make it prudent to spend down the accounts. It was agreed to wave registration fee for graduate students and provide travel reimbursement if funds are available. John Fine asked if the local arrangements committee might find students housing with local faculty to save hotel expenses. It was agreed that the gift of from the Menil foundation would allow reimbursement to this year's students.
5. It was noted that the Nominating Committee for this year was : Dolezal, Fine, Stevens and Sullivan - they agreed to meet following the Board meeting.
6. Jeffrey Anderson presented the President's report with a handout on possible future conference sites. Initial discussion centered on what would be needed to go to New York. John Fine - do we really want to go to New York given hotel costs - Helen Evans cited \$75 for a good hotel. Jeffrey Anderson noted the requirement for east-west, north-south rotation. Timothy Miller suggested the participants would be too dispersed in hotels. Nancy Sevckenko asked about a possible back up for New York and noted the problem of advanced booking. David Olster suggested directing the next president to begin negotiations for New York; there was also discussion of Chapel Hill. David Olster discussed Lexington, KY: he indicated that a local foundation was willing to contribute museum exhibit; that hotel space was within 10 minutes of campus; negotiations had begun; the dean had contributed \$700 towards this years conference. The possibility of Madison, Wisconsin was also raised, possibly Kentucky 1997, Wisconsin 1998.

7. A memo from Susan Harvey was read, noting issues raised at the liaison committee meeting regarding what the BSC could do for the current job situation in universities and the nature of the BSC. Issues discussed by the Board in response to the memo included how the BSC votes (only at the business meeting) and the possibility of a panel session on the topic at the next meeting. Fine - don't change because of crisis in universities, but because good to change. Fisher - have members of board write on letterhead to universities threatening loss of Byzantine position. It was agreed to have a panel session on Friday evening at the next meeting in Ann Arbor regarding possible changes to the organizational form of the Byzantine Studies Conference.

8. Issues regarding the mailing list were considered. David Olster noted he found numerous problems and suggested paying students to clean up and add to the list using membership lists of the AHA and APA; it was suggested that AHA and APA lists did not identify specialty interests and that material and mailing costs would be increased without necessarily reaching interested scholars. Putting the lists at registration tables for correction was also suggested. Ralph Mathisen suggested having a permanent site for the mailing list and it was agreed that he would assume responsibility for it.

9. Program issues: David Olster raised the possibility of anonymous abstract review; use of topic categories in the call for papers was also considered. Helen Evans proposed indicating that other topics would also be accepted so as not to limit proposals. For the Princeton conference 150 abstracts were submitted, 120 selected. Jeffrey Anderson presented a comment of Judith Herrin, to limit associate and full professors to every other year; Helen Evans suggested that all all submissions be welcome - if too many, ask senior people to withdraw; Elizabeth Fisher noted that if you cut back on papers, you may also cut the audience; Jacqueline Long suggested that the quality of the papers should be the fundamental consideration; Eunice Maguire proposed putting some good papers into panel discussions. The possibility of anonymous abstracts - but with non-tenured faculty and graduate students indicated - was also considered.

10. Election of new officers. The criteria for eligibility were noted. Ralph Mathisen nominated David Olster for president; Jacqueline Long nominated Susan Stevens; John Fine suggested that the one not elected president be selected as vice president. David Olster was elected president, Susan Stevens vice president, Denis Sullivan secretary/treasurer and Ralph Mathisen program chair. The liaison committee: Jeffrey Anderson (Chair), Timothy Miller, Nancy Sevchenko, Helen Evans, and David Olster.

The meeting adjourned.