

**Thirty-Third Annual Byzantine Studies Conference  
University of Toronto**

**Business Lunch Minutes: Saturday, October 13, 2007**

L. Jones, President of the BSC, called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m.

On a motion duly made by T. Kolbaba and seconded by A. Schor, the agenda as presented was approved unanimously.

L. Jones appointed S. Fernandez to preside as parliamentarian for the meeting.

Discussion and approval of Business Lunch Minutes 2006: L. Jones invited discussion of the minutes from the Business Lunch of the XXXII Annual Byzantine Studies Conference, St. Louis, MO. No discussion was raised. E. Schwartz moved and J. Barker seconded that the Minutes be approved. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: A. Gonosová presented the report of the 2007 budget and invited questions from the membership. C. Rapp requested clarification on the nature of a gift in the amount of \$2000. L. Jones explained that Margie West, the designer of the BSC 2006 program, had been paid \$2000 for her services and had returned this fee in the form of a gift. L. Jones also noted that S. Fernandez, Esq., legal representative for BSANA, renders his services pro bono. M. West and S. Fernandez Esq. were both warmly acknowledged for their generous service to BSANA. No further questions were raised.

Governing Board Elections: L. Jones instructed the membership to write-in A. Cutler as an additional candidate on the ballot for the Governing Board elections. A. Cutler was nominated by petition submitted from the floor. L. Jones noted that only ballots including A. Cutler's name would be considered valid. The ballots were collected and counted by A. Schor and D. Olster. The following nominees were elected to the Governing Board from the five candidates on the slate: Linda Jones Hall, Eunice Dauterman Maguire, Ida Sinkevic, and Anne Marie Yasin. These Board Members will serve until 2011.

**President's Report:**

L. Jones reported that at the most recent Governing Board Meeting (11.x.07), the Members of the Board voted to change the process for collecting annual dues in order to regulate the membership status of individuals submitting abstracts for the BSC. Beginning with the collection of dues for 2008, a notice for submission of dues will be sent to the membership in mid-December calling for payment to the Treasurer by January 31. In early January, the

Call for Papers for the annual meeting will be circulated with instructions that abstracts be submitted to the Vice President of the BSANA Governing Board by March 1. On March 15, the Vice President will forward to the Program Committee Chair only those abstracts of members in good standing, with the exception of scholars residing outside the United States, who will still be allowed to pay their dues at the BSC. Between March 1 and March 15, the Vice President will notify any individuals who have submitted an abstract but are not members in good standing of their status, allowing a brief grace period during which to submit dues before the abstracts are forwarded to the Program Committee Chair. On March 15, any abstracts submitted by individuals who are not members in good standing will be returned to their authors. L. Jones noted that this change in the process of collecting dues and abstracts is intended to enforce BSANA's existing policy as noted in the By-Laws, which states that only abstracts submitted by members in good standing will be considered for presentation at the conference, with the exception of submissions from scholars residing outside of the United States, who are allowed to submit dues at the BSC. L. Hall Jones expressed concern that this policy would discourage and exclude participation of graduate students, who might find the submission of dues a financial or logistical burden. L. Jones noted that graduate student dues will remain \$10, an amount that should not be overly burdensome for graduate student submitters. A. Gonosová noted that this revised process is also intended to clarify the distinction between BSANA as an organization and the BSC as an event and to encourage members to support the organization independently of their participation in the annual conference. E. Schwartz raised the issue of tracking of membership, expressing concern that the membership list might reflect individuals who are not actively involved in the organization. A. Walker clarified that currently, the BSANA membership list is organized in three categories: members in good standing (who have paid dues for the current calendar year); active members (who have paid dues within the last five years); and non-active members (who have not paid dues within the last five years). The proposed revisions to the process of collecting dues are intended to achieve compliance with the organizational by-laws, which require that abstracts be accepted only from members in good standing. A. Walker noted that any mailing lists generated from the BSANA membership database always include all active members. She also noted that beginning in 2008, non-active members will be removed from the membership database.

L. Jones reported that at the most recent Governing Board meeting (11.x.07), the Members of the Board voted to solicit proposals for BSANA-sponsored panels at the annual conference for medieval studies at Kalamazoo, MI. Proposals will be due to the Board by December 15, 2007. Organizers who are selected for sponsorship will be notified in early January. Paperwork for the panels is due to Kalamazoo in May for the conference to be held in the following calendar year. An email to this effect will be circulated to the BSANA Listserve. Only proposals from members in good standing will be considered.

Report from Dumbarton Oaks (D.O.): A. M. Talbot, Director of Byzantine Studies, addressed the membership on recent news from D.O. and circulated a written summary of this information, which she noted is also available on the D.O. website. Attention was drawn to the upcoming colloquium to be held November 9-10 and symposium to be held May 2-4, both at D.O. It was also noted that: graduate student short-term residencies have been reinstated; the summer fellowship program has been reinstated; revisions have been made to policies for procuring library cards; and the Byzantine Greek summer school at D.O. will resume in 2008.

Report from the United States National Committee for Byzantine Studies (USNCBS): A. M. Talbot reported that there has been no activity of note within the USNCBS in the past year and that the account for the committee holds a current balance of approximately \$7,900. L. Jones then called for the election of new members to the Governing Board of the USNCBS and instructed the membership to correct the ballots so as to indicate a vote for three (rather than four) nominees. R. Ousterhout further noted that only BSANA members who are American citizens or affiliated with an American institution were eligible to submit ballots. A. Schor and D. Olster collected and counted the ballots. The following nominees were elected to the Governing Board: A. Cutler, W. Kaegi, and G. Majeska. R. Ousterhout noted briefly that the XXI International Congress of Byzantine Studies took place in London, U.K., August 21-26, 2006. The XXII International Congress of Byzantine Studies will be held in Sophia, Bulgaria, in 2012.

2006 graduate student competition: On behalf of D. Kruger, Program Committee Chair for the BSC 2006, A. Papalexandrou announced the winners of the Graduate Student Competition and presented the prizes. First prize was awarded to Kevin Kalish, Princeton University, and the two second prizes were awarded to Travis Lee Clark, Temple University, and Örgü Dalgiç, New York University. (Kalish and Dalgiç accepted their prizes personally.) The recipients were warmly recognized with applause from the membership.

Invitation to the BSC 2008: T. Kolbaba, Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the BSC 2008, read a letter of invitation from Ziva Galili, Executive Dean, School of Arts and Sciences and Ann Fabia, Associate Dean of the Humanities, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers-New Brunswick, inviting all members to attend the Thirty-Fourth Annual Byzantine Studies Conference to be held from October 16-19, 2008.

#### Announcements:

G. Majeska announced the formation of the Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC) and circulated membership forms and the program of the

organization's recent conference. Members of BSANA were invited to join this new organization.

L. Jones recognized two members of the organization who had passed-away in the previous year: Srdjan Rajkovic and Deno Geanakoplos. A moment of silence was observed in their memories.

L. Jones generously recognized the service of A. Gonosová and A. Walker to BSANA in their capacities as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively, and L. Safran and G. Peers in their capacities as Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee and Chair of the Program Committee, respectively, for the BSC 2007. L. Jones also thanked the Governing Board for their service during the 2006-2007 term. T. Kolbaba commended L. Jones for her service to BSANA during her tenure as President. A round of applause marked the membership's appreciation.

L. Safran recognized the service of the members of the Local Arrangements Committee for the BSC 2007, who are listed in the conference program, as well as donors to the event, who are listed in the conference program and book of abstracts. Special recognition was noted for Betsy Moss. Warm applause was offered by the membership. L. Safran solicited suggestions from the membership for next year's conference.

New Business:

G. Peers conveyed the offense taken by members of the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists, who were not consulted regarding the establishment of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America at the previous BSANA Business Lunch Meeting (11.xi.06). He requested that the Governing Board of BSANA offer a formal apology to the Canadian organization and that the Governing Board consider at its next meeting a request to extend languages for the submission of abstracts and presentation of papers to include French and Spanish in order to represent more accurately the linguistic diversity of North America.

Date and Time of next Governing Board Meeting: 5:30 p.m., 13.x.07, in the basement of the University of Toronto Art Center.

Adjournment: On a motion duly made by W. Hanak, seconded by D. Olster, the meeting adjourned at 1:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Walker, Secretary