

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

**Governing Board Meeting Session I
Thursday, 11 October, 2007**

Minutes of the Meeting

Lynn Jones, President of BSANA, called the meeting to order at 9:58pm.

Present: Sarah Bassett, Anna Gonosová (Treasurer), Walter Hanak, Lynn Jones (President), Henry Maguire, David Olster, Amy Papalexandrou (Vice President), Linda Safran, and Alicia Walker (Secretary).

Regrets: John Birkenmeier, Susan Boyd, Ralph Mathisen, Leonora Neville, Stratis Papaioannou, Adam Schor, and Martha Vinson.

1. Agenda: The agenda was approved as submitted.
2. Approval of Minutes from the previous meetings of the Governing Board (9 and 11.xi.06): The minutes were duly approved.
3. Old Business
 - a. Discussion of the webmaster position. L. Jones opened the floor to discussion of the proposal submitted by Robert Allison (current webmaster for BSANA/BSC) for consideration at the previous meeting of the Governing Board (9.xi.06), which suggests that the current position of webmaster be reformulated as the position of Archivist/Webmaster and be made a member of the Governing Board. Lively discussion ensued. L. Safran suggested that the website could be professionally designed to increase its efficiency. D. Olster and L. Jones suggested possible candidates for undertaking the redesign of the website. L. Safran pointed to the need for a permanent host server for the website. The Board approved for D. Olster and L. Safran to explore potential candidates for undertaking a renovation of the current BSANA/BSC website and report their findings to the Board. The Board discussed possible compensation for the position of webmaster in the range of \$300 to \$500 per year. The Board was not in favor of the proposal submitted by R. Allison.
 - b. Resolution of the Tousimis Graduate Student Prize issues: L. Jones reported that the donor for the Tousimis Graduate Student Prize, Dr. Tousimis, had not yet reimbursed BSANA for the awards granted at the BSC 2006 and had yet to deposit the funds to pay the current 2007 recipients. BSANA has already dispensed the awards for 2006 from its own funds, a sum which totals \$3,000, and is committed to honoring the awards to be presented in 2007 and 2008, which amount to an additional \$3,000 each, bringing the total financial obligation of Dr. Tousimis to \$9,000. Dr. Tousimis has promised that funds would be wired to the BSANA account immediately. He has requested a permanent liaison to the Board and raised the possibility of expanding his support of the organization. Lively discussion ensued. D. Olster motioned that the BSC authorize L. Jones to serve as a liaison with the donor to resolve the payment of outstanding funds, and contingent on the receipt of these funds, that the Board

- further authorizes L. Jones to explore the possibility of expanding the donor's support with the intention of establishing an endowment to fund graduate student travel grants for participation in the BSC. S. Bassett seconded the motion. The motion was approved: eight votes in favor; one vote opposed; and no abstentions.
- c. Discussion of changes to rules governing the BSC Program Committee: H. Maguire presented a proposal to restructure the BSC Program Committee such that members be nominated by the Board to serve multiple-year terms in overlapping cycles to allow for greater continuity in the management of the conference program from year to year and that the fields of Program Committee members be more strictly regulated to ensure representation across disciplines. General discussion ensued regarding the effectiveness of the selection process for past Program Committees. H. Maguire motioned that the Program Committee be composed of four members nominated by the Board in four different fields (history, literature, art history, and archaeology) with members cycling off annually to be replaced by a representative in the same field. D. Olster proposed a friendly amendment that three of the four fields be named (history, philology, and art history) but that the fourth field be left open to any discipline not represented by the previous three. H. Maguire accepted the amendment. L. Safran voiced concern that four-year terms were too long and would be difficult to fill. A. Papalexandrou proposed a friendly amendment that members of the Program Committee be nominated for terms of two years. H. Maguire rejected the amendment, however D. Olster seconded the amendment and a vote was called on the unfriendly amendment that members serve two-year terms. The unfriendly amendment was approved: five votes in favor; four votes opposed; and no abstentions. D. Olster offered an additional friendly amendment that nomination of members be staggered such that two enter and two exit the committee every year. H. Maguire accepted the amendment. W. Hanak raised concern that the Bylaws stipulate that members of the Program Committee be nominated on an annual basis and that appointing members for multiple years would contradict the Bylaws. D. Olster noted that the members serving two years would be renominated for their second year. H. Maguire's amended motion was read: The Governing Board will nominate four Program Committee members on an annual basis with each member to serve a two-year term; and that the terms will be staggered such that two members will join the committee and two members will leave the committee every year. The Program Committee will include one member in each of the following three disciplines: philology, history, and art history, with a fourth member in a field not represented by these three fields. The motion was seconded by L. Safran and passed: seven votes in favor; one vote opposed; and one abstention.
- d. Proposal to reinstate a BSC/BSANA-sponsored session at the Congress of Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo: L. Jones opened the floor for discussion of a request from the BSANA membership to reinstate a BSANA-sponsored session at the annual meeting for medieval studies at Kalamazoo. Brief discussion ensued. D. Olster moved that the matter be deferred to the Business Lunch and that the Board will make an announcement for volunteers to submit proposals for a BSANA-sponsored session for review and selection by the Board. L. Jones offered the friendly amendment that the newly elected President will enquire of the BSANA lawyer as to the legality of using BSANA as the association's title for these sessions. D. Olster accepted the amendment. A. Walker offered a friendly amendment that, in addition to the announcement at the Business Lunch, the secretary of BSANA send an email to the membership of the BSC inviting session proposals for review by the Board and that these

proposals be due by December 15. The amendment was accepted. The motion as amended was seconded by W. Hanak and unanimously approved.

4. President's report

- a. Selection of the BSC 2008 Chair of the Program Committee: L. Jones reported that in consultation with T. Kolbaba (Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, BSC 2008) and S. Takacs (member of the Local Arrangements Committee, BSC 2008) she nominated Leonora Neville to serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for the BSC 2008. D. Olster moved that the election of the Program Chair by the Governing Board be deferred until the Governing Board meeting on Saturday evening and that hereafter the program chair be elected at the annual Saturday Governing Board meeting along with the Officers of the Governing Board. L. Jones offered the friendly amendment that the President and any other Governing Board members will offer nominations for the Program Committee Chair at the annual Thursday Board Meeting. The motion was passed: six votes in favor; one vote opposed; and two abstentions.
- b. Nomination of new members for the Governing Board: The following individuals were named by the Nominating Committee for inclusion on the ballot to be distributed at the Business Lunch: Ann Marie Yasin, Eunice Maguire, Linda Jones Hall, and Ida Sinkevic. L. Safran raised concern regarding the imbalance in subfields among members of the Governing Board and new nominees. Lively discussion ensued. W. Hanak motioned to approve the four nominations and D. Olster seconded. The four nominations were accepted: six votes in favor; two votes opposed; and one abstention.
- c. Nomination of new members for the United States National Byzantine Committee: L. Jones opened the floor for suggestion of nominees for the ballot to elect members of the USNCBS. The election will be held at the Business Lunch. Anthony Cutler, Walter Kaegi, George Majeska, David Olster, Marios Phillipides, and Ellen Schwartz were nominated. L. Jones also nominated Elizabeth Fisher to serve as ex officio of the committee.

5. New Business

- a. Proposal to accept multi-lingual paper proposals and paper delivery at the BSC: L. Jones suggested and the Board agreed to table this topic for discussion at the Saturday Governing Board meeting.
- b. Proposal that the BSC meet every other year: L. Jones called for a vote on the motion that the BSC gather every other year. A. Gonosová seconded the motion, which was not approved: no votes in favor; seven votes against; and two abstentions.
- c. Discussion of determining a permanent home for the BSANA/BSC Archives: L. Jones reported that S. Fernandez, pro bono lawyer for BSANA, has accepted a request to house the archives of BSANA's financial and legal records at his office. L. Jones motioned, and A. Papalexandrou seconded, that the archives be deposited at S. Fernandez's place of business, Oertel, Fernandez, Cole & Bryant, P.A., 301 South Bronough Street, Suite 500, Tallahassee, Florida 32301. The motion was unanimously approved. The Board's appreciation for S. Fernandez's service to BSANA was voiced.

- d. Discussion of membership dues payment and regulation of members in good standing: A. Walker and A. Gonosová requested guidance from the Governing Board regarding the degree to which the current rules for regulating membership in good standing should be enforced. A. Walker noted that according to the current Bylaws, all speakers are required to be members in good standing at the time of their application to present a paper. This rule was not enforced this year because no viable process is in place to regulate that those submitting proposals are members in good standing. Lively discussion ensued. A. Walker moved that a new policy be initiated for the submission of BSC paper abstracts whereby the Secretary will provide the Vice President with a list of members in good standing on the day that abstracts are due (March 1) and that the Vice President will notify submitters who are not members in good standing to submit their dues immediately in order for their proposal to be forwarded to the Chair of the Program Committee on March 15. Abstracts submitted by individuals who have not submitted dues by March 15 will be returned to the submitter. As in the past, individuals who reside outside the United States are exempt from this rule and will be allowed to pay their dues at the annual meeting. In order to ensure the collection of dues for BSANA in a timely fashion, a call for dues will be circulated on December 1 and payment will be due by January 31. The BSC Call for Papers will be circulated on January 7 and due to the Vice President March 1. This new policy will be announced at the Business Lunch and by email to the membership. L. Jones seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed.

A. Walker further noted that the Bylaws state that those registering to attend the BSC must be members of the organization, but this policy is not currently enforced and contradicts a statement on the BSC/BSANA website that states BSC meetings are open to all. In addition, the membership status of those attending the Business Lunch is not actively regulated, raising the possibility that individuals who are not members in good standing have submitted votes inappropriately. A. Walker proposed that further discussion of issues relating to the payment of dues be tabled for discussion at the Saturday meeting, and the members of the Board agreed.

6. Other Business

- a. Ratification of the Bylaws: L. Jones moved that the Bylaws passed at the previous BSC Business Lunch (11.xi.06) be ratified by the Governing Board. A. Papalexandrou seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.
- b. L. Safran enquired from the Board if there was a policy regarding the reimbursement of conference registration and event tickets by individuals who were unable to attend after registering. L. Jones stated that BSANA does not have a policy on this matter, which is left to the discretion of the Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee.

7. Adjournment: L. Jones duly moved that the meeting be adjourned, L. Safran seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The Meeting was adjourned, therefore, at 12:15am.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Walker
Secretary, BSANA

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

**Governing Board Meeting of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America, Session II
Saturday, 13 October, 2007**

Minutes of the Meeting

A. Papalexandrou called the meeting to order at 6:55pm.

Present: Sarah Bassett, Anna Gonosová, Linda Jones Hall, Walter Hanak, Eunice Dauterman Maguire, Henry Maguire, Amy Papalexandrou, Linda Safran, Adam Schor, Ida Sinkevic, Alicia Walker, and Ann Marie Yasin.

Regrets: Susan Boyd, Ralph Mathisen, Leonora Neville, and Stratis Papaioannou.

1. Agenda: L. Jones Hall moved and A. Schor seconded that the agenda be approved as submitted. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Governing Board Members and Election of officers: The following members of the Governing Board cycled off in 2007: John Birkenmeier, Lynn Jones, David Olster, and Martha Vinson. The following new board members (for terms ending in 2011) were elected at the Business Lunch (13.x.07): Linda Jones Hall, Eunice Dauterman Maguire, Ida Sinkevic, and Ann Marie Yasin. The following officers were elected by acclamation to serve during the 2007-2008 year: President: Linda Safran; Vice President: Amy Papalexandrou; Secretary: Alicia Walker; and Treasurer: Anna Gonosová.

A. Walker and A. Gonosová noted that the 2007-2008 year would be their final terms as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, and encouraged the Governing Board to consider possible nominees for these offices to serve during the 2008-2009 term.
3. Nomination and election of members to the Program Committee: W. Hanak nominated Leonora Neville to serve as Chair of the Program Committee for the BSC 2008. Following the decision of the previous Governing Board Meeting (11.x.07) individuals were nominated for service on the Program Committee to serve for either one or two years in order to begin the alternating cycle instituted in the new policy: Glenn Peers (art history); Robert Ousterhout (architectural history/archaeology); Alice Mary Talbot (philology); Anthony Kaldellis (philology); Elizabeth Fisher (philology); and Claudia Rapp (history). The Board agreed that L. Safran would enquire with the individuals listed above as to their willingness to serve and the period of service (one or two years) to which they would commit. She will report her results to the Board by email. L. Safran offered a friendly amendment to the motion approved at the previous Board Meeting (11.x.07) to the effect that the Board nominate a Program Committee Chair in any field plus five members of the Program Committee in the following fields: history, art history, philology and two additional fields not represented by the preceding three fields. W. Hanak seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. Old Business

a. Proposal to accept multi-lingual paper abstracts and delivery at the BSC: L. Safran reopened discussion on the topic, tabled from the Thursday Governing Board Meeting (11.x.07) regarding the acceptance of BSC paper abstracts and paper delivery in French, English, and Spanish in order to reflect the linguistic diversity of North America. A. Gonosová and I. Sinkevic voiced concern regarding the burden that the review of multi-lingual paper abstracts would place on the Program Chair. H. Maguire and E. Dauterman Maguire suggested opening the languages of abstract submissions to languages of the field more broadly. Discussion ensued regarding which languages would be included within this definition. A. M. Yasin called attention to the purpose of the original proposal, which was to reflect the linguistic diversity of North America, not to encompass languages of the international field of Byzantine studies. Various possibilities for expanding languages for abstract submission but not paper delivery, or paper deliver but not abstract submission were explored. W. Hanak questioned the likelihood of paper submissions in Spanish. L. Jones Hall moved for a vote on the question of whether BSANA will accept submission of abstracts for papers proposed for presentation at the BSC in English, French, or Spanish and for delivery of accepted papers at the BSC in English, French, or Spanish. W. Hanak offered the friendly amendment to remove Spanish from the list because of a lack of anticipated participation. The amendment was rejected. A. Papalexandrou offered an amendment that abstracts be submitted in English, but papers can be delivered in English, French, or Spanish. This amendment was accepted and the new motion was voted on. The motion was not passed: five votes in favor; six votes against, and one abstention.

b. Discussion of further guidelines for regulation of BSC dues payment: L. Safran reopened discussion of regulating payment of dues to BSANA initiated at the Thursday Governing Board Meeting (11.x. 07). Lively discussion ensued. General support for further regulation of dues payment was voiced by all Governing Board members, especially regarding individuals holding offices, both elected and appointed, in BSANA, BSC, and USNCBS and individuals attending the annual Business Lunch Meeting. A. Gonosová suggested allowing payment of dues on the BSC registration form. A. Schor suggested collecting dues in the cycle of the conference rather than the annual calendar. L. Jones Hall suggested indicating membership-in-good-standing on name tags issued at the BSC. L. Safran expressed concern that strict enforcement of payment of BSANA dues for attendance at the BSC might discourage participation in the conference. A. Walker motioned to discontinue the present discussion of the topic and for the Officers of the Board to continue discussion of the issue by email and make a recommendation to the Governing Board regarding further regulation of dues payment. L. Jones Hall seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

5. New Business

a. Request for Governing Board approval for funds to assist the Secretary in updating organizational files. A. Walker requested \$300 from BSANA to fund an assistant to help update organizational records. L. Safran enquired if \$300 was a sufficient amount and suggested \$500 instead. A. Walker gratefully accepted a budget of \$500, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

b. L. Safran moved that the Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee be granted \$500 seed-money for launching the annual conference and that this fund be automatically made available in perpetuity. A. Gonosová voiced concern that BSANA could not guarantee its ability to meet this financial obligation should organizational funds diminish. A. Walker offered the friendly amendment that the release of start-up funds for the Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee require annual approval by the Board at the Saturday Governing Board meeting. The amendment was accepted. The motion was seconded by S. Bassett and unanimously approved. A. Walker will notify T. Kolbaba, Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the BSC 2008, of the Board's decision. A. Gonosová noted that the Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee will need to submit receipts to the Treasurer in order to be reimbursed for expenses up to \$500.

6. Adjournment: W. Hanak duly moved that the meeting be adjourned, A. M. Yasin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned, therefore, at 7:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Walker
Secretary, BSANA