

**Thirty-Sixth Annual Byzantine Studies Conference  
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia**

**Business Lunch Meeting of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America,  
Inc.**

**Saturday, October 9, 2010**

**Minutes**

1. Claudia Rapp, President of BSANA, called the meeting to order at 12:50 pm. On behalf of the conference attendees, she thanked Robert Ousterhout (University of Pennsylvania), Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, and Alice Christ (University of Kentucky), Chair of the Program Committee, for their stellar contributions to this very successful conference. Further thanks were expressed for Elisabeth Bolman (Temple University), for the reception and exhibition at Temple University the prior evening.
2. Necrology: Claudia Rapp asked the membership to join in observing a moment of silence in honor of the following individuals:  
  
Sima Circovic, Belgrade; George Dennis, S. J. (Catholic University of America); Traianos Gagos (University of Michigan); Dimitrios Konstantios (Director, Byzantine and Christian Museum, Athens); Fairy von Lilienfeld, Erlangen, Germany; Gennadiy Litavrin, Moscow; Ihor Ševčenko (Harvard University); and Aneli Volskaia, National Research Center for Georgian Art History.
3. C. Rapp appointed David Olster as parliamentarian for the meeting.
4. The agenda as presented was approved unanimously.
5. Discussion and approval of minutes for the Business Lunch Meeting 2009. C. Rapp invited discussion of the minutes from the XXXV Annual Byzantine Studies Conference (BSC) Business Lunch Meeting, Sarasota, FL. One correction was noted: 8. Orgu Dalgic is at D.O. and Catholic University of America (not George Washington University). Following this correction, the minutes were unanimously approved.
6. President's Report: Claudia Rapp
  - a. C. Rapp wrote to the Principal and to the Head of the Humanities of King's College, London in order to express the BSC's grave concerns regarding the plans to disband the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies.

- b. C. Rapp also wrote in support of the Chair in Latin Palaeography at King's College. We learned in late March 2010 that both issues had been resolved, at least temporarily.
- c. C. Rapp also responded to the Library of Congress's move to change the cataloging of modern Greek titles. This charge has now been taken up by the librarian, Deborah Brown, at DO.
- d. Tony Cutler asked that we address the continuing threat to the library of the Warburg Institute. The discussion was delayed until 'Announcements' See below, #15d.

7. Secretary's Report: Kathleen Maxwell

As of 5 October 2010, BSANA had 277 paid members for 2010.

- 204 full members (\$20)
- 53 graduate students (\$10)
- 18 independent scholars (\$10)

244 members listed their address in the USA, 10 from Canada, and 5 from the U.K., 15 others were from 13 other countries. Sixteen members requested *not* to be listed on the BSANA website current membership list.

514 members have signed on to the BSANA listserv. 75 messages were sent out on the listserv between January 1 and October 1, 2010. 73 messages had been sent out in 2009 in the same period. Only one member requested to "unsubscribe" in the past eleven months.

The Secretary will continue to mail membership renewal notices to those who request it since the yield on these mailing is quite high, averaging 63 per cent over the past three years.

8. Treasurer's Report: Elizabeth Fisher

Elizabeth Fisher submitted the Treasurer's Report for the period November 1, 2009 – October 5, 2010. Income exceeded expenditures in this period by a total of only \$13.00. This is a concern because income was substantially subsidized by the dissolution of the DO Byzantine Studies Alumni Association (\$1,697) and by the sale of institutional abstracts (new series # 8) for a total of (\$2208). Both sources of income are one-time only infusions. Thus, BSANA effectively operated at a loss in excess of \$3,900. BSANA had, as of August 31, 2010, \$51,110.58 in an interest bearing checking account and CDs at the Bank of America. The greatest expense over the last year was \$9,241.40 for graduate student travel. Most of the students who received travel stipends made presentations at the 2009 BSC conference. Those who presented were eligible for up to \$500 in travel costs and those who did not present papers, but attended the conference were eligible for up to \$300 in travel reimbursements.

Discussion followed. In response to a question by David Olster how the 2009 BSC incurred less than \$1000 in costs, Lynn Jones explained that she raised nearly \$8000 in subsidies to sponsor the conference in Sarasota.

C. Rapp announced that the Governing Board will propose changes to the graduate student subsidy effective for next year's conference. Students presenting papers will be eligible for a maximum of \$300 towards travel and accommodations beginning in 2011. Students who do not present papers will not be eligible for any reimbursement. Linda Jones Hall noted that 27 students are giving papers this year and if all apply for the maximum possible subsidy of \$500 that this will cost BSANA more than \$13,000. It was noted that it was BSANA policy to enable graduate students to attend the Business Lunch and the Saturday Banquet at substantial discounts.

#### 9. New Business: Increase BSANA Membership Dues

According to the BSANA bylaws (III.2) in order to change membership fees, the BSANA Governing Board must first vote on a resolution to raise dues. This was done on October 7, 2010 at Governing Board Meeting I. The Governing Board proposed a resolution here to raise membership to \$30 for regular members and \$15 for others (independent scholars, students, and retirees). Lively discussion followed. Anna Gonosova urged people to pay their dues annually whether or not they attend the annual BSC. Warren Woodfin observed that the dues are quite low. David Olster said the abstracts alone are worth it since they are mailed to those who cannot attend the conference, if their memberships are current. Derek Krueger volunteered that the projected increase of dues was too low. Alicia Walker remarked that a large proportion of BSANA members do not view the BSANA as their primary professional organization so that we should be careful not to raise dues too high. Several graduate students argued that \$20 membership dues for graduate students was entirely reasonable. This was followed by a friendly amendment to change the BSANA bylaws and raise dues to \$40 for salaried academics and \$20 for graduate students, beginning in 2011. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 10. Report from Dumbarton Oaks: Margaret Mullett

Margaret Mullett's report on her first full year at D.O. revealed a diverse program of activities in addition to the annual symposium (on Warfare) and the annual colloquium (on Phenomenology). This included a round table on iconoclasm, a colloquium on Boundaries of Friendship, and a meeting of forty American archaeologists to discuss the state of the field in North American institutions (including D.O.). The latter resulted in concrete proposals including requests for more meetings, colloquia (and some are already in the pipeline) and new proposals. Also, a weekly Byzantinissimum hosted technical discussions of Byzantium by Byzantinists.

Örgü Dalgıç will serve as Teaching Fellow in Byzantine Art and Archaeology in collaboration with Catholic University and Jack Tannous will serve as Teaching Fellow in Byzantine History in collaboration with George Washington University. This year, DO is concentrating on working projects for seals and coins, as well as

moving into a new digital environment. Dr. Mullett also urged visitors to DO to visit the regularly changing exhibits in the special exhibitions gallery curated by Gudrun Buehl. Attention was also drawn to the new and improved publications department in a bigger and better form. Alice-Mary Talbot, former director of Byzantine Studies at DO, was thanked for putting these processes in motion. *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* is also rushing to beat the backlog. Scholars were urged to submit their stongest articles for consideration for *DOP*.

Finally, a “Study Day in Memory of Professor Ihor Ševčenko” was announced for November 27, 2010 at the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies at the University of Oxford.

11. Walter Kaegi, US National Committee for Byzantine Studies

Treasurer George Majeska could not be here today, but he reports that the balance is \$5,057.09 in the USNCBS account. For details, please contact George Majeska.

Update on the *International Byzantine Congress* to be held in August 2011 in Sofia, Bulgaria:

- a. The deadline for the current dues registration for Sofia, Bulgaria International Congress (to be held in August 2011) is Oct. 30, 2010. W. Kaegi urged those planning to attend to register early because it will cost considerably more after that date to register.
- b. USNCBS has made strong protestations to the officials in Sofia about the mode of payment. Initially, one’s only choice was to wire money to the Bank in Bulgaria at considerable cost in money and time. USNCBS said this is entirely impractical and finally on October 1st Sofia indicated that within days our POS terminal will give participants an opportunity to pay by credit card. Once our preparations are complete, this information will be published on the conference website and a notification sent out via the BSANA listserv.
- c. If it comes down to the deadline and the credit cards are still not working, then the USNCBS will petition the committee to extend the deadline.

Claudia Rapp thanked Walter Kaegi for this effort on the behalf of the BSANA membership.

12. Election of New Members to the Governing Board:

Four candidates were placed on the ballot by the Nominating Committee. They were accepted by acclamation:

Cecily Hilsdale  
Kostis Kourelis  
Dimitrios Krallis  
Derek Krueger

Claudia Rapp thanked the outgoing members of the Governing Board.

13. Announcement of 2009 Tousimis and BSANA Prize Winners:  
Elizabeth Fisher announced the following winners. None was present, but all were warmly applauded.

1<sup>st</sup> prize Jordan Pickett (University of Pennsylvania)

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Ivan Drpić (Harvard University)

3<sup>rd</sup> prize Sofia Georgiadou (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

14. Invitation to BSC 2011: Claudia Rapp read the letter of invitation to De Paul University for Elena Boeck, 2011 Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, who was stranded in Madrid due to the airline strike. The BSC will take place on Oct 21-23, 2011.

15. Announcements:

- a. Maria Georgopoulou announced that the Gennadius Library of the American School of Classical Studies, Athens will offer a Medieval Greek Summer Session in July 2011 focusing on the teaching of Byzantine Greek language.
- b. Linda Safran urged members with graduate programs to update their information on the BSANA website.
- c. Holger Klein announced that the exhibit entitled *Treasures of Heaven: Saints, Relics, and Devotion in Medieval Europe* will be at the Cleveland Museum of Art from Oct. 17, 2010 to Jan. 17, 2011 before traveling to the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore and the British Museum in London.
- d. Tony Cutler lamented the dissolution of the library of the Warburg Institute. It was Warburg's own creation, idiosyncratic but a very workable and inspired arrangement. Many scholars used it quite fruitfully. It featured open stacks for surrendipitous discoveries. It was noted that the late Prof. Paul J. Alexander, History Department, the University of California at Berkeley, left his extensive offprint collection to the Warburg Library.

Lee Striker remarked that *The Art Newspaper* in two recent issues presented both sides of the story in the most dramatic and detailed fashion. The management presented a rosy picture, but the second issue has a long letter from the Chair of the Advisory Board of the Warburg charging that the administration's account was utterly fictitious.

David Olster moved that the BSANA membership direct the incoming president to protest in the strongest terms the dissolution of the Warburg Institute Library. The motion carried unanimously.

- e. Sharon Gerstel noted that after a very productive conversation on archaeology with John Haldon and Margaret Mullett, it was proposed that BSANA website provide links and photos for North American Byzantine Archaeologists. Princeton University has provided seed money to start up. This would place BSANA front and center in North American archaeology. Claudia Rapp thanked Sharon Gerstel.

- f. SUNY, Albany is closing its Classics and other languages department.  
University of Rhode Island is closing its art history department.
- g. David Olster moves that we should assume that the President of BSANA should always protest such closures.
- h. Claudia Rapp drew attention to a fund in support of Ihor Ševčenko in the BSC registration packet.

16. Claudia Rapp adjourned the meeting at 2:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Maxwell  
Secretary, BSANA