## Thirty-Seventh Annual Byzantine Studies Conference DePaul University, Chicago, IL

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

## Saturday, October 22, 2011

#### **Minutes**

Robert Ousterhout, President of BSANA called the meeting to order at 12:45 am.

- 1. Robert Ousterhout thanked Elena Boeck, Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee (dePaul University), and other members of the committee: Brian Boeck (dePaul University), Peter Casarella (dePaul University), Walter Kaegi (University of Chicago), Christina Nielsen (Art Institute of Chicago), and Heather Grossman (University of Illinois, Chicago),—for a superb conference. Ousterhout also thanked the Art Institute of Chicago and the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago for hosting lectures on Thursday and Friday evenings.
- 2. The President also thanked outgoing members of BSANA's Governing Board [Linda Jones Hall, Eunice Dauterman Maguire, Ann Marie Yasin (who served as both Secretary and Vice President during her tenure), and Ida Sinkevic].
- 3. Necrology
  - Charles Astruc (France)
  - Hratch Bartikian (Armenian Academy of Sciences)
  - Hans-Veit Beyer (University of Jekaterinburg)
  - Lois Drewer (ICA/Princeton)
  - Anastasios Karanastases, (Academy of Athens)
  - Vasile Lica (Universitatea din Galati, Romania)
  - Ferdinand Gahbauer (Heiligenkreuz)
  - Georgios Gounaris (Univ of Thessaloniki)
  - Oleg Grabar (IAS/Princeton)
  - Douwe Holwerda (Netherlands)
  - Titos Papamastorakis (Univ of Athens)
  - Thomas Sizgorich, UCI

- 4. The President appointed David Olster as parliamentarian for the meeting.
- 5. The agenda for the meeting was approved unanimously.
- 6. Discussion and approval of minutes for Business Lunch Meeting 2011 with the Dumbarton Oaks librarian being correctly named (Deborah Brown).

### 7. President's Report

- a. Mr. Tas Tousimis generously gave \$15,000 to BSANA this year. A special committee of Robert Ousterhout, Margaret Mullett, and Sharon Gerstel will meet with Mr. Tousimis to discuss how Mr. Tousimis' funds should be disbursed
- b. Mr. Tousimis' funds underwrote the first annual Tousimis scholarly presentation (Maria Mavroudi) and reception yesterday, as well as the \$1300 bus fee to transport conference attendees to the Oriental Institute in Hyde Park. In addition, Mr. Tousimis purchased books for graduate student paper prize winners
- c. Tousimis funding also provided for a conference subvention fund of \$4000 for graduate students to attend the conference.
- 8. Robert Ousterhout also addressed the learning curve for BSANA officers. Ideally, they should serve a term of two consecutive years for continuity.
- 9. Ousterhout also implored the membership to let BSANA officers and or members of the Governing Board know if you would like to serve on the Governing Board. We welcome your interest and commitment to the BSANA!

#### 10. Future programming at the BSC:

We are instituting a mechanism for panel sessions so that you won't be penalized if the session is not approved by the Program Committee The annual call for papers will contain the new wording. (thanks to Derek Krueger and his committee for developing and articulating this policy). Also, BSANA can sponsor sessions at other conferences. Simply write to one of the members of the Governing Board and we will circulate your request among the Board and approve it quickly.

#### 11. Secretary's Report

For 2011, BSANA had 208 paid members.

- 111 full members (\$40)
- 52 graduate students (\$20)
- 20 independent scholars (\$20)
- 25 retired members (\$20)

185 members listed their address in the USA, 10 from Canada, and 3 from the U.K.; 10 others were from 9 other countries.

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.

12. Treasurer's Report, Elizabeth Fisher Please see page 4 below.

#### 13. New Business

- Dimitrios Krallis reported that the New York School Board has requested Byzntine material for the curriculum. How can we help them? Can we propose six units or themes? He welcomes suggestions. Any one who is interested should contribute—especially those who have who have readymade lectures.
- 14. Report from Dumbarton Oaks, Margaret Mullett, Director of Byzantine Studies: Dumbarton Oaks had some great events (e.g., Ihor Sevcenko tribute) and some terrible losses (deaths of beloved staff members). The Director's Office has been completely revamped with significantly more staff. Many thanks to Senior Fellows—especially to Rob Nelson who has been very helpful this year. D.O. had five junior fellows this year as well as a terrific group of summer fellows. D.O. has made a big push to support archaeology: pre-doc residents and post-docs (short terms). They also had a great lecture series (e.g., Nancy Sevcenko) and several major events including the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Archaeology Colloquium and the Symposium on North Africa. Margaret asks members to encourage students to sign up for Greek language classes in the summer. Margaret also reported on the Seals project, the Library, and the Museum. She noted that publications and its related website will be redesigned very soon. She asked members to submit their best work to *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*. Margaret Mullett concluded by inviting members to come and see D.O. and to work in the library.
- 15. Walter Kaegi's report on USNCBS Governing Board: 850 people attended the Sofia Congress, but closer to 1100 actually preregistered. The organization is financially ok; the Treasurer's report is on the website.
  - 1. Communications from the USNCBS are difficult to understand.
  - 2. Walter only learned of Judith Herrin's resignation when she sent the email.
  - 3. Assembly meeting on August 26, 2011 was not in Sofia, but in another location and at the end of a very long day. The actual meeting was very short. Minutes are posted in French, the official language of the organization.
  - 4. There was enormous disagreement on whether the next Congress should be held in Belgrade or Istanbul. Belgrade won by one vote. There was no public discussion.

- 5. Professor Kaegi said that there is need for greater transparency in the organization (USNCBS) and the Americans and British have been quite vocal about this. This sentiment is reflected in Judith Herrin's inaugural speech of August 27th.
- 6. The situation was further complicated by the fact that the website with the statutes, was actually down for awhile. Walter Kaegi complained about this and it was resurrected.
- 7. To amend the bylaws is extremely difficult. There are about 32 countries involved, but more votes (for reasons which are also complicated).
- 8. Walter is at the end of his term and it will up to Walter's successors to handle this. He will stay on as an ex officio member to work with the next representatives.
- 9. Robert Nelson will be discussing these issues with Judith Herrin in December.
- 10. The BSANA voted unanimously in support of Judith Herrin.

## 16. New members of Governing Board:

Scott Johnson, Vasileios Marinis, Warren Woodfin, and Alice-Mary Talbot Leonora Neville will serve the remainder of Claudia Rapp's term.

17. Alice Christ announce the Tousimis prize winners for 2010:

1<sup>st</sup> prize Naomi Ruth Pitamber of UCLA

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Jonathan Stanfell of Fordham University 3<sup>rd</sup> prize Marion Kruze of The Ohio State University

#### 18. Locations of Future BSCs:

2012 BSC: Maria Kouroumali invites the BSANA to Hellenic College of the Holy Cross, Brookline, MA. Nov. 1-4, 2012

2013 BSC: Yale University

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathleen Maxwell Secretary **BSANA** 

## BSANA Treasurer's Report for 2011 Elizabeth Fisher

## BSANA Accounting October 6, 2010- October 14, 2011

#### Income:

Total	\$7,401
Interest on accounts	\$32
Rental of Mailing List	\$100
Sale of BSC Abstracts	\$392
Donations (members)	\$1,107
Dues	\$5,770
Income	

#### **Expenses:**

Business/Office Expenses

Mailing of Abstracts \$215.10

Bank expenses

Deposit slips \$33. Check returned \$12.

Tax Filing (Florida)

State filing fee \$61.25 Graduate Student Travel \$10,706.74 **Total** \$11,028.09

## Assets: Bank of America (9/30/2011)

Business Advantage Checking Account \$33,505.80 Business Interest Maximizer Account \$37,068.25 **Total** \$70,574.05

## **Additional Assets and Expenses Passing Through BSANA Accounts**

#### **Tousimis Prizes and Reception**

Income Total	<b>\$15,000</b> .
<b>Expenses</b> (as of 10/14/2011)	
2011 Buses Tousimis reception	\$1308
Total remaining	\$13,692
[Pending Expenses]	
2009 Tousimis Graduate Prizes	\$4000
2010 Tousimis Graduate Prizes	\$4500
Reception (Oriental Institute)	\$2000
Tousimis lecturer (honorarium + expenses)	\$2500
Total anticipated	\$13,000

#### **2011 BSC**

Total remaining	<b>\$184.60</b>
<b>Expenses</b> (Art Institute reception)	\$715.40
<b>Income</b> (Fees for Book Display tables)	\$900