

**47th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference
Cleveland, Ohio**

Business Lunch Meeting

The Byzantine Studies Association of North America, Inc.

Saturday, December 11, 2021, 12:45-2:00 PM EST

Hybrid, Tinkham Veale University Center, 2nd Floor Ballrooms
AND virtual

Minutes

1. **Call to Order** (Lynn Jones as presiding officer)
Motion: Tia Kolbaba; seconded: Galina Tirnanic. Motion passed.
2. **Selection of Parliamentarian**
Byron MacDougall appointed as Parliamentarian.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the 2020 Business Lunch**
Motion: Brad Hostetler; seconded, Tia Kolbaba. Motion passed.
4. **In Memoriam**
 - Giles Constable (1929-2021)
 - Wolfram Hörandner (1942-2021)
 - Constantin Rezachevici (1943-2021)
 - Cyril Mango (1928-2021)
 - Pierre Maraval (1936-2021)
 - Bariša Krekić (1928-2021)
 - Boris L'vovich Fonkich (1938-2021)
 - Peter Grossmann (1933-2021)
 - George P. Majeska (1936-2021)
 - Sorin Iftimi (1965-2021)
5. **Acknowledgements**

Thanks to the host and Arrangements Committee, especially Betsy Bolman, the Program Committee, especially Galina Tirnanic, and the members of the BSANA Board.

Thanks also to Outgoing BSANA Board members, who are cycling off their service term:

 - Benjamin Anderson, Cornell University
 - Hannah Ewing, Rollins College
 - Meredith Riedel, Duke University
 - Alexander Riehle, Harvard University
6. **Election of New Members of the Governing Board for 2021-25 term**

Nominees to serve 2021-25 term:

- Christina Christoforatos, Literature, Baruch College, CUNY
- Holger Klein, Art History, Columbia University
- Alice Lynn McMichael, Digital Humanities, Michigan State
- Jordan Pickett, Classics, University of Georgia
- Shaun Tougher, History, Cardiff University
- Vessela Valiavitcharska, Rhetoric & Education, University of Maryland, College Park

Voting is restricted to current members of BSANA. The election was carried out during the Business Lunch on paper and via Google Form; managed by Brad Hostetler and Byron MacDougall

7. **President's Report** (Lynn Jones)

BSANA has a new website that launched in February. Thanks to the Inforest team and the Board members who assisted with the transfer, as well as to Amanda Wagner for her assistance with the old website.

BSANA has a new Graduate Committee, which will offer its inaugural report at this year's BSC, including their session.

Funds in the amount of \$5000 have been secured for graduate student support to attend the Byzantine Congress in Venice/Padua 2022.

BSANA has a renewed 3-year contract with the Mary Jaharis Center to organize workshops for graduate students at BSCs. Thanks to outgoing chairs Dar Brooks and Betsy Williams; Brad will chair this committee for the next 3-year term.

A new Graduate Student Prize structure will begin at the next BSC. Ranking will not retain first, second, and third place; instead, 3 "best" papers, with each student receiving \$300 and choice of books (through commitments from publishers and donations from members who have published recent titles).

Thank you to Tia Kolbaba for her role as BSANA Treasurer.

8. **Treasurer's Report** (Tia Kolbaba)

Full Treasurer's Report attached as *Appendix A*. Major conclusions available at the bottom of the report.

The Byzantinists of Color fund distributed \$4000 in support.

Membership funds almost doubled in 2021 because of the 3-year membership tier structure.

Memberships now run for the calendar year.

9. **Report from the United States National Committee for Byzantine Studies**
(Derek Krueger via Lynn Jones)

The 22nd International Byzantine Congress will take place 22-27 August 2022, primarily in Venice; 1 day in Padua. Details for deadlines and registration are available on the conference website.

Given the nature of the lodging in Venice, the Congress will not be reserving rooms at hotels; each participant should book their own lodging (website includes recommendations).

10. **Report from the BSANA-DO Liaison Committee** (Holger Klein via Lynn Jones, Nikos Kontogiannis)

No pre-BSC meeting with DO leadership this year; nothing of substance to report, other than a change in Committee members. Thanks to Holger Kleine.

Alicia Walker is the new chair of this committee. Ben Anderson rotates off this committee; Lynn Jones joins this committee.

Nikos Kontogiannis (DO Director) brings greetings from Tom Cunnings and offers updates on DO fellows, preparations for in-person events in summer 2022. Public lecture and events; the virtual classes led by Betsy Williams are a great success and will continue. Regarding DO publications, submit work and serve as reviewers.

11. **Graduate Student Committee Report** (Justin Mann)

The graduate committee met on 7 occasions via Zoom in efforts to formulate the bylaws, leadership structure, procedures, etc. of the committee. In March, the committee formulated a mission statement (to increase graduate student participation in the BSC and created community), long-term initiatives (enhance job market and professionalization programming at the BSC), resolving to keep the membership to 8 and form 4 permanent leadership positions for 1 term. Actively discussed initiatives to create community.

The committee organized the first GSC panel at this year's BSC.

12. **Conferral of Graduate Prizes for BSC 2020** (Galina Tirnanic on behalf of Christian

Raffensberger and the Program Committee team)

- 1st prize
 - Samantha Truman (Case Western Reserve University), “‘Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree’: The Execution of Judas Iscariot in Two Byzantine Marginal Psalters”
- 2nd prize

- Joe Glynias (Princeton University), “The Bilingual Administration of Byzantine Antioch (969-1084)”
- 3rd prize
 - Edward Trofimov (University of Notre Dame), “Religiosity and Social Control in Local Communities According to the Twelfth-Century *Deuterokanonarion*”
 - Mateusz J. Ferens (University of Wisconsin–Madison), “Memory Eternal: Dormition of St. Ephrem as Mnemonic Landscape”

13. **Invitation to BSC 2022, UCLA** (Sharon Gerstel via Lynn Jones)

The 48th Byzantine Studies Conference will take place at the University of California, Los Angeles (Royce Hall) – 3-6 November 2022. Sharon Gerstel is leading the Organizing Committee.

14. **New Business**

Proposed change to membership category of “Emeritus or Independent Scholar Membership” to include adjunct faculty. Proposal approved at Thursday Board meeting.

15. **Announcements**

Tia Kolbaba detailed a new graduate student reimbursement process: send BSANA Treasurer the following for reimbursement: proof of grad registration; receipts; title of paper presented. All the receipts and details have to be submitted before 31 December. Reimbursement is via PayPal or check.

Tom Dale, current president of the Medieval Academy of America, get word out to diversify programs; be part of all things medieval (2025 – centennial year); committee working on this celebration; encourage input and hope for more dialogue to broaden global efforts

Bob Ousterhout: the Cappadocia summer program will be offered again – 20 June – 4 July 2022.

16. **Election Results**

- Christina Christoforatu, Literature, Baruch College, CUNY
- Alice Lynn McMichael, Digital Humanities, Michigan State
- Jordan Pickett, Classics, University of Georgia
- Shaun Tougher, History, Cardiff University

17. **Adjournment**

Motion: Tia Kolbaba; seconded: Betsy Bolman. Motion passed.

Minutes by Alice I. Sullivan, with assistance from Brad Hostetler.

Appendix A

Byzantine Studies Association of North America 2021 Treasurer's Report

Covering October 1, 2020 to November 15, 2021

Prepared by Tia Kolbaba (kolbaba@religion.rutgers.edu)

Accounts as of November 15, 2021

Bank of America "Business Advantage" Checking:	4,178.88
Bank of America "Business Advantage" Savings (earning 0.04% interest):	47,921.39
CityFirst Bank, Certificate of Deposit maturing 4/13/2022 (.05% interest):	25,005.34
CityFirst Bank, Certificate of Deposit maturing 4/13/2022 (.1% interest):	20,003.50
CityFirst Bank, Certificate of Deposit maturing 4/13/2024 (.15% interest):	20,005.26
PayPal NonProfit Business Account:	1,783.60
Total Accounts:	118,897.97

2020-21 Income (Oct. 1, 2020-November 15, 2021)

Donations (all)	381.12
General donations 33.38	
Donations to Byzantinists of Color Fund 314.06	
2020: 9728.36 (inception of Byzantinists of Color Fund)	
2019: 1650.00	
2018: 905.00	
Membership dues from 147 fee-paying members (see notes below)	9489.10
2020: 138 members	
2019: 140 members	
2018: 183 Members	
Interest on Savings Account	24.33
Interest on CityFirst Certificates of Deposit	26.70
Total Income	9,921.25
Income 2020: 21,588.36	
Income 2019: 10,074.97	
Income 2018: 2,060.67	

2020-21 Expenses (Oct. 1, 2020-November 15, 2021)

10/27/2020	Graduate Student Prizes for 2019 conference	1000.00
10/29/20	EasyChair License, 2020 Conference	254.57
12/17/20	2020 US National Committee dues paid to International Association	251.42
1/9/21	Pair.com webhosting fee for new website	170.43
2/24/21	Inforest Design, website design final payment	2080.00
3/2/21	Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant, and Atkinson. Annual report.	71.71
4/12/21	Final payment to University of Toronto for website services	240.60
10/7-19/21	Grants, Byzantinists of Color Fund	4000.00
11/11/21	2021 US National Committee dues paid to International Association	237.04
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Total Expenses		8,305.77
Expenses 2020: (\$8740.19)		
Expenses 2019: (\$23,664.92)		
Expenses 2018: (\$9,856.92)		
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2021 Income less Expenses		1,615.48
Income less Expenses 2020	12,848.17	
Income less Expenses 2019	(13,589.95)	
Income less expenses 2018:	2,203.75	

NOTES

- The balances in accounts is approximately \$15,000 more than in the 2020 report. This reflects (1) 12,795 in Jaharis Center Funding, most of which will be disbursed immediately after the conference; (2) higher income from memberships in 2021 (see below).
- The total balance of the Byzantinists of Color Fund stands at 12,529.76. Four grants were given to graduate students this year, for a total of 4,000.
- Paid memberships are up slightly, but income from memberships nearly doubled in 2021. This is a result of the option, newly instituted, to pay for 3 years of membership in advance. 34 members took this option. Membership income will almost certainly be lower in 2022.
- BSANA has also instituted a system of no-fee memberships for retired scholars, graduate students, and early career contingent scholars. In that category, we have an additional 132 members in 2021.
- Dues and donations have been recorded and calculated as net amounts after PayPal fees. The total of PayPal fees for the period Oct. 1, 2020 to November 15, 2021 is 395.50 (2020: 339.59; 2019: 246.32), at 3.49% plus .49 per transaction. These rates have risen (from 2.9% plus .30 per transaction). Future Treasurers should monitor these fees, but I would argue that the cost remains reasonable, given convenience for members and donors.
- Expenses were relatively low for 2020-2021, primarily because of the online BSC in 2020. The online format resulted in (1) no travel reimbursements for graduate students (\$3600 to \$7000 per year between 2017 and 2019); (2) minimal Jaharis Center spending.

