



Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting of the Australasian Society for Classical Studies, held at the University of Western Australia, on Wednesday 3rd February 2010, commencing at 12.00 noon.

Present: Professor J. Davidson (President, in the Chair), Dr B. Marshall (Sec), Emer. Prof. R. Ridley (VP), Dr P. Watson (VP), Mr R.W. Dolley (Treas), Professor E. Minchin (Editor), Assoc. Prof. H. Baltussen (UAdel), Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard (UMelb), Dr G. Dunn (ACU), Dr M. Johnson (UNewc), Dr P. Keegan (MacqU), Dr G. Miles (UTas), Dr G. Nathan (UNSW), Dr L. O'Sullivan (UWA), Mr J. Penwill (LaTrobeU), Dr D. Pritchard (for UQ), Dr A. Rogers (USyd), Dr M. Wilson (UAuck).

2. Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting

The Minutes of an email consultation on 7th November 2009 were confirmed.

3. Business arising from the Minutes

(a) OPA! Award

KOC-G reported on the Award arrangements: there were five judges (four of whom attended the conference); there were 20 entries of which five were short-listed; at least two of the judges listened to each of the short-listed papers; the judges were to meet at the end of the conference to make a decision; and the winner was to be announced at the conference barbecue. A follow-up report will be submitted.

(b) Institutional electronic repositories for publication and the Open Access Policy

There was no discussion of this item; a document prepared by the Editors had been circulated as an attachment to the Minutes of the email consultation of 7th November 2009.

(c) Revamp of New Zealand Essay Competition

Since ASCS was now to provide the funds for the prizes in both essay competitions, it was agreed to new names for the two competitions: "The ASCS New Zealand Essay Competition in Honour of John Barsby" and "The ASCS Australian Essay Competition". These new names would be referred to the following General Meeting.

(d) Application by Campion College for affiliated status

This matter had been referred to the Heads of Departments' meeting earlier in the week; a consensus there was that Campion College should have a representative on the ASCS Executive Committee (essentially what "affiliation" implies). There was further discussion on the definition of a "university" in connection with this application. JP took the view that postgraduate teaching was a crucial part of defining a "university". He had earlier proposed a widening of the Society's membership to include, for example, schools, but now took the view that that would be contrary to the aims of the Society as set down in its present constitution. The view of the committee was sympathetic to the application by Campion, but could only consider it with the redrawing of the constitution as part of the process of applying for incorporation of the Society. The matter would be referred on to the General Meeting.

(e) Application for funding by Aeneas School of Classics

The committee took the view that, worthy as the aims of this application were, it was not one that ASCS could support. The Secretary was asked to respond saying that unfortunately it could not provide financial support but pointing out other possible sources of funding.

4. Correspondence

The Secretary listed the items of correspondence received and sent.

5. Budget for 2010

Due to the shortness of time the financial accounts and proposed budget for 2010 would be referred to the General Meeting.

6. *Antichthon*

- (a) Electronic storage with ProQuest, and the “rolling barrier”

The Secretary reported that all the necessary copies, either electronic or hard, had been or would soon be sent to ProQuest; they would then be digitised and the data bases made ready for sale by the middle of this year. So the system should be up and running by the beginning of 2011. The contract with ProQuest allows for a “barrier” of twelve months (though ASCS can control the flow of each year’s journal to the data bases). APAFT continues to put *Antichthon* on its data base under our agreement with CAL; it obtains its copy from the statutory copy of the journal sent to the National Library. JP remarked that there is no conflict with APAFT also having the journal available electronically, since its customer coverage is quite different from that of ProQuest.
- (b) Abstracts to be placed on the journal page of the ASCS website?

There was agreement that this was a good idea. Starting with Vol 45 (2011) authors of accepted contributions will be asked by the Editors to provide an abstract of 100-150 words.
- (c) Possibility of making the journal available on disk for institutional subscribers
This matter was deferred; the Secretary will include it as an item in the next email consultation.
- (d) Disposal of surplus back copies
The Secretary reported that the holdings of back-copies had been reduced to five per volume; the remainder had been made available to students at no cost to them at various conferences, including the present one.

7. *ASCS 32 (2011)*

The offer of the University of Auckland to host ASCS 32 (2011) was happily accepted, and would be reported to the following General Meeting. MW reported that planning had already begun; the convenors would be Dr Jeremy Armstrong and Assoc. Prof. Anne Mackay; there would be a slightly earlier starting date of 24th January.

8. *Any other business*

- (a) Incorporation of the Society
The Secretary reported that he had downloaded a set of model rules for incorporation from the Victorian Government’s Department of Consumer Affairs and was working his way through these 25 pages, rewording them to fit with ASCS’s situation. The reason for choosing to incorporate in Victoria was that we would be required to have a Public Officer who lived in that state, and it was sensible to nominate the Treasurer as that Public Officer, since he would be required to submit financial statements from time to time. The Secretary reported that he had also sought some informal legal advice as to whether the Society’s activities in other states would be covered by incorporation in one particular state, and what is the situation with New Zealand and other overseas members; the advice informally given is that once we have incorporated in a state we would then have to gain recognition as a non-for-profit organisation and register under the Commonwealth Corporations Act 2001, administered by ASIC, and then activities in other states would be covered. The advice was that it would be necessary to incorporate the New Zealand members in their own country in some way.

The Secretary explained that he would continue to work through the rewording of the model set of rules (= constitution) progressively, with the intention of putting before the Society a draft at some stage during this year. This will be a large task because of the number of pages involved, particularly for those members who do not receive communication by email.
- (b) Establishment of a secretariate and facilities for it
The President was of the opinion that the Society could not afford a paid secretariate at this stage. The matter would be further discussed at the subsequent General Meeting.
- (c) Website and payment for the work on revamping it
The Secretary proposed that the ASCS website be revamped; it would require technical expertise to set it up and maintain it, and that in turn would require some payment. He had had a preliminary discussion with Kit Morrell, a postgraduate student at USyd who maintains the

Classics NSW website and has considerable experience in web design, about the possibility of her taking over as website manager and undertaking the revamp; she has indicated her willingness to do that, and David O'Brien, the current ASCS website manager, has said that he is more than willing to stand aside. The plan is to have the website placed with a commercial host (costing around \$200 per year) and to provide a sum of \$1000 to Kit Morrell to set the revamped website up. There would need to be consideration of an annual honorarium to Kit for the continuing maintenance of the website. The motion was passed.

(d) Payment for office

There was not time to consider this item, but the President commented that the matter would need to be considered – what work gets paid for and what work remains on a voluntary basis, and what principles are used to decide the difference.

The meeting closed at 1.35 pm.

Bruce Marshall
Honorary Secretary