

American Folklore Society, Executive Board Minutes
New Series, no. 72
April 13-14, 2012
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President Diane Goldstein called the spring meeting of the American Folklore Society Executive Board to order at 9:11 am on Friday, April 13, 2012, in Room 320 of the Mershon Center on the Ohio State University campus in Columbus. Members present: Ray Cashman, Lisa Gabbert, Diane Goldstein, Jason Baird Jackson, David Todd Lawrence, Sabina Magliocco, Solimar Otero, Leonard Norman Primiano, Riki Saltzman, Marilyn White, and Juwen Zhang. Members absent: Past President C. Kurt Dewhurst. Executive Director Tim Lloyd and Associate Director Lorraine Cashman were also present.

After review of the draft minutes of the October 12, 2011, meeting, **Riki Saltzman moved that the draft minutes of the October 12, 2011, meeting be approved as presented. Jason Baird Jackson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Diane Goldstein then delivered the President's report. She cited the increased diversity of the Board's present membership and thanked last year's Nominating Committee for its work in this regard; recognized staff members' work on the 2011 annual report and the report on the 2011 member survey (Rob Vanscoyoc) and the web site and 2011 annual meeting (Lorraine Cashman). She also noted recent achievements in the Open Folklore project and AFS's international engagements, and our recent success in obtaining grants from government and private foundations.

Tim Lloyd then delivered the executive director's report, beginning with a presentation of the report from the FY 2011 audit. After this presentation, **Marilyn White moved to accept the report from the FY 2011 audit. Sabina Magliocco seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Tim Lloyd then reported on the recent performance of the Society's investments, on revenue from Society publications, and on new grants being sought. The Board discussed how best to communicate range of activities to the membership. Lorraine Cashman then reported to the Board on plans for the 2012 annual meeting in New Orleans, and on the AFS web site.

The Board took a short break at 10:40 am and returned to its agenda at 10:55.

Tim Lloyd introduced AFS Administrative Associate Rob Vanscoyoc, and gave an update on AFS's work to seek closer affiliation with The Ohio State University.

Marilyn White reported on the initial conference-call meeting of the Society's new Cultural Diversity Committee. The committee is taking as its immediate goal to increase minority participation at the New Orleans annual meeting.

Ray Cashman then reported on the work of the 2012 AFS Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award committee, on which he served with Sharon Sherman. The committee recommended that the 2012 award be given to Wolfgang Mieder of the University of Vermont, and that starting in 2013 this award should be made offered every year, rather than every other year. After discussion, **Sabina Magliocco moved that the 2012 award be given to Wolfgang Mieder of the University of Vermont, and that starting in 2013 this award should be offered every year, rather than every other year. Marilyn White seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Tim Lloyd then presented a proposal to create an ad hoc Committee on Teaching, growing out of the Society's work on the Teagle Foundation-supported Big Questions and the Disciplines initiative. The initial members of the committee will be the participants in the Teagle Foundation project: Michael Chiarappa, Danille Christensen, Sean Galvin, Susan Hanson, Jason Baird Jackson, Carl Lindahl, Jay Mechling, Tom Mould, Dorry Noyes, Leonard Norman Primiano, and Howard Sacks. After discussion, **Riki Saltzman moved that the proposal to create an ad hoc Committee on Teaching be approved. Marilyn White seconded the motion, which passed, 9 votes to 0, with abstentions by Sabina Magliocco and Leonard Norman Primiano.**

The Board broke for lunch at 12:00 and returned to its agenda at 1:30.

At 1:30, the Board entered into executive session to discuss the Executive Director's performance for the previous year and his proposed performance goals for 2012-2013. The recorder was turned off for this session.

The meeting resumed in open session at 2:15.

The Board then discussed the nomination and election process for 2012, in which 5 departing members of the Board would be replaced.

Tim Lloyd then presented his budget proposal for FY 2013 (September 1, 2012-August 31, 2013). After discussion of his proposal, **David Todd Lawrence moved that the executive director's budget proposal for FY 2013 be approved as presented. Solimar Otero seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The Board then moved ahead in agenda to consider items of old business. Diane Goldstein reported on the international access project for folklore books and journals she is coordinating, describing a meeting on this project in October 2011 immediately following the 2011 annual meeting in Bloomington. The group

discussing this effort has assigned highest priority to Africa, Afghanistan, and Haiti. Additional research is now underway, and a second meeting is planned for the Sunday after the New Orleans annual meeting. Sites that receive materials, the materials they receive, and the means of delivery and preservation must be selected very carefully. This project will be an ethnographic and not an ethnocentric experience, and as such must take local cultural context into account.

Lisa Gabbert then presented a proposal to the Board to pilot a mentoring project at the 2012 and 2013 annual meetings. The Board gave its general assent to the development and testing of this new effort.

The Board concluded its deliberations for the day at 4:09 pm, to reconvene the next morning.

President Diane Goldstein returned the spring meeting of the American Folklore Society Executive Board to order at 10:10 am on Saturday, April 14, 2012, in Room 320 of the Mershon Center on the Ohio State University campus in Columbus. The same Board members were present and absent as on the day before. Executive Director Tim Lloyd, Associate Director Lorraine Cashman, and Administrative Associate Rob Vanscoyoc were also present.

First, Tim Lloyd summarized the current, 2012-2014 quiet phase of the endowment campaign. He then gave a brief history of recent AFS long-range planning to start a Board discussion of the next such planning process, set to take place in 2013. Diane Goldstein recommended that we begin with visioning of desired futures, and consider this process an updating of the last plan rather than a discarding of it. After discussion, the Board agreed to the following six-point description of the process:

- It will lead to an update of the 2006-7 plan
- We will keep the goals/activities structure of the 2006-7 plan
- The process will be accomplished during calendar year 2013
- The Board will add one day to its Spring 2013 meeting for purposes of long-range discussions
- The Board will focus its work on outlining broad goals; and the staff's responsibility will be to design means toward those ends
- The Board and staff will develop means for member comments on a draft of the plan

The Board took a short break at 11:10 am and returned to its agenda at 11:30.

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Diane Goldstein then provided an introduction to the Board discussion of the results of the 2011 member survey. Administrative Associate Rob Vanscoyoc, who assembled and analyzed survey responses, also added his comments. Diane Goldstein asked the Board to work through sections of Rob's document that presented member opinions on present and possible future Society activities.

In the course of Board discussion of the annual meeting, staff noted that they would be experimenting in 2013 with a schedule innovation that would begin the meeting on Wednesday morning instead of Wednesday night, but would open up a two-hour late afternoon time slot in which no sessions would be scheduled in order to create opportunities for informal discussions among attendees.

The Board then discussed member responses to the *Journal of American Folklore* and to other Society publications and means of communication. We need to take better advantage of marketing and publicity opportunities, and to begin planning for future means of digital delivery. Jason Baird Jackson noted that the issues we are facing are widespread throughout the humanities.

The Board broke for lunch at 12:26 and returned to its agenda at 1:10.

The Board continued its discussion from before lunch, focusing on the Society's web site, scholarly communications activities, diversity work, prizes, sections, and possible new activities. The Board agreed to include a discussion of the possibility of AFS-sponsored smaller, special-topic meetings or "think tanks" in our long-range planning discussion in 2013.

Tim Lloyd then noted several upcoming *Journal of American Folklore* events, including the debut of the *JAF* multimedia site in summer 2012; the renewal of the AFS-University of Illinois Press contract for the publication of *JAF*, also due to happen in summer 2012; and the next search for a *JAF* editor in 2014. He also mentioned the possibility of AFS itself becoming an online, open-access publisher of work by folklorists. In response, Jason Baird Jackson provided a capsule history of various AFS publications series over the past 120 years, and described present-day tools for creating online, open-access publications, using Connexions (www.cnx.org) as an example.

The Board took a short break at 2:20 pm and returned to its agenda at 2:30 pm.

The Board then discussed the new procedure for memorializing departed colleagues at the annual meeting, which was tested at the Bloomington annual meeting in 2011. Member comments on the new procedure, including the memorial table and board, were quite positive. Diane Goldstein, Sabina

Magliocco, Leonard Norman Primiano, and the staff will take Board comments under advisement for future meetings.

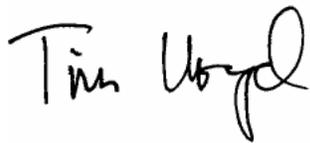
Under the heading of new business, Lisa Gabbert asked that we consider steps to increase undergraduate participation in the annual meeting.

Leonard Norman Primiano asked about future annual meeting sites. Tim Lloyd reported that the 2013 meeting would take place in Providence, Rhode Island and the 2014 meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, that the staff was researching possible California sites for 2015, and that we hoped to hold a joint meeting in the eastern US in 2016 with the International Society for Folk Narrative Research.

Ray Cashman then moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sabina Magliocco seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



October 24, 2012

Timothy Lloyd
Executive Director

Date

Approved by the American Folklore Society Executive Board:

October 24, 2012

Diane Goldstein
President

Date