

Minutes for Annual General Meeting, Held on 4 January 2012, 17.45, Maplethorpe Seminar Room, St Hugh's College, Oxford

1. Members present and apologies

1.1. For members present, see Appendix A. There were apologies for absence from John Dunkley, Daniel Cook, Gary Day and Susan Whyman.

2. Minutes of last AGM

2.1. These were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising

3.1. There were no matters arising.

4. Officers' reports

4.a. President

4.a.1. MB extended his thanks to all members of the committee for their support. He made special mention of Gavin Budge and Chris Mounsey who have retired from the committee after many years service. MB noted that SY had replaced GB as acting executive secretary while the role was under review. MG has replaced CM as journal editor and the subsequent vacancy as reviews editor had been filled by MM.

4.a.2 MB announced that two new ordinary members had been elected unopposed and welcomed Penny Pritchard and Bertha Joncus onto the committee.

4.a.3. MB reported that the society needed to undertake further fundraising to ensure the long term success and development of BSECS.

4.a.4. MB reported that it past year had been one of developing relationships with other societies and groups.

4.b. Treasurer

4.b.1. BC circulated the Financial Accounts Statement. BC reported that the financial statement had been audited.

4.b.2. BC explained that the present balance stands at £81,277. This is approx. £9000 less than 2012 due to IT expenses of £17,500 for website developments.

4.b.3. BC noted that there had been a saving on committee members' expenses for the last year.

4.b.4. The accounts were accepted by the AGM.

4.c. Executive secretary

4.c.1. SY had nothing to report.

4.d. Journal editor

4.d.1. MG expressed his thanks to Chris Mounsey for his work as editor of J ECS.

4.d.2. MG reported that J ECS is increasingly popular with a rising number of proposals. In response to this several strategies had been employed. There are now 4 editions of J ECS p.a. and each edition will now be published in a larger format. An additional number of reviews will now be available online only. MG indicated that the online only reviews would be included in the contents page of the print journal.

4.d.3. MG announced that online compilation editions of the journal are soon to be launched. Two have so far been commissioned on the topics of French literature and education. These will be available online to members at no extra cost.

4.d.4. MM reported that J ECS now had more space for reviews. This space comes from the move to a larger format journal and the introduction of online only reviews.

4.d.5. MM reported that the events reviews section of the website is now live. This will be launched at the reception at conference on 5 January 2012

4.e. Conference organizers

4.e.1. CW reported on developments in online conference planning, noting that not all problems had yet been resolved but these were to be addressed. She thanked members for their patience.

4.e.2. DW called attention to the CFP for the 2103 conference included in the conference program. The dates given have been provisionally booked with St Hughes.

4.e.3. In response to PCor's question regarding the numbers of delegates registered for 2012 conference, CW indicated that pre-registration figures were lower than for 21011, but that there were a number of late registrations.

5. Report on the election of officers and committee members

5.1. The election of new members was discussed under the president's report (4.a.2.)

6. Members comments and feedback

6.1. MB raised the issue of a joint BSECS/ASECS lecture. He reported that the possibility of this was to be investigated.

6.2. Vicky Joule raised the issue of funding and financial support for early career scholars. MB commented that the society was aware of this problem and that SW was currently investigating this matter. DW indicated that the society had changed the name of the postgraduate representatives to reflect this. Conrad Brunstrum noted that the funding of early career scholars might improve future membership and conference attendance. MB also drew attention to the QMUL fellowship open to early career scholars and postgraduate students.

7. Any other business

7.1. No other business raised.

Appendix A

Members present at AGM

Committee members: Michael Burden, Brycchan Carey, Pamela Clemit, Penelope Corfield, Matthew Grenby, Jeremy Gregory, Matthew McCormack, Frank O’Gorman, Charlotte Roberts, Corinna Wagner, Debbie Welham, Sharon Young

Society members:

Helen Williams

Conrad Brunstrum

Bill Speck

James Stevens Curl

Emma Salgård Cunha

Regina Dal Santo

Frauke Jung

Eve Rosenhaft

Angel O’Donnell

Gillian Skinner

Deborah Brown

Moira Goff

Adeline Mueller

Neil Howe

Anne Van Allen-Russell

Alexander Huber

Vicky Joule

Amy Culley

Howard Weinbrot