

ALA EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Minutes of the ALA Executive Council Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland November 2, 1990

Chair: Eileen Julien, President

Present were Anne Adams, Stephen Arnold, Sandra Barkan, Richard Bjornson, Abena Busia, Phannuel Egejuru, Abiola Irele, George Joseph, Eileen Julien, Joseph Kbayyanda, Janis Mayes, Oyekan Owomoyela, Richard Priebe for Carisse Zimra, Reinhard Sander. Also present was Kofi Anyidoho.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Eileen Julien called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A resolution moved by Richard Priebe and seconded by Janis Mayes to accept the agenda passed unanimously.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM ALA EXECUTIVE MEETINGS IN MADISON.

It was established that the minutes should be summarized and sent to the *Bulletin*. The following resolution moved by Stephen Arnold and seconded by Oyekan Owomoyela passed unanimously:

RESOLVED That the minutes will take the form of a summary of what transpired at the Executive Council meetings in Madison and will be placed in the *Bulletin*.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hal Wylie has accepted the general editorship of the *Annals*. The relation with Three Continents Press was discussed. It was decided that we should establish a written contract with Herdeck. Stephen Arnold will draw up something simple. As it now stands we split royalties 50/50 after expenses. Furthermore, one copy of the *Annals* is given to authors, three each (including a hard cover volume), to editors. We need to make an agreement that Herdeck will relinquish his copies of past annals should he sell his publishing operation.

At the end of the Madison Meeting, Ketu Karak and Daniel Kumene were asked to be editors of the *Annals*. Ketu Karak is short on time and would like to edit the New Orleans *Annals*. Neville Choonoo has said that he would be pleased to work on the volume.

Eileen Julien is still working on Institutes and other summer activities concerning African literature.

On behalf of the ALA she has written a letter to Achebe on the occasion of his accident and another to Malawi concerning Mapanje.

Books to Africa. There still remains a need to formulate a policy. The President communicated a list of suggestions from Gretchen Walsh, the Africana librarian at Boston University.

Sandra Barkan spoke to Elizabeth Levy of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science, who volunteered to pay for the shipping of the *ALA Bulletin* (or *RAL*) to universities who, in response to a preliminary inquiry say that they would like to receive it.

There was some discussion as to which journals to send. According to Steve Arnold, a survey was sent out asking libraries and they targeted *RAL* and *Presence Africaine*.

We would save hundreds of dollars if our *Annals* qualified for the AAS program. Once again, the AAS would only send to universities who say they need them.

The following motion introduced by A. Irele and seconded by Oyekan Owomoyela passed unanimously:

RESOLVED that the ALA accept the offer of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science to send the *Annals* and the *Bulletin* to African Universities who need them.

ADAMENDMENT that we see if there are other organizations with whom we can work besides the AAAS.

AMENDMENT that we include in the *Bulletin* a suggestion that members send books and dissertations that they have written to the African Universities with which they have some affiliation.

It was asked if there were other organizations besides the AAAS.

Although no African libraries are on our membership list, they appreciate receiving the *Bulletin*.

The following motion introduced by Eileen Julien and seconded by Abena Busia passed unanimously:

RESOLVED that the Executive Council establish a committee of two or three people to further consider donations to African Universities.

2. PROPOSAL FOR THE 1993 ALA MEETING IN ACCRA, GHANA

Kofi Anyidoho discussed the possibility of meeting at the Dubois Center of the University of Ghana. The meeting would be jointly sponsored by the University of Ghana, the English Department and the Institute of African Studies. Good facilities for lodging should be available by that time because hotels are now under construction for the Conference of Non-Aligned Ministers next year. A national theater complex should also be completed.

Logistics for travel were discussed, especially the need for an agent in the U.S. Abena Busia was suggested to coordinate these logistics.

The following motion introduced by Steve Arnold and seconded by Abiola Irele passed unanimously:

RESOLVED that the ALA Executive Council express its enthusiasm at the possibility of meeting in Accra and encourage Kofi Anyidoho to pursue his efforts.

It was suggested that we talk to Edris Makward concerning the way in which Wisconsin acted as the joint-host institution.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes of the ALA Executive Council Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland November 3, 1990

Chair: Eileen Julien, President

Present were Rashida Abubakar, Anne Adams, Stephen Arnold, Sandra Barkan, Richard Bjornson, Carole Boyce-Davies, Abena Busia, Phannuel Egejuru, Abiola Irele, George Joseph, Eileen Julien, Janis Mayes, Oyekan Owomoyela.

The President called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m.

The President announced with regret that Joe Kubayanda has suffered another stroke. A collection was taken up to send flowers.

The new "Books-to-Africa" Committee is to be comprised to Anne Adams, Sandra Barkan and Abiola Irele.

4. REPORT OF THE PAST PRESIDENT

Anne Adams resubmitted her proposal drawn up in April for association with Africa-based organizations in an effort to solicit other ideas, which were as follows:

1) The possibility was discussed of getting mailings of the *Bulletin* to affiliated associations included in the mailings of books sent to universities.

2) The proposal differs from the Lindfors' proposal to have chapters of the ALA in Africa. Now we are looking for affiliation with already existing organizations.

3) We could send notice of our meetings to affiliated organizations and ask them to sit in on the Executive Council meetings. Perhaps we could help defray travel and lodging expenses.

4) We should be open to affiliation with any appropriate organization that so desires rather than choose between organizations in a country.

The question of governmental versus non-governmental organizations was raised. It was decided that suggestions should be sent to Anne Adams by January 1, and that she would bring them in writing to the Executive Council meeting in March.

Steve Arnold will no longer send 50 copies of the *Bulletin* to various organizations since these organizations had not sent back their annual newspapers as it was understood.

Mark De Lancey, Editor of the *African Studies Review* wants the membership list for book reviews of books on African literature.

5. REPORT OF THE CONVENER OF THE 1991 MEETING

Phanuel Egejuru reported on her progress in organizing the meeting and discussed potential speakers (Chinna Achebe, Paule Marshall, Gwendolyn Brooks, Flora Nwapa, Barbara Glooeden, Vincent Eke, Ali Mazrui, Ernest Gaines, Alvin Aubert, Assia Djebar, Henri Lopes, Edouard Glissant, Maryse Conde). Chinna Achebe has been asked to be the keynote speaker. Phanuel Egejuru requested that he be sent a formal invitation from the present.

Suggestions were made concerning the registration fee, the cost of the banquet, lodging, honoraria, the requirement that only members of the ALA can give papers, and the setting aside of a special budget for mailings.

Elections An announcement requesting nominations for Vice President and members of the Executive Council by December 15 will be placed in the *Bulletin*. The call for nominees will request that nominees provide a letter of acceptance and a profile. We hope to send out a list by January.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Sandra Barkan discussed the attached "ALA Statement of Revenue and Expenditures" as of October 22, 1990.

During the discussion, the following points were raised:
Steve Arnold did not need to spend the \$800 that had been allotted to him to purchase a computer.

The 1989 and 1990 *Annual* papers have not gone out to Northwestern. The cost of sending the papers will be \$400.

Various schedules for dues were discussed. The possibility of a sliding scale according to income was considered. Sandy is to present one or two options to the Business Meeting in April. It was noticed that student fees are definitely too low and should be raised to at least \$15 to cover costs.

There is a problem of people who have not paid what they owe to the Wisconsin Center. Action on requests for the *Bulletin* from various organizations will be considered when we have defined our outreach program.

Now that the *Bulletin* will be sent from Cornell, U.S. airmail rates will be much cheaper than in Canada. There will be a considerable savings. Production costs will also come down.

6. REPORT OF THE BULLETIN EDITOR

There as been serious delay on production of the 1986 *Annual*.

A new deadline for sending the Madison papers to Dan Kunene (the end of December) should be put in the *Bulletin*.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Madison sequel: Dan Kunene is now in the black, but we are still attempting to get the Ischola ticket annulled. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

1991 Conference: We do have a confirming letter for the 1992 conference. It will be late in the year at the end of April or beginning of May.

South African Members Committee: The composition of the committee will be changed as stipulated by the original legislation. Possible members are Cecil Abrahams as the 1992 Conference Convener, Thelma Ravel-Pinto, Neville Choconou, Amelia House and Mxuelo Mzananze.

Political prisoners: Letter concerning Jack Mapanje sent, as noted in the President's report. Project on the History of Black Writing. We received a request for ALA support of the project.

Eileen Julien will talk to the head of the project, whom she knows.

Annals Editor's status on Executive Council: Hal Wylie is the new General Editor. It was decided, based on the ALA constitution, that both the General Editor and the Headquarters Director should have *ex officio* status on the Executive Council. At the present time the President will make these through executive appointment until an amendment can be added to the ALA constitution.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

The following motion introduced by Steve Arnold and seconded by Janis Mayes passed unanimously:

RESOLVED: that a letter be sent to Zinta Konrad asking what has become of the SALUS survey, which is to be published in the *Bulletin*.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.