

ALA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting of April 21, 1993, Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe

[Summary prepared by President Abena Busia.]

Present: Abena Busia (President), Anne Adams, Susan Andrade, Stephen Arnold, Sandy Barkan, Kandjoura Dramé, Eileen Julien, Ketu Katrak, Mimi Mortimer, Sandra L. Richards, Reinhard Sander, Janice Spleth.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Abena Busia called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. and welcomed new members of the Executive Council.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with the addition of nominations and a change in the order to allow discussion of future Executive Council meetings earlier in the agenda as well as the issue of proxies for Executive Council meetings.

III. RATIFICATION OF PREVIOUS GUADELOUPE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

The ratification of minutes of Executive Council meetings of April 18, 19, and 20 were ratified with corrections.

IV. NOMINATIONS

Nominations were made for the offices of Vice-President and Editor and for members of the Executive Council.

V. ASSIGNMENT OF TASKS ARISING FROM ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING DECISIONS

A. Committee Dealing with R4L. A committee, consisting of Bioudun Jeyifo, Elisabeth Mudimbe-Boyi, and Aliko Songolo, was appointed to approach the direction of *Research in African Literatures* on behalf of ALA about the membership of the editorial board and other areas of policy.

B. Signing of Sassine Letter. It was decided that the letter protesting the detention of Guinean writer Williams Sassine would be dated April 20 and signed by Past-President Aliko Songolo.

C. Bulletin Editor Review. Abena Busia charged the Constitutional Reform Committee to review the Constitution in order to look at issues regarding the annual review of the *ALA Bulletin* Editor and to frame an amendment to be forwarded to the *ALA Bulletin* for publication in a timely fashion.

D. Writing Letter to OSU. It was noted that Past-President Aliko Songolo had agreed to write a letter to Ohio State University indicating that the ALA would be receptive to a bid from that institution to serve as a site for a future ALA annual conference.

E. Meeting time for Discussion of the ALA Executive Handbook. It was decided that members would reconvene at noon to discuss the *Handbook*.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. The Fonlon-Nichols Prize. At the request of Stephen Arnold, it was resolved that the Fonlon-Nichols Prize, awarded by the Research Institute of Comparative Literature of the University of Alberta, be conferred regularly at the annual meeting of the African Literature Association.

B. African Aesthetics Project. It was resolved that Stephen Arnold be allowed to use the *ALA Bulletin* to provide instalments of a dictionary of literary terms for readers of African literature and African readers of World Literature. The dictionary is eventually intended to be published separately as a book.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.