

(Minutes from ASA, New Orleans)

**AFRICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS
African Studies Association Meeting
New Orleans, LA
November 11, 2004, 7:00-9:00 a.m.**

PRESENT: Debra Boyd, Robert Cancel, Anne Carlson, Phanuel Egejuru, Amy Elder, George Joseph, Cilas Kemedjio, Mark L. Lilleleht, Janis Mayes, Soraya Mekerta, Abioseh Porter, Hal Wylie (President), Emmanuel Yewah

I. CALL TO ORDER: The President brought the meeting to order at 7:09 a.m. and asked everyone present to introduce him/herself.

II: RATIFICATION OF AGENDA: Introductions completed, the agenda was ratified as submitted.

III: RATIFICATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES: Minutes of the EC Minutes from ALA Madison were approved as corrected.

IV: REPORTS:

A. TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Robert Cancel reported that the ALA accrues heavy, monthly storage fees for the ALA materials that are housed in San Diego. He suggested that we begin to explore with the Finance Committee the possibility of having an ALA Archivist.

He distributed the Financial Report, explaining that many of the monies listed as expenditures of \$27,753.83 have already been taken from the current balance (Nov., 2004) of 28,933.09. Our total assets as of this date, including our endowment fund are \$97,449.80.

A question was raised about whether the ALA is still providing a \$4,000 subvention for Africa World Press's publication of our Annuals. The EC agreed to discuss this issue with Kassahun at a subsequent meeting.

B. FRANCOPHONE CAUCUS REPORT: Anne Carlson, Caucus Chair, reported that the French filmmaker Euzan Palcy is to be invited to the 2005 ALA Conference in Boulder, CO. Methods of determining future invitees will be discussed at the Francophone Caucus business meeting at Boulder.

There will also be a panel on teaching Francophone films, using Debra Boyd's films as examples. Ann Scarboro of Mosaic Media will be on the panel also.

C. GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS REPORT: Chair, Mark Lilleleht reported at the Caucus is working on additional ways to sponsor graduate students studying in Africa. This year, 22 students were sponsored, up from 16 students last year.

Wendy Belcher will run a publication workshop at the 2005 ALA Conference, and another panel is in the planning stage.

Lilleleht stated that ALA funding for mailing would have to be provided if the Caucus is to continue contact with graduate programs to encourage participation in the ALA. Debra Boyd suggested reaching out to historically Black colleges; on the basis of her informal survey of Black colleges, Soraya Mekerta reported that because of their financial situation, these colleges do not have the funds to send students to conferences. A discussion ensued that resulted with Soraya and Emmanuel Yewah agreeing to serve on an Outreach Committee to contact these colleges and others.

D. ISSUES COMMITTEE REPORT: Mark Lilleleht, Chair, reported on responses to the recent attacks on Ngugi and Njeeri.

The Committee is working on a response to the conditions in the Congo. It is working with NGOs on the ground to get information with which to approach the media and compiling a media package based on the ALA Resolution on the Congo.

It, also, is working on a method to secure funding to move the late Lemuel Johnson's library to Fourah Bay College in Sierra Leone, which was his wish.

Discussion ensued about the workings of the Issues Committee, specifically about the consistency of materials coming from the Committee with ALA positions. EC agreed to discuss the matter further.

E. AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT: The Report will be forthcoming from Micheline Rice-Maximin, Committee Chair, at the Boulder ALA EC Meeting.

F. CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE REPORT: Debra Boyd thanked ALA members for their condolences expressed at the time of her mother's passing. She reported that there is no Constitutional Amendment declaring that the ALA would be held in Africa every five years, but a Resolution to that effect was passed at a Business Meeting.

Continuing discussion is needed to decide the disposition of the *ALA Journal*.

G. EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Huma Ibrahim, the Chair of the Employment Committee, is teaching in Turkey, therefore the Committee hasn't met yet. Soraya Mekerta observed that the Committee plans to investigate the post-September 11 problem for scholars without U.S. citizenship finding employment. Janis Mayes offered the opinion that this topic was one for the Issues Committee.

H. BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: Editor Abioseh Porter reported that he had had a computer melt-down, and, therefore, the *Bulletin* is late coming out.

He agreed to have someone else take on the electronic publication of the *Bulletin* once *JALA* comes on line.

I. FOLON-NICHOLS AWARD REPORT: Hay Wylie reported that funds Steven Arnold of the University of Alberta donated is the endowment for this award. George Lang will replace Arnold at the University of Alberta as administrator of the F-N Award. George Lang wishes the ALA EC to call for nominations to this Committee. Hal said that the Committee's deliberations always have been secretive, so there is no-more-involved role the EC could play. Janis Mayes observed that many present members of the F-N Awards Committee wish to be relieved of their responsibilities. Hal will keep the EC informed of future discussions in the Awards Committee about this matter.

II: NEW BUSINESS:

A. PRESENCE AFRICAINE PROJECT: Janis Mayes reported *P-A*'s desire to disseminate information about their work trans-Atlantically. The agreement with ALA was that their journal will be sold here, ours sold there. Furthermore, the cost was to be split between Africa World Press and *Presence Africaine* in the amount of \$900 each. However, a letter was received subsequently from Mme Diop explaining that they could pay only \$600 as their share. Janis moved, therefore, that the ALA agree to pay \$1200 per year for five years, so the mutual cooperation might begin. The motion passed, and the President agreed to write to Mme Diop to inform her of our decision.

B ALA ANNUALS REPORT : Ousseynou Traore reported that the Fez and Kansas volumes are complete; the San Diego issue is in progress; Faiza Shereen is beginning the Alexandria volume and Aliko Songolo the Madison issue. The EC commended Traoré and all the Editors for completing their work.

C. AUDITORS: Hal stated that two Auditors are needed to go over the funds of the ALA, and no EC members may fulfill this role. The names of Renée Larrier, Susan Andrade, Louis Tremaine, Donald Morales, and Maureen Eke were suggested. The EC will make a decision at Boulder.

D. AFRICAN WRITERS SERIES: Hal stated that there is a problem with the disposition of the African Writers backlist now that Heinemann has been sold to a multinational that will no longer publish this series. This matter should be discussed by the Research & Teaching Committee. Hal will contact Sonia Lee, the new Chair of this Committee, about researching this issue.

E. MISCELLANEOUS: Mark Lilleht raised the question about individual members publicizing the ALA when attending other conferences. The EC agreed to make such links informally. Hal noted that the EC also needs to reach out to our own members to let them know what the EC is deliberating.

The President adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING November 12, 2004

PRESENT: Folabo Ajayi-Soyinka, Debra Boyd, Bob Cancel, JoAnne Cornwell, Phaniel Egejuru, Amy Elder, Anthony Hurley, George Joseph, Cilas Kemedjio, Janis Mayes, Soraya Mekerta, Abioseh Porter, Hal Wylie (President), Emmanuel Yewah

CALL TO ORDER: The President brought the meeting to order at 7:05 a.m. He then read out an invitation from a friend of Anthony Hurley and his wife to a party this evening at her guest home in the Faubourg Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans.

I. NEW BUSINESS:

- Soraya Mekerta announced that HR3077 has passed unanimously in the House of Representatives. This proposed legislation is part of the Homeland Security Act and would allow the scrutiny of scholars who are teaching literature from abroad. It was agreed that this issue will be taken up by the Issues Committee.
- Soraya then asked the rules and procedures for becoming a Chair of a Committee. After some discussion, there was general agreement that the EC needs to reach out to the general membership to increase caucus and committee members, hence the pool for Chairs of those groups.

II. REPORTS:

A. HEADQUARTERS REPORT:

Joanne Cornwell, Headquarters Director, announced the goal of mailing the *Newsletter* to the membership and the possibility of including in it a President's report and news of activities of the EC. It is incumbent upon the EC to decide what should be included in the *Newsletter*.

The impending crisis at her home institution concerning continued funding of ALA Headquarters has been halted. San Diego State University will continue to support the ALA home office for, at least, another year.

There are ongoing efforts to "synthesize" information at the Home Office about the ALA. Work is proceeding in this regard on the *ALA Bulletin* and on summarizing and recording African literature dissertations.

Joanne asked permission of the EC to record at ALA conferences to gain documentation for publications in the *Newsletter*; she was informed, however, that the Research & Teaching Committee already does this, so she should contact them.

Janis pointed out the need for someone to go through the archives of EC meetings to give us information on the resolutions passed. Minutes of EC meetings should be sent to Headquarters each year.

B. ELECTIONS REPORT:

Debra Boyd presented the slate of possible candidates:

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Chiwango
Egejuru
Rice-Maximin
Palmer
Ravell-Pinto

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Agbajoh-Laoye
Belcher
Desai
Gabara
Kusunose
Lillileth
Ngo-Ngui
Tasidikou-Morton
Thomas
Azodo
Brown

TREASURER:

Hurley
Alden

The slate of candidates was moved, seconded and passed.

Phanuel Egejuru, the first Deputy Vice-President, sought to clarify the role of Deputy VP. The consensus was that the Deputy VP cannot automatically step into the Vice-President's position when the VP takes over as President. The purpose of this position is to have someone to take over the other responsibilities of the VP, if that person cannot or not longer wishes to fulfill them.

C. AD-HOC PUBLICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Janis Mayes distributed copies of the Committee Report. She reviewed the history of the resolution to publish an ALA Constitutional Amendment to publish *JALA* and read through the resolution of the Committee regarding the *Bulletin* and *JALA*.

Abioseh Porter offered a correction to the Report to the effect that the \$900 listed annual cost of the ALA Website and *JALA* is just the on-line cost, not the cost for mailing and postage.

Hal Wylie noted that the ALA Handbook calls for four issues of the *Bulletin* per year and said that some of the functions of the *Bulletin* (eg. calls for meetings) can be handled by the *Newsletter*.

Abioseh raised the question of payment for the Webmaster and suggested \$100/month; further, he suggested that such job opportunities should be listed on the web site, rather than in the *Bulletin*.

JoAnne Cornwell replied that, since the purpose of the *Newsletter* is to solidify the ALA image and it appears only twice a year, the website would be a more efficient place for such information than either publication.

After extensive discussion of the function of these publications, the need for a formal Editorial Board for *JALA*, and the future role of the Publications Committee, Hal moved that 1) we create *JALA* to replace the *Bulletin*; 2) that Abioseh remain Editor for two more years; 3) that the Editorial Board of *JALA* should be appointed by the Publications Committee. It was agreed that this motion be tabled for the moment and be discussed at the next meeting.

D. WOCALA REPORT:

Anthonia Kalu, Vice-Chair of WOCALA, distributed the Report. She informed the EC that at the 2004 Business Meeting WOCALA appointed two International Coordinators, Wangui wa Goro for East Africa and Chioma Opara for West Africa, whose duties are to publicize the organization abroad. She also presented WOCALA's plans for the 2005 ALA Conference at Boulder and our activities since the Madison meeting.

Questions for the ALA EC are: would it be possible to have a non-voting member on the Finance Committee to discover ways to increase WOCALA funds?; how should WOCALA go about coming into compliance with Article II, Section 3F of the WOCALA Constitution, "Membership and Affiliation," which requires that it elect or appoint representatives to ALA Committees?

In response, the EC explained that the Finance Committee is responsible for finding general revenue for ALA and establishing funding priorities. For WOCALA to attempt to secure separate funding would lead to questions of whether it was attempting to "break away" from ALA and discussions of how much new, separate funding should be returned to ALA. JoAnne mentioned that the *Newsletter* is a vehicle for publicizing WOCALA and, possibly, fundraising.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

November 13, 2004

PRESENT: Folabo Ajayi, Debra Boyd, Robert Cancel, Phaniel Egejuru, Amy Elder, Anthony Hurley, George Joseph, Cilas Kemedjo, Mark Lilleht, Janis Mayes, Soraya Mekerta, Abiosah Porter, Thelma Ravelle-Pinto, Hal Wylie (President), Emmanuel Yewah

Hal Wylie called the meeting to order and announced the ALA Reception this evening in Gallery 6 from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS:

A. Role of the Deputy Vice-President:

Debra Boyd proposed that the Deputy Vice-President be an outreach person for the ALA, with the official title of Outreach Coordinator. Soraya Mekerta and Emmanuel Yaweh should work with her for outreach. This suggestion was tabled for future discussion.

B. Publication Committee Report:

Hal's motion from yesterday, that 1) ALA create *JALA* to replace the *Bulletin*; 2) Abioseh Porter remain Editor for 2 years; 3) the Editorial Board should be appointed by the Editorial Committee was read for consideration.

Folabo suggested that the EC affirm the creation of *JALA*. Discussion ensued to determine whether *JALA* has already approved by the EC. The EC approved the motion that the EC will create an Editorial Board.

Abioseh suggested that the EC should continue discussing by e-mail the possibilities for an Associate Editor or *JALA*.

C. Finance Committee Report:

Thelma Ravell-Pinto, Chair of the Finance Committee reported that the committee discussed the report by Anthony Hurley to internationalize the ALA.. As part of this effort, the ALA should provide an annual award for an African and/or Caribbean scholar to come to the annual ALA Conference in the amount of \$2,500, or, possibly, less, depending on the location of the scholar, for one person per year. A transparent committee should be constituted to choose the scholar, with the ALA Treasurer as a member of this committee. This motion was passed.

Other projects include sending a mailing list to African and Caribbean institutions to determine accuracy of the list and to solicit more names of scholars.

There should be a solicitation on the ALA dues card for funds to send African literature texts to foreign institutions.

D. New Business:

- Hal raised the funding problem with holding the ALA Conference at an historically Black university of college. In response to Hal's question about our providing seed money for such an endeavor, Bob Cancel suggested we could provide \$2,500.
- Bob observed further that we've always put the responsibility on the conference convener and the institution to find the funding for ALA conferences, and \$40,000 to \$60,000 is the usual cost. Mimi Mortimer suggested that joint conferences might solve the funding problem with historically Black colleges.
- She and Adélékè Adéèkó, the co-convener of the 2005 Boulder Conference, then reported on the preparations for this Conference. The venue will be the Millennium Harvest Hotel, the Conference rate being \$110 per night. The Conference will begin with 1:30 – 3:15 p.m. panels on Wednesday, April 6th; the Opening Speaker will be Abiola Irele, the banquet speaker, Boris Diop, and the winner of the Fonlon/Nichols Award, Dennis Brutus. There will be a high school teachers workshop. The cost of the Conference will be between \$50,000 and \$55,000, with \$20,000 coming from the University of Colorado, Boulder and \$30,000, possibly, from registration. The EC gratefully thanked the Co-convener for their work.
- Kofi Anyidoho, the 2004 ASA Keynote Speaker, reported on the 2006 ALA Conference in Ghana that he and Manthia Diawara of NYU are co-hosting. He noted that it has been ten years since the ALA met in Accra. NYU has guaranteed \$30,000, and supplementary funds are being sought; furthermore, NYU has an office with staff in Accra to aid in the planning, and Kofi has administrative support in Legon, where he is Head of the English Department. The theme of the conference is still to be determined. A question was raised about pushing the date of the conference into May for the convenience of ALA members whose semesters will be over by then, but Kofi pointed out that a May date will situate the conference in the "high season" of Ghanaian tourism. Kofi was asked to propose two possible windows of opportunity for the meeting. A straw vote was taken about preferred meeting dates; May was preferred. The EC's gratitude for the co-convener's work as expressed, and approval, in principle, of their conference plans was moved and enthusiastically accepted by the EC.
- Hal reported that the EC has no definite proposal after the Ghana Conference in 2006. Janice will pursue the possibility of a Harvard venue in 2007; it was agreed that Frieda Ekotto from Princeton should also be approached for possibilities in 2007 and subsequently.

- The motion was passed that the Treasurer of ALA, the Chair of the Finance Committee, and at least one other ALA member outside of the EC form a committee to set up criterion for selection of the Travel Awardee.
- Phanuel Egejuru will step in for Amy Elder as Secretary at the EC meeting tomorrow. Discussion ensued about rules concerning attendance at Executive meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

November 14, 2004

PRESENT: Tomi Adeaga (for Wangui wa Goro), Debra Boyd, Bob Cancel, Phanuel Egejuru, Tony Hurley, George Joseph, Mark Lilleleht, Janis Mayes, Soraya Mekerta, Thelma Pinto (for Abioseh Porter), Hal Wylie (President), Emmanuel Yewah.

Hal Wylie called the meeting to order at 7:00 a. m. and asked if anyone had anything new to add to the agenda; no one had anything to add.

The only item left on the Agenda is to return to a discussion of unresolved issues:

I. Venues For Future Conferences

Hal began by saying that we have to decide whether the EC should meet Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday or Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, since the conveners want to start panels on Wednesday.

However, Hal noted that the most important issue now is that we have no definite conference locations for 2007, 2008, 2009 and beyond, and it takes two years to put a conference together. Those who have expressed interest have not sent any letters for the EC to follow up. If Janis' contact with Skip Gates at Harvard is positive, it would fill the slot for 2007. Emmanuel Yewah indicated that Abiola Irele might also speak with Gates.

Hal said he contacted Irene d'Amelda by e.mail, and she reported that the old chair of their Department, who was sympathetic to the idea of an ALA conference at the University of Arizona, has been replaced by a new chair who might not be as interested. Besides, Irene is now in Benin; she suggested contacting Angelita Reys, who, however is new at Arizona. Moreover, there is little support for African Studies there. So, prospects for Arizona are not good.

Janis reported that she spoke to Aissatou at Princeton last year, and Hal has written a formal letter, but there has been no reply. Hal also said he spoke at ASA to Ernest Emenyonu at University of Michigan at Flint, and he said that could be a possible location for 2007.

Debra Boyd brought up again the idea of contacting historically Black colleges to find out if they would be interested. Debra said she knows those Colleges have money. We can make an argument to them about increasing their visibility, the importance of African literature, and the possibility of establishing African Studies departments on their campuses. She offered Dr. Thomas Hammond of North Carolina and Dr. Dolen Hubbard of Morgan State University Baltimore as individuals to contact in this regard. George Joseph also mentioned Dr. Ernest McNilly of Stillman College in Alabama.

- On a related issue, there ensued a discussion of seed money. It was suggested that if any institution was willing to host ALA, we could begin conversations with Deans and Presidents. The ALA President could correspond with them asking if they could provide substantial amount to help the ALA hold a conference at their institution. We have to forget the previously suggested \$40,000 seed money. Bob Cancel suggested about \$5000 for seed money but this idea was tabled for the time being.
- Janis and Hal will contact Frieda Ekotto at the University of Michigan as soon as possible. As for the historically Black colleges, Hal said Debra should start contacting them since, she initiated the idea. Hal asked about Brazil, and Janis said that Carol Boyce-Davis indicate it wouldn't work. Hal

also stated that M.I.T. as a location was an idea by Odile Casanave, who thought that if Harvard agreed to host ALA, maybe M.I.T. and Holy Cross might collaborate in some areas. Tomi Adeaga said that Wangui wa Goro was still trying to see if London University might host ALA. It was also suggested that Adlai Murdock of the University of Illinois be contacted. Hal said he would pursue all of the possibilities discussed.

II. Colorado Executive Council Meetings

Hal presented the logic of moving the meetings backward, since the Conference is being moved back a day. He stated that we have a rule that new EC members come to their first meeting on Sunday, and that meeting comes after Business Meeting. If we move our EC meetings back a day, we will not have that first meeting with new members after Business meeting as defined by our tradition. The new President meets with new members at that first meeting. Therefore, it might be logical to continue our Sunday meeting. It means EC Members have to come in a day earlier for the Boulder Conference. People would still be able to come to Boulder on Wednesday, and we wouldn't have to change the tradition of meeting on Sunday.

III. Ghana Conference;

Kofi Anyidoho arrived at this point, and Hal congratulated him, and the Council applauded him for the excellent performance in his Abiola lecture. In regard to travel costs, Kofi said he had tried to contact the travel agent he is working with, but he wasn't available. He said he might stop over at NYU for more discussion. Hal reported to Kofi that, since he had left the date of the meeting to us, the EC had taken a straw poll, and May 15th forward was favored as the date for the Ghana meeting. Kofi said he had not yet talked to a person in Texas whose decision is very important in the matter. He will take the straw poll into consideration when deciding on the conference date. Hal thanked Kofi for coming again to report to the EC meeting.

IV. Finance Committee:

We passed a motion that the a Travel Grant Committee should be established to handle the issue of travel for candidates coming from Africa. This Travel Committee should be comprised of the Chair of Finance Committee, the treasurer of ALA, one past ALA president, and a representative from each of the caucuses (WOCALA, Graduate Student, Francophone) who is not a member of the Executive. It will be the responsibility of this Travel Committee to set up the criteria for choosing candidates traveling from Africa. There was some discussion about criteria for choosing past presidents to be on the committee. It was suggested we start with recent past, Elizabeth Boyi, Carol Boyce Davies, Kondioura Drame, Janis Mayes, Richard Priebe and so on.

V. Publications Committee:

- Hal will write a Presidential Report about EC discussions and decisions in New Orleans and send it to all ALA members.
- Hal also said that he intends, from now on, to send a kind of newsletter (no specific name was given to this communication medium) that he believes is necessary to keep members informed of happenings. This publication might appear 3 or 4 times a year, as an adjunct to the *Newsletter*. He hoped this practice would go beyond the Presidential report. Several members reminded Hal that Abioseh has been keeping members informed about ALA happenings; they wanted to know what was new about this presidential communication with members. Janis asked Hal if he wanted to give a name to what he proposed to do. Tony said we would welcome communications from the President, especially after E.C. meetings at the ASA Conference, (previous Presidents have not reported on E.C. meetings at ASA). However, he suggested that we check in the Handbook to see what is missing that needs to be communicated to members by the President. Janis recalled that a recommendation had been made to increase the publication of the *Newsletter* to 2, 3, or 4 times a year. Several members felt that ALA members would be overwhelmed with all these communications. Debra added that the President can always communicate freely with members as needed and that there is no need for an extra newsletter. The discussion ended on that note.

VI. Proxy Situation:

• There was heated discussion on this issue. Janis recalled that the use of a proxy was a very contentious issue in 2002 and that EC members were not following the guidelines on attendance at EC meetings. The guideline calls for members to attend two EC meetings a year, that is, during ASA and the ALA conferences. Further, if a member needed to miss a meeting, that member should let EC know by a certain date of his/her proxy. If a member is leaving early s/he should also inform the E.C of her/his proxy. The first example cited was the Secretary who was leaving early but didn't make any prior arrangement for her replacement. She just asked for volunteers to take the minutes for the next meeting. Another example is that of a member who is on a Fulbright in Africa for two years without telling the EC that he wasn't going to be attending meetings but simply contacted a proxy to take his place. Also, there are other EC members who do not attend and don't send any proxy; another problem is the member who does not inform the EC that s/he intends to send a proxy, is expected to report on a specific subject, but does not send the expected information with the person who has agreed to be his/her proxy.

Janis cautioned that if the EC is expected to be effective, we have to enforce the mechanism of dropping any member who misses two consecutive meetings. There was discussion on what to do to make new EC members attend meetings. It was suggested that the President should write an official letter to new members to let them know the importance of the meetings for ALA's smooth functioning. Hal suggested that it would be a good idea to add this communication to the responsibility of the V.P.

Soraya Mekerta suggested that it would help to send a package of information to new members, so they would have some idea of what their responsibilities are. She claimed she had no idea what to expect; she didn't know who was on what committee, etc. Hal said that he sent Soraya the handbook and agenda for the ASA meetings, but Soraya had another problem. She felt that ALA conference dates conflict with other professional organizations like the CLA to which some members of ALA belong. In the letter she received, ALA stated that they want to develop a support system with these other organizations, but it appears ALA is going back on its words with these conflicting dates.

Bob Cancel intervened by stating that sometimes dates are dictated by the hotel's availability. Soraya then asked to make a motion that could help solve the problem of contending dates for conferences. She moved that we make every possible effort when selecting dates for future conventions that they do not conflict with dates for other conferences of interest to ALA members. The motion passed.

Speaking after the motion, Debra Boyd insisted that we should not be controlled by the plans of CLA or any other organization. Besides, she continued, the initial issue was this: if elected, how would members of EC be affected by being absent from the first meeting of E.C. when they are supposed to be there; whether or not people can make it to the first meeting, that is a separate action.

Tony Hurley added that we should not be defensive about this issue of new members not attending meetings. We could set up a mechanism by which new members are brought up to date regarding their duties, to let them know what they are getting themselves into.

VII. ASA Panels and Elections:

Hal suggested that he and Debra will discuss future ASA panels.

Tony wished to know why the result of the votes of the past election were publicized, and Hal responded that it was the practice in the olden days to publicize the votes. It was only in the past two or three years that votes were not publicly reported. He added that it is important to be honest with the members, to let them know how the votes went. He said that votes are normally reported in all elections; it is part of the political process.

Hal thanked the E. members for successful meetings in New Orleans. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a. m.