

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Lincoln College, Oxford, Friday 16th April 2010 at 4.30pm.

Present: Mishtooni Bose (Vice-President, in the Chair), Robert Avis, Sarah Baccianti, Kenneth Clarke, Juliana Dresvina, Mark Faulkner, Brian Fitzgerald, Simon Horobin (Hon. Secretary), M. Michèle Mulchahey, Aditi Nafde, Lynda Paterson, David Rundle (Executive Officer, taking minutes), Jane Roberts, Magnus Ryan, Helen Swift (Vice-President).

1. Apologies were received from, among others, Sylvia Huot, A. J. Lappin, Nigel F. Palmer, C. J. Saunders, John Watts.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3rd April 2009.

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

It was noted that, following the AGM, the Committee had acted under the power delegated to it by the Meeting, to appoint as Independent Examiner for 2009 Mr Mark Luntley (item 5) and to appoint as Hon. Secretary Dr Simon Horobin (item 8).

3. Annual Report for 2009.

The Vice-President tabled the report on behalf of the Committee and invited questions. The Report was approved (proposed: Magnus Ryan; seconded: Kenneth Clarke).

4. Acceptance of the Accounts for 2009.

The Executive Officer presented the Accounts for 2009, annexed to the Annual Report, on behalf of the Treasurer. The Accounts were accepted (proposed: Magnus Ryan; seconded: Kenneth Clarke).

It was agreed to minute thanks to the Hon. Treasurer, John Watts, on his resignation from the Committee. The Independent Examiner, Mr Mark Luntley, was also thanked for his assistance and advice.

5. Appointment of an Independent Examiner for the Accounts for 2010.

It was agreed to appoint Mr Mark Luntley, CPFA, as Independent Examiner for the Accounts for 2010 (proposed: Helen Swift; seconded: Magnus Ryan).

6. Setting of the membership rates for 2011.

It was agreed that the subscription rate for membership for 2011 should remain at its present level of £16.50 / \$35.50 (£16 / \$35 if paying by Banker's Order). It was agreed to introduce an equivalent Euro rate of €21.

In addition, it was agreed to introduce a new category of institutional membership at a rate of £25 / \$48 / €35 (proposed: Jane Roberts; seconded: Rob Avis).

7. Election of Hon. Treasurer

On the standing down of John Watts from the office, the Committee proposed Dr Helen Swift for election as Hon. Treasurer. This was agreed nem. con.

8. Elections to the Committee.

The present status of membership of the Committee was outlined. It was noted that there were now four spaces for elected members on the Committee, and the Committee proposed the election of two presently co-opted members, Dr Kenneth P. Clarke and Prof. Jane Roberts, and two new members, Prof. Dame Janet Nelson and Dr Sethina Watson. The Committee's proposals were accepted nem. con.

9. Formal Announcement of the Medium Ævum Essay Prize for 2009.

The Vice-President announced that the Essay Prize had been awarded to Dr Thomas Hinton (Jesus College, Oxford) for his submission 'New Beginnings and False Dawns: A Reappraisal of the *Elucidation* Prologue to the *Conte del Graal* Cycle'. It was further announced that, for the first time, a *proxime accessit* had been declared: Eliza Zingesser (Princeton University) for her essay 'Speaking as One: Linguistic Diversity and Moral Unity in Troubadour Chansonier Y (Bibliothèque Nationale de France MS. fr. 795)'.

The Vice-President closed the meeting at 4:45pm.

After the meeting, Dr **Prof. M. Michèle Mulchahey** (Pontifical Institute of Mediæval Studies, Toronto) gave the Annual Lecture on 'How the Dominican Order Dealt With Error Within its Own Ranks. Unsanctioned Publication and the Censure of Durand of St-Pourçain'.

16/4/10
DGR