

**REA Business Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

**Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Atlanta Marriott Buckhead Hotel, Atlanta, GA**

**12:45PM – 1:30PM**

**AGENDA**

- I. Opening Remarks Mai-Anh L. Tran

President Mai-Anh L. Tran welcomed the “faithful remnant” to the business meeting.

- II. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Marion Plant

Second: Nelson Rubert

The agenda was approved.

- III. Approval of 2014 Business Meeting Minutes

Motion: Denise Janssen

Second: Mary Young

The 2014 Business Meeting Minutes were approved

- IV. Reports

- Archivist emeritus Barney Kathan

Barney Kathan, archivist emeritus, presented Lucinda and Bud with a list of materials in the archives and with a paper that he has written about the collection, which will be published in the Religion and Education journal next year.

- Treasurer

Kevin Sandberg

There was six percent drop from the last year but it was a correction and the market has climbed again. We invest in social responsible investments.

The 2016 budget comes in balanced. It is designed to advance our mission – and is accomplished through the journal and the conference.

The Journal has done a wonderful job on scholarship and it finances much of what we do.

An Association Survey has been budgeted for next year.

Next year's audiovisual figure is a higher amount because that is what we have actually spent in the past. We will try to be conservative.

Because we are an international organization, we have budgeted realistically for the cost of international travel.

We are delighted that there are sixty students at this conference and we want to find ways to help with more travel grants. We rely on donations from members. We need to think about how we can get money into student travel accounts. Please contribute if possible.

Motion: Kathy Wining

Second: Barbara Senecal Davis

The budget was approved.

- Executive Secretary

Lucinda Huffaker

We are now seeing an increase in membership numbers.

There was a sharp drop because we were counting folks twice with REA and APPRE. Now that we maintain our own records, rather than Taylor & Francis, we have better records.

One third of our membership is students.

Annual meeting figures: We have seen a steady increase since 2011.

Attendance at this meeting is 188, which is a record, and this may increase some with last minute registrations.

Students and international members numbers are increasing.

At this meeting there are 37 Breakout sessions with 75 presenters.

This is important because we are trying to balance opportunities to present and a packed schedule, while also recognizing that members want time to network.

There was an increase in proposal submissions in 2012. When Ted Brelsford took over that position he instituted some new policies that resulted in increased numbers.

Wabash has agreed to continue funding (\$2500) the student breakfast into the future.

We gave three student awards this year.

Future meetings:

Next year's annual meeting will be in Pittsburgh.

There has been an increase in the cost of hotel rooms. In Pittsburgh (2016), the cost will be \$169 and in St. Louis (2017), the cost will be \$149.

- *Religious Education Journal* Editors Jack Seymour, Joyce Mercer

Submissions have been steady for the last year. We are now using a new online submission process and there is a learning curve.

We remain indebted to Jack Seymour for all of his work and improvements to the Journal.

We continue to maintain an interfaith and international aspect to the Journal.

- Network Coordinator Mary Hess

Mary has been contracted for four primary responsibilities:

- Help to engage members through social media
- Networking
- REA website
- Board participation and support

We are using SCHED this year as a convenience for members.

- Nominations & Forum Restructure Mai-Anh L. Tran

Restructuring proposal:

Programming structure has been three forums. This happened when REA and APPRE merged. The structure has been good but the forums have been understaffed. Each member of the forum served on other committees.

We are proposing a two-year trial where forums become standing committees, and then we will evaluate how it is working.

The chairs of the standing committees will be elected and will serve on the board. They will now invite persons to serve on the standing committees. And since this is the first time, the committee has named some persons to the committees. So those named members will be affirmed.

There are a total of 15 positions to be elected or affirmed.

- Election of New Board & Committee Members

* V-P & Program Chair-Elect	Mualla Selcuk
* AcademComChair	Tony Vrame
AcadComMmbr2	Jennifer Ayres
AcadComMmbr3	Hosffman Ospino
* Public/GlobChair	Barbara Morgan
Public/GlobMmbr2	Hyun-Sook Kim
Public/GlobMmbr3	Jose Irizarry
FaithComMmbr2	Marian Plant
FaithComMmbr3	Sarah Tauber
* Proposal SelectionChair	Katherine Turpin
* Harper/Wornom Chair	Justus Baird (2016)
* Harper/Wornom MEMBER	Maureen O'Brien
* Board Member-at-Large	Carmichael Crutchfield
PublicationsComMmbr-at-large	Deborah Court
* indicates elected Board position	

Motion: Jack Seymour  
Second: Bob O'Gorman

The slate was elected (and affirmed).

V. 2016 Annual Meeting

Bert Roebben

Bert Roebben presented the theme for next year which is "Generating Hope: The Future of the Teaching Profession in a Globalized World." In 2016, the annual meeting will be held in Pittsburg, PA.

Bert noted that the annual meeting will be in downtown Pittsburgh, where the old industries meet the present in a new way. This context is similar to Bert's work in Germany. The meeting will be interdisciplinary and interfaith.

## VI. Other Business

- REA at AAR 2015

Kathy Winings

REA at AAR will be moderated by Kathy Winings, who is the current chair of the Standing Committee for Religious Education in Faith Communities. The theme is "Valuing the Teaching of Religion: Connecting, Disrupting, Transforming Power," and the session will feature Judith Bishop of Mills College (recipient of the AAR's 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award), Andre E. Johnson of Memphis Theological Seminary, and REA's members Boyung Lee and Sarah Tauber.

## VII. Acknowledgments

- 2015 Program Committee: Thanks to Harold (Bud) Horell and everyone who helped to make this annual meeting possible.
- Outgoing Board & Committee Members: Thanks to Board and Committee members who completing their terms. They include:

Siebren Miedema – outgoing president

Jack Seymour – Journal editor

Ted Brelsford – Chair of Call for Papers Committee

Leah Gunning Frances, Suzanne Johnson, Chuck Foster, Mualla Selcuk

### Announcements:

The upcoming association survey is a long term effort to get information, which will allow us to strategically plan for the sustainability of the organization.

In 2018, we will celebrate our 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We want to celebrate this milestone with adequate plans and preparation.

The raffle winner will be announced in eReach.

Lucinda announced that Patricia O'Connell Killen sent word that her husband, David, died on Thursday and that the service was held today. She wanted us to know that she covets our prayers.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion: Joyce Mercer

Second: Annie Lockheart Gilroy

The motion to adjourn was approved.