

**Society for German-American Studies
Executive Committee Meeting
Clayton Hall
Newark, Delaware
April 14, 2011**

Present: William Keel, William Roba, Randall Donaldson, Karyl Rommelfanger, J. Gregory Redding, LaVern Rippley arrived later

Excused: Katja Hartmann (Membership Coordinator – Europe)

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I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President William Keel at 1:15 p.m.

II. Secretary's Report: The secretary's report was approved as corrected.

It was moved and seconded that Executive Committee and General Membership meeting minutes be posted on the SGAS website. These will be "corrected" but "unapproved" minutes. Motion passed.

III. Treasurer's Report:

Roba reported that the SGAS financial situation is solid. The Vosler Report shows that we now have \$11,690 in the Arndt Fund and \$14,301 in the Faust Fund. Both of these totals represent considerable increases over the 2010 figures. As of March 31, 2011 our operating budget stands at \$10,486.

It was moved and seconded that Treasurer Roba contact Vosler & Vosler and inform them to go ahead and implement recommendations 1 and 2 (see Vosler report). The treasurer is to report back to the Executive Committee when those items have been implemented. Motion passed.

The Publications and Research Committees were charged with the task of reviewing their policies and their implementation and to reconstitute each of their respective committees. They should report back to the Executive Committee before its fall, 2011 meeting.

IV. Report on Symposium:

The Newark Symposium: Randall Donaldson reported there are 42 full participants and 13 one-day only participants and that everything is on track for a very good symposium. Donaldson announced that next year's symposium will be held in Lawrence, Kansas on April 12-14, 2012. The 2013 location will likely be in Wisconsin, hopefully in Milwaukee. However, SGAS still needs an institution to sponsor that symposium as well as a coordinator. The 2014 Symposium is scheduled for Austin, Texas. Stanford University was mentioned as a possible location also. It was also noted that a call for papers for the 2012 symposium has again been included in the membership packet.

V. Outstanding Achievement Award

This year's Outstanding Achievement Award will be given to Professor Alexander Ritter. A plaque will be presented at the SGAS banquet. The Laudatio will be read by LaVern Rippley.

VI. Membership

Redding reported that we currently have 212 members, which is behind where we were last year at this time. However, Redding believes this is largely due to his getting a late start on membership this year. On the positive side there are a number of new members. Redding also

indicated that SGAS has between 90-100 institutional members. A discussion ensued about those who are no longer members, but may be receiving the newsletter. Redding will advise Daniel Nuetzel and Claudia Grossmann of this problem and furnish them with an updated membership list.

VII. SGAS Yearbook

Keel announced that Volume 45 of the SGAS yearbook, the 2010 issue, will come out in the fall. There will be several book reviews in the yearbook. However, the SGAS book review editor, Lorie Vanchena has now resigned, so we need a replacement. We anticipate an annual bibliography from the Hoyts for the next issue.

Keel also reported that there is a surplus of old, unsold yearbooks in storage in Kansas. It was suggested that perhaps we can sell some of those at the 2012 Symposium in Lawrence.

Keel also brought up the idea of putting our yearbooks on-line via PRO-QUEST, JSTORE OR EBSCO. The advantage would be to reduce publication costs as well as generating more interest in SGAS. However, SGAS might lose institutional subscribers by doing this. It was agreed to study the issue further.

VIII. Website

Redding reported that the website has been “cleaned up” by one of his students, and he can now make updates. Placing the conference registration on the website was very successful. However, Greg would like to divest himself of the website. A suggestion was made to hire someone to take on the task, perhaps a college / university student. SGAS would, however, have to monitor the person hired.

The best solution is to have an SGAS member interested in technology manage the website, such as Matthew Lange at Wisconsin-Whitewater.

IX. Newsletter

LaVern Rippley reported that Daniel Nuetzel and Claudia Grossmann will take over the newsletter. Rippley suggested that SGAS look into providing the option of receiving the newsletter via email to reduce cost and allow for searching. Rippley cautioned, however, that some might delete the newsletter before reading it.

Rippley will suggest to Nuetzel and Grossmann that they personalize the newsletter as they wish and need not stick to the old format.

X. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karyl Rommelfanger, Secretary