

CANE Executive Board Meeting

January 31, 2009

Rivers School, Weston, MA

Attendance: Roger Travis, Susan Brown, Ed DeHoratius, Mark Pearsall, Liz Tylawsky, Margaret Graver, Ruth Breindel, Lydia Haile Fassett, Jacqueline Carlon, Donna Lyons, Shirley Lowe, Jere Mead, Kat Braden, Lydia Batten, Emil Penarubia, Mike Gerard, John McVey, Nina Coppolino

Agenda:

1. **Announcements by the President:** Roger Travis called the meeting to order at 9:36.

He announced that Jere Mead would be taking minutes, with Rosemary Zurawel unable to attend. Introductions were made around the table. RT said that he was having trouble contacting Roger Stone regarding the Barlow-Beach committee, but still thought that the committee's work should go smoothly. He said that the program for the Annual Meeting was full and attractive; that it was not yet posted online; that Andy Volpe will be providing entertainment, for expenses only, playing the part of a Republican soldier (our preference) both informally at the reception and in a formal presentation after the banquet.

2. **Announcements by the Executive Secretary:** RT relayed RZ's wish to establish a cell-phone tree; a list was circulated [and has since been sent to RZ]. The minutes for the September meeting were approved unanimously, with the addition of Donna Lyons to the list of those attending.

3. **Reports:**

State Reports:

Massachusetts: Emil Penarubia submitted a written report, concerning activities of the state chapter of JCL; staged productions of Greek tragedy and comedy; coming events including the annual Boston Area Roman Studies Conference at Boston University and this summer's Conventiculum Bostoniense. He asked whether anyone knew of plans for a spring meeting of CAM.

Connecticut: Mark Pearsall submitted a written report about the activities of ClassConn, based on notes taken by Liz Tylawsky. He called attention to the fact that ClassConn is requesting donations on behalf of the Greek Theater Project at UConn, pointing out that ClassConn is matching those donations up to \$350.00 per fiscal year.

Rhode Island: Lydia Haile Fassett reported that a certamen had been held; that a guest speaker would be making a presentation in February. Conversation followed about the Medusan qualities of the certamen machines.

Vermont: Lydia Batten announced that Latin Day on April 3 would focus on the theme of music, with skits related to music and recitation contests; that the fall meeting had not been well attended, but that she and a colleague were working to increase attendance at the next meeting of the state association.

Maine: Ed DeHoratius relayed word of regional certamens coming in February and March, and referred us to the website of the Maine Classical Association for news of the spring

meeting.

New Hampshire: [no report]

Committee Reports:

Discretionary Funds: Shirley Lowe submitted a written report, and said that the only grant of Discretionary Funds had gone to Ed DeHoratius for software updates to facilitate publishing of CANEns. No other applications had been received.

Nominating Committee: SL's written report went on to say that the Nominating Committee felt the need for more College/University representation on the Executive Committee, and that the NC was looking specifically for a member-at-large for 2010-12 from that level. At present the NC has the following names to present: for President Elect, Ellen Perry of Holy Cross; for Treasurer, Ruth Breindel (incumbent); for Auditor, Elizabeth Keitel (incumbent). Still to be decided are the nominee for member-at-large and a second nominee for Auditor, since Tom Suits has asked to be relieved of that position.

Katz Prize: SL reported that no student papers had been submitted as candidates for this prize, and wondered whether the deadline of February 15 was realistic.

Wiencke Award: Mike Girard announced the name of the person selected [withheld from the minutes; the name will be made public at the banquet].

Scholarship Committee: EDeH announced the name of the winner of the Means Scholarship, [--help needed, Ed]-- of Lenox High School. He reported that there had been only a few applications for the Coulter and Endowment scholarships and none for the Barker.

CANE Summer Institute: Ruth Breindel reported that she has paid Dartmouth for last year's CSI. SL gave the dates for this year's program (week of July 6), and RT said that all reports that he had received so far from Margaret Graver were extremely promising. [See also below]

Educational Programs: Kat Braden reported a request from the Maine Classical Association for \$200.00 for support of the fall meeting, and anticipates another such request for the spring. There has also been a request for \$800.00 for a mosaic project. It was asked by various members why there were not more requests for discretionary funds, for funding from Educational Programs, and for scholarships.

ACTFL: MP submitted a written report and called attention to the drop in enrollment nationally in Spanish, French, German, and Latin at the secondary level, along with an increase for Arabic and Chinese; also to a national drop in all foreign languages at the elementary level, except for Latin. He also circulated the November issue of *Language Educator* magazine, which contains articles about the importance of teaching classical languages. RB and SL spoke of the low degree of attention to Greek and Latin in this magazine in the past. MP also circulated a quiz entitled "Are You Smarter Than a Language Teacher"; your secretary pro tem scored 8/10.

Classics in Curricula: Jacqui Carlon has written a letter urging the University of Rhode Island to appoint a replacement for Ann Suter when she retires. She reported that Connecticut is revising teaching standards for Foreign Languages, and that the state has a history of not paying attention to Latin. JC and DL spoke to those in charge of the revision, and left the clear impression that Latin is a language. MP added that Connecticut is undergoing educational reform, and that there is a risk of removing a Foreign Language requirement for graduation from high school. Susan Brown spoke of past efforts by New Hampshire classicists to maintain programs in that state. KB reminded us of a package from the

American Classical League with arguments for maintaining programs in classical languages. JC resumed by soliciting information about programs in trouble, locally or at the state level. RT asserted that there is a difference between the current crisis and what happened in the 1970s, namely that this crisis is budget-driven, and that no one is questioning the value of teaching Latin and Greek.

CANE Summer Institute (cont.): Margaret Graver distributed a draft of the brochure for this summer's Institute, and highlighted several of the speakers; a change in the approach to the teaching of Greek; other features of the courses and daily program. The program will soon be available online. She has tried to simplify the page of the brochure that contains information about fees and accommodations (etc.), without making substantive changes. Margaret Graver reported that CSI has been nominated for an outreach prize from the American Philological Association and pointed out that APA leaders are well represented among the speakers at the Institute. She reported on her pursuit of grants from state and other organizations. She offered her thoughts on what makes CSI sustainable, citing the interest of the participants, the desire of faculty to share their knowledge, the support of the granting agencies and of Dartmouth; she stated her concern that the connection between CANE and CSI was not what it should be, in terms of a formal financial commitment, saying that there should be something more substantial provided than merely our name. She proposed, for instance, that CANE should cover the price differential between the cost for CANE members and for non-members; last year, that would have been \$1800.00 RT said that this year's budget [to be discussed later in the meeting] would preclude such a payment, but that we should discuss the matter philosophically. SB asked whether CANE provided any in-kind support for CSI, and MarG cited the Treasurer's time and the publicity, pointing out that she included both of those contributions when writing grant applications. RB pointed out that paying the cost difference (\$45.00 per CANE member) would amount to paying more than a member's dues. JC reminded us that CANE had always stood as financial guarantor for CSI and had provided seed money in the early days of the Institute; at the same time, she understood why annual support from CANE would be helpful and appropriate. RB circulated a spread sheet which showed how much money had been returned to CANE from CSI in each of the past seven years, with a total of \$27,206.43. There was further discussion of the value of in-kind contributions; the nature of in-kind contributions by other institutions, including Dartmouth; the possibility of tagging some of the money received by CANE from CSI as a contribution to CSI in future budgets; of reducing the benefit to CANE members to a figure equal to membership in CANE. It was decided that we would return to this matter upon taking up the budget.

4. **Annual Meeting Update:** JC has sent out to the membership and other regular attendees a packet including the preliminary program, registration forms, and hotel information. Online registration is not yet possible; it is hoped that it will be, next year. Jere Mead reported that he had only heard from a few exhibitors; that no one has come forward to sponsor any of the food breaks; that John Lawless will not be attending, and that so far there are no plans to hold a used book sale, although Dan Blanchard (not a member) may be willing to take over for this year.

5. **Old Business:**

A. Scholarship Committee Chair: Ed's term is up, and no current member is willing to take on the chairmanship; he submitted a written report providing details on the search. He had

been under the impression that the new chair "must" come from the committee, but SL pointed out that the Manual says "should" -- making the task easier. One likely candidate's name was raised, and Ed asked for others.

B. Means Fund: [postponed for consideration under budget]

C. Instructional Materials: John McVey spoke about the various responsibilities he has taken on, including record-keeping, editing, arrangements with the printer, shipping, etc. He credited RB for helping him sort out these tasks and focus his concentration on editing, while she has taken over the record-keeping and shipping. He said that when he is replaced as editor of CANEpress, the new editor's job should be much simpler than what he took on. He therefore dropped his request for discussion of a possible honorarium for the position. RB proudly displayed the first CANE-produced book, her own Peter Alphonsus text, and she highlighted other projects that she, JMcV, and LHF are working on. KB asked whether the texts would be offered in downloadable versions; for texts, no, but some teaching materials would be available in that format. Ruth Breindel was heartily congratulated for the book -- on which note the committee broke for lunch.

D. NECJ Cut-off Date: RB and NC reminded us of the current practice, whereby membership extends from July to June, and people whose dues are late are carried through for a year's grace period, without interruption of mailings of NECJ. RB has proposed that after a person's membership has lapsed, the first issue of NECJ (August) would come with a "final issue" notification. NC points out that some 200 people are a year behind in their membership dues, and that they would have to pay twice in the same fiscal year in order to maintain membership. RB is willing to send a letter to these people, explaining their situation and asking them to catch up. SL asked whether schoolteachers whose districts ordinarily pay for their membership in the fall would have sufficient time to get funds from their districts after an August "final issue" notification; it was agreed that they should be able to act in time to receive the November NECJ. RT asked for a straw vote on the August cutoff date, and it appeared to be unanimous in favor of that change. As for the 200 who would need to pay two years' dues to maintain membership, in a second straw vote there was support for RB's sending them a letter, though NC wished to keep the conversation going, and suggested giving those 200 people a pass on one year's dues. [Note: Since the meeting, RB has drafted the letter.]

F. Stipend for NECJ Editor: NC raised the question of whether the editor's position should receive a stipend (or honorarium). She pointed out that editors for the other regional journals receive \$5000.00 (two of them) or \$7000.00 (one). She spoke of the demanding nature of the editor's job, with tight deadlines four times a year, and such tasks as soliciting material, rejecting submissions, publicizing the journal, assisting authors in revisions, dealing with referees, doing all layout work (since deadlines make it difficult to use budgeted clerical assistance). She feels it will be highly unlikely to find a new editor in the future if the position is not stipended. RT agreed that the facts presented about peer journals were compelling. JC said that we would need to raise dues to fund a stipend, to levels comparable to what other regional organizations charge; it was asked whether it was in our interest to remain "the best deal in town." RT said that the matter is clearly on the

minds of the Executive Committee, and that it should be revisited, looking ahead to future budgets; NC asserted that our dues have been too low for too long, and regretted that the proposed increase in dues (to be voted on at the Annual Meeting) was only to \$30.00, instead of \$35.00.

E. Copper Plate Storage: DL has looked into banks' safe deposit boxes, which are too costly. The plates are currently not insured, either by her home insurance or by CANE. She has been investigating liability insurance through companies that specialize in antiques. MarG asked whether the plates could be donated, or sold; DL said that it was too soon after their acquisition to do so. Ed said that once more the need for an archive is felt. DL will bring the matter up again at the March Executive Committee meeting.

F. CANEnS: Ed distributed hard copies of the first two issues of CANEnS and pointed out his message to publishers (on the reverse of his report on the Scholarship Committee), concerning advertising in CANEnS. He trolled for articles for coming issues, and asked for another postcard to be sent to the membership; RB pointed out that the first card had cost \$663.65. There was discussion of other means of notifying members, from inserts in mailings and AM materials, to -- eventually -- RSS technology.

G. Budget: DL gave a detailed presentation of the proposed budget, explaining limitations on how the income from the Barlow-Beach and Coulter funds can be expended. She said that the Endowment has lost about one third of its value in the current recession. Under proposed expenditures, she pointed out an increase in the hotel cost for the winners of the Katz prize and the Writing Contest prize, based on hotel prices in Providence; RB pointed out that facilities costs for the 2010 Annual Meeting would be lower than what we will be spending in Boston. DL cited some slight reductions in certain expenditures that she had requested in order to bring in a balanced budget, and also an increase in anticipated reimbursement to Executive Committee members for hotel expenses at the Annual Meeting. MarG asked whether it was necessary to publish NECJ four times a year; NC and JC said that it would be a serious change in the character of the publication if it should not be quarterly. It was suggested (and accepted by DL) that the \$100.00 for telephone be stricken, and likewise the \$100 for state representatives' expenses for the Writing Contest.

Following a short break, Margaret Graver offered to change the reduction in CSI fees for CANE members to \$30.00 and made this MOTION: "The CSI Director should include in the operating budget a line item of up to one fifth of the cumulative actual net inflow or deficit from the preceding five years, plus \$500.00." SL seconded the motion. MarG noted that for 2009, that figure would be \$5312.00; also, that while she did not expect to need that money, it would be both helpful for preparing grant applications and appropriate, so that CANE would not be depending on CSI for its finances. JMcV said that the figure was skewed because of two recent highly prosperous CSI years. There was much discussion of the financial connection between CSI and CANE, of the right thing to do, of the benefit of having this discussion, of how, and how soon, the effect of the motion could be put into practice, of where money could be found in the proposed budget to carry out the motion. SB moved as a friendly amendment to the effect that \$500 be allocated in support of CSI in the 2009-10 budget, and that the original motion would take effect in 2010-11; MarG said that she would not consider that adequate support (in effect, rejecting the friendly amendment,

although that was not formally done). RT recommended that the original motion be tabled, and that we seek now to do what we can, and later discuss what we should do. Following further discussion in the same tenor as previously, DL announced that she had managed to find reductions in certain line items (for Classics in Curricula, for Discretionary Grants, for the Emporium, for hotel reimbursements, along with the two noted at the end of the previous paragraph). At this point SB made a motion to table, which was seconded, and passed 12-2. SB then moved adding a line item of \$1500.00 for CSI, July 2009 and also restoring \$500.00 for clerical help for NECJ, bringing that line item to \$1000.00. RT ruled that what was needed instead was a motion in support of the proposed budget, with those changes. Further discussion followed concerning, again, the financial relationship between CANE and CSI and its ethical implications. RT stated that the status of CSI (and of NECJ) had changed, and that we must keep that in mind moving forward. JMcV suggested as an alternate means of supporting CSI (as opposed to the terms of the tabled motion) that we aim towards support of a fixed percent to CSI expenses. Following discussion the proposed budget was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved; DL will send out an amended budget to members of the Committee, and also a final budget after allowing time for scrutiny and comments.

G: DL distributed a list of individual accounts, with reference to the Barker Fund, and brought up the fact that past minutes showed that CANE should have been supporting donations to that fund by matching at a 2-1 dollar ratio, instead of the 1-2 ratio that we had been using -- SL was quick to point out that said minutes had been in error, and that she had called attention to the error when the minutes first appeared. Relief ensued.

H: RB pleaded that money sent to CANE for whatever purpose should be made out to CANE, not to a particular award, and that this money would go into the Endowment Fund, from which all boats are raised. Payments "in honor of" are fine, but "payable to" (e.g., the Wiencke Prize) are not; a number of well-meaning contributions recently were sent on checks made out in ways that made them useless. For further discussion in March.

New Business: (none)

Motion to Adjourn

Roger Travis adjourned the meeting at 2:40.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremiah Mead,
Secretary pro tem

Reports:

CANE Executive Board Meeting

January 31, 2009

Report of Representative from Classical Association of Connecticut (ClassConn)

- I. ClassConn held its annual meeting on October 25, 2008 at Greater Hartford Classical Magnet School in Hartford, CT.
- II. ClassConn's 2008 Distinguished Service Award was presented this fall to Vince Rosivach, professor and Director of the Dept. of Classical Studies at Fairfield University
- III. CT State Greek Day was held on November 4, 2008 at the Hellenic Center at UConn.
- IV. CT State Latin Contest has been scheduled for April.
- V. CT State Latin Day has been planned and is in the process of being arranged. Stephany Pascetta will continue to run the event this year. The date for this year is May 6, 2009. Last year's event was extremely successful with over 2000 students in attendance.
- VI. ClassConn is again offering money for the professional development of its members via the John Carter Williams Endowment Fund. Applications are to be submitted by March 1, 2009
- VII. CT Coalition of Language Teachers (COLT) will again hold its Poetry Recitation Contest in April. Ancient Greek has been included for the second time this year.
- VIII. P. Chabot reported for Continuing Education that the Technology workshop held at Newington High School was an unqualified success.
- IX. The CT Coalition of Language Teachers (COLT) with the aid of B. Lindsay at UConn has set up a wiki site for information about efforts through COLT to support language teaching at the state and national level and that there are templates for letters and on-line petitions available at the COLT website
- X. ClassConn has decided to request donations on behalf of the Greek Theater Project being built by the Paideia Hellenic Center on the UConn campus and to continue to match those donations up to a limit of \$350 per fiscal year.

ACTFL Assembly of Delegates

November 20, 2008

The 42nd Annual Meeting and Exposition of ACTFL commenced on November 20, 2008 at Orlando, FL. The theme of the conference was "Opening Minds to the World Through Languages" with the aim of highlighting the important role of language learning for the future of both students and adults. Over 600 sessions were offered in a vast array of professional development areas.

Among the highlights of the conference was the keynote address by author and historian Neil Howe who spoke about teaching languages to different generations in a globalizing world. Another highlight was the presentation of the award for the second National Language Teacher of the Year. The winner was chosen from the five finalists who had been named by each of the regions of the country. The board of Directors encourages teachers in all languages to nominate their colleagues for this award.

ACL sponsored three sessions which included six workshops on classic related topics for teachers and graduate students.

The Assembly of Delegates addressed a number of issues. Topics discussed included membership growth, the enrollment survey, publications, and assessments. In addition, the delegates took part in the process of further developing and assessing the Mission and Vision Statements as well as the implementation of current and development of future position statements.

Results of the 2007-2008 Enrollment Survey were significant. They included a drop in the enrollments of students in Spanish, French, German and Latin at the secondary level of education while increases were seen in Chinese and Arabic. For elementary schools, enrollment in foreign language study in general dropped. The only language which showed an increase in elementary enrollment was Latin. Another significant result of the survey was the effect of NCLB on foreign language instruction. One third of the schools included in the survey (especially in rural areas, and those schools with high minority populations or low socioeconomic status) reported that NCLB had produced a negative effect on their programs. Among elementary programs, declining enrollment was linked to budget cuts, lack of qualified teachers and NCLB.

The November issue of the Language Educator featured articles about the importance of teaching classical languages.

February is “Discover Languages” month, as declared by ACTFL. The ACTFL website has a link for suggestions about promoting language teaching as a career. For more details and to take the survey, go to www.actfl.org.

The 43rd Annual Conference and Exposition of ACTFL will be held on November 20-22, 2009 in San Diego, CA.

Submitted January 31, 2009 by Mark Pearsall

CANE Executive Committee Meeting

January 31, 2009

Report from Shirley Lowe, Immediate Past President

Discretionary Fund Report

A. October 19, 2008 : \$500. to Ed DeHoratius for updating desktop Publication Software for CANEns, the CANE Newsletter. With CANEns' outreach to teachers and thus to their students through the news and articles on Classics, opportunities for students and teachers to participate in Classical events, and pedagogical sharing, the committee felt that this met the general guidelines as outlined in the CANE Manual.

B. No other applications for Discretionary Funds have been received.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee met in July on the campus of Dartmouth College to discuss the positions which need to be filled. One of the concerns of the committee is the need for the Executive Committee to include more College/University people. We are currently looking for a member-at-large for 2010-12 from the post-secondary community. Since July we have continued our discussion via email with the following results:

President-Elect: Ellen Perry, The College of the Holy Cross

Treasurer: Ruth Breindel, Moses Brown School, Providence, RI

Auditors: 1. Elizabeth Keitel, UMASS Amherst

2.

Member-At-Large:

Katz Prize Report

As of this writing, there have been no student papers submitted. The deadline is February 15th.
Is this a realistic deadline?

I have sent emails to 26 NE colleges and universities reminding the Classics Department Chairs of this Prize.