

THE ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 11th July 2008, 4.00 pm

University of Aberdeen, The Hub, Meeting Room 3

Present: Dorothy Edgington (Chair); Helen Beebee; Rachel Carter (minutes); Dorothy Edgington; Stephen McCleod; Peter Milne; Alan Weir.

Apologies: Simon Blackburn; Thomas Baldwin; Rachel Cooper; Barry Dainton; Mark Kalderon; Michael Martin; Lucy O'Brien; Jennifer Saul; Scott Sturgeon; Suzanne Uniacke; Jo Wolff.

1. Minutes of the last meeting.

These were recorded as correct.

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

2. Accounts

Audited accounts for the last year and the cash assets as of the end of June were presented and approved. It was noted that expenditure in 2007 was down to £70,109 from £79,443 in 2006, mainly as a result of a fall in production costs. 2007 printers' charges were lower than could be expected for future years as they only included the costs for the Supplementary Volume and not the Proceedings, because of the new delivery timetable. However, there had also been two items of exceptional expenditure in 2007, on the new website and procuring the JSTOR back run. Rent was due to increase in 2008 to £5000. Income was up from £70,325 in 2006 to £72,045 in 2007, mainly because of an increase in income from Blackwells sales. Even though renewals of institutional subscriptions to the Proceedings fell in 2007, cost savings and a 9% increase in the subscription price meant that income overall increased. Next year there would be some income from JSTOR for the first time. In addition JSTOR was planning to license its archive to corporations: and this business license might generate additional income. Dorothy Edgington noted that the accounts seemed to be reasonably level overall.

3. Subscriptions

Members noted the subscription numbers for 2002-2008. Publication subscriptions were declining, but there had been an increase in non-publication subscriptions, especially the new category of life membership.

The subscription rates recommended by the Executive Committee were approved, with no change from last year. It had been agreed at the Committee's April meeting to review the subscription rates next year. Dorothy Edgington raised the question of investigating direct debits for membership subscriptions again: previously this had not been allowed by the banks because of the small size of the organisation.

With regard to institutional subscriptions, Dorothy Edgington reported that the Executive Committee had made a recommendation of a 5% increase: in practice this would mean a 5% increase in the price of the print subscription and a 10% increase in the price of the online subscription in order to bring that up to equal value with the print version.

4. President for 2009-10

The Council's nomination of Professor Simon Blackburn was accepted. Professor Quassim Cassam had agreed to serve for 2010-11.

5. Officers for 2007-08

The President would be Professor Michael Martin, confirmed at the last AGM.

The following were accepted:

Honorary Director: Dr Lucy O'Brien; Editor: Dr Mark Kalderon; Lines of Thought Series Editor: Dr Scott Sturgeon. Executive Committee: the above, Professor Dorothy Edgington (outgoing President), Professor Simon Blackburn (President Elect), Dr Andrew Chitty, Dr Rachel Cooper, Professor Barry Dainton, Dr Jennifer Saul, Dr Suzanne Uniacke, Professor Alan Weir.

Nominations for replacements for those members coming to the end of their term in the 2008/9 year would be considered at the October meeting of the Executive Committee.

6. Any Other Business

Members considered the proposal that:

- (a) Council business should in future be conducted at Executive Committee meetings instead of at separate Council meetings and
- (b) Council members should be invited to attend Executive Committee meetings and have voting rights on Council business.

Dorothy Edgington noted that the proposal had been made by a Council member, D H Mellor, since there was felt to be some unnecessary duplication of business at Executive Committee meetings and Council meetings. Alan Weir requested clarification on the membership of Council and was informed that Council members were all past presidents of the Society.

Decision

The proposal was accepted.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm. The next meeting will be at 4pm, Friday 11th July 2008, University of Aberdeen.