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The Academy's president-elect Richard Vangermeersch, poses for the camera while Leonard Spacek autographs a book for him.

STATEMENT OF MY HOPES FOR 1987

by
Richard Vangermeersch
University of Rhode Island

I am honored to be able to serve you as President of The Academy for 1987. This is especially rewarding to me, since I was present at the birth of The Academy in Quebec City in 1973 and have been active in it through the years. I want to focus on the continuity of the many successes of The Academy.

There are five major thrusts in which I hope to get your help. The first of these is membership oriented. We need (A1) targeted membership campaigns for (a) libraries in colleges, universities, and accounting organizations worldwide and for (b) individuals with emphasis on former members, students, and new faculty. We should consider (A2) keeping our dues the same for U.S. and other members. I would like to see (A3) a key member appointed for each state (if possible), regions, and/or country. We continue to need help in (A4) staffing our booth at the AAA convention. A worthwhile goal would be (A5) a practice

of every member communicating with a certain number of members each year.

The second thrust is funding. I believe we could put together (B1) a publication acquisition package for new members to enable them to obtain the excellent literature of The Academy. (B2) Funding of the Accounting History Research Center and (B3) the use of the tax services donated to the AHRC by E. Louis Raverta should be analyzed. (B4) Increased efforts are needed to distribute our excellent fourth monograph and our forthcoming fifth monograph. I am especially interested in (B5) the development of a long-term giving program for The Academy. We have to prepare for (B6) a dues increase with a positive attitude. We would need to continue (B7) interest in our budget process.

The third thrust is administrative. (C1) We need to continue the recent successes of our Committees and (C2) get more members involved in this. It may be

necessary (C3) to have a better interface between the journal, the newsletter, the working papers, and *Scripturis*. (C4) The working papers must remain a most positive feature of The Academy. (C5) Tie-ins must be kept with such groups as the American Management Association and business/economic history societies; (C6) the AAA at the regional and national levels, as well as its interest groups; (C7) with the FASB, GASB, NAA, FEI, AICPA, and local CPA societies; and (C8) with other accounting history groups. We should consider the (C9) substantial advantages of recasting our Chairman of the Trustees position.

The fourth thrust is public relations in orientation. (D1) Maximum publicity should be given to our prestigious Hourglass Award. (D2) The history of the first years of The Academy is a captivating one and should be finished shortly. (D3) A reactivation of our dissertation award should be considered. (D4) Publicity is needed for broad participation for the international conference in Koyoto in 1987 and Australia in 1988. I would like to initiate (D5) a membership brochure.

The fifth thrust is a stressing of our added outputs (E1) for the AICPA Centennial and (E2) the Random House publication. Such special projects as (E3) Ernest Stevelinck's Paciolo effort and (E4) John Carey's oral history effort need to be encouraged. Other possible projects are (E5) a translation of the works of Joseph Vlaeminck and (E6) a research workshop on historical methodology.

You notice I used the work "hopes" rather than "goals". While I plan to allocated much time to the office, I realize that the success of The Academy is up to you. If some of my hopes can be converted into your individual goals, we will be successful.

SOUTH-WESTERN PUBLISHING ISSUES HISTORICAL POSTER

South-Western Publishing Co. (1501 Madison Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45227) has issued a 20-inch by 42-inch color poster depicting historical accounting tools. Copies of the poster, which was designed to help advertise the new 15th edition of the company's accounting principles textbook, were recently sent to most accounting professors in the United States. Individuals who have not received a copy and would like one should contact their South-Western representative, or write to the College Division in Cincinnati.

The colorful poster illustrates thirteen historical accounting tools ranging from painted pebbles and clay tablets from earlier than 3500 B.C. to a modern computer. An abacus is shown as is a Peruvian quipu. Fra Luca Pacioli's famed 1494 book is a part of the illustration along with British tally sticks and Napier's bones (a form of rearrangeable multiplication tables which could be used to perform complex multiplication and long division problems). Also shown on the poster are an 1892 adding machine and an early pegboard (one-write) system from 1920. A tube-type computer from 1951 and a modern calculator round out the modern innovations. An explanation sheet accompanies the poster.

The poster is suitable for framing and will no doubt become a decoration for the walls of many accounting historians.

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