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Minutes of August trustee's meeting [1989]; Great books in accounting; Minutes of annual business meeting [1989]; Report of the Accounting History Education Committee

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MINUTES OF AUGUST TRUSTEE'S MEETING

August 13, 1989, Sea Pearl Room 2, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, Hawaii

Present: Abdel M. Agami, Maureen H. Berry, Ashton C. Bishop, Edward N. Coffman, Eugene H. Flegm, Dale L. Flesher, Tonya K. Flesher, Horace R. Givens, O. Finley Graves, Peter L. McMickle, Barbara D. Merino, Patti A. Mills, Thomas J. Nessinger, Lee D. Parker, Alfred R. Roberts, William D. Samson, Mary S. Stone, Richard G. Vangermeersch.

President Flegm opened the meeting at 2:00 and welcomed those present.

Interim reports of officers, committee chairpersons, and directors were distributed to trustees several weeks prior to the meeting. A summary of these reports appear in the August 14, 1989 minutes of the Annual Business Meeting.

The Calendar of Responsibilities and Events prepared by Secretary Bishop was discussed. Suggestions were made to increase its effectiveness. A revised version, which incorporates suggestions arising from the discussion, will be prepared and distributed to trustees, officers, editors, chairpersons, and directors prior to their meeting (Key Member Meeting) in Atlanta on December 1-2.

Edward Coffman presented the Treasurer's report for Ross Tondkar, Treasurer, who was not in attendance. While the current financial condition of the Academy is good, a discussion arose regarding future financial needs. Additional financial resources will be required as the Academy expands its activities through offering more seminars and conferences, funding more research projects, and providing more support to the Accounting History Research Center and the Tax History Research Center. The need for a dues increase naturally arose as a result

of the discussion. It was noted that dues for institutions were increased last year from \$35.00 (US) to \$40.00 (US) while dues for individuals remained unchanged at \$25.00 (US). A motion was made and seconded that dues for individuals be increased to \$30.00 (US) for 1990. After some discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

During the previous discussion, it was noted that universities of members who hold leadership positions have on occasion provided financial support for Academy activities, and there are indications that this support may be limited in the future. It was agreed that a new budget for 1990 should be prepared to reflect full cost (funding). Treasurer Tondkar should work with President-Elect Merino to develop this budget. The budget should be distributed to the participants in the Key Member Meeting prior to their December meeting in Atlanta.

The amount of insurance coverage, if any, on the Accounting History Research Center and the Tax History Research Center is unclear. Al Roberts, Co-Director of the Accounting History Research Center, and Tonya Flesher, Director of the Tax History Research Center, will find out about insurance coverage and make a report at the Key Member Meeting in December.

Finley Graves, Editor of the Monograph Series, indicated that Garland Publishing Co. has approached him about the possibility of publishing the Monograph Series. He will investigate the details and make a report at the December Key Member Meeting.

The Life Membership Committee — consisting of Edward Coffman, Al Roberts, and Gary Previts — nominated Dr. Louis Goldberg (Professor Emeritus, Department of Accounting, University of

Melbourne) for Life Membership. Dr. Goldberg has made significant contributions to accounting history and to the profession of accounting in general. Please refer to the Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting held on August 14 for specific accomplishments. The nomination was seconded and the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to grant Life Membership to Dr. Goldberg.

President Flegm announced that he and Gary Previts have been working with the American Accounting Association to make possible a series of future symposiums on corporate reporting. He asked for a discussion about sponsorship. A motion was made which proposed that The Academy contribute \$300 (\$100 per year for three years) to help sponsor the series. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Secretary Bishop noted that Edward Coffman's tenure as Chairman of the Board of Trustees ends on December 31. A motion was made nominating Richard Vangermeersch for the position. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The minutes of the April 8, 1989 Trustees' Meeting were discussed. Several corrections were noted. A copy of the corrected minutes are attached.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashton C. Bishop
Secretary, AAH

GREAT BOOKS IN ACCOUNTING

Dear Members of the Academy of Accounting Historians:

We ask your help in starting to catalog a list of great books in the field of accounting and a list of books in which accountants are characters. Please send your list of great books to Richard Vangermeersch, 316-B Ballentine Hall, The University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881. Please send your list of books in which accountants were characters to Vahé Baladouni, Department of Accounting, University of New Orleans, Lake Front, New Orleans, LA 70148. Both of us are interested in both the English and non English literatures.

The need for these lists was evident to us during the course of a panel discussion at the SWAAA in New Orleans on the Teaching of Accounting History. There are many great books in accounting; there are many exciting stories about accountants. What are needed are lists of them so that accounting professors can easily reference them. Please help us. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Vahé Baladouni
Richard Vangermeersch

THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS NOTEBOOK

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MINUTES OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

August 14, 1989, Hilo Suite, Ilika Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii, 8:30 a.m.

Approximately 35 members attended the meeting.

President Gene Flegm called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed those attending. He highlighted progress made thus far during his tenure as the first non-academic president of The Academy. Specific accomplishments include:

(1) working with the American Accounting Association in establishing a series of future symposiums on corporate financial reporting

(2) initiating a more formal budget planning process

(3) strengthening of the organizational structure through adoption of specific resolutions related to the Strategic Plan as presented by the Board of Trustees. (See Minutes of the April Board of Trustees meeting for specifics).

Lastly, President Flegm reaffirmed his commitment to seeking financial support for The Academy; however, he has been disappointed with the low number of funding requests for individual projects.

Secretary Ashton Bishop presented the following statistics for the 1988 membership year:

	Domestic	Non Domestic	Total	%
Individuals	354	127	481	63
Institution affiliates	203	81	284	37
Totals	557	208	765	--
%	73	27		100
Membership, December 31, 1988		765		
Membership, January 1, 1988		729		
Net increase		36		

Net Change:	
Individuals:	
Domestic	3
Non-Domestic	13
Institution affiliates:	
Domestic	19
Non-Domestic	1
Total	36

Bishop reported that the Membership Committee, Chaired by Rita Hull, was active during the year. The committee contacted old members who had not renewed and sought out new academic members (including doctoral students) and institution affiliates. The committee also contacted all 50 CPA state societies seeking individual non-academic members.

Edward Coffman gave the Treasurer's report for Ross Tondkar, Treasurer, who was unable to attend the meeting. Coffman presented a proposal, which had been approved by the Trustees, for a change in the dues structure for 1990 (see minutes of Trustees Meeting for discussion). The proposal was approved unanimously by the membership. The dues for 1990 will be: Individuals, \$30.00; Institution affiliates, \$40.00; and Doctoral students, \$7.50.

Vice-President Lee Parker called for the chairperson of the committees under his direction to present their report.

Lee Parker, Chairman of the Accounting History Research Committee (formerly the Accounting History Research Methodology Committee), indicated that work on METHODOLOGY AND METHOD IN HISTORY: A BIBLIOGRAPHY has been completed, and the book is in the near future. The committee is planning a two- or three-day historical research methodology conference. Their present intention is to hold the conference at the University of Mississippi in early December 1991.

Lee Parker summarized the accomplishments and ongoing activities of

the Accounting History Education Committee for Chairman, Abdel Agami. They include (1) published the second edition of BIOGRAPHIES OF NOTABLE ACCOUNTANTS, (2) organized panel discussions dealing with ADDING HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE TO THE ACCOUNTING CURRICULUM at the annual as well as regional meetings of the American Accounting Association, and (3) embarked on a project to develop a list of historical materials that can be used in teaching accounting history.

Lee Parker presented the report of Elliott Slocum and Al Roberts, Co-Directors of the Accounting History Research Center. Donations to the Center included material from:

- (1) Andrew Barr — The Annual Reports of the SEC from 1934 through 1987.
- (2) Paul Garner — Approximately 300 items composed of books, monographs, reports, magazines, and a box of Year-books of the AIA.
- (3) Andrew Braden — An original autographed copy of Charles E. Sprague's THE PHILOSOPHY OF ACCOUNTS.

The AHRC continues to receive the records of the Federation of Schools of Accountancy which are being cataloged. The Fourth Charles Waldo Haskins Accounting History Seminar is planning for Atlanta on December 1-2, 1989. The final date for submission of manuscripts is September 15.

Lee Parker presented the Tax History Research Center report for Tonya Flesher, Director of the Tax History Research Center. The Center was officially opened and dedicated at the Tax History Diamond

Jubilee held on the campus of the University of Mississippi on December 2-3, 1988. Grants to support the Center/conference have been received from General Motors Foundation, Deloitte Haskins & Sells Foundation, and Commerce Clearing House. Donation of materials to the Center (especially early textbooks) are encouraged.

Dale Flesher, Director of the Video and Tape Library, reported that demand for the Academy's tapes remained steady over the past year. The tapes are particularly useful as a membership acquisition tool. Expansion of the library (especially through an active plan to conduct videotape interviews of our more accomplished and established members) is needed. One expansion to the library this past year was the acquisition from Arthur Andersen & Co. of additional tapes of Leonard Spacek's fireside chats from the late 1960's.

Lee Parker presented the Archivist's report for Al Roberts. At the Trustees meeting on April 8, 1989, Roberts was appointed the "first official Archivist of the Academy." To aid in writing future histories of the Academy, each committee chairperson should prepare a report that includes (1) the name, the affiliation of each committee member, (2) the committee charge, and (3) an evaluation of how well the committee has complied with the charge. The President-Elect should present a proposal for his/her term of office and upon completion of office submit an evaluation of what he/she feels was accomplished during the term.

Peter McMickle, Display Booth, reported on the upward trend of cost for the display booth at the American Accounting Association meeting. However, the exposure for the Academy is well worth the cost. Visitors to the booth appear to be especially interested in the tape library, which is helpful in membership acquisition.

Horace Givens, Editor of the Working Paper Series, reported that he has received one paper since taking over from Ross Tondkar. Since Working paper No. 100 is scheduled to be published during his tenure, Horace would like for members to assist in deciding on a special paper for this occasion. Volume 4 of the Working Paper Series co-edited by Ross Tondkar and Ed Coffman, which consists of Working Papers 61-80, will be available this Fall.

Finley Graves, Editor of the Monograph Series, reported activities related to three monographs thus far this year. They are in varying stages of the review process.

Gary Previts submitted the following manuscripts report for THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS JOURNAL covering the period August 9, 1988 to August 1, 1989:

Accepted	19
New submissions sent to new editorial team	8
Rejected	14
Rejected without review	8
Withdrawn by author	1
Referred to NOTEBOOK	2
Total in process	52

Recap of Activity
Current Editorial Team - Total Term

Manuscripts received	
December 1985 to August 1986	49
August 1986 to August 1987	42
August 1987 to August 1988	33
August 1988 to August 1989	31
Commissioned papers	6

Volume 14 (1987), Volume 15 (1988), and Volume 16 (1989) were the responsibility of the current editorial team. The acceptance rate for the current editorial team was 19% (30/155). All six commissioned papers were independently refereed and accepted. One Accounting History Manuscript Award winning paper was published in 1988 and the other will be published in 1989. Gary Previts and Mary Stone, current Editors of THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS JOURNAL, are stepping down after the Fall issue. Dale Fleisher and Bill Samson will be the new Editors.

President Flegm presented the 1989 President's Hourglass Award for the most notable contribution to the literature of Accounting History to Greg P. Whittred. Whittred was recognized based on the contribution of his book, THE EVOLUTION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORTING IN AUSTRALIA. Whittred is a Professor at the University of Sydney.

Gary Previts presented The Academy of Accounting Historians' 1989 Manuscript Award to Sarah A. Reed for her manuscript, "A Historical Analysis of Depreciation Accounting - The United States Steel Experience." The manuscript will be published in the Fall issue of THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS JOURNAL. Reed is an Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University.

President Flegm announced that Emeritus Professor Louis Goldberg, University of Melbourne, has been designated as a Life Member by the Board of Trustees. Professor Goldberg was the first full-time accounting professor appointed in Australia. He was a founding member of the Accounting Association of Australia and New Zealand. At 80 years of age, he is still teaching and writing. In the AHJ Spring issue, his recent history of

the Accounting Association of Australia, New Zealand and video interviews with him are reviewed. He is widely regarded as one of the founding Australian contributors to academic work in accounting and accounting history.

Dale Flesher, Chairperson of the Nominations Committee, presented the following nominees for office to the membership:

OFFICERS (one-year term)

President: Barbara D. Merino (Univ. of N. Texas)
President-Elect: Lee D. Parker (Flinders University)
Vice President: Tonya K. Flesher (University of Mississippi)
Vice President: Peter L. McMickle (Memphis State Univ.)
Treasurer: Rasoul H. Tondkar (Virginia Commonwealth University)
Secretary: Ashton C. Bishop (James Madison Univ.)

TRUSTEES (Three-year term — (1990-1992))

Eugene H. Flegm (General Motors)
Elliott L. Slocum (Georgia State University)
Murray C. Wells (University of Sydney)
Yoshihiro Hirabayashi (Osaka City University)

A motion was made, seconded, and the slate was approved.

President-Elect Barbara Merino presented some of her thoughts on what she intends to accomplish during her year as President. The themes of her administration will be (1) education and (2) research. With respect to education, the focus will be on adding an accounting historical perspective to the accounting curriculum. Regarding research, emphasis will be on creating interaction between positive, critical, and international researchers through seminars, workshops, etc. Merino, in an effort to get more members actively involved in the Academy, will write to the members seeking individuals who want to serve.

Secretary Bishop presented President Flegm with a plaque in recognition of his

leadership and service during his term as President of The Academy.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashton C. Bishop
Secretary

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING HISTORY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The following is a summary of the accomplishments and ongoing activities of the Accounting History Education Committee to date:

1. The second edition of *BIOGRAPHIES OF NOTABLE ACCOUNTANTS* was published in January, 1989. It contains biographies of eighteen notable accountants.

2. The Committee has organized panels dealing with the issue of *ADDING HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE TO THE ACCOUNTING CURRICULUM* in the American Accounting Association meeting in Hawaii; the Northeast Region meeting in Albany; the Middle Atlantic Region meeting in Wilmington, Delaware; the Midwest Region meeting in Minneapolis; the Southwest Region meeting in New Orleans; and in the West Region meeting in Las Vegas.

3. The Committee has embarked on a new project which aims to develop a list of accounting history articles, reference materials, and other historical materials that could be used in teaching accounting history. The Committee hopes that, after completion, it will be published by the Academy and distributed to professors who are interested in incorporating accounting history in the various topics they teach.