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Report of the International Research Task Force

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Reed Report of the International Research Task Force

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TASK FORCE

The International Research Task Force has been charged with developing a strategy that would foster comparative studies of an international nature. Specifically, we are currently examining the feasibility of the Academy sponsoring one or more international research conferences in 1991, and later, we will be engaged in long range planning for cosponsorships of conferences that extend beyond 1991.

With these charges in mind, committee members have been asked to forward to me their thoughts on how they believe the Academy could better serve members in their country and, at the same time, foster cooperative efforts among accounting historians of different nationalities and viewpoints. For example, if we decide that an international conference would be a useful vehicle for fostering comparative studies, then we will examine alternative locations where it might be held. It might prove particularly advantageous if we could hold a history session in conjunction with an existing conference such as the one being sponsored by the Center for International Research at the University of Illinois. If committee members are aware of any such conferences, particularly in their country, that are being planned for 1991 that might be receptive to holding a history session with an international orientation, they have been asked to pass this information on to me so that I can include it in our report. They have also been asked to include in their comments any other thoughts that they might have on where such a conference could be located.

The second issue that our committee is addressing is to suggest themes for an international history conference. One suggestion which has been offered would be

to sponsor an accounting theory conference which might honor the Academy's life members. Committee members have been asked to forward to me any ideas that they have on other conference topics that would foster comparative studies across country boundaries.

A third issue that the committee is considering would be whether the Academy could sponsor a manuscript competition which would reward members for comparative research of an international nature. However, this suggestion may be temporarily shelved until we see what response the Academy receives from its members to an international conference. Or, perhaps, it could be awarded the first time to the best paper at the conference proposed by us. Again, committee members have been asked to send me their thoughts on this subject.

The following schedule for completion of our duties has been established.

February 1 - Request for ideas sent by Sarah Reed to task force members.

April 1 - Initial ideas returned by task force members to Sarah Reed.

May 1 - Rough draft of task force report sent by Sarah Reed to task force members.

June 1 - Comments on report and any new ideas returned by task force members to Sarah Reed.

July 1 - Copy of final report sent by Sarah Reed to task force members.

Our committee contains thirteen representatives from eight countries. We believe that this research task force has the potential to make a significant contribution to the future of the Academy.

Sarah Reed
Chairwoman
March 1990