April 2006

Academy of Accounting Historians. Minutes for the meeting of the officers, trustees, committee chairs, and editors; Minutes for the meeting of the officers, trustees, committee chairs, and editors

Dale L. Flesher

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Dan Jensen chaired the meeting jointly with the assistance of incoming president Salvador Carmona, bringing it to order at 3:00 p.m.

Agenda: The agenda for the meeting was approved (Previts, Flesher).

Minutes: The minutes of the August 7, 2005, meeting in San Francisco were approved without amendment (Fleischman and Slocum).

Secretary’s Report: In the absence of the Secretary, Dale Flesher agreed to take the minutes of the meeting.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Jennifer Reynolds-Moehrle distributed the financial statements dated June 30, 2005. She urged that we maintain proper security over personal credit card information. It was agreed that any old personal credit card information should be eliminated from our records as soon as feasible. It was also agreed that discussions with Kathy should determine a process for purging this information in the future.

Administrative Coordinator’s Report: Kathy Rice submitted a written report of her activities (see attachment B). It was observed that Salvador Carmona and Esteban Hernandez Esteve were planning an aggressive campaign in Latin America to increase membership there. Kathy was authorized to try a new mailing method that might save postage.

Reports of Editors:

Accounting Historians Journal: Stephen Walker gave his final editor’s report (see attachment C). Trustees noted that an index of AHJ was needed. The subject was turned over to a task force chaired by Gary Previts.

Accounting Historians’ Notebook: Joann Noe Cross submitted a written report (see attachment D). It was noted that although it would be nice to have an electronic version of the Notebook, the electronic version would not replace the hard copy. The Academy wishes to continue publishing the Notebook in its current format.

Reports from the Centers:

Tax History Research Center: Dale Flesher reported that some tax materials had been received from Georgia State but that they had not been much used as yet. Elliott Slocum still has a few older books at Georgia State that he will send in the near future.

Accounting History Research Center: Dan Jensen reported that Elliott Slocum had transferred some eleven thousand pounds of books, journals and other materials (in 150 boxes) from the Accounting History Research Center at Georgia State University to the Ohio State University Business Library. All these materials have been processed by Dan Jensen with student research assistance. Over four hundred books, plus pamphlets and journals, have been placed in the OSU library as a special collection identified as the “Academy of Accounting Historian’s Collection.” These materials are available to researchers via inter-library loan. Books not accepted by the OSU Library (by reason of their condition or existing holdings of the Library) were placed into a silent auction at the October research conference.

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Garner Center: No report. Trustees were reminded that Dr. William Samson, the overseer of the Garner Center, passed away on September 15, 2005.

Reports from the Committee Chairs:
Management Committee: No Report.
Nominations Committee: Dick Fleischman reported the slate of nominees earlier in the day at the annual business meeting of the membership.
External Relations Committee: No Report.
Research Conference Committee: Dan Jensen reported that the 2005 conference was a rousing success. The Trustees congratulated Jensen for hosting such a fine meeting. The financial results of the meeting were not yet available. Salvador Carmona was reminded that he had the authority to choose the site of the 2006 research conference.
Membership Committee: There was no formal report other than Kathy’s compilations. It was noted that the existence of the website makes it easier to become a member. Esteban Hernandez-Esteve gave a report on his activities to increase Latin American membership. There was much discussion of co-sponsoring conferences there, but no decisions were reached.
Regional Programs Committee: no report
Doctoral Education Committee: Barbara Merino reported that the number of doctoral students attending the conference was 12 (2 from North Texas, 2 from Turkey, 1 from Case Western, 1 from Ohio University, and 6 from Ohio State University) and two of them presented papers. The registration fee was waived for all of them, and five received a $250 grant (one grant was paid from the President’s expense allowance and four from a donation made by Professors Merino and Mayper). Dan Jensen added, “The gift from Barbara Merino and Alan Mayper is gratefully acknowledged.”

Award Committees: It was noted that the Vangermeersch Award was not given this year. The winner of the inaugural Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award was Dale L. Flesher of the University of Mississippi. Dr. Flesher received a plaque and a check for $1,000, which was paid from the Burns Endowment Fund.
Schoenfeld Endowment: Professor Jensen announced that he and Gary Previts have been working with Hanns Martin Schoenfeld on the establishment of an endowment fund within the Academy to “encourage and support research on the history of accounting by doctoral students and young accounting faculty.” The “Margit F. Schoenfeld and Hanns Martin W. Schoenfeld Scholarship in Accounting History” is expected be endowed by a gift from Hanns-Martin Schoenfeld in memory of his late wife, Margit F. Schoenfeld. The Schoenfeld family has pledged to grow the endowment to $100,000 over a period of years. Professor Schoenfeld formally announced the gift at the luncheon earlier in the day and presented an initial check to start the fund.
Business History Conference at Case Western: Gary Previts announced that Case Western Reserve University will host the Business History Conference the first week of June in 2007.
2006 World Congress: No request has been received by the Academy from the Nantes organizers for the subvention of expenses to be incurred at the 2006 World Congress.
2008 World Congress: Oktay Guvemli talked about the plans for the 2008 World Congress in Istanbul.
Dan Jensen thanked Gene Flegm for his fund raising efforts on behalf of the Academy.
The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Dale L. Flesher