



SOCIETE INTERNATIONALE POUR L'ETUDE DU THEATRE MEDIEVAL

President: Prof. Dr. Cora Dietl

Secretary / Treasurer: Dr. Lenke Kovács

SITM Business Meeting Durham

12th July 2016, 9.15 am–10.45 am

Attendance: Cora Dietl (President), Lenke Kovács (Secretary), Jelle Koopmans (Editor), Sarah Brazil, Brian Brooks, Mary Maxine Browne, Sarah Carpenter, Mark Chambers, Bob Clark, Véronique Dominguez, Clare Egan, Heidy Greco-Kaufmann, Max Harris, Alexandra Johnston, Peg Katritzky, Gordon Kipling, Janet Kipling, Pamela King, Sharon King, David Klausner, Tadeusz Lewicki, Maria Maslanka-Soro, John McKinnell, Heather Mitchell-Buck, Roberta Mullini, Tiziano Pacchiarotti, Nils Holger Petersen, Carlotta Posth, Alexander Robert, Jolanta Rzegocka, Asunción Salvador-Rabaza Ramos, Charlotte Steenbrugge, Curt Steindler, Elsa Strietman, Martin Walsh and Diane Wyatt.

Excused: Peter Cocozzella, Garrett Epp, Margot Fassler, Cristina Mourón-Figueroa, Maria José Palla and Jenna Soleo-Shanks.

1. Welcome and confirmation of quorum, approval of the agenda

The president, Cora Dietl, opens the SITM business meeting, welcoming the assembly and confirming the quorum. She asks if there are any other topics to be included in the agenda. Max Harris suggests discussing the question of proxy votes, and Roberta Mullini says that she had difficulties in accessing the password protected section of the website. The assembly decides to include the discussion on proxy votes in the agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes of the last business meeting

The assembly approves the minutes of the last business meeting.

3. President's Report

3.1. Remembrance of recently deceased SITM members

The assembly keeps a minute of silence in remembrance of Alan Knight (1931-2015) and Janet Ritch (1955-2014).

3.2. SITM websites and newsletters

The president explains that since Poznan there is a SITM Facebook page and that we distribute the information between the official site and the social media site. She shows how the SITM website works and explains the way how to access the password protected section by registering for one, two or three years.

The secretary, Lenke Kovács, adds that members who do not know for how many years they have paid their dues should contact her, as the information sent by PayPal does not take into account if there were dues still to be paid for former years.

The assembly votes on the question if to maintain PayPal as only means of payment or if there should be a second account. The result is 20 votes in favour of the PayPal account only, 5 votes in favour of having an additional account. Consequently, the PayPal account will remain the only account.

Max Harris suggests that on the website we should periodically summarize the information on Facebook. The assembly discusses the convenience of maintaining both sites and decides to do so.

Cora asks how the members felt about receiving newsletters frequently and the assembly considers them very useful.

With regard to the convenience of printing flyers, Pam King suggests to include advertisement in the programmes of congresses such as the one organized by the MRDS, the Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo, or the IMC Leeds.

The president suggests that anybody who organizes sessions, e.g. at Kalamazoo, should mention SITM as virtual sponsor of the respective session in order to make our association better known. She encourages members to inform the president of regional meetings, such as the one she organized for the German speaking section (Berne, Beromünster and Lucerne, 25th-28th February, 2015) and the one organized by Sharon King (Los Angeles, 10th-11th April, 2015).

4. Secretary's and treasurer's report; approval of the treasurer's report

The secretary presents the accounts (see password protected members' area)

The secretary explains that the numbers are approximate and may vary according to the exchange rate of the funds collected during the colloquium in Durham. Moreover, the exact amount of the bursaries paid for attending the colloquium in Poznan will still have to be taken into account.

The assembly approves the accounts.

5. Proxy votes

There is a discussion on the admission of proxy votes. The result is 16 votes against and 10 votes for proxy votes. With regard to the result, Alexandra Johnston suggests holding the business meeting earlier during the congress to allow people to vote. Bob Clark adds that it would also be preferable to have the excursion on the last day as an optional activity. There is a consensus in the assembly to give these suggestions to the organizer of the next congress.

6. Discharge and election of the board: president, secretary/treasurer, webmaster, editor

6.1. Election of the president

Max Harris tells that in general he is against people repeating in office, but that he would like to nominate Cora for a second term, taking into account her extraordinary achievements for SITM, including the organization of regional meetings and sessions sponsored by SITM in Leeds, and the publication of the EMD volumes 16 (2012), 17 (2013), 18 (2014) and 19 (2015), issued in 2016.

The assembly votes by acclamation for Cora as president. She is grateful to accept the election, and explains that the statutes of SITM allow a second term only for the president, while further repetitions are possible for the other officers.

6.2. Election of the secretary/treasurer

Max Harris nominates Lenke as secretary and treasurer, remembering that it would be her third term after having previously been in office from 2004-2007 and from 2013-2016.

The assembly votes by acclamation for Lenke as secretary and treasurer, and she is happy to accept.

6.3. Election of the editor

Cora thanks Jelle Koopmans for his success in keeping up with our commitment with EMD. Max Harris nominates him as editor.

The assembly votes by acclamation for Jelle as editor, and he is happy to accept.

6.4. Election of the webmaster

Cora thanks Jesse Hurlbut for the extraordinary work he has done as a webmaster and informs the assembly that he has asked to be released. She adds that the webmaster should be familiar with working with WordPress. Max Harris suggests delegating the decision to nominate a webmaster to the board, or possibly to employ a student with the money reserved for the webpage (USD 1,000/3 years), and the assembly approves this.

7. Selection of the venue for 2019

Tiziano Pacchiarotti presents the candidature of Genova to host the next SITM colloquium in 2019. He shows a promotional video of the city and a PowerPoint presentation with details on the main locations where the colloquium would be held. He has been assured the support the local institutions, which he had already counted on when he organized the congress “Oggetti materiali e pratiche della rappresentazione nel teatro medievale” in July 2012.

The assembly is grateful to Tiziano for his invitation and decides to hold the next SITM colloquium in Genova.

8. Selection of topics for SITM 2019

Cora asks members to suggest topics for the next colloquium, and the assembly decides to open a discussion on Facebook in order to reach an agreement.

9. Publication of the papers of the Durham colloquium / deadlines

Jelle explains that the arrangement made in Groningen was to fill two volumes of EMD with a selection of papers from the triannual conferences. The current state is that not all the 51 Durham papers could be published in EMD, but nearly all of them, taking in account that there is still space left in the open volume to be published in 2016.

He tells the assembly that if he had four papers by the end of August, he could include them in the 2016 volume. Those who wished their papers to be included in the 2017 volume, should submit them by the end of February 2017. For the 2018 volume, the deadline is August 2017.

10. EMD

Jelle reminds the assembly that in the past four years we had problems to assemble enough papers for EMD from our conferences, but with the help of the regional conferences at LA and Berne/Lucerne, we had just about enough contributions to get (nearly) back on track.

Another point of concern is the fact that the number of subscriptions is going down. He invites people to subscribe at the special rate for members. Cora adds that we are down to 44 subscriptions. She explains that German is also allowed as a language of publication in EMD, but that the three languages should be equally present.

She says that if people do not get their free copies as authors or do not get their copies as subscribers, they should get in contact with Guy Carney (guy.carney@brepols.net) from Brepols, who had briefly visited our colloquium at Durham.

11. Various / Thanks

The president reiterates her gratefulness to everybody who has contributed to the success of the Durham colloquium, in particular Mark Chambers, John McKinnell, Barbara Ravelhofer, Alexandra Johnston, Gasper Jakovac and Jamie Beck – and our sponsor, Father Jackman.

As an acknowledgment for her present and past achievements as SITM president, Cora is given a bunch of flowers and a present. The secretary/treasurer and the editor also receive a gift from the assembly.

Cora distributes a call for papers for possible SITM sessions at the next IMC Leeds.

The business meeting concludes at 10.45 a.m., and the colloquium continues with the last paper session.

Respectfully submitted on July 15, 2016 by Lenke Kovács, SITM Secretary-Treasurer, 2013-2016