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1. 1996 Conference: Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

The 1996 conference of the Bibliographical Society of Canada/Société bibliographique du Canada was held Monday, 10 June and Tuesday, 11 June 1996, at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. The program consisted of ten formal papers, as well as the report of the President's Advisory Committee to develop recommendations for "The History of the Book in Canada." The 50th anniversary banquet and the presentation of the Tremaine Medal to Ernie Ingles took place on the evening of 10 June, at the Halifax Club. The Annual General Meeting of the BSC / SBC was held at 3:00 p.m. on 11 June, in the Carl Hudson auditorium, Henson College, Dalhousie University, with approximately 30 members present.

Minutes of the 1996 Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome from the President: Tom Vincent welcomed all members, and thanked Anne Yandle, and Lorna Knight of the Special Collections Interest Group of CLA, for organizing the conference, and Karen Smith for making the local arrangements. He also thanked Mary Williamson for organizing the 50th anniversary banquet, and Bruce and Mary Lu MacDonald for arranging for the Halifax Club as a venue. Judy Donnelly was thanked for her assistance in producing the souvenir broadside, and Anne Dondertman and Sandra Alston were thanked for administrative assistance. Bruce Whiteman moved that the agenda, which had previously been circulated, be accepted, seconded by Peter McNally. CARRIED.
2. Minutes of the 1995 Annual Meeting: The minutes had been circulated to members through publication in the May 1996 *Bulletin* (New Series, no. 46). Adoption was moved by Germaine Warkentin, seconded by Bertrum MacDonald. CARRIED.

3. Report by the President: Tom Vincent summarized the highlights of the preceding year's business:

a) SSHRC: The Society's application under SSHRC's Aid to Learned Journals program was unsuccessful, despite the hard work of Mary Williamson, Carl Spadoni, and Bernie Katz. The administrative portion of the SSHRC Aid and Attendance grant will be phased out in 1998. The travel portion of the grant will remain, but the total amount granted will be reduced, and the long-term viability of the program is not certain.

b) Anniversary dinner: The Society celebrated its 50th anniversary at a banquet at the Halifax Club, at which time the Tremaine Medal was awarded to Ernie Ingles.

c) History of the Book Committee: The Council has endorsed the report presented by the President's Advisory Committee on the "History of the Book in Canada." The Committee will now function as an organizing body for the founding conference of the "History of the Book in Canada" project, to be held in 1997.

d) Awards: The Fellowships committee has recommended that no fellowship be awarded in 1996. The Committee stresses to all applicants the necessity of ensuring that applications are complete. Applications received after the deadline date, and incomplete applications, will be returned to the applicant, unconsidered.

4. Report of the Treasurer: Mary Bond distributed copies of the Review Engagement Report for the year ending 31 December 1995. She pointed out that both assets and equity have increased over the course of the year. Revenue from membership fees has increased, and we also have additional revenue thanks to royalties from the *Bibliography of Canadian Bibliographies*. In brief, the Society's finances are in reasonable shape, compared to its expenses, although the failure of the SSHRC application will have a negative impact on the publications fund. Mary thanked Anne Dondertman and Bernie Katz for their assistance over the past year. Mary moved receipt of the report, and answered questions.

5. Report of the Nominating Committee: Joyce Banks presented the report on behalf of Eric Swanick, who was unable to attend. The other members of the Nominating Committee are Gayle Garlock and Yvan Cloutier. She thanked James Carley and Richard Lapointe who have now finished their terms on Council. Joyce presented the report of the Nominating Committee, listing the slate of officers nominated for next year's Council, and Tom Vincent asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, Joyce moved that nominations be closed and the slate approved, seconded by Joan Winearls. CARRIED.

The Executive remains unchanged; the resulting changes to Council are as follows:

Councillors 1996-1999	Leslie Howsam	University of Windsor
	David McKnight	McGill University
	G. Thomas Tanselle	Guggenheim Foundation

6. Report of the Publications Committee: Mary Williamson presented the report, summarizing the issues which had been important during the previous year. The main order of business, other than the SSHRC application already discussed, was the proposal by Gale Canada to include the *Papers/Cahiers* in its full text database of journals covered by the Canadian Periodicals Index. At its Spring meeting, Council unanimously voted to accept Gale's proposal. The annual cost to libraries purchasing the CD will be between \$1000 and \$1500. Mary reviewed the pros and cons of the proposal as discussed by Council. The potential loss of Canadian institutional members if those institutions choose to purchase only the CD and not the paper version of the *Papers/Cahiers* is approximately 52 memberships. This will, however, be at least partially offset by the royalties which we will receive from Gale Canada. The general feeling in Council was that since we have been invited to participate, and there are no guarantees that we would be included in this project at a later date, it was prudent to participate in the early stages. The contract with Gale is non-exclusive, and can be cancelled on 90 days notice.

In reply to a question from Liana Van der Bellen about retrospective indexing, Mary noted that Jan Roseneder has completed the indexing of the *Papers/Cahiers* from 1984 through to 1995. As there are no funds now to publish this in paper form, the committee is investigating the possibility of mounting the index on the Society's web page. There are problems with formatting which need to be solved, but once the technical details have been worked out, the intention is to include the first index (now available in paper form, covering the period 1962-1983) on the web page as well.

Mary concluded by noting that Liana's article on the history of the Society will appear in the Fall issue of the *Papers/Cahiers*, with a summary in French. The Spring 1997 issue will be a special issue on Aldus Manutius, guest edited by Bruce Whiteman. Mary moved receipt of her report.

7. Constitution: Sandra Alston summarized the proposed changes to the Constitution, which are basically codifying present practice, and bringing together all revisions which have been passed since the last printed version of the Constitution. The proposed revisions, including the full text of the previous and proposed Constitution had been previously circulated to members. The only substantive change is to Article V, Section 2, permitting a Council member to serve for a second term. At present Councillors are not eligible for re-election until the third year after leaving Council. Mary Lu MacDonald moved that two sentences (specifying the term of Councillors) be deleted from Section 2, seconded by Peter McNally. CARRIED.

There was some discussion on the mechanism for raising membership fees, which in the proposed revision would require advance notice to the general membership, as well as approval at the Annual General Meeting. Peter McNally moved that the phrase 'increases in membership dues' (requiring advance notification prior to the Annual General Meeting) be deleted from Article IV, Section 2, seconded by Merrill Distad. CARRIED.

Sandra Alston moved acceptance of the English and French texts of the Constitution, as amended, seconded by Peter McNally. CARRIED. The complete text of the amended Constitution, in English and French, will be published in the *Papers/Cahiers*.

8. Other business:

a) Sandra Alston noted that a bibliography of enumerative bibliographies, contributed by George Shirinian, a BSC / SBC member, had been mounted on the Society's web page. The suggestion has been made that other bibliographies could be loaded there as well. Sandra asked for suggestions for suitable texts to mount, and contributions from the membership. It is also our hope that the web page will be available in a French version.

b) Mary Lu MacDonald spoke about the merging of the Humanities and Social Sciences Federations to form the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada /Federation canadien des sciences sociales et humaines. Although membership fees have not yet been determined, Mary Lu argued that the Society should make it a priority to be a member of the new federation. Mary Lu MacDonald moved that Council investigate the feasibility and desirability of the Society joining the Federation and asked that a report be made at the 1997 AGM, seconded by Joyce Banks. CARRIED.

c) Tom Vincent congratulated Eric Swanick on having received the 1996 APLA Merit Award for his outstanding contribution to library service in the Atlantic provinces.

d) Peter McNally moved that the Society adopt the report of the President's Advisory Committee and that the committee continue working with the 1st Vice President to organize the founding conference for the "History of the Book in Canada" in 1997, seconded by François Melançon. CARRIED.

e) Tom Vincent commented on the deleterious long-term effects on our finances of the loss of SSHRC revenue for our journal and for administration costs, as well as the possible loss of revenue from institutional subscriptions due to our new contract with Gale Canada. He reported that there was a need

for an increase in fees, and that Council had voted in favour of such an increase at its Spring meeting. There has been no increase in fees for the previous five years.

Mary Bond moved an increase in membership fees for 1997 from \$30 to \$35 for individuals, \$15 to \$17.50 for retired and students, and \$40 to \$45 for institutions, with a further increase from \$45 to \$50 for institutions in 1998, seconded by Merrill Distad. CARRIED.

f) The place and date of the next Annual General Meeting have not yet been determined; this will be left to the Committee organizing next year's conference and will be announced to members in the *Bulletin*.

9. Adjournment: Bruce Whiteman moved adjournment, seconded by Bertrum MacDonald.

2. Nominating Committee of Council, Report of Recommendations

The Nominating Committee has proposed the following slate of officers to be presented at the Annual General Meeting 24 May 1997. The other officers remain unchanged.

2nd Vice President	Gwen Davies, Acadia University
Treasurer	Elaine Hoag, National Library
Councillors	Ron Cohen, bibliographer
	Ralph Stanton, Simon Fraser University
	John Townsend, Schooner Books, Halifax

3. Marie Tremaine Fellowship

The Fellowships Committee has recommended that the Tremaine Fellowship for 1997 be awarded to Fiona Black. Black will create and use a database of the books available in Halifax, Saint John, Montreal, Quebec, York, and Kingston between 1752 and 1820. Information will be drawn from contemporary newspapers, booksellers' and circulating library catalogues, as well as from *ESTC* and *NSTC*. She will analyse aspects such as the source of imprint, port of origin, subject matter of imported books, dissemination time from publication to availability in those six centres, with a particular emphasis on the Scottish role in the book trade. This enumerative analysis will contribute to a broader picture of contemporary print culture. Publication is planned in electronic and print formats.

4. Marie Tremaine Medal/Médaille Marie-Tremaine

The Marie Tremaine Medal Committee has announced that no medal will be awarded in 1997.

Le Comité de sélection de la Médaille Marie-Tremaine a annoncé que la médaille ne sera pas attribuée en 1997.



The *Bulletin*, published twice a year, in the Spring and in the Fall, is received with membership in the Bibliographical Society of Canada / Société bibliographique du Canada. Please address all queries, correspondence, and comments to Merrill Distad, Editor, *Bulletin*, University of Alberta Library, Edmonton AB T6G 2J8. FAX: 403-492-8302. E-Mail: MERRILL.DISTAD@UALBERTA.CA