

Minutes of the IGA Executive Meeting

15 June, 2001 - Room 1430, Harbour Centre, Vanouver, B.C.

Chair: Robert Miles

Present: Steven Bruhm, Charles Crow, Benjamin Fisher, Jerrold Hogle, William

Hughes, David Punter, Andrew Smith, John Whatley.

Apologies: Angela Wright

1. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**
- 2.

The minutes of the last meeting (**Annual General Electronic Meeting, June 12-16, 2000**: <http://www-sul.stanford.edu/mirrors/romnet/iga/>) were accepted as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters arising.**
- 4.

There were no matters arising.

5. **Treasurer's Report** (appended)
 1. The chair tabled the report from the treasurer, Angela Wright. Angela was unable to make the conference due to ill health. The meeting wished to record formally its thanks to Angela for all her excellent work for the IGA.
 2. In her report Angela records a current surplus of £713.05. With the £500 outstanding from MUP (the running costs for 2000), this brings the total to £1213.05. She also raised a question about the feasibility of continuing the newly instituted bursary scheme at the same level as this year (total cost: £1568.30). The point was accepted, although the Chair pointed out that to an extent this would depend on whether there was a profit from this year's conference at SFU. The conference organiser, John Whatley, reported that it was too early to tell, although he expressed cautious optimism that with 135 registered conference attendees, we should break even or better.

6. **Election of a new President.** The chair reminded the meeting that he had now served for two terms as president, and that a new president would have to be elected at the AGM.
7. **Streamlining subscriptions to Gothic Studies.** The chair reported that there were still problems with subscriptions to Gothic studies. These problems took several forms.
 1. there were still insufficient institutional subscriptions. The chair reported that at a meeting with MUP it had been agreed that as an inducement, two free graduate subscriptions would be offered for every institutional subscription, as currently advertised on the IGA web-site (<http://www-sul.stanford.edu/mirrors/romnet/iga/>). It was agreed that publicising this selling point should be pushed harder with members.
 2. As regards personal memberships, there were still too many problems occurring. It was agreed that the best solution to this problem would be to publicise all current subscribers on the IGA web-site with their mailing addresses. The Chair reported that in many cases the problem proved to be an incorrect or out of date address. The list would enable subscribers to check whether their membership was up to date, and whether the address was correct. The chair reported that in order to facilitate this, Angela Wright had laboriously compiled a list on the basis of MUP's subscription details. Subject to a final check, this would be posted shortly on the IGA web-page.
 - 3.
 4. In conjunction with the incoming president and Bill Hughes, the Chair agreed to act, in the capacity of Past President, as a liaison with MUP in order to iron out any future problems.
8. **Grant Writing:** The chair reported, that in line with the determination expressed by the IGA at the 1999 AGM, vigorous attempts had been made to secure funding in support of the IGA. The chair informed the meeting that David Punter had spearheaded an Arts and Humanities Research Board grant for a Gothic Research Centre, to be based at Bristol, and supported by Salford (with Avril Horner) and Stirling (Robert Miles). The Chair thanked David on behalf of the committee for all this hard work on this. David briefly reported on the progress of the bid. News of whether we had made to the second round would not be known until July. In the meantime David's offer to circulate details of the bid to the Advisory Board and Executive was gratefully accepted by the meeting.
9. **AOB**
 1. It was noted that the meeting was entirely male, and that although there were reasons for this, vis-à-vis health problems or funding difficulties, the gender balance was unacceptable. The following were nominated to join the Advisory Board, in recognition of their valuable service to the IGA: Jodey Castricano, Noel Currie, Avril Horner and Sue

Zloznick. It was also agreed that the incoming president should canvass existing members of the board with regards to their willingness to continue serving.

2. The issue of the site of the next conference was raised. The Chair replied that he would be inviting bids from the floor at the AGM; that our established procedures required the new President to invite bids from the membership at large; and that all the bids would go forward, for a vote by the advisory and executive. David Punter suggested that we should ask for bids for not just the next conference, but for the one after that, in order to ensure sufficient planning time. David reported that there was an issue here for our Continental colleagues, who frequently required a four year lead time for conference organisation. The resolution was accepted.

INTERNATIONAL GOTHIC ASSOCIATION, 2001

TREASURY REPORT

1/2/01: Account balance @ £1778.95

25/4/01: Postgraduate travel bursaries withdrawn. Two UK cheques, each for £450, and two US bankers' drafts, each for \$450 (which came to £334.15 apiece). Total expenditure: **£1568.30**

1/5/01: Interest @0.53p

2/5/01: Cheque from Manchester University Press for **£500**. This accounts for dues for the year 2000; 2001 still to come.

29/5/01: Account balance @ **£713.05**

Report: the IGA account is in healthy shape, and should continue to flourish if the arrangement with Manchester University Press works out. In the long-term, however, we may have to reduce the postgraduate conference grants to two, as opposed to the four that we gave out this year. The grants came to a total of £1568.30 this year, which may not be sustainable in the long term with an annual income of £500.

Angela Wright, IGA Secretary/Treasurer