

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing held at the University of Bergen on Wednesday 26th June 1996 at 19.00 hours

1. Apologies were received from Kurt Gartner, Christian Delcourt, Marilyn Deegan and Gordon Dixon. Thirty-three members were present.
2. The Minutes of the 1995 AGM were approved.
3. There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
4. (i) Chairman's Report Mrs Hockey reported that John Dawson, Espen Ore and Thomas Rommel had been elected to serve on the ALLC Committee as new members.

(ii) Treasurer's Report Mr Short presented the accounts and remarked on the healthy financial position of the Association. He advised members that a change in the financial year had been approved by the Committee and the new financial year would now run from April to the following March.

ALLC Monies would be used for "projects and publications" and also for a proposed "Father Busa Award" involving recognition of achievement in the application of computers to a humanistic setting and the delivery of a public lecture. This award would probably be made every three years to share the administration between ALLC and ACH and sub-committees of both associations would be meeting to set up a mechanism to implement the joint award scheme.

- (iii) Secretary's Report Dr Holmes reported that, following an approved change in the ALLC constitution, the Committee had now reached the desired size of nine elected members, three of whom would be eligible for re-election each year.

Those members now serving and their years of re-election are:

1997: Paul Fortier, Marilyn Deegan, Michael Sperberg-McQueen.
1998: Christian Delcourt, Nancy Ide, Lisa Lena Opas.
1999: John Dawson, Espen Ore, Thomas Rommel.

Attention was drawn to the small but steady decline in the membership figures over the past four years and the need to promote the Association as widely as possible.

Following the recommendation last year that active Special Interest Groups (SIGS) be encouraged, Dr Holmes reported that the call to form the first such group, "Authorship Attribution", had been made in the Journal and in the Chairman's annual letter with some half-dozen positive replies to date.

5. Publications An extensive written report from the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, Gordon Dixon, was available to members, which emphasised the close links the Association now has with OUP. It was noted, with regret, that Mr Dixon wished to step down from his duties once a successor had been appointed and the meeting wished to place on record their sincere appreciation of all the work Mr Dixon had put in during his period in office and the services he had rendered to the Association.

Nancy Ide reported that Research in Humanities Computing (RHC) Volume IV from the Oxford Conference was now published but due to delays RHC V would now cover only the Santa Barbara conference papers. Mrs Hockey informed members that OUP wished to cancel their contract on the series due to these delays. Sub-committees from both the ALLC and ACH would be meeting to discuss the whole question of the RCH series.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the best way of producing a 'book' of each conference and the exact status of an Abstract as an academic work. The discussion centred on the

possible submission of both 'long' and 'short' versions of papers, and the production of an electronic version of papers which might meet the standards of referred academic publications.

6. Conference Arrangements Michael Neuman informed the meeting that the 1997 conference would be held at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario from June 3rd to 7th. The Chair added that the ALLC Committee had accepted a proposal from Lajos Kossuth University, Debrecen, Hungary, to host the 1998 conference in early July.
7. Text Encoding Initiative Mr Burnard reported that a revision of the TEI guidelines was taking place and that a new Technical Review Committee had been constituted.
8. Any Other Business
 - (i) Professor Zampolli informed the meeting that a proposal for a SOCRATES Thematic Network "Advanced Computing in the Humanities" had been submitted to the European Commission by the University of Bergen and had been ranked among the seven "excellent" submissions out of a field of 100. To satisfy the Commission the proposal must be presented by a European 'Association' and the ALLC must therefore move quickly if it was to provide the necessary administrative backing.
 - (ii) The idea of an electronic newsletter for members was raised and discussed.
 - (iii) Dr Corns (former Secretary who was made an Honorary Member in 1995) was officially thanked for his services to the Association.
 - (iv) Mrs Hockey announced that she would be stepping down from her office as Chairman after one more year but would be willing to continue to participate in ALLC affairs.
 - (v) The Chair thanked the organisers of the Bergen Conference on behalf of the ALLC for all the excellent work they has put in, especially Espen Ore and the Program Committee.

The meeting closed at 19.50 hours.

Correspondence: Dr David Holmes, ALLC Secretary, Faculty of Computer Studies and Mathematics, University of the West of England, Coldharbour Lane, Frenchay, Bristol BS16 1QY, UK.

E-mail: david.holmes@csm.uwe.ac.uk