



Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing

Committee Meeting, 25th June 1996

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing held at the University of Bergen on Tuesday 25th June 1996 at 14.00 hours

Present: Susan Hockey (Chair), Harold Short (Treasurer), David Holmes (Secretary), Lou Burnard, Paul Fortier, Nancy Ide, Michael Sperberg-McQueen, Lisa Lena Opas, Espen Ore, Willard McCarty (iii attendance), Michael Neuman (ACH, for items 1-4.)

1. Apologies were received from Marilyn Deegan, Christian Delcourt, Gordon Dixon and Antonio Zampolli.
 2. The Minutes of the meetings of 11th July and 13th July 1995 were accepted as correct subject to the deletion of the word 'annual'; from Item 3 on 13th July.
 3. There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
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4. Conference Arrangements

Laszlo Hunyadi of Lajos Kossuth University, Debrecen, Hungary, gave a computer-aided presentation as a bid to host the 1998 ALLC/ACH Conference from July 7th to 11th. His proposal was accepted by the Committee and the ACH representatives present.

5. Chairman's Report The Chairman reported that John Dawson, Espen Ore and Thomas Rommel had been elected to the Committee as new members and that Lou Burnard's three-year term of service had now been completed.

6. Treasurer's Report

(i) The Treasurer presented the accounts and the overall healthy financial position of the Association was noted. His proposal of a change in the financial year from April to March instead of from January to December was accepted.

(ii) A lengthy discussion followed the report concerning the proposed 'Father Busa Award' involving recognition of achievement in the application of computers to a humanistic setting and an invitation for the delivery of a public lecture. It was suggested that the award would be made every three years to share the administration between ACH and ALLC, with a possible start in 1997. It was noted that ACH is intending to set up a Joint Award Sub Committee of its council

and it was decided that Harold Short, Espen Ore and Michael Sperberg-McQueen would act as the ALLC representatives in a joint committee to set up a mechanism to implement the award scheme.

(iii) The idea of using ALLC monies for 'projects and publications' was approved in principle. A sub-committee consisting of Lou Burnard, Harold Short and Lisa Lena Opas would meet to make recommendations in this respect.

(iv) It was noted that two people had met the criteria for the award of an ALLC Bursary this year. In order to loosen the constraints, it was agreed that the condition 'young people under 30 years of age' would be replaced by 'students and young scholars, normally under the age of 30'.

7. Secretary's Report

(i) The Secretary reported that, following the change to the ALLC Constitution approved last year, the Committee had now reached the desired size of 9 elected members, five 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.

(ii) Attention was drawn to the small but steady decline in the membership figures for the past four years and the need to promote the Association by publicising its existence to Universities and at conferences. It was noted that OUP are doing much work in this respect.

(iii) Following the recommendation last year that active Special Interest Groups (SIGS) be encouraged, the Secretary reported that a call to form the first such group, 'Authorship Attribution', had been made in the Journal and in the Chairman's annual letter. There had been six positive replies which, although slightly disappointing, gave a base for this group to build upon in the future.

8. Election of Officers The current officers were re-elected and Susan Hockey resumed the Chair. It was noted with regret that she was willing to serve for only one more year.

9. Publications An extensive written report from the Editor-in-Chief of Literary and Linguistic Computing, Gordon Dixon, was circulated which emphasised the close links now operating with OUP. It was noted that he wished to step down as Editor-in-Chief but would delay his resignation until a successor was appointed. The Committee wished to record their grateful appreciation of all the work he had done during his period in office. It was suggested that a formal Editorial Board needed to be set up along with the appointment of an Assistant Editor to ease the burden on the future Editor-in-Chief Susan Hockey as co-editor of Research in Humanities Computing. Nancy Ide reported that OUP wished to cancel their contract on the series because of delays. Nancy Ide added that no papers would appear in the series from the Georgetown and Paris conferences, and RHC 5 would only cover the Santa Barbara papers. There would be no outlet for this conference. It was agreed that an ALLC Sub-Committee consisting of Susan Hockey, David Holmes and Paul Fortier would meet with an ACH Sub-Committee to look at the matter of the RHC series.

10. Conference Protocol It was agreed that the same Sub-Committee listed above under 9 in the previous paragraph would meet with ACH to discuss the

draft protocol already circulated.

11. Text Encoding Initiative

Lou Bumard reported that a revision of the Guidelines was taking place and that a Technical Review Committee had been set up.

12. World Wide Web entry

Harold Short offered his services to set up a WWW 'page' for the ALLC. There would be the possibility of financial help from ALLC monies for this task.

13. Honorary Membership

The Secretary reported that he had provided OUP with a list of honorary members and had instructed OUP to send the Journal to each of them.

14. Any other business

There was no other business. The meeting closed at 16.00 hours.

