



association for literary
& linguistic computing

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Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing Committee

Minutes of Committee meeting, June 1999

Committee Meeting of the Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing held at the University of Virginia, Virginia, USA, on Wednesday, June 9th, 1999

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Elisabeth Burr, John Dawson, David Robey and Antonio Zampolli.

2. Conferences

Item 7 on the agenda (Conferences) was moved up as item number 2, for practical reasons.

John Unsworth reported on the present conference. There were 230+ persons registered for the conference and USD 13 000 had been raised for participants from Russia and Eastern Europe.

Jean Anderson and Fiona Tweedie presented information on the Glasgow conference in 2000. Paul Fortier was asked to chair the Program Committee and Harold Short will sort out the other three ALLC members.

Lorna Hughes presented the bid for 2001, to be held at NYU 13-17th June.

It was pointed out that Committee members should think about a venue for 2002 and approach possible interested parties.

3. Minutes of the previous Committee meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting, held at Lajos Kossuth University, Debrecen, Hungary on July 5th 1998 were accepted as correct.

4. Matters arising

There were some matters arising from the minutes. With respect to item 8 (election of officers), Harold Short informed the Committee that Elisabeth Burr would serve as the co-opted member. With respect to item 15 (1999 Program Committee) it was noted that Thomas Rommel and Elisabeth Burr were the other two ALLC members. With respect to item 13 (bursaries and publication of papers) a conversation ensued on the publication of conference papers in the journal. It was agreed that when submitting conference abstracts, people could be asked to

note (tick a box) whether or not they would like to submit their paper to the journal(s).

5. Reports

Chairperson: The Chair reported that the main activity of the previous year was the TEI and the establishment of the Consortium.

Treasurer: The treasurer presented the accounts and noted that the Association has a healthy state of balance.

Secretary: The secretary noted the trends in the membership, which follows more general trends, due to decreasing finances in universities around the world, and pointed out where we should be targeting for new membership. She also discussed the web site and a database of members.

6. Elections

Officers: Harold Short was re-elected Chair, Jean Anderson Treasurer, and Lisa Lena Opas-Hänninen Secretary.

Committee: John Dawson, Espen Ore and Thomas Rommel were elected Committee members and the co- option of Elisabeth Burr was agreed.

7. Publications

Journal: Marilyn Deegan and Stuart Lee presented the state of the Journal, in particular the LitLin List and the pilot version of the searchable back issues. They noted the need for blurbs for the ALLC and a membership boost. The committee expressed its appreciation to the two editors for the superb job they have done in revamping the journal.

Electronic publications: It was noted that formal relations have been established between HUMANIST and the ALLC.

Archives: King's College is willing to house the ALLC archives. The Chair and Treasurer were authorised to spend up to GBP 6000 to begin the archiving project.

8. TEI

The Chair reported that the TEI Committee met and there was an agreement to establish a Consortium for maintaining the TEI.

Michael Sperberg-McQueen reported that it had been agreed that the TEI should be maintained free of charge and all roles within the Consortium shall have a term of service. A number of issues are yet unresolved, but will be reviewed at the beginning of 2000. One of the key issues is the legal status of the Consortium

and the legal implications in the different countries involved.

Lou Burnard reported that we have a preliminary version of the reviewed TEI guidelines and a preliminary version of the paper version on CD-Rom.

There were initially two hosts, Bergen and Virginia, but now two others have been added, Brown and Oxford, and thus there are four hosts for the Consortium.

The Committee wishes to record its thanks to the Chair of the TEI Committee.

9. Association initiatives

Bursaries: there were four bursaries awarded this year: Peter Karas (Oxford); Claire Warwick (Sheffield); Paul Barret (McMaster); Teresa Dobson (Alberta).

Busa Prize: The selection Committee was set: Paul Fortier, Lisa Lena Opas-Hänninen, Michael Sperberg-McQueen, Willard McCarty and Randy Jones. Nominations for the award will be invited.

EU activities

(i) ACO*Hum: The Chair reported on the state of the project at present and that the fourth year additional funding for dissemination activities was a joint ALLC-ACO*Hum activity.

(ii) Network proposal: The Chair reported on this item. It is part of the 5th framework funding by the EU. An application will be put forward to establish a network of centres of excellence.

(iii) RTD proposal: The Chair reported on this item also. This proposal will include software and text analysis tools and dissemination activities in Eastern Europe.

ELTA: The ELTA discussion group has been formed, and one of the conference sessions will be on the future development of text analysis tools.

Workshops: The groundwork for this proposal has been done, but now this must be put into practice. Marilyn Deegan and Lisa Lena Opas-Hänninen will deal with this.

Project support: It was decided that we should see how things are progressing and where such support would be needed before we move on this item.

OHC and AHRB: A proposal was put in for a two-year project, which would encompass a survey of the state of the art of humanities computing and an intellectual history of humanities computing.

10. Mid-year Committee meeting

It was agreed that a mid-year meeting would be beneficial and should be held.

11. Any other business

There was no other business.



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