

Minutes (Summary)
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Society for Classical Studies

Friday, 11 October 2024, 2:30-4:00 pm EDT
Zoom

Directors in attendance: Rosa Andújar, Clara Bosak-Schroeder, Catherine Connors, Joseph Farrell, Alison Keith, Young Richard Kim, Suzanne Lye, Kirk Ormand, Nandini Pandey, Teresa Ramsby, Matthew Roller, Celia Schultz, Ruth Scodel, Zoé Thomas. Executive Director Zachary Slates (non-voting) was present as well.

Directors Catherine Conybeare, Laura McClure, Elizabeth Mercier, Carlos Noreña and Craig Williams were absent.

President Keith called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm EDT.

1. The minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of 13 September 2024 were unanimously approved.

2. Business Arising – none.

3. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Slates introduced the financial statement and welcomed questions about financial statements. The timing of recording salaries and other expenses and revenues, including conference revenues has been changed, to better track accrued and deferred items in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

He reported that a joint operating agreement with AIA is in the process of being finalized. New Directors and Officers Liability Insurance has been put in place as of the end of September. He is looking into intellectual property issues as it seems wise to register the name and former name of the Society, and TAPA, as trademarks. He laid out his plan for doing this at a reasonable cost.

4. President's Report

President Keith announced that Prof. Ruth Scodel has established an endowment to support Contingent Faculty Grants and expressed the Society's deep appreciation of this. She also announced a bequest from Prof. Raffaella Cribiore and invited the Board to consider possible ways to honor Prof. Cribiore's legacy.

President Keith then reported that the Data Committee is incorporating Board feedback on the Census. Pending final approval by the Executive Committee, the Census will be circulated in the October Newsletter so that there will be results to report at the session on the Census at the Annual Meeting. It was suggested that going forward it would be useful in the preparations of

similar Census projects, to have a longer period of consultation for the Board with the Data Committee.

5. Consent Agenda

- a) Motion to reduce the SCS financial commitment to the staffing of the American office of *L'année philologique* proposed and seconded.

In light of ongoing demands on our endowment, the Board of the SCS plans to reduce our financial commitment to the staffing of the American Office of *l'année philologique*. Beginning with the 2027-28 school year, our staffing of that office will be reduced to one FTE, appointed for 3 years, with the possibility of renewal. Our financial commitment for this position will not exceed the sum of our income from Brepols and SIBC, plus our annual 4.5% draw on the endowment earmarked for bibliographic purposes, plus 20% of the annual 4.5% draw from the unrestricted Research and Teaching Endowment.

Action: passed unanimously.

- b) Motion to approve a new SCS Award for Excellence in Academic Advising proposed and seconded:

The Committee for College and University Education (consisting of members Evelyn Adkins, Michael Furman, Stephen Kershner, Elizabeth Manwell, and Teresa Ramsby) seeks a motion to create **the SCS Award for Excellence in Academic Advising** to be granted to programs and departments of classical studies at colleges and universities who demonstrate excellence in creating a culture of positive student advisement in any or all levels of postsecondary education. The award is laudatory and comes with no monetary prize. One program will be selected each year for this honor.

Action: passed unanimously.

6. Discussion of Annual Meetings in 2028 and 2029

The 2026 meeting in San Francisco is confirmed. The 2027 Annual Meeting will be joint with AIA at a location to be determined.

2028 and 2029: Up until now we have met in hotels big enough to accommodate our organizations' numbers. Convention centers in cities with smaller hotels, e.g. Baltimore, might be an option. There have been some discussions with CAMWS regarding future of Annual Meetings. It has been agreed to continue communicating with CAMWS about Annual Meetings.

Topics addressed in the Board's discussion included a sense that membership has an appreciation of the opportunity to meet with AIA. Appreciation was also expressed for: the many intellectual and networking aspects of the SCS Annual meeting; opportunities to work in a hands-on way in workshops and seminars; editorial and publishing activities; meetings and activities of the Affiliated Groups; and other professional development opportunities at all levels. In light of the continuing challenges identified in the Task Force Report, including the value of continuing to develop hybrid access to the meeting, communicating these values effectively to the membership will be crucial.

President Keith took a straw poll of the Board on the question of whether to commit to working with AIA for the 2028 and 2029 Annual Meetings. The straw poll affirmed the recommendation that the SCS commit to working with AIA for 2028 and 2029 Annual Meetings.

7. Other Business – none

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 pm.