



Society for the Study of Early Modern Women

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Sixteenth Century Society and Conference

Montreal, Quebec

Thursday, October 14, 2010

6:30 p.m.

Following the Plenary Address on
“The Canonization of Italian Women Writers in Early Modern Britain”
by Diana Robin, Emerita Professor, University of New Mexico

1. President Anne J. Cruz welcomed those present and introduced the EMW officers.
2. The minutes of the EMW General Meeting held on Friday, November 6, 2009 at the Attending to Women Conference, University of Maryland, were approved.

The memorial red book was circulated. 33 members were present.

3. **President Report**

President Cruz acknowledged and thanked Merry Wiesner-Hanks for her successful efforts to relocate the Attending to Women conference from the University of Maryland to the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee beginning in 2012. Wiesner-Hanks came forward and reported that she had secured support from the Dean of the College of Letters and Studies at UW—M for the conference to take place in 2012, 2015, and 2018. In order to facilitate housing for participants in the conference at the School of Continuing Education in downtown Milwaukee, the dates of the conference have been moved from fall to spring, with the first scheduled for June 21-23, 2012. A coordinating committee including representatives from a number of universities and institutions in the region (including the Newberry Library) has been formed. Wiesner-Hanks will be editing a volume of the proceedings of the 2012 conference.

President Cruz announced that the next EMW General Meeting and Executive Committee Meeting will be held during the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference from October 27 to 30, 2011 in Fort Worth, Texas.

President Cruz invited Adele Seeff and Jane Donawerth to report on *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. They reported that they have just received the advanced copies of Volume 5, which should appear in the next month or so. They described the contents of Volume 5, which includes diverse, multi-disciplinary offerings by scholars in a number of fields and a forum on “Sex and Early Modern Women.” They reported that submissions are being accepted for Volume 6. Seeff announced that as of June 30, 2011, the Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies at the University of Maryland will close, which will end institutional support for *EMWJ*. An agreement has been reached with the Arizona

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (ACMRS), which has co-published the journal since 2006, to take over all management responsibilities (subscription, bookkeeping, logging submissions and reviews, receiving and mailing books for review, advertising, copy editing, typesetting, proofreading, and printing). A call for editors to replace Drs. Donawerth, Seeff, and Diane Wolfthal has been issued and widely disseminated. Seeff and Donawerth encouraged EMW members to collaborate with colleagues in order to create teams of two or three editors who will then apply together to serve as future editors.

4. Vice President's Report

Vice President Pamela Benson reminded members that EMW co-sponsors sessions at AHA, MLA, RSA, and SCSC. In the past, EMW has co-sponsored at CAA, Kalamazoo, South Central Renaissance Conference, and others, but we are at present in need of volunteers to serve as liaisons for EMW. She encouraged members who might be interested in serving to contact her.

She reported that in 2010 EMW sponsored one session at AHA, one session at MLA, sixteen sessions at RSA in Venice, and six sessions at SCSC. One session is currently scheduled for MLA in 2011, one for AHA in 2011, and seven for RSA in 2011. She encouraged members to consult the EMW website for deadlines to propose sessions or papers, and to send them to the Vice President for approval.

Vice President Benson presented a Graduate Student Travel Assistance Awards to Amy Merritt.

5. Web-manager's Report

Web-manager Karen Nelson reported that members who are not on the listserv can enlist themselves online at the EMW website, or they can email the web-manager and she will add them. She also informed members that the listserv is archived and fully searchable. Finally, she reminded members that the website address is www.ssemw.org.

6. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Treasurer Nancy Gutierrez, Secretary Patricia Phillippy presented the Financial Report. She reported that EMW membership has declined from a high of 346 members in 2009 to 278 members in 2010, nearly a 20% decrease from last year and a 6.7% decrease from 2008. The report suggested that the financial downturn may be responsible for this decrease, which may have been masked in 2009 which was a year in which ATW met, when membership is always high. She noted that the RSA in Venice in April 2010 also boosted 2009 membership tremendously, since everyone who presented there in EMW sessions were required to become members. She reported that at the Executive Committee meeting earlier that day, members had approved a proposal to link registration for the ATW conference with membership in the EMW. She noted that Treasurer Gutierrez will undertake several initiatives to boost membership in coming months; specifically, she will email individuals whose membership has lapsed encouraging them to renew, and she will publish an EMW membership directory.

She reported that EMW's current balance is \$20,619.

7. Nominating Committee Report

In the absence of the Committee Chair, Janet Smarr, President Cruz reported that the slate has been filled and was approved by the Executive Committee. She reported that ballots will go forward before November 1, and that they should be returned by December 1, so that newly elected members can assume their roles by January 1, 2011. President Cruz read the slate and asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. She encouraged members

who might wish to put a name into nomination to speak to her or to the Secretary at the reception following the General Meeting.

8. Awards Committee Report

Chair of the Awards Committee, Julie Eckerle, thanked the members of her committee for their hard work. She read the names of award winners and presented awards to those present (Donald Stump, Dana Lightfoot Wessell, Julie Campbell, Anne Larsen, and Sarah Owens). She encouraged members to submit their works to the Awards Committee, and she noted that the deadline for submissions has been changed to coincide with the new scheduling of the ATW conference. Submissions must be received by the committee chair by January 1, 2011.

8. Old business

There was no old business.

9. New business

There was no new business.

10. Adjournment at 7:00 p.m. and move to a well-attended reception.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Phillippy
Secretary