

Ralph Waldo Emerson Society
Minutes of the Business Meeting
Saturday, May 23, 2015
ALA Conference
Westin Copley Place, Boston, Massachusetts

President Sue Dunston called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. About 22 members and three guests were present.

2014 Minutes approved

2015 Treasurer's Report approved.

Announcements and Updates

1. Special Awards Recipients: Noelle Baker reported the recipients of special awards:

Subvention Award: Jean Mudge, independent scholar

Research Award: Rick Guardiano, Shawnee Community College

Community Project Award: Tyson Forbes, TigerLion Arts

2. Barbara Packer Fellowship Award: Gillian Osborne ("Henry David Thoreau and Antebellum Botany")

3. Forthcoming volumes:

Ralph Waldo Emerson: The Major Prose, edited by Joel Myerson, will be published in June. The volume re-edits Emerson's major prose writings; a paperback edition for classroom use will be available soon.

Ralph Waldo Emerson: The Major Poetry, edited by Al Von Frank, forthcoming.

An Emerson Chronology, edited by Al Von Frank, will be out by the end of the year as an ebook and published-on-demand.

Toward a Female Genealogy of Transcendentalism, edited by Phyllis Cole and Jana Argersinger, available now.

4. Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP): The Emerson Society will organize a panel for the March, 2016, conference in Portland, Oregon.

5. Media Committee: the committee reported on its work over the past year. Of special interest, the committee highlighted the need to draw Society members from Facebook and also noted concerns with further improvements to the Society's website. Interested Society members were encouraged to join the Media Committee.

6. Sue reported that Bay Bancroft joins the Advisory Board as a representative of the Ralph Waldo Emerson Memorial Association.

Presentations:

1. Sue presented the Distinguished Achievement Award to Sarah Wider
2. Roger Thompson presented the Graduate Student Award to Kristina West

Business

1. Officer and Board nominations

Nominations from the Board:

President-elect: Dan Malachuk, Western Illinois University

Board Members:

Thomas Constantinesco, University of Paris-Diderot

Prentiss Clark, University of South Dakota

ESP Editor: Derek Pacheco, Purdue University

Secretary/Treasurer: Bonnie Carr O'Neill, Mississippi State University

There were no nominations from the floor. The nominees were unanimously approved as a slate. Sue thanked outgoing Board members whose terms will expire December 31, 2015: Noelle Baker and Joseph Urbas. She also thanked outgoing *ESP* editor Jennifer Gurley.

2. International Conference: Sue updated the committee on the state of planning for a possible international conference.

Representatives of the Poe and Hawthorne Societies reported on their commitment to a conference in Kyoto, Japan, in July, 2018; planning is well underway. The Emerson Society is considering the possibility of sponsoring a panel and perhaps a reception at the Kyoto Conference.

The Emerson Society continues to investigate the possibility of a conference in Heidelberg, Germany, in 2017 or 2018. Currently, the Board is waiting for a report from Dan Malachuk, who is in Heidelberg. Since the Poe and Hawthorne Societies are unable to co-sponsor a Heidelberg conference, we may need to identify collaborating societies.

The possibility of using mass emails as a mechanism for further discussion of an international conference was discussed.

3. Next Meeting: The Emerson Society will next meet at the 2016 ALA Conference in San Francisco.

Other Business

1. Memorials to Sterling F. (Rick) Delano: Noelle invited members to write reminiscences of Rick Delano for inclusion in the next issue of *ESP*. Joel Myerson noted that personal reminiscences could be modeled on the two pages of personal remarks *ESP* published to the memory of Merton Sealts.

2. Photos: the Society discussed means of obtaining photos of the panels that presented at the conference on Friday.

3. Sue invited all present to a Society lunch at 12:45 p.m. at Kashmir on Newbury St.

Meeting adjourned, 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie O'Neill

Emerson Society Secretary/Treasurer