

# 5CLIR Council Meeting

March 10, 2005

Minutes

Next Meeting: April 14, 2005 at 2:30 p.m.

Present: Jono Hanke, Dotty Gorra, Elizabeth Armstrong, June Guild, Charles Klem, Naomi Yanis, Peg Bedell, John Gaustad, Suzanne Lehman, Sheila Klem, Gillian Morbey, Dottie Rosenthal, Jim Scott, Eleanor Shattuck, Jean Curran, Joice Gare, Mary Franks, Chuck Gillies, Hy Edelstein, Harley Unger.

Announcements: The President noted that long-time LIR member Jay Melrose had passed away

The **minutes of the February 10, 2005 meeting** were **approved** as circulated.

Remarks: Jono Hanke and Chuck Gillies recently gave a presentation to the Amherst Rotary Club at UMass Mullins Center. It was a half-hour long including time for questions.

Naomi Yanis made a motion, seconded by Jim Scott for the council to consider a resolution as follows:

“to commend Chuck Gillies and his committee for the *Slavery and Its Legacy* program. Building on the work of two previous series on the *Genome*, and *Emergence*, the creative planning and meticulous implementation have furnished a superlative series which has greatly enhanced LIR’s reputation in the community and in turn in the Five Colleges community”.

The **resolution was unanimously and enthusiastically endorsed** by Council.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** June said that the committee will be working on a new budget next week which will be ready for the April 14 Council meeting. They are considering raising dues.

**Curriculum:** Jim announced that the curriculum committee is inviting moderators to a reception at Smith College on March 24 from 2-4 p.m. He raised the question about changing the current method of selecting curriculum committee members. His committee is considering a plan for electing members at the Annual Meeting from a pool of candidates rather than having a lottery.

Eleanor Shattuck had questions about the practice of making cash gifts to some off-campus seminar meeting spaces. This has been done in the past, but not consistently. Jono asked her to research the issue for clarification. Jim relayed the interest expressed by Joan Hastings in starting a volunteer service outreach group within LIR. There are ten approved proposals for the Fall and eight under review.

**Membership:** Jean Curran will meet with her committee to consider what actions they will undertake in carrying out their committee function. Chuck Gillies distributed charts with historical statistics on membership and seminar enrollments.

**Meetings:** Joice Gare is planning the Annual Meeting which will be May 20 at the Elks Club.

**Volunteers:** Dotty Gorra will set up coverage for the office during Karen's absence March 21-24.

**Summer/Winter Programs:** Mary Franks reported that eleven programs have been planned for the summer of 2005. They start June 3 with a hike and lunch at Arcadia Sanctuary and include a number of theater visits, other hikes, music at Tanglewood and Musicorda and a lecture/tour of the Amherst College campus with John Martin, among other activities. The full list will be in the next newsletter.

**Newsletter:** the deadline for the next issue is April 15. It will include articles about Jay Melrose and Karen Tatro.

## **Sub-Committees**

Computer/Webmaster: the new copy machine is in operation and Karen is familiarizing herself with its functions. Hy Edelstein mentioned that visits to the LIR website are increasing. Naomi suggested having a link to the Amherst College website which currently offers a taped recording of the first Slavery symposium.

Great Decisions: the program starts March 25. To date there are some forty registrations. There has been publicity.

## **Old Business**

Dottie Rosenthal, on behalf of the Next Steps Task Force, distributed a Summary of Ideas from Special Meeting of 2/9/05 (dated 3/10/05). The group will be discussing how to implement ideas that have surfaced from that workshop and will be making recommendations to Council by May.

June is still looking for budget requests from committee chairmen. The big unknown is how much money will be required for new staff.

Dotty Gorra distributed a revised Office Manager job description which had been reviewed by her hiring committee with Five Colleges personnel. This provides the basic information which will be in the help-wanted advertisement. During personal interviews, applicants will be told that the hours (advertised at 25 hours per week) are not rigid and the manager may be asked to serve more or few hours as the workload requires.

Upon a motion by Naomi, seconded by Jim, the **job description (attached) was approved.**

Audio-visual committee business. Jono wants to revive the idea of a document projector which he says should cost less than \$500. He will be recruiting some people to be on this committee.

Slavery series: Chuck gave an interim report following the first three programs. He appreciates the good turn-out of LIR members. He estimates that 500 people have attended so far. He passed around some of the press releases on the series. His committee is considering using funds still available to transcribe the audio tapes from the symposia. The bus service for the Springfield events has been well-received.

Annual reports: Jono requested that reports for the 2004-05 year be sent to Janet Brongers by May 1.

### **New Business**

Jono distributed a revised Spring 2005 calendar which was reviewed for errors and omissions. A listing of committee membership was passed out for similar review. Errors on this listing should be reported to Karen.

Jim Scott raised the question of what to do with many years' backlog of seminar feed-back forms. It was decided that at least one year's worth should be kept in addition to the summaries. Jono asked Jim to consult with archivist Bob Grose before discarding anything.

Dottie Rosenthal distributed information on an upcoming EIN conference in North Carolina. We talked briefly about the idea of our members making a presentation on peer-led seminars, something which is unusual among LIR's.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Armstrong, secretary.