

AAR/WR Annual Meeting
15 March 2010
Arizona State University, Tempe

Present: Arisika Razak, Presiding; Souad Ali, Bryan Brackney, Sheila Briggs, Dyron Daughrity, Natalie Fawcett, Tim Helton, Helen Hwang, Susan Maloney, Franz Metcalf, Rebecca Moore, Norris Palmer, Sophia Pandya, Philip Boo Riley, Jennifer Rycenga, Roberta Sabbath, Emily Silverman, Kristy Slominski, Jon R. Stone, Laura Truxler, Dorothea Kahena Viale, Dirk von der Horst, Annette Williams, Corey Williams, Theresa Yugar

1. Razak outlined the line of succession: Past President, President, Vice-President and Program Chair (a.k.a. President Elect), Vice-President and Program Chair Elect. Franz Metcalf was nominated Vice-President and Program Chair, and was elected by acclamation. Souad T. Ali was nominated Vice-President and Program Chair Elect, and was elected by acclamation. Riley expressed a willingness to be considered for Vice-President Elect in the future. Dorothy Kahena Viale was elected Southern California Regional Representative by acclamation. Kristy Slominski was elected Student Representative by all students present.

Razak expressed the group's appreciation to Norris Palmer for his leadership of the AAR/WR as he steps down from the office of Past President. She also thanked Tim Helton for his development and maintenance of the AAR/WR website. Helton has also agreed to re-design the WECSOR website to make it more user-friendly.

2. Future meetings. Razak announced that the next AAR/WR will be held at Whittier College, March 26-28, 2011. She explained that the dates of the conference move around because the organization meets at institutions willing to host the group free of charge. She noted that the 2012 conference is tentatively set for Santa Clara University, and the 2013 will return to Arizona State University. Conference logistics are far easier when the sites are regularized and contacts established. Moore noted that University of the West in Rosemead, California (in Los Angeles) expressed an interest in hosting the AAR/WR in the future.

3. Feedback on 2010 Conference. Razak asked for feedback regarding this year's conference. Silverman requested that accessibility for the disabled needs to be considered and publicized for conference hotels and transportation. Von der Horst asked for transportation to be provided to off-campus venues. Razak said that the facilities at Whittier will be examined for accessibility. Viale asked that parking availability be publicized. Maloney said that in general it's best to assume that no free parking will be available. She suggested partnering those who have cars with those who are disabled and need rides. Moore suggested the Participant Form include two brief items about car-pooling and disability needs. Yugar requested additional signage in order to find conference facilities. Briggs said that Monday meetings are difficult for faculty who teach on that day. Razak explained that we have had a commitment not to

meet on Saturday (the Sabbath); moreover, SBL does not meet on Saturday, and our WECSOR agreement requires working with SBL. Viale requested that guidelines for presenters be posted to the website. She and Metcalf will provide some for posting. Moore noted that Guidelines for Presenters do appear on the website, and that Section Chairs should be sending these out to presenters ahead of the conference. Riley said that he thought the conference themes were very rich, and expressed the desire to get more out of the conference, in not through publication of proceedings, then online in some fashion. Helton said it would be possible to post abstracts or other proceedings to the website. Yugar asked about media coverage. Razak invited volunteers to work on media development. At the very least, university public communications offices might be interested in publicizing the meeting. Silverman volunteered to set up a Facebook page for AAR/WR and a Twitter account. Razak requested that additional concerns be sent to AAR/WR officers.

4. Regionally Elected Directors (REDs) Report. Maloney noted that the AAR/WR Board adopted a resolution to ask the national AAR to increase the subvention by \$2500. She said that the survey circulated at the meeting will help the region. She explained that AAR/WR is not a legal entity: members are simply members of the national AAR/ She added that WECSOR, however, is a legal entity. Palmer noted that Maloney is now the President of WECSOR. Maloney mentioned that the Fund for Theological Education would like to hold a pre-conference workshop for graduate students next year on grant-writing or other writing projects.

Notes taken by Rebecca Moore
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