

MINUTES

**AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR LEGAL HISTORY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2005, 6:30 P.M.
HILTON NETHERLAND PLAZA HOTEL
CINCINNATI, OHIO**

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

Opening Remarks

Harry Scheiber, president of the Society, opened the meeting by thanking all members of the board and chairs of committees for their service during the past year and for attending the meeting.

Approval of minutes of the 2004 meeting

The minutes of the 2004 meeting of the Board at the annual meeting held in Austin, Texas, were approved as submitted.

Committee Reports

[Copies of reports from committees are available on the Society's website:
<<http://www.aslh.net>>]

2005 Local Arrangements Committee

The work of the local arrangements committee was complicated by the departure of key members from Cincinnati. As a result, the outgoing Secretary/Treasurer of the Society, Jack Pratt, handled most of the details. He praised Cincinnati as a choice and noted that the city had declared Friday, November 11 "Legal History Day." He also suggested that the Society investigate ways of involving local high school history teachers in the annual meeting.

2005 Program Committee

President Scheiber thanked the chairs of the committee, Michael Parrish and Tom Gallanis, and noted the successful creation and use of a web site to collect and evaluate proposals. Thanks were voted to the committee and to Peter Jetton of Washington and Lee University who created the on-line system.

2006 Local Arrangements Committee

Jack Pratt noted that the third party professional planner had worked with the local arrangements committee to select the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore as the site of the 2006 annual meeting.

He also noted that there were 240 registrants for the Cincinnati meeting with an additional 20 persons registering on site for a total of 260.

Nominating Committee

Jack Pratt announced the results of the election:

President-Elect

Maeva Marcus ELECTED

Board of Directors

Felice Batlan

Mary Anne Case

Michael Grossberg ELECTED

Kenneth Ledford ELECTED

Pablo Piccato

Linda Przybyzewski ELECTED

Carol Rose

David Sugarman ELECTED

Emily Zack Tabuteau ELECTED

Martha Merritt Umphrey

Nominating Committee

Risa Goluboff

Chris Tomlins ELECTED

2006 Program Committee

It was announced that the 2006 Program Committee, co-chairs Dan Klerman and John Witt would meet on Saturday morning. [The other members of the committee are Stuart Banner, Chris Capozzola, Cornelia Dayton, Bruce Frier, Risa Goluboff, Daniel W. Hamilton, III, Amalia Kessler, and Michael Willrich.]

Committee on Conferences & the Annual Meeting

Craig Joyce, committee chair, reported that after discussion of the locations to be proposed in the committee's report, the committee would make a report to the Executive Committee to make the final decision which would make a final decision.

Committee on Documentary Preservation

The committee's report was accepted as distributed. Harry Scheiber noted that the National Historical Publications and Records Commission was still without funding.

William Nelson Cromwell Prize Committee

The Cromwell Prize Committee recommended that the award be given to John Fabian Witt for his book *The Accidental Republic: Crippled Workingmen, Destitute Widows, and the Remaking of American Law* (Harvard University Press) and reported that the Board of the Cromwell Foundation has approved the choice. A motion to thank the Foundation for its support was made, seconded, and passed unanimously..

Hurst Memorial Committee Report

Both Harry Scheiber and Bob Gordon praised the program and Ray Solomon noted that there would be a table at the Friday reception for the fellows of the program.

The Board accepted the suggestion in the committee's report that letters of thanks be sent to Prof. Howard Erlanger of the University of Wisconsin Law School and Director of the Institute for Legal Studies and to Pam Hollenhorst, the Associate Director of the ILS in appreciation of their efforts in making the Hurst Institute so successful.

H-Law

Chris Waldrep submitted the report of the H-Law Board. A motion to thank all those involved was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Bob Gordon suggested that consideration be given to collecting the book reviews published H-Law on a yearly basis. Chris Waldrep noted that all the reviews published are available and David Seipp suggested that a yearly list of reviews be compiled.

Harry Scheiber asked that the annual meeting registration form be made easier to download from the web site.

Honors Committee

The Committee put forward Laura Kalman for election as a Fellow of the Society which election was made by acclamation.

Membership Committee

Tony Freyer reported that the committee was still searching for ideas for expanding membership. Harry Scheiber suggested that members be encouraged to recruit at least one colleague.

Paul Murphy Award Committee

The Committee announced that the award is made to Dr. Jill Silos, visiting professor at

Colby-Sawyer College to support her work on a book tentatively titled “Everybody Get Together: The Politics of the Counterculture.”

Surrency Prize Committee

The Committee announced that 2004 award is made to Amalia Kessler for her article “Enforcing Virtue: Social Norms and Self-Interest in an Eighteenth-Century Merchant Court” with honorable mention to Bruce Kimball for “The Langdell Problem: Historicizing the Century of Historiography, 1906-2000s.”

Sutherland Prize Committee

The Committee announced that it unanimously selected “‘Well-Behaved Women Don’t Make History’: Rethinking English Family Law, and History” by Danaya C. Wright [19 Wis. Women’s L.J. 211 (2004)] as the recipient of the award.

Publications Committee

The Committee submitted its report which was accepted without discussion.
Studies in Legal History

Dan Ernst reported that the series will see the publication of three books in 2005:

Daniel J. Hulsebosch, *Constitution Empire: New York and the Transformation of Constitutionalism in the Atlantic World, 1664-1830.*

Laura Kalman, *Yale Law School and the Sixties: Revolt and Reverberations*

Stephen Robertson, *Crimes against Children: Sexual Violence and Legal Culture in New York City, 1880-1960.*

Tom Green thanked the University of North Carolina Press for its work on the series and Charles Grench of the Press thanked his assistant the editors of the series for their work.

Law and History Review

The Board voted resolutions of the thanks to Dean Richard J. Morgan of the William S. Boyd School of Law, Dean Ed Shoben of the UNLV College of Liberal Arts, and UNLV History Department Chair Eugene Moehring and Ann Lowry of the University of Illinois Press for their support of *LHR*.

There was a discussion of publishing four issues of *LHR* each year. The general feeling was that the time for a four issue had not yet arrived. R.B. Bernstein asked whether a fourth yearly issue could be devoted solely to book reviews. David Tannenhaus stated his belief that book reviews belong in each issue because studies show that readers expect to see them. He also reported that consideration is being given to pre-prints of reviews.

Further discussion included observations by R.B. Bernstein on the difficulties in finding suitable reviewers and in getting reviewers to complete their tasks. David Tanenhaus noted that some one-fifth of assigned reviews are never received. Because the review copy is in the hands of

the reviewer it is difficult to reassign the review. Harry Scheiber suggested that consideration be given to buying another copy to the book so the review could be reassigned.

University of Illinois Press Report

The report from the Press was received. Jack Pratt noted that the incoming Secretary/Treasurer would have to address problems in obtaining accurate membership statistics.

Future of the Society Committee

Sally Gordon reported that the capital campaign had been successful so far

Harry Scheiber thanked the member of the Board for their contributions to the campaign and mentioned that he hoped members would consider bequests to the Society and that some of the increased funds would be used to attract younger scholars.

There was discussion of the nature of the memorial to Kitty Preyer to be funded by the gifts to the Society in her memory. The Executive Committee will appoint a committee of Laura Kalman, Chris Desan, Sally Gordon, Maeva Marcus and a graduate student [Lyndsay Campbell] to agree on the details of an award to one or two younger scholars to be funded by the Preyer funds.

A unanimous vote of thanks was given to Jane Scheiber for her help with the campaign.

A vote of thanks was also given to Boalt Hall and its dean for its contribution to the annual meeting in honor of Harry Scheiber.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm