

## COV&R Business Meeting 2017

July 15, 2017 Universidad Francisco de Vitoria

- 1) Call to order (Jeremiah Alberg)
- 2) Approval of Minutes of 2016 meeting
- 3) Financial Report

Keith Ross reporting: Good news, as a result of our affiliation with PDC (Philosophy Documentation Center), which scoured our membership lists our membership dues are up. We also have consolidated the North American and European accounts. Our revenue which in the past was \$5-6000 now stands at 14,000 dollars. We are in excellent financial shape.

- 4) Report on AAR sessions (Martha Reineke and Grant Kaplan):

There were three sessions scheduled as a tribute to the legacy of René Girard. The largest was co-sponsored with the Theology and Religious Reflection Section and the Sacred Texts, Theory, and Theological Construction Group. A second included papers submitted for the tribute session for which there was not enough room. A third session featured two books of significance to mimetic theory. One was on the English translation of the René Girard and Raymund Schwager correspondence by Bloomsbury Press and the other was on Sandor Goodhart's *The Prophetic Law*. Grant Kaplan, the incoming coordinator of COV&R at the AAR reported on the anticipated Saturday and Sunday morning sessions for Boston as well as the joint session on Religion and Violence. His goal is to continue to expand the footprint of COV&R at the AAR meetings.

- 5) Report on Publications –

- a) *Contagion* and Studies in Violence, Mimesis, and Culture Series (William Johnsen). Everyone should already have the Spring 2017 books: Mark Anspach's *Vengeance in Reverse* and *Violence in the Films of Alfred Hitchcock* by David Humbert. Wolfgang Palaver's edited volume *Mimetic Theory and World Religions* will be coming in fall.
- b) *Bulletin* (Curtis Gruenler)

Gruenler hopes to have more content contributions by COV&R persons outside the US. He also wants to encourage reporting from affiliated organization or ones with comment interests. For example, the next issue will have report on Theology and Peace conference. Matthew Packer welcomes more volunteers to review books.

- c) website (Suzanne Ross)

S. Ross reported on the website. We are done building it. It is a key access point for members and advertisement. There is a Twitter feed is on home page, links to Facebook, etc., creating a successful platform for integrated communications. We also want partner organizations, conferences, to contact us for including information from them on our website. Carly Osborn will continue as webmaster; Maura Junius is overseeing logistics. Maura also is working with Curtis on the *Bulletin*.

- d) *Bibliography of Literature on the Mimetic Theory* and database transfer (Dietmar Regensburger).

Please send him books, journal articles to include. The data base will be transferring to the U. of Tübingen at the end of 2017 or early in 2018.

#### 6) Report on Membership Services with Philosophy Documentation Center

PDC services now is our single source for member services. PDC has been working closely with staff at MSU Press to make sure all addresses are accurate.

#### 7) Report/proposal on undergraduate involvement

It was suggested that it is a good idea to get persons involved, and for both hosts to consider and also for faculty to bring students with them. The new policy was adopted. It will be added to the Conference Planner document maintained by the Executive Secretary. The president will write to Imitatio for support for funding for R. H. Kelly award for undergraduate research.

#### 8) Report on preparations for COV&R Conference 2018, Washington DC (McKenna).

Stephen McKenna made a report on conference plans. The theme will be "Politics, Religion, and Violence after Truth. He stated that we live in a post-factual culture. So the title can reference that meaning as well as suggest pursuing truth. The theme therefore addresses that which obscures and/or discloses truth and asks how mimetic theory can shed light on this. There are new dorms on campus and a conference services office on site. The dates will be July 11-14, 2018.

#### 9) Report on preparations for future COV&R Conferences

Alberg reported that Andrew Bartlett, who has been involved with generative anthropology, would like to host a joint conference of our two organizations in Vancouver in 2020. He has hosted a conference on the campus of the U. of British Columbia before. It also has a conference office. He will be invited to offer a proposal next year.

10) Board re-election and elections:

Motion to support the Board's recommendation that Jeremiah Alberg's appointment as president be renewed.

Keith moved, Matt packer seconded. Motion approved.

Motion to support the Board's recommendation for one treasurer- Sherwood Belangia:

James Alison moved; Chris Carter seconded. Motion approved.

Motion to support the Board's recommendation that Kathy Frost, Grant Kaplan, and Suzanne Ross be elected to a second term on the board.

Keith Ross moved; Niki Wandinger seconded. Motion approved.

Motion to support the Board's recommendation for new members:

Wilhelm Guggenberger, U. of Innsbruck; Marinela Blag, Schuman Centre for European Studies; Roberto Solarte, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana/Columbia; and Ángel Barahona, Universidad Francisco de Vitoria/Spain

James Alison moved; Keith Ross seconded. Motion approved.