

**Annual Business Meeting
Society of Christian Ethics
Hyatt Regency, Chicago
January 6, 2001**

1. Call to Order

President Harlan Beckley called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. Appointment of Secretary Pro-Tem

President Beckley announced the appointment of Theresa Moser as secretary pro-tem.

3. Appointment of Parliamentarian

President Beckley announced the appointment of Jean Porter as Parliamentarian.

4. Commemoration of Deceased Members.

President Beckley read the names of the members of the Society of Christian Ethics who had died during the past year: Donovan Roberts, James McLendon, and Richard McCormick, S.J. Charles Curran read a commemoration for Richard McCormick, followed by Glen Stassen who read one for James McLendon.

5. New Members Roll Call

Executive Director Dennis McCann read the names of the 2001 student candidates for SCE membership and the list of full/retired members (see attached). He also announced that the SCE Board had approved Deirdre Hessel, Duane Freisen, and Freeman Sleeper as new life members. The members present indicated their approval of these new members by applause.

6. Report of the Nominating Committee/Elections

President Beckley announced the names of the members of the Nominating Committee (Cheryl Kirk-Duggan, Maura Ryan, Margaret Farley, and ...?). There being no further nominations from the floor, William F. May was unanimously elected Vice President. There being no further nominations for the Board, nominations were closed. M. Cathleen Kaveny, James F. Keenan, S.J., and Steven J. Pope were subsequently elected to be new Members of the Board.

7. Greetings from the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics.

President Oliver O'Donovan presented greetings from the British-based Society and announced that Peter Harvey has been chosen as his successor.

8. Greetings from Societas Ethica

Lars Reuter presented greetings from the Denmark-based organization. (President Beckley noted that the board will continue exploratory talks with both of these European-based organizations).

9. Report of the Search Committee for the Executive Director

President Beckley introduced the topic by recalling that the Search Committee had been appointed by former President Robin Lovin two years ago. According to the By-laws, the Executive Director is appointed by the Board for a term of up to six years. The term of the current Executive Director, Denis McCann, will end July 1st.

Susan Ross gave the Report for the Search Committee, which included Joseph Allen, Charles Reynolds, Justin Ryan, and ?. The Search Committee recommended the appointment of Regina Wenzel-Wolfe as the new Executive Director. It was then moved seconded that the membership receive the Report of the Search Committee. By voice vote, the members present unanimously accepted the report and the appointment of Regina Wenzel-Wolfe.

10. Report of the Search Committee for the Editors of *The Annual*

In the absence of Martin Cooke, Bill Spohn read the report of the Search Committee, which also included Emilie Townes, Judith Kay, and ?. According to the By-Laws, the Editors of *The Annual* are appointed for a five-year term. It was moved and seconded that the membership receive the report of the Search Committee. By a unanimous vote, the membership then accepted the Report and the appointment of Paul Lauritzen and Christine Gudorf as Editors of *The Annual*.

11. President Appointment and Announcements

President Beckley announced that the new members of the Nominating Committee are Timothy Jackson, Chair; Darrell Trimiew; Lisa Cahill; Diana Cates; and Terry Anderson. The new members of the Editorial Board of *The Annual* are John Boland and Margaret Mohrmann. He reminded the members present of the ecumenical worship service on Sunday at 7:30 a.m.

12. Presidential Appointments and Announcement

Dennis McCann reported that on the basis of the Financial Report he does not recommend an increase in dues at this time. He noted that there are currently 943 members of the SCE in good standing. This included 675 full members, 23 life members, 145 student members and 100 retired members. At the current meeting there are 472 registered members plus 46 spouses for a total of 518.

It was moved and seconded that the members receive the Financial Report and proposed budget of the Executive Director. There being no further discussion, the Report was received unanimously.

McCann confirmed that the transition in office is underway and that files and equipment are in process of being moved to St. John's, Collegetown, where Gina Wolfe will assume the responsibility on July 1st.

McCann then noted that the next annual meeting would be at the Hyatt Regency in Vancouver, BC in 2002, followed by one at the Hyatt Regency in Pittsburgh, PA in 2003. He pointed out that the meetings are held at the Hyatt because the SCE, being a small organization, can get very reasonable rates for rooms, typically under \$100. The location of the 2004 meeting is yet to be determined, but a straw poll indicated that the members preferred a location with room rates around \$100 or less.

McCann then expressed his gratitude for the experience of working with six SCE presidents during his term in office: Charles Reynolds, Lisa Cahill, Ronald Green, Robin Lovin, Harlan Beckley, and incoming president Gene Outka. He also expressed appreciation for his contacts with Lois Livesey, Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee, and June O'Connor, Chair of the 21st Century Committee. Finally, he thanked his staff, Michelle Freeman, Linda Schreiber, and especially his administrative assistant and spouse, Leslie McCann.

13. Report of the Committee for the 21st Century (See attached)

The committee for the 21st Century had been appointed two-years previously by former president Ronald Green. June O'Connor, Chair, presented the Report. After some discussion, which generally focused on recommendations concerning *The Annual Meeting*, the question was called. The membership voted unanimously to receive the Report.

14. Report of the Committee on Professional Conduct Procedures (See attached)

Lois Livesey presented the Report. Other members of the Committee were Judith Kay, Daniel McGee, and Peter Paris. Discussion focused on a minor change in wording to section B (Definition of Conduct Covered) #2, "Unjust Discrimination." The last part of the first sentence should read "...or treatment in the activities in A above." It was moved, seconded, and approved by voice vote that the reference should be to "A" (not B, as in the original).

More serious discussion focused on "D. Procedure for formal adjudication," #5, *d) If circumstances warrant, notification to the offender 's employer.*" Concern was expressed concerning the legal liability of the Board if such action were taken. It was recommended that the Board investigate the possibility of liability insurance, but no vote was taken. The question was called and the members voted to receive the Report as amended above.

15. Report on the Annual.

Sumner Twiss presented the Report.

16. Report on the JRE.

Diane Yeager presented the Report.

17. Report on the Journal of Law and Religion.

Howard Vogel presented the Report.

18. Report on the CSSR.

Glen Stassen presented the Report.

19. Announcement of Future Meetings

(See the Executive Director's Report)

20. Old Business.

Jim Keating reported on the SCE's previous support of the Needle Exchange Program.

21. New Business.

There was no new business.

22. Adjournment.

President Harlan Beckley thanked the outgoing members of the Board, Vigen Guroian, Timothy Jackson, and Stephen Lammers and closed the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Moser, RSCJ
Secretary Pro-Tern