

Minutes of the SCE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Saturday, January 10, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order by President Darryl Trimiew at 11:15 a.m. Appointed as Secretary Pro-tem was Tim Sedgwick. Appointed as Parliamentarian was David H. Smith.
2. Doug Ottati moved that the minutes of the Saturday January 5, 2008 meeting be approved. The motion was seconded and approved.
3. William O'Neill, S.J., chair of the nominating committee thanked members of the nominating committee and introduced nominee: For president, Dan Finn and the two nominees for vice-president, Timothy Jackson and Douglas Ottati. It was moved and approved that nominations for vice-president be closed. Nominees for the Board were introduced: Michael Cartwright, Aristotle Papanikolaou, Rebecca Todd Peters, C. Melissa Snarr, Robin Steinke, and Diane Yeager. It was moved, seconded and approved that nominations for the Board be closed. Ballots were collected.
4. The following deceased members were commemorated: James Smurl by Bruce Grelle (read by Stewart Herman); Lowell W. Livezey by Warren Copeland; William Lazareth by Christian Scharen; James A. Nash by Norman Faramelli; and Michael Mendiola by Karen Lebacqz.
5. Susan Frank Parsons brought greetings from the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics in the United Kingdom and reported on the 2008 meeting on the Sermon on the Mount. The subject for the September 4-6, 2009 meeting will be divine law/divine command, an exploration of the ground of ethics in the Christian tradition.
6. Werner Wolbert brought greetings from Societas Ethica and announced the meeting for 2009 will be August 19-21 in Warsaw, Poland. The focus will be the year 1989, 20 years after the collapse of communism.
7. Darryl Trimiew offered his presidential report on the ongoing work of the Society, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He concluded in thanking the Society for the opportunity to serve as President.
8. Vice President Dan Finn announced new appointments:
(a) the nominations committee: John Kelsay (chair) Warren Copeland, David Cloutier, Christine Hinze, Marcia Riggs; (b) the program committee: Dan Finn, elected VP, Darryl Trimiew, Mary Jo Iozzio, Patricia Beattie Jung, Diana Cates, Lauren MacKinnon, Melanie Harris, Lisa Fullam; (c) the plenary speakers for the 2010 program: Agbonkhanmeghe Orobator, SJ and Jianguo Wang; (d) the international scholars committee: Dan Finn, Margaret Farley, Jim Keenan, Bill Schweiker, Max Stackhouse, Glen Stassen; (e) the lifetime achievement committee: Harlan Beckley (chair), David Hollenbach, Regina Wolfe, Susan Ross, Robin Lovin, Emilie Townes.
Dan Finn noted that there will be a meeting of all international graduate students at next year's SCE meeting in San Jose. The committee is also working in providing copies of the *JSCE* to the global south. He also announced a new "Global Scholars" program, to be funded by the International Speakers Fund. Proposals for international speakers will be invited a year earlier than current practice, in order to find lecture opportunities for international scholars while they are in the United States. This program will begin with the call for papers for the 2010 meeting in San Jose.
9. William O'Neill reported on the elections: for vice-president: Doug Ottati; for the board: Aristotle Papanikolaos, Rebecca Todd Peters, and Diane Yeager.
10. Darryl Trimiew asked the new members of SCE to stand; they were welcomed with applause by the Society.
11. As Executive Director, Stewart Herman reported to the Society on registration statistics (580 for the 2009 meeting), membership (986), cost of rooms, and other fees. He encouraged contributions by members to the

various funds of the Society. He thanked the Associate Executive Director Linda Schreiber and the supporting staff.

Stewart also began the report on the financial statement, attached to these minutes. He noted that the SCE has a new accounting firm, KDV of St. Cloud, MN, which reviewed and approved the statement. Questions were asked regarding losses in investments. Stewart Herman reported that the endowment/reserve funds amounting to \$215,000 were invested in socially responsible funds in early 2008. He introduced Barbara Andolsen as chair of the finance committee to report on the status of these funds.

12. Barbara Andolsen indicated that the unrealized loss on investments is, as of the end of December 2008, \$79,000, or a decline of 35-40% in the three funds. She also drew attention to gift income (indicated as “temporarily restricted” on the KDV statement), and noted that gift income amounts to modest contributions averaging two dollars per member.

13. Stewart Herman announced the site for the 2012 meeting: the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C. He asked members to vote for particular cities for future meetings on the evaluation forms.

14. Ron Green was recognized and offered a statement attached to these minutes expressing the concerns of a number of Jewish members and other members of the Society about the use of the label “ethnic cleansing” by Rev. Wright in reference to the present Israel military conflict in Gaza. He asked that the statement be brought to the attention of the Rev. Wright.

15. Cristina Traina offered the report from the Professional Conduct Committee and moved the adoption of the document of the “Standards of Professional Conduct”, affirming it as an articulation of the aspirations and values of the SCE, professional norms which bind the conduct of members engaged in SCE activities, and a grievance procedure for responding to alleged violations of these norms. There was no discussion. *Darryl Trimiew called the question and the report was adopted unanimously.*

16. Mary Jo Iozzio as co-editor of the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* reported on the state of the *Journal* and asked members submitting proposals to complete the demographic survey so that the Society can see who is being published from the papers that are submitted for consideration. She asked members giving papers to notify Patricia Beattie Jung or Linda Schreiber if they would like papers to be considered for inclusion in the *Journal* in order that the needed referees can be requested. She encouraged members to look at the SCE and JSCE website for criteria regarding the selection of papers. She also noted the need to follow the institutional review board standards and to include the note of such approval for papers.

17. Michelle Clifton-Soderstrom reported from the Women’s Caucus and the report on “Enabling Family-Friendly Institution: Creative Practices.” She moved the Society to adopt the report with its recommendations. Jean Porter spoke against the motion. While supporting the concern and ideals, but she indicated reservations about the Society adopting policy statements and proposals beyond the work and life of the Society. Diane Yeager spoke in agreement with Jean Porter. Michelle Clifton-Soderstrom indicated that they considered this more as a matter of professional ethics that is affecting the work of the Society. Julie Hanlon Rubio further noted that the impact on the Society is evidenced by women constituting 25% of participants.

Gina Wolfe moved that the proposal be referred to the committee for further discussion. Julie H.R. indicated that this has been on the website for a year and should be considered now. *The motion to refer was defeated.*

Discussion continued. *It was moved and passed to close discussion. The motion to adopt the report with its recommendations was approved by the Society.*

18. Darryl Trimiew thanked those who had organized the 50th anniversary celebration of the SCE and adjourned the meeting at 1:05.