

## DHLSNA Business Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2016, 8am-9:30am, Austin, TX (MLA)

In attendance: Nancy Paxton, Joyce Wexler, Nanette Norris, Holly Laird, Lee Jenkins, Erin K. Johns Speese, Julianne Newmark, and Pamela Wright

1. Nancy Paxton began the meeting with general announcements about events for the DHLSNA society at MLA, including the DHLSNA dinner and the final DHLSNA MLA session on Sunday, January 10, 2016.
2. Nancy Paxton also went over the results for the recent election, noting that Joan Peters (with 75.36% of the votes) and Matt Kochis (with 72.46% of the votes) were elected to the two Executive Committee member positions. Tonya Krouse earned 43.48% of the vote but was not elected in this three-way contest. Erin Johns Speese was elected Secretary, and Tina Ferris was re-elected as webmaster, both with 100% of the votes. In addition, there was 100% approval of the by-laws concerning the CCILC and the creation of a new assistant webmaster to be elected in 2016. There were no write-in votes on any question.

Paxton also indicated that there would need to be discussion in the future about potential candidates for the assistant webmaster position, so that the position could go on the ballot for the next election.
3. Paxton noted that usually the business meeting addresses the Treasurer's Report, but that the report was not currently ready for the meeting. Instead, Paxton will be distributing the report over e-mail to the executive committee for approval via e-mail at a later date. Paxton also noted that Matt Leone indicated the most recent balance for the DHLSNA at \$25,884 as a ballpark figure.
4. Paxton also reported that Tina Ferris indicated that there were 47 people who still needed to renew for 2016 on the DHLSNA directory and that some of those people may not renew as there are one time members who join due to conferences.
5. Paxton noted that Nannette Norris has agreed to also help with this year's budget.
6. Paxton reported on the website upgrade from the DHLSNA.com to the DHLSNA.org site.
  - a. She noted that Tina Ferris is working with Marco Canani on this transfer.
  - b. Tina Ferris noted that the project is nearly complete with the exception of the directory, which is still being updated.
  - c. Also, Nanette Norris is helping with the directory for this upgrade on the website.
  - d. Paxton also noted that one of the most pressing needs for this upgrade was that the DHLSNA.org site should work better for mobile devices and so hopefully bring more traffic to the DHLSNA.
7. Julianne Newmark spoke at this point about the movement of the DHLSNA archive from her previous institution to her new institution, the University of New Mexico. She noted that a graduate student will be helping her keep this archive up to date and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. There was also a discussion here about the listing of previous MLA CFPs in the archive; a list of all the MLA topics appears on the new website.

8. Next, there was a discussion about the potential DHLSNA panels for MLA 17 in Philadelphia as well as other potential conferences for the DHLSNA, including SAMLA.
  - a. Holly Laird noted that we have formed a somewhat official link with the SAMLA conference for a DHLSNA sponsored panel. There were discussions as to who might oversee the organization of this panel for SAMLA for 2017.
  - b. Also, for SAMLA, the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Louisville Conference, and MLA 17, the DHLSNA would like to attract more submissions, so there will be attempts to post CFPs not only on the DHLSNA website but also on the U Penn CFP page, the MSA website, and Facebook/Twitter.
  - c. Nancy Paxton and Joyce Wexler will be in charge of submitting the MLA 17 panels to the MLA.
  - d. For MLA 17, there was general agreement that the DHLSNA panel will be entitled “Lawrence and New Modernisms” since this topic will accommodate several of the topics suggested last year. There will be a second, collaborative panel proposed in collaboration with the Conrad Society (which Joyce Wexler noted was approved by the society) on the topic of “Conrad and Lawrence at Sea.”
    - i. Erin Johns Speese suggested that the DHLSNA might consider broadening the topics to not be so author-specific in the hopes of drawing a larger, more diverse audience as well as to attract new members to the society.
    - ii. Julianne Newmark disagreed and suggested that the focus on “New Modernisms” should allow for a larger range of paper submissions and audience.
    - iii. The overall decision was to keep the focus on Lawrence in the panel title.
  - e. There was also discussion of recycling panels or topics that are not accepted or for which there were not enough panelists at other conferences. I.E., if a third panel for the DHLSNA is denied at MLA, trying to host that panel at SAMLA.
  - f. Also, there will be attempts to distribute CFPs overseas, especially in the UK through Lee Jenkins’s association with the British Association for Modernist Studies.
  - g. Nanette Norris also said she would be willing to publicize CFPs at the Lawrence Conference at St. Ives.
9. Julianne Newmark discussed current issues regarding the D.H. Lawrence Ranch, the University of New Mexico, and the Taos Community Foundation.
  - a. Drawing on an e-mail from Sharon Warner, Newmark noted that the UNM English Department was in full support of having more involvement with the ranch and helping to open it up to events.
  - b. However, there is conflict between the Taos Community Foundation and UNM about issues of fund-raising, tourism and ownership. Taos Community Foundation has contributed funds, recently to the docent training program, and has been a steady supporter of the Ranch over the years.
  - c. UNM would like to see annual events involving the Ranch and Lawrence, perhaps with a speaker and potentially funding a graduate student fellow.
  - d. There was consensus that the DHLSNA would like to have involvement in these events, perhaps even sponsoring a lecture in the DHLSNA name.

- e. Also, there is an issue with information on the website from the Taos Community Foundation that was apparently not vetted by UNM.
  - f. Holly Laird suggested Newmark discuss these issues with Tina Ferris and Virginia Hyde to get a fuller picture of both the Taos Community Foundation and UNM's involvement with how events have played out.
  - g. Members were strongly in agreement that we do not want to alienate the Taos community as we have found them a supportive group who share our passion for Lawrence and who are important to the community itself.
  - h. Joyce Wexler made the suggestion that Newmark and UNM look into the booster model often employed in sports that allows outside groups to help fund initiatives on university campuses.
  - i. Addendum to these minutes is the e-mail from Sharon Warner to Julianne Newmark with the details about the UNM/Taos Community Foundation dispute.
10. Briefly, Julianne Newmark noted the success of the Facebook page and the number of likes. Erin Johns Speese also noted that she will be working with Julianne Newmark to relaunch a stronger Twitter presence for the DHLSNA.
  11. After this, Nancy Paxton brought the meeting to conclusion with the understanding that many of these issues will have to be addressed at a future date via e-mail to Executive Committee Members.

