**ARL Business Meeting**

**Decatur, GA**

April 26, 2014

President Bill Kondrath called the meeting to order 8:15 am.

1. Approval of 2012 Business Meeting minutes - **MSP**
2. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report: Terri Elton
   1. Financial Report –
      1. *Discussion on Conference Expenses* – This year’s conference is down, even as membership stays strong. The conference expenses will be higher than income, but expenses vary from year-to-year and overall we are financially solvent at this time. **MSP**
      2. *Discussion on Membership* – Strong membership again this year – 50, with 17 being students, a high number. (Last year we had 4, for example.) This is exciting and we hope to continue this movement. One aspect new to our process this year is the online, renewable membership. Everyone is encouraged to use this for ease. If you need help, let Terri know.
3. Elections
   1. Karen Dalton, on behalf of the nominating committee, put forth the following nominations:
      1. President elect – Kyle Small (2014-2017)
      2. Member at-Large – Russell West (2014-2017)

Moved as a slate. **MSP**

* 1. (Continuing members of the ARL Steering Committee are:
     1. Past President – Bill Kondrath (Sharon Callahan leaving in this role)
     2. Membership and Recruitment position – served by Terri
     3. Secretary/Treasurer - Terri Elton (2012-2015)
     4. Members-at-large – Mark Lau Branson (2012-2015) and Rob Muthiah (2011-2016)
  2. Karen Dalton presented two people as co-editors of the JRL: Dwight Zscheile and Lisa Withrow. Dwight Zscheile presented the slate of JRL Board be approved. **MSP**
     + 1. Sharon Callahan
       2. Lisa Hess
       3. Douglas Hicks
       4. Deborah Kapp
       5. Robert Martin
       6. George Thompson
       7. Russell West
       8. Bill Kondrath
       9. Lisa Withrow
       10. Dwight Zscheile

1. Journal Update:
   1. Dwight Zscheile reported on the Journal. Two strong issues, with good submissions and proposals. Encouraged members to submit, or invite others, including students. Lisa Withrow wanted to celebrate the international aspect of the journal as well.
2. Old Business:
   1. Discussion on Proposal to change the by-laws to have a student on the steering committee. Will be on the agenda for the Steering Committee this coming year.
3. New Business:
   1. none
4. Upcoming ARL meetings:
   1. 2015 Dates: April 17-18 (with a Thursday evening reception) in Chicago. Will keep the same schedule as this year (Friday and Saturday). More details to come.
   2. Discussion on 2016 location and dates. Dates: April 15-16, 2016 (with a Thursday reception). Pros and Cons for being in Chicago again were discussed.
   3. Discussion on upcoming themes. Bill Kondrath shared the topic on innovation and creativity that surfaced in conversation for this year’s meeting.
      1. Past Themes:

April 18-20, 2013 *Spirit, Spirituality, and Leadership: Discernment and Engagement*, Chicago

April 19-21, 2012 *The Teaching of Leadership: Equipping, Training, & Forming*, Seattle

April 29 – May 1, 2011 *Religious Leadership in Global Perspective*, Chicago

April 23-25, 2010 *Charisma and Leadership*, Chicago

April 16-18, 2009 *Leadership and the Margins:  Reframing Center-Edge Dichotomies*, Chicago

(Past themes will now be listed on the website.)

* + 1. Thought about working on two themes – one for this coming year, and another for the year after. The two themes that surfaced to flesh out: innovation and creativity and leadership in public theology.

1. Work Groups – provided space for discussion
   1. *Case Studies -* Will meet again this year.
   2. *Theme Group* had some good ideas that were passed on to Karen for next year and the possibility of looking for grant money to pursue work in the area of religious leadership and public theology in the future.

The business meeting adjourned at 9:00 am. **MSP**

Minutes prepared by Terri Elton