

Polanyi Society Board meeting
November 21, 2014;
8:00 PM, Hilton Bayfront Hotel, San Diego, CA

- Present were David Rutledge (President), Andrew Grosso, Gus Breytspraak, Diane Yeager, Charles Lowney, Paul Lewis, David Nikkel, Esther Meek, Dale Cannon, Phil Mullins, and Walt Gulick.
- Minutes from the 2013 meeting were accepted by consensus with no changes.
- Charles circulated the Treasurer's report for the fiscal year ending August 31. Balance was \$14,389.89; Travel Fund \$1,283.97; Endowment \$17,242.42; Poteat Conference \$278.00 [entire cost being covered by November 2014]; Poteat Sculpture \$90.85 [entire cost also covered by November 2014].
- Paul presented the *Tradition and Discovery* report: 260 copies \$1,670.52; postage paid by Mercer – 200 bulk and 35 foreign. Paul recommends that we outsource production, based on a bid from Faithlab: 125 book-like copies for \$2,055.00, an electronic pdf version for the website, and an e-reader version. This will be a more professional and readable product, will free the Board from copy editing and production tasks, will force us to cut back the number of issues sent out to persons who have not paid dues, will force us to do a better job at collecting dues or to raise dues, will necessitate appointment of a membership secretary. A proposal to try production by Faithlab for a year, and then decide on the basis Paul's discretion whether to continue or not, was passed unanimously. Another proposal to appoint a membership secretary (with the Board as a committee to support this person's work, and a purging of the current list by August 2015) was also passed unanimously. It was remarked that we can no longer afford to send the journal to people who haven't paid their dues. Diane stated that having an open journal does not require us to have no subscription fee.
- Walt presented the Nominating Committee Report, nominating Diane to begin a third term in 2015, and Tihamer Margitay and Jon Fennell to begin first terms in 2015. David Nikkel was nominated to become Board Secretary beginning in 2015. Nominations were accepted unanimously. Dale Cannon, Phil Rolnick, and Wally Mead, ending their terms with this meeting, were thanked for their service.
- In Wally absence, David presented the Travel Fund report. The accounting of the Travel Fund is now and will be hereafter integrated into the Treasurer's Report. Wally will continue to do the hard work of identifying worthy recipients of travel assistance.
- Walt presented the Program Committee Report. David Nikkel will be the new contact person with the AAR.
- Dale presented a report on the successful Poteat Conference held last June at Yale University, with 35 attendees and 21 presentations (all downloadable from the website, <whpoteat.org>). The total cost of the Conference came to \$13,746.31 (plus insurance at \$392.00); advance deposit from donations and registration income came to \$13,155.00; the

balance due of \$591.31 is to be covered by the \$278.00 balance in the remainder of the Treasurer's account plus \$853.31 from very recent pledged donations to meet this shortfall (which will also be used to cover incidental extra expenses – relating, e.g., to video recording and website posting).

- David presented a report from the Endowment Committee, acknowledging a substantial donation by Jere Moorman. Phil presented a proposal to offer annually a scholarship of \$250.00 in honor of Richard Gelwick, for which purpose the Board would be responsible for raising money to cover the cost. This motion passed with one abstention.
- Phil Mullins presented a report on the Polanyi Society website, incorporating a proposal to have the website transition in the near future from the Missouri Western University server to an independent website from which space would be rented, and responsibility for which would be transferred from himself to a new website master and a Board committee. This proposal was passed unanimously. Phil mentioned the several new Polanyi items not available on and through the website (including the Gifford Lectures, the article “Forms of Atheism,” the Gelwick 1963 microfilm collection of Polanyi papers now digitized, the digital files of Eduardo Beira [including Polanyi's 1940 film], and a new link to an online version of *Science, Faith and Society*). He also gave a brief report on his good experience teaching 15 graduate students in Hungary. Interest there remains strong.
- The idea of a Polanyi Conference was raised and discussed. Possible locations included Chicago, Yale, and Nashotah House in Wisconsin (with which Andrew has connections). Realistic considerations seemed to resolve upon the Summer of 2017 as the most suitable time. Andrew would continue to lead an informal group to explore this. A decision regarding it is hoped to be reached by the Fall 2015 Meeting. Among the possible ideas to be considered in planning are one or more seminars on Polanyi's (and possibly Poteat's) thought, possibly including both introductory and advanced levels. It is hoped that some Hungarian scholars would be interested in coming.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Cannon, Secretary