

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the  
Orthodox Theological Society in America  
Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology  
Brookline, Massachusetts  
June 5, 2009

The 2009 business meeting of the Orthodox Theological Society in America was held on Friday, June 5, 2009, during the Society's 2009 annual meeting on the campus of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. In addition to the papers presented by members at the meeting, the annual Georges Florovsky Lecture was delivered by the Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Robert F. Taft, SJ. Fr. Taft spoke on "Orthodox Liturgical Theology and Georges Florovsky's Return to the Fathers: Alexander Schmemmann, St. Symeon of Thessalonika, or Both?"

The meeting was called to order by President Anton Vrame at 12:45 pm.

The minutes of the 2008 business meeting were deferred, to be presented and approved later.

The Treasurer, Dr. Demetrios Katos, presented the annual Treasurer's Report which was approved as presented. Dr. Katos noted that the decline in the stock market has negatively impact the Society's Vanguard stock account. Conversely, the strong attendance at the 2008 meeting in Chicago, especially relative to the number of papers presented, resulted in higher net profits from the 2007 annual meeting.

The Secretary, Dr. Valerie Karras, presented the names of three applicants for membership in OTSA, noting that the officers, in their capacity as the Membership Committee, had confirmed that the applications were in order. It was moved, seconded and passed that the roster of applicants be admitted to membership. The new members are:

Ariana Bara  
Mark Gibbs  
Christopher Johnson

The location of the 2010 annual meeting of the Society will be St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. Deacon Gregory Roeber has begun discussions with them. The officers will consider scheduling the dates in conjunction with the conference to be held at Fordham by its Orthodox Studies program on East/West. Andrei Psarev offered to host a meeting at his institution, Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary in Jordanville, NY. There was enthusiasm about returning to Chicago because of the number of attendees the St. Catherine's Institute produced and the quality of the papers they presented. Andrei Psarev suggested John McGuckin as the annual Florovsky lecturer.

The members discussed various ways to expand the membership and to increase attendance at the annual meeting. The perennial problem of poor attendance by the Orthodox seminary faculties was noted. The Society's website has been helpful in raising awareness and disseminating information. Scheduling the annual meeting in conjunction with a conference (e.g., those sponsored by Fordham's Orthodox Studies program) provides more incentive. With

respect to online payment of dues and meeting registration fees, the Society's officers will investigate using a seminary bookstore's website since they are already set up to process online payments.

The candidates for officers of the Society were then presented:

For President: Dr. Anton Vrame

For Vice-President: Deacon Gregory Roeber

For Secretary: Ms. Maria McDowell

For Treasurer: Dr. Demetrios Katos

No other nominations from the floor were made; it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed that the proposed slate of officers be accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Valerie A. Karras". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "V" and a stylized "K".

Valerie A. Karras, Th.D., Ph.D.  
Secretary, OTSA