

Minutes of the Business Meeting held on 6th Jan 2016

at Collingwood College, Durham
under the presidency of Dr Adrian Curtis

1. Welcome and Apologies

The President welcomed members to the Business Meeting of the Society and those members for whom it was their first business meeting were invited to stand and be welcomed by the membership. The Secretary noted that apologies had been received from the following: Daniel Smith-Christopher, Anselm Hagedorn, Anja Klein, Kirsi Cobb, Rebecca Watson, Hector Patmore, Karen Yuan, Grace Hsiao, Hedy Hung, Eva Pinthus, Janet Fyffe, Kristin De Troyer, Simon Stocks, Hugh Pyper, Elizabeth Harper, Jenni Williams, and Wilfred Watson.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the previous Business Meeting (22nd of July 2015), which had been displayed and posted online, were approved by the meeting and signed by Dr Adrian Curtis. There were no matters arising which did not appear on the agenda.

3. Any Other Business

It was reported by Heather McKay that a long-time member and servant of the Society, Elizabeth Harper, had been unwell recently and it was suggested that the Society express its best wishes for a speedy recovery. Janet Tollington reported that she had seen Elizabeth recently and said she would pass on the Society's greetings. **The Secretary agreed he would see that get well wishes were expressed on the Society's behalf.**

4. Reports from Officers

(a) The Retiring President, Professor Hans Barstad reported that the Summer Meeting in Edinburgh had been held 20th-23rd July 2015 in Pollock Halls. The Meeting was held jointly with the Oudtestamentische Werkgesellschaft, with seven speakers each from that society and our own. Brill sponsored a reception on the evening of the 21st, and the outing to Edinburgh Castle and the Presidential Tea at the New Club took place on the 22nd of July. He noted his gratitude for the cooperation of many colleagues, including, in particular, Alastair Hunter, David Shepherd and James Patrick.

(b) The Treasurer, Dr Alastair Hunter reported on the financial affairs of the Society as follows:

BANK & INVESTMENT ACCOUNT BALANCES at 16th December 2015

	<u>(Dec 2014)</u>	
Barclays Current A/C	£ 11,752	£ 14,860
Barclays IAS (Business Premium) A/C	<u>£102,118</u>	<u>£111,063</u>
TOTAL	<u>£113,870</u>	<u>£125,923</u>

The final figure includes as usual income of about £12,000 in respect of the Winter Meeting which will be paid out in due course. Otherwise the accounts show an overall decrease of

£12,000 which results from two major factors: expenditure on centenary projects, and the financing of the Book List, and one unusual advance payment.

1. The cost of administrative support for the wiki project so far stands at £2,677 (£3,000 was budgeted for at an earlier committee meeting). It is expected that further subvention will be needed. This represents a call on the investment account.
2. Expenditure on the Book List since December 2014 stands at £7,518, of which £3,600 was historic (payment of earlier obligations to Regent's Park College, and a one-off honorarium).
3. An advance payment of £2533 was made to the University of Manchester for the Summer 2016 meeting. Strictly speaking, this expenditure should be attributed to 2016.
4. Meetings made a loss of roughly £800, and the deficit on the Bursary Fund was £460.

The sum of items (1) – (4) was £10,070. Thus the “real” deficit on the year was £1,030. While this is not too alarming, it serves as a reminder that the increase in the subscription rate was timely. These shortfalls were covered by transfers from the Investment Account to the Current Account totalling £9,000.

AUDITED ACCOUNTS

The auditors did not identify any significant issues, though they did advise that where the Society makes payments to individuals for work carried out (such as the Book List or the Wiki Project) we should obtain a signed statement from the recipients to cover us for tax purposes. A suitable proforma, which has been approved by the auditors, is now in use.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS 2015

In consultation with the Hospitality Secretary I have prepared a summary of the finances relating to our meetings in Cambridge in January 2015 and in Edinburgh in July 2015. The overall shortfall of £800 is mitigated by the fact that we refunded £500 to members unable to attend. This has been our practice for some time, though we do state officially that such refunds are not guaranteed. Given the complexity of the planning and execution of our two annual meetings, I think it appropriate to record our thanks to James Patrick for what is something of a budgeting *tour de force*.

WEBSITE AND METHODS OF PAYMENT

While the online payment facility on the new website is not yet operational, I hope that by this time next year it will be up and running. In the meantime, I can report an increase in the proportion of meeting payments received by direct bank transfer, which is by far the most straightforward method involving no paper, no security problems, and no additional charges. I would encourage everyone who has a UK bank account to use this means of payment.

THANKS

In addition, my thanks to our Secretary, David Shepherd, who never fails to respond to my importuning, and to Viv Rowett. She and I perform a kind of double act in keeping the

membership records up-to-date, though hers is by far the more demanding role. She has had to cope with many extraneous pressures this year – not least the crashing of a hard drive – but has carried on bravely. We owe her a collective debt of thanks.

The approval of the audited account was moved by Lester Grabbe and seconded by Janet Tollington.

c) The Secretary, Dr David Shepherd reported as follows:

It is my unhappy duty as Secretary to report the passing of several members since our last meeting, including Herbert S. Wentz, Professor Emeritus of the University of the South, Reverend Peter Robson, who gave a paper on the Peshitta of Jeremiah at a meeting in this very College, forty years ago; Cyril Rodd, formerly Reader at the Roehampton Institute and editor of the Expository Times from that same year, 1976, until 2001 and finally, John Emerton, Regius Professor of Hebrew at the University of Cambridge from 1968-1995 and of course, President of this Society in 1979.

On a happier note, I wish to offer congratulations, on behalf of the Society, to the following SOTS members: Willem Smelik, appointed Professor of Hebrew and Aramaic Literature at University College London, Sue Gillingham awarded the Doctor of Divinity by the University of Oxford, Lena Tiemeyer, appointed Reader at the University of Aberdeen; Carly Crouch, appointed Associate Professor at the University of Nottingham and David Clines, awarded the Burkitt Medal for biblical studies by the British Academy for his significant contribution to the study of the Hebrew Bible and Hebrew lexicography. If any further items of “Membership News” are known to the members, I’d be grateful if they could be made known to me, so that they might be reported at a future business meeting. Finally, I continue to appreciate the support and cooperation of the other committee members in maintaining the work of the Society.

Hugh Williamson noted that Dr Alison Salvesen had also recently been awarded a chair.

(d) The Secretary for Honorary Members, Prof Lester Grabbe reported as follows:

Our newest Honorary Member, Reinhard Kratz, has a good deal to report. He was grateful for a very enjoyable and productive sabbatical fellowship at St John’s College, Cambridge, in 2014-15 (hosted by Nathan McDonald), during which he was able to finish three books, a collection of articles in German and two English publications (listed below). In Göttingen, the funding of the Septuaginta-Unternehmen by the Academy ends in December 2015 after more than 100 years. However, the edition will continue. A small institute (*Arbeitsstelle*) has been established at the Academy where the library, the manuscripts (microfilms), and the collation-books are kept and a person (Felix Albrecht) is working who supports the editors of the critical edition. An application for further funding of the edition of the psalter is in

preparation. The other project at the Academy, the Qumran-lexicon, is continuing its work and is planning to publish the first fascicle at the end of next year. The application for a further project, an electronic edition of the Dead Sea Scrolls using the database of the Qumran-lexicon-project in cooperation with several Israeli partners, was successful and will start next year, if given final approval in December.

Carol Newsom reports her delight at receiving two *Festschrift* honours. One is the September 2015 issue of the *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*, edited by three former doctoral supervisees (Robert Williamson, Brennan Breed, and Davis Hankins). It is a focused issue entitled, *Writing the Moral Self: Essays in Honor of Carol A. Newsom*, a fascinating collection of essays that engage in various ways with her work on moral agency but take the issue in new directions. In addition, two other former dissertation writers (Trisha Tull and Jacqueline Lapsley) edited a volume entitled, *After Exegesis: Feminist Biblical Theology* (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2015). Each essay not only engages topics and texts from a feminist perspective but does so using the Bakhtinian dialogical approach that Carol suggested might be particularly fruitful for a contemporary biblical theology (she thinks they succeeded in showing that it is!). Although a few of the contributors are her faculty colleagues and colleagues from other institutions, most are former students. As one could guess, she is very proud of them.

Athalyah Brenner is finishing her year as president of the Society of Biblical Literature. She gave her presidential address on 21 November at the recent SBL meeting in Atlanta. (By convention, the presidential address is published in the *Journal of Biblical Literature*.) Michael Fox has been elected vice-president of the Society of Biblical Literature. This is significant also in that the vice-president usually goes on to become president.

Tryggve Mettinger reports that he has moved from the vicinity of Lund to a small town two hours further north. His new address is Tryggve Mettinger, Axel Ångbagares gate 2 J, 341 38 LJUNGBY, Sweden (found in the SOTS list of members).

Johannes de Moor reports that at the end of December he will reach the ‘age of the strong’, with reference to Psalm 90:10. I take that to mean that he will then be 80 years old, for which I have offered the Society’s congratulations. Happily, he reports that he is in reasonably good health. Martti Nissinen is currently on sabbatical. He has been in Berlin for a couple of months, and will spend the first half of 2016 at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. I also have warm greetings and good wishes from Walter Bruggemann and Sara Japhet.

Honorary members report the following recent publications:

Athalya Brenner

In October, volume 20 and the very last of *A Feminist Companion to the Bible* was published by Bloomsbury/T&T Clark: *A Feminist Companion to Tobit and Judith*, with Helen Ehlthimiadis-Keith as a second editor (<http://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/a-feminist-companion-to-tobit-and-judith-9780567656025/>).

Michael Fox

Proverbs: An Eclectic Edition with Introduction and Textual Commentary. The Hebrew Bible: A Critical Edition, vol. 30. General Editor: Ronald Hendel. Atlanta: Society for Biblical Literature Press, 2015.

Reinhard Kratz

Historical & Biblical Israel: The History, Tradition, and Archives of Israel and Judah, translated by Paul Michael Kurtz, Oxford: Oxford University Press 2015.

The Prophets of Israel, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2015.

Mythos und Geschichte: Kleine Schriften III, FAT 102, Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck Verlag, 2015.

Tryggve N. D. Mettinger

Reports from a Scholar's Life. Select Papers on the Hebrew Bible (ed. Andrew Knapp; Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2015); details, such as a table of contents, found at tryggvemettinger.com.

Johannes de Moor

Article, 'Jerusalem: Nightmare and Daydream in Micah', in Marjo C. A. Korpel and Lester L. Grabbe (eds), *Open-Mindedness in the Bible and Beyond: A Volume of Studies in Honour of Bob Becking* (LHBOTS 616; London and New York: Bloomsbury T & T Clark, 2015), 191-213.

Early in 2016 the Dutch version of *Adam, Eve, and the Devil* will hopefully appear (*Adam, Eva, en de Duivel*).

(e) The Membership Secretary, Ms Vivienne Rowett, reported that the total membership now stands at 520, which is 4 more than this time last year.

New Ordinary members in 2015: 20 (10M/10F)

Resignations in 2015: 9 (6M/3F) This is really a total of losses not due to death, as only 6 of these were actual resignations; 3 were removals due to non-payment of subscriptions.

Deaths in 2015: 5 (all M)

Male/female ratio: 375M/145F, being 72.1%M/ 27.9%F. Since the above figures show an overall loss of 1 man and gain of 7 women, this ought to show an increase in the percentage of women over last year's 30.4%, but I believe the present figure to be as accurate as I can make it: the defunct database was not as accurate in counting M/F as I hope I have been this time, when I have created these statistics from manually counting names as listed on the Autumn printed address list.

Promoted to Life Membership in 2015: 5

Members by country of residence:

UK: 344 (66.2%)

Europe: 66 (12.7%)

N America: 70 (13.5%)

Rest of World: 40 (7.7%)

The direction here shows a very slight increase in the UK proportion of membership, a trend which may reflect the fact that one or two resignations have been from overseas members who are not able to find employment teaching OT, and so are not able to be funded to travel to Meetings, thus maintaining membership is less worthwhile or affordable.

Membership by type:

Ordinary members: 345

Life members: 157

Honorary members: 18

The proportion of Ordinary members remains at 66%, suggesting there is still a healthy intake of members to replace the older Life members who are lost due to death.

Book list mailing: 506 were sent out in the July mailing.

Postal receivers of the Bulletin: Most members receive by email, and the 126 paper copies were sent out to officers of the Society and those who have requested, as agreed.

The external hard drive on which I used to keep the SOTS database failed in the Summer, causing me inconvenience and distress. This has been coped with in two ways: firstly I have produced this report using notes kept by hand, basically from an annotated Autumn Address List; and secondly I had sent information on current members which was updated as far as last July to Jon Stökl, who has created a new way to keep records of members in an online directory which is private to the Society, in which members can update their own details. Hopefully I will soon be able to use this new system to generate the xls files necessary to

produce address lists for mailings, and so on. I am grateful to him, and to the other officers for their patience while I am recovering my equilibrium in these matters.

(f) The Hospitality Secretary, Mr. James Patrick, reported as follows:

I have received an expression of thanks from a recipient of the Bursary fund. My apologies for the microphone problems which I will seek to resolve for the next meeting. It is hoped that the next winter meeting will be held in Nottingham, but this remains to be confirmed after a visit early in the New Year. If you have any comments regarding the accommodation or facilities for this meeting, please do pass them on to me.

(g) The Book List Editor, Dr Deborah Rooke, reported as follows:

I believe that this will be my final report as BL editor, although it is hard to be sure of that until I actually hand over the job once the 2016 issue has been produced. The usual ebbs and flows of the BL life cycle have remained basically unchanged this year, with a mighty build-up of effort at this time of year and for the next couple of months in order to produce the copy. At the time of writing, things are a little slow, but it is the calm before the storm! Some publishers are becoming harder to get books out of than others, and some are changing over to e-copies for review purposes, which is a development that my successor will have to deal with but which I anticipate will change some of the processes for reviewing as well as potential reviewers' attitudes towards requesting copies. For my part I want again to express my sincere thanks to all reviewers, to everyone who has suggested books for inclusion in the BL, and to all those who have assisted on the administrative side, both within SOTS and at Regent's Park College where the BL editorial office has been homed. I also must say a huge thank-you to my graduate assistant Holly Morse, who isn't at this SOTS meeting because she is in the final throes of thesis-writing, but whose efficiency and hard work has been indispensable. Without her I truly could not have edited the BL. I trust that the BL has not suffered from my editorship, and that I am handing it on in a viable form, so that it can remain the valuable research and information tool that I know it is for many of its readers.

Finally, thank you to my fellow committee members for all their support; to the members of the publications sub-committee for their quiet efficiency and advice; to the former BL editors for their extra back-up; and to the Society for putting its trust in me to do the BL editor's job in the first place. It has been alternately maddening and exhilarating, and I shall miss it even though I'm glad finally to be handing it on. Without it, SOTS meetings will never be the same for me again.

On the publications front, there is no more news on the volume of reminiscences of SOTS for the centenary or on the new monographs series (though both are bubbling away nicely under the surface). Two more SOTS study guides have appeared - Jeremiah, by Mary Mills, and Amos, by Walter Houston. Numbers, by Eryl Davies, appeared in April. Lena will be keen to receive proposals for monographs (not revised dissertations or collections of essays) for the

SOTS monographs series being published by CUP. Papers from the previous joint meeting in Amsterdam will soon be published.

The outgoing Book List editor concluded by offering a poetic summary of her experience in her role which was very well received by members.

The President expressed the Society's particular appreciation for Deborah's work above and beyond the normal call of duty in her capacity as Book List editor.

(h) The Information Officer, Dr Jonathan Stökl's report was read on his behalf by the Secretary as follows:

This past term saw some significant developments in the development of the new website. The new personal accounts are now live (although only just), albeit in a somewhat simplified version. If anybody has any problems in accessing their account, please get in touch with me (jonathan.stokl@kcl.ac.uk) and I will try to help you. This is good news. However, our web-designer has decided to pull out of the project at this stage. We are currently negotiating how much we will have to pay them for the work that they have already carried out. I am currently looking for a replacement.

We have received a couple of requests from third parties. One is from a publisher in Biblical Studies who would like to advertise on our website. The other is the offer of recording our sessions and preparing them for life-streaming on a third-party website. In case the Society were to be interested in either of those two proposals, further information (such as amounts of money offered / prices for services) would be sought before a proposal is made to the Society.

While I do not have strong views regarding advertising from vetted publishers on the website, I recall that not that long ago a similar proposal was not accepted by the society. In my view, streaming Society meetings is not a good idea as it may be counterproductive to the relaxed atmosphere at meetings. Like similar technology in teaching, recording events will encourage attendants to be more circumspect regarding their behaviour and what they say.

(i) The Archivist, Professor Eryl Davies, reported via the Secretary that he had nothing to report at the present time, unless there were questions (which there were not).

5. Centennial Celebrations

SOTS Wiki – Dr Walter Houston reported as follows:

I regret not being able to report as much progress on the content of the Wiki as I would have liked since the summer meeting of 2015. The four pages on books of the Hebrew Bible that did not exist then remain non-existent today. Although several members have undertaken to

write on deuterocanonical books, no work has yet been posted, though as I write I note that an announcement has just been posted on the pages on 1 Maccabees and 2 Maccabees that ‘the entry will be completed shortly’. Of 36 offers of entries on characters, places or topics made at the summer meeting, only three or four have been made good. I understand the reasons for this, of course—we are all busy people, and as I made myself responsible for nine of the 36 and have only written one, I can hardly complain about anyone else. One does wonder, however, how fragmentary the site will appear to be when the year of our anniversary dawns.

On the other hand, the apparatus of links that serves to make an integrated reference work out of isolated entries has been vastly extended, and many of the as yet unwritten entries have been furnished with brief stubs, which at least enable anyone clicking on a link to read something, and usually give the basic information which may perhaps be all that is required by some readers. This has been the work of my successive editorial assistants. Jonathan Kruschwitz, mentioned in my last report, pulled out after only about a month, and was replaced by Hedy Hung of Hong Kong, whom committee members may remember giving a paper at the summer meeting.

Exhibition – Carly Crouch reported that it had been agreed by the Committee that the work of assembling the Jerusalem virtual exhibition would begin in earnest under her direction and that of Jonathan Stökl and with the assistance of various PG students to be recruited for the purpose. The expectation was that the exhibition would be in place by the Centennial year.

6. AHRC Subject Area Report

A meeting was held in London on Thursday 23 September 2015, to inform representatives of various British learned societies of recent and new developments in AHRC funding strategy.

PROF. R. RYLANCE (AHRC CEO) Introduction

He gave an outline of recent developments and trends in government HE thinking and funding: he forecast gloomy times ahead, with (1) expected Research Councils (RCs) Report and (2) Councils Spending Review (CSR). He anticipated (3) further overall cuts to funding. While he remained cautiously optimistic with regard to (1), he was less sanguine concerning (2). However, while an overall funding reduction of about £30M (£80M > £50M) was expected, the RCs “were putting up a good fight”, “dual support was not threatened”, and “the Treasury was benign”. (But) a government report on HE policy due out on 25 November was expected to have a “batteries not included” clause, and recurring costs will affect budgets adversely.

Emerging policy trends seem to be

- 1) an emphasis on “place”, with investment channeled to depressed areas, with Universities expected to cooperate with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs);
- 2) an emphasis on interdisciplinarity;
- 3) an emphasis on research in public policy.

DR SAMANTHA RAYNER the Academic Book of the Future

PPT:https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=Samantha+Rayner+The+Academic+book+of+the+future&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&gws_rd=cr&ei=cmcNVouSFYTB-gGqxKG4BQ

This was a summary of the activities of a project set up to monitor and recommend publishing strategies for the future. It started from the following needs:

- 1) to examine the roles and purposes of academic books to serve scholarship and wider learning;
- 2) to examine and analyse the dynamics of academic book production, curation, and use;
- 3) to investigate and assess the opportunities and challenges associated with technological developments.

The project is intended to “facilitate conversation” between various interested parties (“stakeholders”): academics, publishers, librarians, booksellers and policy-makers and has engaged with various publishers, libraries, HEs, at home and abroad. A number of specific British projects were noted (PPT slide 8), an analysis was offered of REF2014 submissions, with splendid and rather dazzling graphics and a league-table (!) of publishers. Despite the move to e-books, publishers are apparently concerned about the efficiency of the present system, and the project is concerned to find ways of “integrating ‘books’ into the wider range of resources and tools”. A somewhat contradictory element characterises the following (PPT slide 13):

“Incentives to publish books. No crisis in Scholarly Publishing.

There seem to be powerful incentives to write and to publish books, even as volumes of sales of individual titles fall; and there is concern that too many books with little chance of significant sales or readership are being published.

Further examination to develop more evidence is needed.”

With regard to open access (OA) publications, the project recommended:

- 1) setting up a portal to provide information about OA publishers and publishing;
- 2) training of academics in all aspects of publishing (copyright, IP, OA, peer review skills, cooperation with librarians etc.);
- 3) building more cross-community projects like “AcBookWeek” for appreciation of useful interactions. (ACADEMIC BOOK WEEK 2015 takes place 9-16 November, and includes a “big debate” on all these issues in Oxford.)

A Palgrave Pivot book will be published in conjunction with the Book Week, downloadable for free!

DR SUMI DAVID AHRC and Impact

Reasons for AHRC gathering data:

- 1) for accountability and reporting requirements of its brief;
- 2) to champion arts and humanities research;
- 3) to increase funding for such research.

There was a brief summary of the findings of REF2014. The “impact” of research was defined thus: the contribution that excellent research makes to

- 1) academic advances;

2) society and the economy.

Collaborative, interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research is much in favour. A number of examples were given, and appear in PPT.

Various AHRC online materials are designed to facilitate impact:

- 1) Researchfish: https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=researchfish&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&gws_rd=cr&ei=n6sOVqL_KILWUYO2v5AE;/research/researchoutcomes/researchfish/
- 2) Impact Wiki: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arts_and_Humanities_Research_Council,
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Research_Councils_UK
- 3) Gateway to research: <http://gtr.rcuk.ac.uk/>
PPT/PDF: <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/documents/presentations/research-outcomes-and-the-ahrc/>

DR IAN LYNE spoke on The PhD in the Arts and the Humanities.

AHRC has moved away from an (individual) student competition approach. Block Grants Partnerships (BGPs) are now awarded competitively to Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) on the basis of their planning on research strategies. This was up-dated in 2011 (BGP2!) to require a minimum of 40 studentships *per annum*. The new openings are called Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTPs), operating in Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs). Eleven DTPs and 7 CDTs were awarded beginning session 2014-15, the former offering collaboration with other organisations, or with the AHRC as funder, the latter offering specialist training in areas of language, design and heritage. Examples up and running are the South West and Wales DTP (SWWDTP) and the Consortium for Humanities and Arts South East (CHASE). The second phase of the scheme for funding the studentships is Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships (CDPs), and has just made awards for 2016, 2017 and 2018. The current philosophy is that “collaborative PhDs represent a vital and distinctive form of doctoral training for AHRC”.

Draft proposals for the next DTP round (for 2016) were published on the day of the meeting on 23 September, and again 25 September:

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/newsevents/news/?pageNum=13&numPerPage=10>

and

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/newsevents/news/?numPerPage=20&sortBy=releaseDate> The deadline is 30 November 2015. The awards will be funded from 2019.

PPT:

https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=AHRC+meeting+23+September&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&gws_rd=cr&ei=zN0LVof2AYr9aeCls6AG

PROF. PAUL COULTON the Creative Exchange Experience

He talked briefly about PhDs with “artefact outcomes” (e.g. an Engineering degree ending in an industrial product). Nothing here seemed of any relevance to Old Testament studies, or most of other humanities disciplines.

DR SUE CARVER Challenges for Post-PhD Career Development

(PPT : https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=AHRC+meeting+23+September&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&gws_rd=cr&ei=zN0LVof2AYr9aeCls6AG)

SC referred to the Oakleigh Report on support for post-doctoral support in the humanities (see:

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/skills/reportsandresources/oakleighreport/>;
<http://www.oakleigh.co.uk/page/3420/News/News-Archive/Articles/Oakleigh-report-on-Higher-Education-Academy-published-by-HEFCE—the-report-downloadable-at>
http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/rdreports/2008/rd02_08/)

SC's PPT slide 6 conceded that "support may not reach those most in need". A code of practice was recommended (already in existence? slide 7), as is a Concordat to support early career researchers (ECRs).

The Oakleigh Report, emerging seven years ago, recommended an initiative to fund post-doctoral ECRs for up to eight years, *focussing on those wishing to pursue an academic career*. It recommended various supportive strategies by HEIs.

Announcement of AHRC shortlist (23 September, 25 September respectively)

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/newsevents/news/?pageNum=13&numPerPage=10> and
<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/newsevents/news/?numPerPage=20&sortBy=releaseDate>

GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Some of the discussion focused on tensions between being primarily a learned society focussed on academic research profile, and an increasing role in professional support for ECRs and others in an educational marketplace, especially in smaller and more dispersed associations.

The existence of AHA was very usefully raised as a foil to AHRC, but one delegate also suggested AHRC publish a list of the associations it engaged with so that all knew publicly and transparently who was who.

ACRONYMS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

AHA	Arts and Humanities Alliance*
AHRC	Arts and Humanities Research Council
BASR	British Association for the Study of Religion
BGPs	Block Grants Partnerships (BGP2 = BGP Mark 2)
CDPs	Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships
CDTs	Centres for Doctoral Training
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CHASE	Consortium for Humanities and Arts South East
CSR	Councils' Spending Review
DTPs	Doctoral Training Partnerships
ECRs	early career researchers
HE	Higher Education

HEIs	Higher Education Institutes
IP	Intellectual Property
LEPs	Local Enterprise Partnerships
OA	open access
PDF	portable document format
PPT	PowerPoint
RCs	Research Councils
RCUK	Research Councils UK (umbrella organisation)
SOTS	Society for Old Testament Study
SWWDTP	South West and Wales DTP

* has the lovely website address (url): <http://artsandhums.org/>

AHA has launched a website to which scholarly associations like SOTS and BASR are encouraged to affiliate. Nominations

6. Nominations

The Secretary announced, by way of information, that the Committee will look forward to proposing to the Summer Business Meeting in Manchester, names for election as Membership Secretary and as President for 2018.

7. Proposals for New Members

The following were proposed and accepted for membership: Mr Yan Anderson, Ms Jennifer Andruska, Dr David Janzen, Dr Jessica Keady, Rev Gordon Kennedy, Dr Matthew Lynch, Mrs Zanne Lytle, Miss Joanne Merrygold, Mr Andrew Niggeman, Mr Alun Thomas, Miss Rebekah Welton.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Summer Meeting will be held from the 25th to the 28th of July 2016 at Hulme Hall, Manchester and more information regarding the 3rd to the 5th of Jan Winter Meeting for 2017 will be announced shortly.

There being no further business, the President declared the Business Meeting closed.

Signed: Date:

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The final figure includes as usual income of about £12,000 in respect of the Winter Meeting which will be paid out in due course. Otherwise the accounts show an overall decrease of £10,300 which results from two major factors: expenditure on centenary projects, and the financing of the Book List, and one unusual advance payment.

1. The cost of administrative support for the wiki project so far stands at £2,677 (£3,000 was budgeted for at an earlier committee meeting). It is expected that further subvention will be needed. This represents a call on the investment account.
2. Expenditure on the Book List since December 2014 stands at £7,518, of which £3,600 was historic (payment of earlier obligations to Regent's Park College, and a one-off honorarium).
3. An advance payment of £2533 was made to the University of Manchester for the Summer 2016 meeting. Strictly speaking, this expenditure should be attributed to 2016.
4. Meetings made a loss of roughly £800, and the deficit on the Bursary Fund was £460.

The sum of items (1) – (4) is £10,070, leaving a 'real' deficit of £230.

The shortfalls were covered by transfers from the Investment Account to the Current Account totalling £9,000.