

(Annual Business Meeting, 2014 MLA, Chicago, 8:30-10:00 am --held at Corner Bakery, Wacker and Michigan)

Present: Executive Board members Holly Laird, Betsy Sargent, Nancy Paxton, Joyce Wexler, Pamela Wright, and Matthew Leone, along with general members Eiise Braux-Dreux and Katherine Toy Miller.

Chaired by Holly Laird, President

1. **Introductions** and Welcome; **Minutes** of last year's meeting have been online for one year
2. **Treasurer's report** for 2012 (Joyce Wexler)
 - a. Although DHLSNA was granted tax exempt status in May 2011, the EIN (Employer Identification Number) was incorrect. We received a letter in November 2013 correcting the EIN number and reaffirming our status as exempt under 501 (c) (3)
 - b. Discussed draft report: Out of the \$2507 listed toward Harry T. Moore Award winner travel expenses, \$500 from DHLSNA for 2013 International D.H. Lawrence Conference should be listed as "donation from DHLSNA" under "conference contributions"; when revised, the report will be forwarded to the executive committee by email for final approval; then posted online.
 - c. MLA has advised affiliated organizations to procure insurance against law suits: for precedents for such insurance, we were steered specifically to protection against being sued, though not against fraud. Much discussion ensued about the pro's and con's of purchasing insurance. It was decided that we should seek more information about what is available for organizations of our size and general type: Joyce agreed to ask MLA for more information about the types of organizations that need this kind of insurance, and Betsy Sargent agreed to ask if we could avoid frivolous suits like this by becoming a non profit Limited Liability Corporation.
3. **2015 and 2016 MLA:** 2015 MLA:
 - a. MLA 2015:
 - * Since our "guaranteed" panel (on *The Rainbow*) was posted last fall on the MLA website, all that remained to decide was whether to re-submit the previous year's collaborative panel (with the Lessing society) for feedback from the MLA and, subsequently, for approval from the MLA. Since the Lessing society and the panelists have all agreed to this re-try, the board decided to accept the MLA's offer to vet proposals that have been turned down, allowing their re-submission in a revised form. As President-Elect, Nancy Paxton will revise the proposal by the February deadline to focus more specifically on "trauma" in D.H. Lawrence's texts and to eliminate the respondent role. We are not, at present, seeking to develop a third, "unguaranteed" panel for 2015. The discussion concluded with a reminder to spread the word about submitting papers for our proposed panel on *The Rainbow*.
 - * Betsy pointed out that we need to find restaurants in Vancouver for our annual business meeting and dinner in 2015, and it was agreed that we would approach Mark Deggan about setting this up. If we can establish a site for the dinner prior to the MLA program deadline in early April, we can also advertise it in the fall program.
 - b. MLA 2016:

Possible topics for our 2016 panels were proposed: on Disability, Ecocriticism, the *First Women in Love*, and Textual Editing:

 - * Disability was proposed as a theme of great general interest in literary studies and as a frequent theme in Lawrence's texts. The Division on Disability Studies was cited as an affiliated MLA organization. No one could recall this as a topic previously featured by the DHLSNA.
 - * Ecocriticism was proposed in response to a point made during the DHLSNA 2014 panel the previous day, namely, that Lawrence's texts are regularly featured at ecocritical conferences. Given this demonstrated interest in the topic and given the fact that ecology has not been featured as a panel topic by the DHLSNA since 2002, several members spoke up in favor of this theme. Betsy noted that we might also explicitly honor Keith Sagar with this panel, given his own long and deep interest in the topic.

* *First Women in Love*: Since 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the *First Women in Love*, and many people have not yet become acquainted with this text, this too could be an excellent choice.

* Textual Editing: In order to draw attention to the completion of the Cambridge Works of D.H. Lawrence, in particular to the two new volumes of *The Poems*, some discussion ensued about the possibility of eliciting the interest of yet another affiliated organization, the Society of Textual Editing, in a possible collaboration. We agreed to ascertain whether allied organizations are allowed to collaborate not only with other “allied” organizations, but also with other affiliated organizations, including “Divisions” of the MLA.

* We also discussed collaborative panels more generally and decided to begin our decision-making process by finding out who might be available and willing to collaborate with us (in addition to the Lessing Society, the James Joyce Society has collaborated with the DHLSNA on a panel topic that was subsequently not approved by the MLA; the H.D. society has previously been unsuccessfully approached for potential collaboration). We raised the further possibility of choosing whatever topic was agreed upon for the collaborative panel as the topic also for our “guaranteed” panel, thus offering two panels on the same theme. Nancy will seek out possible collaborators and conduct further discussion online about what topics to choose for our “guaranteed” and “unguaranteed” panels. Holly will change the MLA liaison from herself to Nancy to facilitate Nancy’s correspondence with the MLA about our panels.

4. 13th International D.H. Lawrence Conference (Betsy Sargent):

- a. Betsy will be sending out a memo about lodging options, shortly, by email.
- b. The registration fee will need to be re-calculated because the estimated fee did not account for the high costs of audiovisual equipment and taxes. This needs to be decided by February. Betsy requested the board’s willingness to test the registration when she has it ready, and all agreed to do so.
- c. Conference registration will be posted without any excursions listed.
- d. The Universities of Genoa and Milan have both offered donations for this conference, but the amounts have not yet been announced.

5. Voting and Membership (Holly Laird and Betsy Sargent): 85 members voted online (the highest number thus far); only 15 members have not renewed their memberships.

6. Other Business: No further business was proposed due to the lateness of the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned.