

AFRICAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

AUSTRALIAN AFRICANISTS ASSOCIATION?

In light of your unanimously positive response to our questionnaire it would appear that the issue is not whether we should form such an association but rather its objectives and organization.

AGENDA

A Objectives?

1. Information network? (newsletter?)
 - i mailing list of Africanists
 - ii their research interests, work in progress, and areas willing to supervise postgraduates
 - iii information on courses with African content; co-ordinate programmes?
 - iv information regarding research climate - opportunities and difficulties.

2. Library co-operation and co-ordination? A liaison committee of Victorian Africanists (Philip Darby/Melbourne, Dave Dorward/La Trobe, David Goldsworthy/Monash, Jim Polhemus/Deakin) has been formed to examine such areas of common interests as:
 - i Periodicals: updated listings of current and discontinued periodical holdings; rationalization of subscriptions; new subscriptions to journals not currently available
 - ii Monograph Holdings: general disciplinary, geographic and other criteria of specialization; definition of areas not currently serviced (e.g. Francophone Africa, North Africa, Islamic Africa etc.)
 - iii Research Collections; information on major research collections (institutional and private); possible co-operative purchasing, possible membership of CAMP (Co-operative African Microfilming Project - U.S.A.). Library area specializations along line of British SCOLMA scheme.
 - iv Course Co-ordination: (see 1, iii) the formation of even moderately specialized Africanist libraries pre-supposes a certain measure of course co-ordination and institutional commitment to certain areas of concern.

3. Sponsorship for visiting Africanist (African?) Academics? Funding from outside bodies? Commonwealth Institute?

4. Conferences?; Annual? Biennial? Formal Papers, formal panel groups?

5. And/or Weekend cluster conferences (workshops) informal exchange focusing on a central theme? Annual? Biennial in Conference "off-year"?

6. Relationship of AAA to local (City? State?) groups; e.g. Africanist group in Perth, embryonic Victorian Africanist group.

7. Relationship of AAA with schools -
(History Committee of Victorian Department of Education has approached Africanists at La Trobe for advice on texts suitable for use in secondary schools.)
Production of a subject guide on African Studies for teachers? - suitable texts, readings, teachers back up sources? Liaison with publishers?
8. Relationship with national bodies?
AAA requests to National Film Collection and National Library Canberra for purchase of various teaching/research materials? Films, retrospective newspaper collections, microfilmed documentation, etc.?

B Organization?

(A copy of the constitution of the Australian and New Zealand American Studies Association is attached for your information and for general guidance.)

1. Provisional Board?
President?
Secretary Treasurer(s)
Provisional Committee (min. 1 each from main areas?)
2. Functions of Provisional Board?
Draft Constitution
Arrange Next Conference
Produce Initial Newsletter(s)
Seek Funds
3. Enrolments of Founding Members?
\$2.00 membership fee? (To cover operating costs; e.g. postage and xeroxing for first year.)
Complete membership forms
4. Recommendation of Nominations for Officials (Provisional Board)?

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

As amended at the general meetings held in Canberra August 24, 1966 and at Adelaide, August 22, 1972.

1. The title of the Association shall be the Australian and New Zealand American Studies Association.
2. The purpose of the Association shall be the encouragement of study and research in the history, institutions, literature and geography of the United States. Among other means to this end the Association may concern itself with the holding of conferences and seminars; the periodical publication of papers; the establishment, in co-operation with the National Library, of a centre of record for research materials in Australia and New Zealand; and the investigation and encouragement of the means of travel and study for American scholars in Australia and New Zealand and Australian and New Zealand scholars in the U.S.
3. Membership of the Association will be open to all persons interested in American Studies. There shall be the following categories of members - full members, associate members (the subscription for whom shall be lower than for full members), institutional members, and life members. The Association may also, at its biennial general meeting, confer honorary life membership of any individual.
4. Members of the Association, other than life or honorary members, shall pay an annual subscription, at a rate to be determined by the biennial general meeting, which shall also determine the subscription to be paid by life members.
5. The Officers of the Association shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents (of whom one shall normally reside in New Zealand), a Secretary and a Treasurer. The executive business of the Association shall be despatched by an Executive Committee whose members shall be financial members of the Association.
6. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers, and not more than twelve other financial members (including at least one postgraduate student) elected by financial members of the Association. The Officers shall be elected at the biennial general meeting, and/or in a period immediately preceeding same, as determined on each occasion by the Executive Committee. Nominations for the various offices are to be in the hands of the Returning Officer, who shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, by a time which the Executive Committee shall determine. Any replacement of Officers between biennial meetings shall be carried out by postal ballot after a call for nomination has been circulated to all members. The members of the Executive Committee, other than the Officers shall be elected by the biennial general meeting, and if necessary shall be replaced between biennial meetings by co-option.
7. The Officers shall hold office successively for a period of not more than four years.

8. A bank account in the name of the Association will be established. All cheques drawn by the Association will be signed by any one solely of the President, Secretary or Treasurer.
9. A General Meeting of the Association shall be held biennially at such time as the Executive Committee may determine, with the proviso that this shall normally be during the Association's biennial Conference. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at not less than six weeks' notice, at the request of a majority of the Executive Committee. All financial members of the Association shall have the right to vote at such meetings.
10. The Executive Committee shall invite one person in each University and University College in Australia and New Zealand, and one at both the University of Papua and New Guinea and the University of the South Pacific, not represented on the Executive Committee, to be its Correspondent in such University or University College. The Executive may also appoint correspondents in other Tertiary institutions.
11. The Constitution may be amended by majority vote of the Biennial General Meeting, three weeks' notice of the proposed amendment having been given to all members.