

**Minutes of the  
CAREE Annual Meeting  
February 14, 2003**

- 1. Members present:** P. Mojzes, J. Pawlikowski, C. Mercer, D. Steele, C. West, P. Wilson, G. Bittner, A. Mirescu, J. Payton. With 36 members at the time, 4 would be required for a quorum; thus, with 8 members present, the meeting was duly constituted.
- 2. Non-members present:** M. Mercer, L. Taylor.
- 3. P. Mojzes opened the meeting** at 5:20 p.m. by rehearsing the recent history and decisions of CAREE.
- 4. The minutes of the annual meeting of March 4, 2002,** were approved as submitted.
- 5. Matters from the minutes:**
  - 5.1 Item #6.3 (CAREE web-site): J. Payton reported that this has not yet been set up, but that he expects to meet with someone with relevant expertise within a few weeks.
  - 5.2 Item #6.4 (contact with Hungarian pastors and Hungarian Reformed Churches in North America): nothing has yet been done in this regard.
  - 5.3 Item # 7.1 (regarding the list of the editorial board of REE): W. Sawatsky was not present to report (since he is on sabbatical and currently in Europe), but as far as the rest of those present knew, this has not yet been dealt with.
  - 5.4 Item # 7.4 (REE translation into Russian): this is still under discussion with interested parties.
- 6. The treasurer, Charles Mercer, presented his report (as attached) and noted the following:**
  - 6.1 He pointed out that the reduction from 850 to 650 copies for each issue of REE (as decided at last year's annual meeting) has reduced the price per issue from \$918 to \$637.
  - 6.2 It was pointed out that the cost of postage is up, but that Princeton Seminary continues to pay for postage.
  - 6.3 C. Mercer noted that, unlike previous years, in 2002 we did not receive any denominational subventions. The members discussed ways to contact the appropriate bodies to request such subventions. P. Wilson said he would write to the United Church of Christ, requesting a subvention for CAREE. Others with similar contacts in their denominations were urged to do likewise.
  - 6.4 C. Mercer indicated that we have already received \$2760 in 2003 for REE subscriptions.
  - 6.5 He also noted that we have already received \$1050 in 2003 for CAREE memberships.
  - 6.6 With the above, he indicated that the balance in CAREE's account, as of the meeting (14 February 2003), was \$14,064.91.
  - 6.6 Question was raised about the divergence between 2001 and 2002 subscriptions. It was pointed out that we need to check the subscription list to be sure that all those on that list are still being sent REE. We noted that W. Sawatsky will need to check this with the person working with him.

- 6.7 The treasurer's report was approved.
- 6.8 C. Mercer was asked to prepare a budget proposal for 2003. This will be sent around the members of the executive for approval. It was noted that we have not had a budget proposal for a number of years, but that we need them. So, it was decided that in coming years the treasurer should prepare a budget proposal for discussion at the annual meeting.

**7. The executive secretary, Jim Payton, presented his report (as attached):**

- 7.1 It was suggested that we ask Robert Smylie to serve as our NGO representative to the United Nations.
- 7.2 J. Payton noted that he is collecting the e-mail addresses of members (as requested on the 2003 dues form) and will set this up as a list serve for quick contact with our members. He noted, though, that about one-third of those who are members list no e-mail address.
- 7.3 He gave an up-date on "Student" memberships: to date, CAREE has 4 of them. Two recent student members have (Alexander Mirescu and Danche Calovska) have volunteered to get in touch with other graduate students who would qualify and urge them to become student members. J. Payton noted that these numbers could swell and offer CAREE the prospect of paying members in the future who would identify with CAREE and its purposes.
- 7.4 The report of the executive secretary was accepted.

**8. The report of the editor of *Religion in Eastern Europe*, Walter Sawatsky, was presented in absentia (as attached):**

- 8.1 The report was accepted as submitted.
- 8.2 C. West brought a mailing list for European recipients, to be checked against the lists used by Walter.

**9. Update on initiatives planned in November 2000:**

- 9.1 J. Payton will write again to Dr. Bruce Rigdon about the proposal regarding taking seminary students to Eastern Europe for instruction about and exposure to the region and its churches.
- 9.2 J. Payton will write letters to seminaries which have programs for such international exposure or which might be willing to work with us (and with other seminaries) to develop such a program.
- 9.3 L. Taylor will try to obtain last year's copy of the ATLS handbook and forward it to J. Payton, so that he will have up-to-date names and addresses for such institutions and their respective contact persons.

**10. Executive structure:**

- 10.1 In view of his role, and to facilitate better communication with other agencies, P. Mojzes requested that his title, as leader of CAREE, be "president" instead of "moderator." This was approved by common consent.

**11. Proposal to underwrite costs:**

- 11.1 A proposal, received ahead of time and printed on the agenda, to underwrite \$400.00 of the costs for C. West to participate in the conference to be put on in Prague by the Center for Theological Inquiry (at Princeton) and entitled, "Public Theology in Eastern Europe,"

was approved. He has been invited to participate and will report back to CAREE in the future on the conference.

**12. Other business:**

- 12.1 L. Taylor's suggestion that CAREE should start working on a history of the organization was accepted by common consent. The meeting gladly accepted his offer to begin working on such a history.
- 12.2 C. West noted that he will meet with the archivist at Princeton Theological Seminary, where the CAREE archives are being held. J. Payton noted that he has another 2 boxes of executive secretary correspondence (from Ken Ziebell's tenure in the role); he will send them to C. West, to be taken to Princeton and added to the CAREE collection. C. West will also check with the archivist about "ownership" of the archives, to assure that they will be kept at Princeton. It was noted that we should contact Paul Peachey to see whether he has any files that should be added to the CAREE archives.
- 12.3 G. Bittner noted that we should add the archives for the Institute for Peace and Understanding to the CAREE collection. These will be sent to C. West.
- 12.4 L. Taylor noted that he serves as liaison for the "Sister Cities" organization. He welcomed contact about any Eastern European city involved in that organization.
- 12.5 G. Bittner urged CAREE to find ways involve larger numbers of its members again in activities.

**13. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Payton, executive secretary