

**Minutes of the
CAREE Annual Meeting
March 4, 2002**

1. Members present: C. West, C. Mercer, J. Loya, W. Sawatsky, P. Wilson, P. Mojzes, G. Bittner, J. Payton – 8 members. With 49 members, 5 would be required for a quorum; thus, the meeting was duly constituted.
2. Non-members present: M. Mercer, P. Makari, E. Glavatskaya, and R. Sanner.
3. C. West opened the meeting by reviewing the recent history of CAREE and related our history to the recent history and changes in the Europe Forum (with whom CAREE was meeting on March 4 & 5).
4. The minutes of March 11, 2002, and of Nov. 3, 2002, were approved as submitted.
5. The treasurer, Charles Mercer, presented his report (as attached).
 - 5.1 He noted that we seem to have been under-billed for the copying of REE by Princeton Seminary. C. West noted, though, that Princeton Seminary thought all bills had already been paid. C. West will explore this misunderstanding discreetly.
 - 5.2 C. West noted that subscription costs for REE currently cover the cost of duplication.
 - 5.3 It was also noted that we have pledged \$3000 toward the costs of the Macedonian conference.
 - 5.4 C. Mercer noted that Williamsport Bank suggests having a third signatory added to our account. By common consent, P. Mojzes was designated. The three signatories will be Charles Mercer, Jim Payton, and Paul Mojzes.
6. The executive secretary, Jim Payton, presented his report (as attached).
 - 6.1 We discussed possible ways of increasing our mailing lists, to achieve the 200 US addresses necessary to use bulk mail.
 - 6.2 Jim invited CAREE members to send names to him of graduate students studying any facet of Eastern European studies, or of graduate students from Eastern Europe studying in any field. They will be given a complimentary subscription to REE and *CAREE Communicator* for the duration of their studies, with the hope that they will want to become CAREE members once their studies are completed.
 - 6.3 It was suggested that Jim look into getting a CAREE website set up. He will check into that with a friend who has expertise in that field.
 - 6.4 It was also suggested that we take up contact with Hungarian pastors and Hungarian Reformed churches in North America.
- 7.0 The editor of *Religion in Eastern Europe*, Walter Sawatsky, presented his report (as attached).** He offered further comments, pointing out the contributions of Sharon Linzey and of her institution, George Fox University.
 - 7.1 Walter noted that we need to clean up the list of editorial board for REE. Toward that end, P. Mojzes suggested that we invite current members of the editorial board to write

about what they have seen developing in the region in REE.

- 7.2 C. West suggested, in view of the costs now associated with mailing out REE to a mailing list of only 177 US addresses, that REE go out by first-class mail. J. Payton suggested we might also consider only sending REE thus to paid members (with the CAREE Communicator still going out to the full group on his mailing list). By consensus, these suggestions were adopted. To achieve this, Jim will forward the mailing addresses of all paid members to Walter. Jim will send out a letter to his full mailing list, advising them of these changes (and offering the possibility that REE might still be mailed to non-members, if they offer extenuating circumstances and ask for this privilege).
- 7.3 P. Makari suggested exploring digital publication of REE.
- 7.4 Walter reported that we had not yet been able to arrange a good way of getting REE articles translated into Russian. Jim reported that Dr. Natalija Pecherskaya, director of the St. Petersburg School of Religion and Philosophy, had expressed interest in possibly having her institution involved in Russian translation of articles from REE. As well, E. Glavatskaya said she will try to find someone for possible Russian translation.

8.0 Report on initiatives planned at the November 3, 2000, meeting.

- 8.1 P. Mojzes' Macedonian initiative is moving forward, with the conference scheduled for May 10-14, 2002.
- 8.2 No report has been received from Bruce Rigdon regarding the period of study for North American seminary students in Eastern Europe.

9.0 We discussed future meetings of CAREE, with the understanding these would often coincide with meetings of the Europe Forum. That organization is to meet tomorrow to discuss its future plans.

- 9.1 C. West noted that we need to postpone our decision about future meetings, consequently, until after the Europe Forum meets.
- 9.2 With a view to the impending meeting of the Europe Forum, by common consent we authorized the Executive Committee to proceed with plans for an annual meeting, in consultation with the Europe Forum. This would not preclude other conferences or meetings by CAREE.
- 9.3 With a view to getting more people to CAREE conferences, it was suggested that we set up CAREE meetings to coincide with conferences of certain scholarly societies. One of these would be the AAASS, which will meet next on Nov. 21-24, 2002 (Wednesday-Sunday) in Pittsburgh. Another would be the AAR/SBL, which has a special "Orthodox" focus group, as well as a continuing "Religion in Eastern Europe and the former USSR" focus group (for which the contact is Leslie Muray); the dates and location for that conference were not known to anyone present, so that information will be obtained and distributed among the executive for decision.

10.0 Executive structure of CAREE.

- 10.1 C. West expressed a desire to be relieved of duties as moderator. P. Mojzes was suggested as moderator, he expressed a willingness to serve in the capacity, and he was acclaimed by consensus as moderator.
- 10.2 C. Mercer was affirmed as treasurer, and J. Payton as executive secretary.

- 10.3 P. Wilson will continue to serve on the executive as our direct contact with Europe Forum.
- 10.4 Joe Loya and Peter Makari were also appointed to the Executive Committee.
- 10.5 *Ex officio* members of the executive will be C. Mercer (treasurer), J. Payton (as executive secretary), W. Sawatsky (as editor of REE), and L. Kishkovsky (chair of Europe Forum).
- 10.6 The term of appointment for all these will be 2 years, to 2004.
- 10.7 P. Mojzes will be added as signatory of the CAREE checking account.

11.0 We adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Payton