

## **Minutes of the Business Meeting**

### **Charles Sanders Peirce Society**

**21 February 2013**

Following the annual scholarly meeting, with papers by President Claudine Tiercelin ( “The Relevance of Peirce’s Scientific Metaphysics”) and Essay Contest winner Masato Ishida ( “Revisiting Convergence: A Peircean Reply to Quine’s Two Problems”), President Tiercelin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside.

1. Claudine Tiercelin asked for approval of the minutes of the 2010-11 business meeting. The minutes were approved. (Moved by Robert Lane, seconded by Cornelis de Waal.)
2. Claudine Tiercelin delivered the following report from the President and the Executive Committee:

The committee met from 10:00am until about 11:30 am on the morning of Thursday February 21. Present were Robert Lane, Cornelis de Waal, Richard Atkins, Claudine Tiercelin (President), James Liszka (Vice-President), Shannon Dea (Secretary-Treasurer). We received regrets from Daniel Campos and Giovanni Maddalena, who were unable to attend.

Chief among the issues discussed by the Executive Committee were the following.

- a) Bob Lane raised an issue brought to his attention by an electronic subscriber. It turns out that JSTOR only allows electronic subscribers access to 75 back issue articles per year. More seriously, these articles must be viewed as html files; they cannot be downloaded as pdfs. This is highly inconvenient, and may serve as a disincentive to our electronic subscribers. . At a minimum, this limitation on electronic subscriptions should be made clear to people at the time they subscribe. Ideally, though, we would persuade IU Press/JSTOR to change this practice. Bob and Cornelis de Waal, will look into the matter with IU Press. Two notes: 1. We currently have 2800 (both institutional and individual) electronic subscribers. Only 250 individual subscribers subscribe to paper or to both paper and electronic. 2. Bob advises that IU Press should be the ones to communicate subscription policies to our subscribers. If we put such information on our website, it would be difficult to keep up to date as IU Press/JSTOR practices evolve.
- b) The executive committee considered whether to hold next year’s annual meeting at an APA meeting, at SAAP, or at the International Centennial Congress (hereafter, ICC). Richard Atkins observed that one advantage of meeting at the APA is that it’s nice for essay prize winners to get an opportunity to present at the APA. Holding next year’s meeting at the Central again would mean that we can use the same timelines for next year’s essay prize submissions and adjudication as we did most recently. As well, next year’s Central will be held in Chicago. Since O’Hare Airport is a major hub, it is

cheaper and easier for many attendees to get there. It was therefore resolved to hold the next annual meeting at the Central APA. Shannon Dea will coordinate with the APA.

- c) Centennial Congress: Bob Lane presented a brief summary of the longer report he will present at this afternoon's annual meeting. Shannon Dea asked executive committee members to suggest to her the names of scholars doing good work in the key areas identified by the program committee; she will convey those suggestions to the program committee.
- d) Webmaster. After over a decade of service in that capacity, Bob wishes to step down as webmaster. It was noted that, in strictness, the webmaster is an ex officio member of the executive committee, even though in practice he has not always been treated as one. Ideally, the new webmaster will have institutional support such that her/his college provides web hosting for the Society, but using the current URL. It was resolved that the nominating committee that James Liszka will strike in 2013 should search for the new webmaster. Bob recommended that they begin by considering the 15 or 20 people who have most recently served as executive members for the Society.
- e) FISP
  - It was decided that Claudine Tiercelin will serve as the Society delegate to the FISP General Assembly in Athens, 2014. (Shannon will inform FISP of this decision.)
  - Compensation Fund: FISP is always seeking donations to its Compensation Fund, from which it is able to offer financial support to member societies from developing nations. Executive members were broadly supportive of donating to the Compensation Fund, but decided that it would be better to do this after the ICC when the Society is no longer in fundraising mode itself.

3. Cornelis de Waal presented the following report from the *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*:

The Transactions had a good year. Though the number of submissions remains lower than we like it to be, we have been able to continue publishing four issues per year. Over 2011–12 we received about sixty papers that qualified for review, fairly evenly divided between Peirce and non-Peirce. About half of the papers sent out for review made it into the journal. In part to accommodate for this, three journal symposia have been organized that are now in various states of completion. Scott Pratt is working on a five-paper symposium on African American insurrectionist philosophy, Cathy Legg and Gary Richmond are working on a symposium commemorating Joe Ransdell, and I'm working on a small set of paper discussing the work of Shea Zellweger. In addition to the above we are receiving a steady stream of book reviews.

On June 30, 2012, which marks the end of IU Press's fiscal year, the Transactions had 2,886 subscribers (up from 2,759), of which 254 received a paper copy of the journal (down from 308). The number of individual subscribers was 179 (down from 214), while the remaining 2707 subscribers were institutional subscribers (through JSTOR etc.). Because of the institutional subscriptions the Transactions continues to do well financially. In the 2011–

2012 fiscal year the Transactions made a gross profit of \$46,751, of which 15% (equaling \$7,013) went to the Society.

Cornelis de Waal  
Editor-in-Chief

4. Shannon Dea delivered the following financial report:

This report is for the period beginning April 1, 2012 and ending Jan. 31, 2012.

The Society's income during this period was \$8675.62:

\$1645.00 in membership dues;  
\$7012.61 in Transactions royalties; and  
\$20.05 in interest.

The Society's expenditures during this period totalled \$961.75:

\$500.00 for winner of 2012-13 essay prize  
\$40.16 for dinner for the 2011-12 essay contest prize winner;  
\$197.00 for FISP (Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de Philosophie) dues for 2012;  
\$75 for IUHPS/DLMPS (International Union of History and Philosophy of Science /  
Division of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science) dues for 2012;  
\$40 wire transfer fees paid to Indiana Members Credit Union for transfer of FISP dues;  
\$83.40 for web-site fees;  
\$26.19 for postage

As of Jan. 31, 2012, the Society's assets were \$24,933.71, an increase of \$7713.87 from March 31, 2012.

The breakdown of the assets is:

\$8945.11 in checking,  
\$15,913.86 in a money-market account,  
\$74.74 in savings.

5. Shannon Dea, on behalf of André De Tienne, delivered the following report on the Peirce Edition Project:

I have the pleasure to present the following report about the Peirce Project's main activities and accomplishments that took place between 1 April 2012 and 15 February 2013. Much of it is an update about several matters presented in last year's comprehensive report, which covered a 15-month period ending in March 2012.

Most important to begin with is to state how immensely grateful the Peirce Project continues to be for the sustained generosity manifested by many members of the Peirce Society and of the broader Peirce constituency. Donations from the last two years were sufficient to match the \$30,000 NEH offered us in matching funds when we received a grant in the fall of 2010. That extra amount proved very useful and allowed us to retain the workforce needed to accomplish several crucial tasks.

2012 has been a year of transition and innovation in our multifaceted operation, which has three distinct wings: one consists of editors researching the Peirce Papers and establishing the text of the edition; the second consists of editorial staff transcribing and editing the texts for inclusion in the edition; the third consists of technical staff charged with maintaining and developing our production and dissemination technology. Not to mention the fourth wing: that of administering the Project, fundraising, writing grants, planning, liaising, representing, negotiating, hiring, and conferencing. Each has a complex mission, and each needs to accomplish it following best practices as far as possible.

Every now and then, a long-term project like ours needs to revisit its methods and technological infrastructure to ensure that we don't fall behind scholarly expectations and technical standards, which tend to evolve faster and faster in their mutual influence. I reported last year that we had begun revamping our technology. We have done considerable progress on that front throughout 2012, in ways that are now attracting the attention of the broader digital humanities initiatives that have been sprouting in many places in the US and abroad.

A key accomplishment has been the creation of the alpha version of STEP (Scholarly Text-Editing Platform), funded in part by an NEH Digital Humanities grant that was extended to a second year (until August 2013). We have hired four graduate students from the School of Informatics, and that team, headed by our technical editor Shawn Hanes, has been doing wonders. In particular, they were able to program an XML text editor that adheres to the international standards established by the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) and that can work within any web browser, as opposed to all other proprietary solutions that can only function outside a browser. This is a significant breakthrough because we now have an open-source technology that can be easily exported to and customized by other editions, a key NEH requirement. This XML editor constitutes the core of every module in the STEP platform, as every section of our volumes, whether authorial or editorial, needs to be transcribed or typed through that XML editor in order to comply with international standards. Now that this milestone has been reached, the nine modules that constitute STEP are being programmed much faster. The team consists of Human-Computer Interaction specialists who know how to design ergonomic interfaces, and therefore I am optimistic that by August 2013 the principal goal of producing a fully working beta version of STEP will have been reached.

In July 2012, the National Endowment for the Humanities turned down our 2011 request for continued funding in spite of the high score achieved by our grant application (23/25). I sent a new application in early December 2012, and we will hear about the outcome of that competition in August 2013. In the meanwhile, I have launched two other initiatives, both geared toward the realization of our dissemination platform, called "Collaborative Online Research Platform for Users of Scholarly editions" (or CORPUS). The first one stems from an internal IUPUI Arts and Humanities (IAHI) grant received from in February 2012, a new funding program that seeks to encourage interdisciplinary research collaboration among campus schools. The grant is titled "Digital Redesign of Scholarly Editions: A Collaboration between Humanities and Informatics Researchers." The proposal's major aims are (1) to identify and research theoretical and practical issues related to the establishment of a viable and accepted peer-reviewing system within CORPUS; (2) to assess users' needs and also the desirability and implementability of a broad series of technological options for users; (3) to conceive and design the components of an

elaborate end-user interface according to the best principles of human-computer interface (HCI) science so that the dissemination platform would provide users with several graduated options for contributing to the enrichment of an online repository. Thanks to the grant and to our collaboration with Professor Davide Bolchini, the director of the HCI Program at IUPUI, we hired Ph.D. student Yuan Jia from the School of Informatics; she is the lead HCI researcher on the design and implementability of CORPUS. Assisted by graduate student Reecha Bharali, Yuan Jia has been conducting a number of interviews with editors and scholars in order to determine what the current and incoming generations of researchers expect from CORPUS, what should be its main functionalities, and how it could best accommodate a peer-reviewing process attached to multiform contributions coming from the community of scholars. Jia and Bharali have begun designing a sophisticated schematic structure of the various components of CORPUS. This helps us both visualize and conceive new possibilities regarding both the connections between internal zones of the interface, and the ways in which platform users will want to interact with CORPUS for various scholarly and communicational purposes.

The second initiative is international: In August and September 2012 the Project collaborated with a team of researchers from Humboldt-Universität in Berlin on a proposal for the NEH/DFG Bilateral Digital Humanities Program titled “An Online Image-based Research Environment for the Humanities: The Digital Peirce Archive as a Case Study.” The collaboration also involves members of the Max Planck Digital Library and the Houghton Library at Harvard. We propose to build a generic open-source image management and research environment endowed with a collaborative, multifunctional structure that humanities users can customize at will at minimal cost. Our solution is to build on, and expand, a dynamic scholarly image database called imeji that is being developed under the aegis of the Max Planck Digital Library in Munich. Imeji’s strength is the collection of tools it provides to describe, enrich, connect, magnify, index, and link image data through a configurable set of metadata definitions. Our goal is to transform it into a collaborative research environment capable of seamless integration into the workflow of STEP and CORPUS. Its design will be tested through its exemplary application in the Peirce Digital Archive (DPA), which will be an online dynamic repository of digital images of the Peirce manuscripts. The principal result of this collaboration will be twofold: a generic and customizable image-based research environment, and the free, publicly accessible Digital Peirce Archive endowed with an HCI-compliant interface. The DPA represents a foundational module both for STEP and CORPUS since it would essentially feed them with digital images of the Peirce papers. We will learn about the outcome of that NEH/DFG grant competition in April.

The Peirce Project recently received a bridge-funding grant from IUPUI’s Research Supports Funds Grant program (RSFG). That new source of funding combined with other monies will enable us to offer a one year post-doctoral position to a Ph.D. in philosophy with competence in Peirce (we hope to prolong that position thanks to the NEH grant we just applied to). The new hire (whose search is underway) will take on the responsibility of an assistant research editor who will conduct full-time research on the reorganization, repagination, and dating of the Peirce manuscripts.

Throughout 2012 we did much progress on both volume 9 (August 1892 to early summer 1893) and on volume 11 (How to Reason: A Critick of Arguments, 1894). Vol. 9 is nearly ready and has been vetted by the MLA’s Committee on Scholarly Editions, which I am glad to say has

granted it its seal of approval. We will be sending that volume to the printer later this year. Volume 11 should be ready in 2015. I expect volume 7 (Peirce's contributions to the Century Dictionary) to be sent to the printer in January 2014. Our satellite operation at the University of Quebec in Montreal (UQAM), directed by Prof. Latraverse, continued to work on vol. 7 and the thousands of complex documents associated with Peirce's work for the Century Dictionary. New team members (Ph.D. students) have replaced older hands. Latraverse's second SSHRC grant was extended for one more year and ended in summer 2012, when Latraverse retired— although he continues to work on the volume with the help of his colleague and logician Alain Voizard. PEP-UQAM also intends to make available an online companion to W7, which will provide access to transcriptions, definitions, and related materials that did not make the selection for the print publication.

The major staff news that needs reporting is that Diana Reynolds, our long-time senior editorial associate and keystone of our transcription and book layout activities, will be leaving the Project at the end of February 2013. Diana first joined the Project in 1998 and worked for us as a technical assistant and then an editorial assistant until 2001. She returned in 2004 and stayed with us ever since. She has been a model staff member, diligent, well organized, and efficient. Our edition owes her an enormous debt of gratitude and appreciation for the excellent work she has consistently performed over those thirteen years. Transcribing Peirce is no easy task: the complexity is daunting, as is the tedium of tagging logical and mathematical formulas, intricate alteration descriptions, and long lists of emendations and other apparatus components. Diana laid out most of volume 6 and volume 8, and now volume 9. Every volume is difficult and offers new challenges never met before, both textual and technological. Diana has met those challenges steadfastly and with incredible grace and patience. We will miss her terribly.

Diana's departure means that we are about to launch another search for her succession, but her position will first need to be reconceived from the ground up before we proceed, given the new technological infrastructure we have been putting into place, which entails modifications in our workflow and in the distribution of responsibilities.

Our relationship with Institute for American Thought, of which the Project is a principal unit, remains excellent. The support provided us by IAT Director David Pfeifer has always been wonderful, and I want to finish this report by expressing our special gratitude to this remarkable gentleman, always full of sound advice, steadfast encouragement, and good cheer. The Peirce constituency owes him a great deal for everything he has done and will continue to do for the Project, even after he steps down from his position, which he will do at the end of June 2013.

André De Tienne  
Director and General Editor, Peirce Edition Project

6. On behalf of Catherine Legg, Shannon Dea read the following report from the Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Catherine Legg, with Vincent Colapietro and Risto Hilpinen as members, propose the following candidate:

- Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou for Vice President (2013-14, succeeding to the presidency in 2014-15).

Continuing positions are as follows:

- James Liszka, President (2013-14);
- Shannon Dea, Secretary-Treasurer (through 2014-2015);
- Executive Committee: Giovanni Maddalena (through 2013-14); Richard Atkins (through 2014-15); Daniel Campos (through 2015-16); Robert Lane (ex officio); Cornelius de Waal (ex officio)

Professor Sfendoni-Mentzou's nomination was approved; she was elected unanimously.

7. Robert Lane presented the following report on behalf of the IOC of the Peirce Centennial Congress. Due to time constraints, he distributed the report electronically rather than verbally: Preparations for the 2014 Charles S. Peirce International Centennial Congress are going well. We are on track for the conference to take place at the University of Massachusetts Lowell from July 16 to 19, 2014. Since the Peirce Society's previous business meeting, the following items have occurred.

The Program Committee, chaired by Rosa Mayorga and Matthew Moore, issued its first call for papers and proposals in June 2012. The deadline for proposals was recently extended due to requests from some members and is now April 1, 2013. The deadline for paper submissions, short contributions, and posters is September 1, 2013.

A publicity committee was been appointed, with Mats Bergman its chairperson. Among other things, that committee has revised and expanded the conference website (<http://peirce-foundation.org/2014.html>) and created a number of items that any interested parties can use to promote the conference. In the near future, the site will be expanded with more information about the city of Lowell.

The budget committee, consisting of John Kaag, Scott Pratt and me, presented a budget to the IOC and to the Peirce Society's executive committee. We continue to adjust that budget in light of new donations and sponsorships.

The International Organizing Committee met on November 5 and 7, 2012 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, during the most recent International Meeting on Pragmatism. The IOC heard and discussed reports from the Budget Committee, the Local Organizing Committee, the Fund-Raising Committee, the Publicity Committee and the Publications Committee

Ten plenary speakers have been invited and all have accepted. They are:

- Douglas Anderson
- Vincent Colapietro
- Susan Haack
- Christopher Hookway
- Nathan Houser
- Ivo Ibr
- Cheryl Misak

- Nicholas Rescher
- Claudine Tiercelin
- Fernando Zalamea

Fund-raising efforts have been a great success so far. James Liszka continues to chair the Fund-Raising Committee, the membership of which now includes Umberto Eco, Ivo Ibrí, Cheryl Misak, Shannon Dea, and me. To date we have raised almost \$7,000 in donations, grants, and sponsorships, including:

- \$4,000 in sponsorship fees from the C. S. Peirce Professorship of American Philosophy, University of Buffalo (thanks to Randy Dipert for making this possible)
- the first half of a \$1000 sponsorship from the Centro de Sistemática Peirceana, Bogotá, Colombia (thanks to Fernando Zalamea for this sponsorship)

In addition, we learned earlier this week that our application for a grant of \$2,500 from the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy has been approved, and we have received informal commitments for sponsorships from other sources, as well. We still have some ways to go to reach our target of \$17,500 in total donations and sponsorship fees. Individuals may donate via PayPal through the conference website or by checks, payable to the Charles S. Peirce Foundation, mailed to: Robert Lane, Philosophy Program, University of West Georgia, 1601 Maple Street, Carrollton, GA 30118. Organizations, institutions and departments interested in sponsoring the Congress should contact James Liszka (jlisz001 “at” plattsburgh.edu).

The Steering Committee—Jaime Nubiola (chairperson), John Kaag, Matthew Moore, Tom Short, and me—will meet at the next SAAP conference, in Galloway, New Jersey, in early March.

8. Claudine Tiercelin thanked Robert Lane and Shannon Dea for their work on behalf of the Society and welcomed James Liszka into his new role as president. Liszka then adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:25 pm.