

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD  
SAT 21 JAN, AT 2 P.M.

Present: Dr Yates (in the Chair), Dr George, Sra Cardona, Sr Ibarz and Dr Keown

1. Apologies for absence

These were received from Dr Bath, Sra Rius, Sr Gili, Mr Kelly, Prof Ettinghausen.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

These were circulated and were accepted as a correct record of the previous meeting.

3. Matters arising

**The new Treasurership:** MC reported that she was studying ways of streamlining the payment of the annual subscription in order to simplify the process, and the meeting wished her success in her efforts. She also wondered whether the annual subscription should be raised: it was decided to refer discussion of the question to the next committee meeting and, if appropriate, to the 1989 AGM.

4. The new Constitution

It was reported that JK had received no comments from members on his draft Constitution which had been circulated to all members of the Society. The meeting discussed the draft document, and the following items provoked comment:

**Management Committee (Section 3)** It was suggested that in 3.3. 'at least one of whom should be of Catalan origin' should read 'at least one of whom should preferably be of Catalan origin'

**Meetings (Section 5)** It was noted that there was no reference to Honorary Members, and it was suggested that in 5.2. the words 'paid-up' might be inserted before 'members of the society' in the last line. DG agreed to communicate with JK.

5. Lectorats and associated matters

AY informed the meeting of the latest developments. Two *lectors* were now in post, at Salford/Manchester and Oxford. From AY's meeting with the Conseller de Cultura of the Generalitat in Barcelona in December, it appeared that the Generalitat was keen (a) to establish *lectors* in places where Catalan is not currently taught, and (b) to fund a new *lectorat* in the University of London from 1989-90. AY had approached Prof Penny of Westfield College London: he was extremely keen that the teaching of Catalan be reestablished in London, and warmly welcomed the possibility that a *lectorat* be established there. The meeting agreed that AY should show Prof Penny's letter of support to the Generalitat, and encourage them in their London initiative.

Concern was also expressed that institutions (both universities and others) which had been teaching Catalan should not be forgotten when aid was being offered from the PPCC. AY said that he had made the point forcefully to the Conseller. The meeting asked AY to reiterate the needs, and to ask for help to be given particularly in the buying of books and audio-visual material. MC made the point that a good medium-sized English-Catalan dictionary was needed.

#### 6. Getting books to the PPCC

AY reported that 150 copies of various ACSOPS were needed in Barcelona, and committee members who were going there soon agreed to take with them as many books as possible.

#### 7. Future Conferences

AY reported that Miquel Strubell, who was now Director d'Activitats de la Fundació Congrés de Cultura, had informed him that the Congrés had offered to make £500 available to AC S to enable it to invite visiting speakers from PPCC to its Annual Conference. The hope was that a lecture tour of the U.K. could be arranged for the visiting speaker in question to coincide with the Conference. The meeting asked AY to convey its gratitude to the Congrés de Cultura.

It was agreed that DK should invite Prof Ferrando of the University of Valencia to be our guest speaker at the 1989 Conference. The Secretary reported that Sr Carles Gasòliba i Böhm had provisionally agreed to speak at the Conference, and the meeting asked the Hon Sec to contact Sr Gasòliba immediately. It was agreed that the Hon Sec should approach Sr Garrigues to enquire whether it would be possible for the Friday evening session of the 1989 Conference to be held at the Instituto de España on 17 Nov. AY informed that he had made a provisional booking with LSE for the Saturday (18 Nov), to avoid the necessity of the Instituto opening its doors especially for us on the Saturday. The meeting welcomed the move, and thanked AY.

Following the sad news of the death of Jesús Ruiz, AY informed that he would gladly organise the 1990 Conference at Durham University. The meeting felt that it would be appropriate for the Conference to be in memory of Dr Ruiz. Jordi Castellanos had suggested that he and hopefully other Catalan scholars who had been *lectors* under Dr Ruiz at Durham would be prepared to give papers at the Conference. The meeting warmly welcomed the suggestion. DK reported that the *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies* was planning a special Catalan edition probably for 1990, and it was agreed that the two initiatives might be linked.

AI reported that *Vida Hispànica* is planning a special Catalan number in 1992.

#### 8. The Spanish Ambassador

The Spanish Ambassador has been made an Honorary member of AC S in a personal capacity.

#### 9. AOB

(a) MC reported that TV3 would be prepared to make available to the Society the video of the Pujol visit to London. It was agreed that the Hon Sec write to TV3 to request the video.

(b) The Hon Sec raised a point which CR had asked him to raise in her absence. She expressed the view that Sr Abel Mariné, the Director General d'Universitats, should be invited to address our November Conference on the subject of *lectorats*. The meeting asked AY to explore the possibility with Sr Mariné when he was in Barcelona in April.

(c) Scholarship: The 1988-9 scholarship was awarded to Josep Sort of Barcelona for work on Anglo-Catalan 1930s documents in the Public Records Office. He has contacted TK, AY and others. The exercise was satisfactorily carried through. The Society wishes to express its thanks to TK for her coordination.