President C. Kurt Dewhurst called the spring meeting of the Executive Board to order at 9:10 a.m. on Friday, April 8, 2011, in Room 320 of the Mershon Center on the Ohio State University campus in Columbus, Ohio. Members present: Ray Cashman, Lisa Gabbert, President-Elect Diane Goldstein, Jason Baird Jackson, Sabina Magliocco, Leonard Norman Primiano, Riki Saltzman, Amy Shuman, Amy Skillman, Bill Westerman, and Marilyn White. Executive Director Timothy Lloyd and Associate Director Lorraine Cashman were also present.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the Board’s October 2010 meeting. Riki Saltzman moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Marilyn White seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Kurt Dewhurst then delivered the President’s report, welcoming new Board members, encouraging the Board to focus on big-picture issues at the meeting, and noting the recent completion and approval of a personnel and operations manual for the Society. He also updated the Board on the progress of several national projects, including America Works and Oral History in the Digital Age.

Tim Lloyd then gave the Board a brief summary of the results of the recently concluded independent audit on the Society’s financial status and recordkeeping for fiscal year 2010. That report showed that the Society’s financial standing remains strong and that its financial recordkeeping for the year was accurate. After discussion, Diane Goldstein moved that the Board formally accept the fiscal year 2010 audit report as submitted. Jason Jackson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Amy Shuman then presented the recommendation of the Kenneth Goldstein Prize for Lifetime Academic Leadership review committee (consisting of Amy Shuman and Patricia A. Turner) that the 2011 Prize be awarded to Barre Toelken. Amy Shuman moved that the Board accept the recommendation of the review committee that the 2011 Kenneth Goldstein Prize for Lifetime Academic Leadership be awarded to Barre Toelken. Bill Westerman seconded the motion, which passed, 11 votes to 0, with Diane Goldstein abstaining.

Amy Skillman, Executive Board member of the Nominating Committee, then discussed several ideas to improve the Society’s nominating process, and possible follow-up activities to find other means of Society involvement for those nominated but not elected to office.
At 11:00, the Board entered into executive session to discuss the Executive Director’s performance for the previous year and his proposed performance goals for 2011-2012. The recorder was turned off for this session.

The Board ended its executive session at 12:05 and broke for lunch until 1:30.

The Board then entered into a discussion of the diversity goals it wanted to set for the Society. This discussion was facilitated by Marilyn White, Amy Skillman, Bill Westerman, and AFS Cultural Diversity Task Force member Katey Borland, who joined the meeting for this discussion.

The discussion focused around 4 main points: What constitutes diversity for us? What diversity-related data do we need but do not have, and how can we get it? Can focus groups play a role? Can a mentoring program play a role?

After discussion, Diane Goldstein proposed a list of recommendations that had been generated:

- The Board should propose to the membership a change in the *AFS Bylaws* to make the *ad hoc* Cultural Diversity Task Force into a standing committee
- The Board should also propose a *Bylaws* change that would add a member of this diversity committee to the Society’s Nominating Committee
- This committee should be as diverse as we want AFS to become
- We should gather statistics and qualitative information about diversity in our upcoming member survey and from other ACLS societies
- We should design a mechanism for mentoring student and new colleagues of diversity
- We should investigate ways to support folklorists to be present at meetings of other fields focusing on cultural diversity
- We should find ways to bring senior folklorists of diversity to AFS annual meeting in key speaking roles
• We should meet in places where we can encourage participation and membership from diverse communities, and focus annual meeting themes on diversity issues

• We should do a more effective job of publicizing the Davis Travel Awards and Hurston Prize

• We should encourage the presentation of papers on diversity issues at the annual meeting

• Our efforts in this area may cause us to seek the services of a diversity consultant

• We should place diversity materials on the AFS web site

Amy Shuman moved that the Board accept these recommendations as a framework, and that we move ahead on the matter of proposing appropriate Bylaws changes to the membership later this year. Riki Saltzman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board then concluded its deliberations for the day, to reconvene the next morning.

President C. Kurt Dewhurst called the spring meeting of the Executive Board back to order at 9:25 am on Friday, April 9, 2011, in Room 320 of the Mershon Center on the Ohio State University campus in Columbus, Ohio. Members present: Ray Cashman, Lisa Gabbert, President-Elect Diane Goldstein, Jason Baird Jackson, Sabina Magliocco, Leonard Norman Primiano, Riki Saltzman, Amy Shuman, Amy Skillman, Bill Westerman, and Marilyn White. Executive Director Timothy Lloyd and Associate Director Lorraine Cashman were also present.

The Board then undertook a discussion of several publications matters, facilitated by Jason Baird Jackson and Tim Lloyd.

First, Jason Jackson presented to the Board the case for making the Journal of American Folklore a green open-access journal (it is presently white OA). He described the differences among OA colors, and distinguished among preprint, postprint, and publisher’s versions of a JAF article.

Amy Skillman moved that the Board approve the recommendation to make the Journal of American Folklore a “shiny” green OA journal,
allowing authors to post publisher’s versions of their *JAF* contributions to their institutional repositories as soon as they are published. Sabina Magliocco seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Tim Lloyd then reminded the Board of the importance of the *JAF* to the Society’s financial well-being (in addition to its other contributions to the Society and field), and noted the importance of encouraging folklore teachers to ask their students to access *JAF* materials via JSTOR and Project MUSE, from which access the Society receives royalties.

The Board broke for lunch from 12:10 until 1:20.

Tim Lloyd then presented his budget proposal for FY 2012. After discussion, *Amy Skillman moved that the Board accept the executive director’s FY 2012 budget proposal as presented. Riki Saltzman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

The Board then discussed the Society’s present repertoire of international activities and engagements, aided by an information sheet from the executive director on the subject.

President-Elect Diane Goldstein then introduced a new project that she will be leading as a Presidential initiative. She wants to find a way for AFS to enhance our international outreach by providing journals and other publications to scholars in political, economic, or geographic isolation. To achieve this she is going to appoint a committee of smart people in the Society (archivists, librarians, digital humanists, journal editors, etc.) to fact-find, discuss, and create a plan (flow chart) for providing this access, and to make general and practical recommendations for priorities and actions to the Board.

This International Outreach and Access Committee would include editors of the major US folklore journals, librarians and archivists, and others involved in scholarly communications issues, including international participants, and would work on a 4-6 month timeline so that the Board could receive a proposal for action from the committee in spring 2012.

The Board asked the executive director to canvass AFS’s sister societies in ACLS to learn what they might be doing along similar lines, and to see whether they might already be involved in initiatives that AFS might join.

Under the headings of Old and New Business, the Board discussed revising the remembrance process at the annual meeting. Sabina Magliocco, Leonard
Primiano, Amy Shuman, Bill Westerman, and Marilyn White agreed to constitute a committee of the Board to propose a new process.

Tim Lloyd then raised the issue of whether to continue the process of audio-recording Board meetings. The Board agreed to revisit this matter at a later date.

**Bill Westerman then moved that the meeting be adjourned. Amy Skillman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Lloyd
Executive Director

Date

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Approved by the American Folklore Society Executive Board:

C. Kurt Dewhurst
President

Date