Minutes of General Business Meeting at SEA 2^{od} Biennial Conference, Norfolk, VA 10 March 2001, 8-9:15 am

Present: David Shields (President), Philip Gould (Vice President), Zabelle Stodola (Executive Coordinator), Dennis Moore (Executive Coordinator-elect), Rosemary Guruswamy, Ray Craig (host, earam-1), Lisa Logan, Mike Clark (webmaster), Chris Huber, Nanette Tamer, Ned Watts, Ed Gallagher, Ann Brunjes, Helen Westra, Zubeda Jalalzai, Granville Ganter, Dietmar Schloss, Clark Maddux, Tim Sweet, Sheila Skemp, Robert Battistini,. Jeff Richards, Len Tennenhouse, Bill Spengemann, Tom Shields, Tom Krise, Eric Slauter, Keith Lawrence

- David Shields (President) announced that the minutes from the 2000 business meeting will be posted on the SEA website. He then asked the conference director and various officers to give reports.
- Jeff Richards (conference director) reported that between 165-175 people attended tile conference, approximately the same as attended the first biennial conference in Charleston. Jeff also pointed out that it might be possible for future SEA conferences to coincide with conferences on early American musicology and dance, thus allowing participants to attend each other's sessions. In responding to Jeff, David said that the general range of panel topics this year was good and that SEA's multidisciplinarity should be maintained in upcoming conferences.
- The Executive Coordinator reported that as of the end of February 2001, SEA's bank balance stood at $20,878.85 and the group had 213 paid-up members.
- Ray Craig, host of earam-l, said that the discussion list had been fairly quiet and was being used mainly for posting information (e.g. calls for papers).
- Mike Clark, SEA webmaster, indicated that the website has been redesigned in the last three months and is more useable. One major change has been the addition of back issues of the SEA Newsletter. Eventually, these will be searchable. Mike asked for additional
  help and for ideas on different web projects. He thanked the different teams responsible for various divisions on the site. In response to a question about the number of website hits, Mike said that he had removed the counter some time ago since it did not seem to provide particularly meaningful information. Nevertheless, the site seems to be extensively used.
- Dennis Moore, Executive Coordinator-elect, reported that at the ASECS meeting in April 2001, SEA will award a prize for the second year running for best paper. SEA now has a formal affiliation with ASECS as a result of the SEA/SECAS (the Society for EighteenthCentury American Studies) merger.
- Tom Krise announced that he is Program Chair for the 2002 ASECS Conference to be held in Colorado Springs and invited participation.
- Phil Gould (Vice President) spoke briefly about the three SEA-sponsored sessions at the 2001 ALA Conference in Cambridge at the end of May.
- David reported that plans for the colonial Anglo/Ibero Conference in Tucson in 2002 are proceeding. The conference was designed for 50 Anglo and 50 Ibero colonialists to attend. Eighty slots have already been allocated, but there is room for twenty more
  people, so he invited interested parties to contact him or Ralph Bauer
- Phil announced that the third SEA biennial conference will be held 8-11 April 2003 at the Providence, R. L, Marriott. The room rate will be in the $120 range.
- David invited proposals for sites for the 2005 SEA conference. He also pointed out that during his tenure as President, certain goals had been accomplished, specifically, inaugurating a regular cycle of conferences, encouraging SEA's continued diversity and multidisciplinarity, and sponsoring symposia on special topics.
- Len Tennenhouse indicated that several non-US members at the SEA conference are interested in organizing an early American discussion group in Europe. Wil Verhoeven, from the University of Groningen in Holland, will try to organize this and coordinate with SEA.
- The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Zabelle Stodola