

Minutes of the 2002 Meeting of the Executive Group of the Henry James Society,  
Inc.  
December 28, 2002

New York City

Meeting convened at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Philip Horne (President), Wendy Graham (Vice President), Eric Haralson (Secretary/Treasurer), Susan M. Griffin (Editor, *Henry James Review*), Greg Zacharias (Executive Director), Leland Person (Board member)

**HJR, Susan Griffin:** Susan reported that journal submissions continue strong, both in quality and quantity. Submissions for the Edel prize were especially strong this year. Susan also reported that she would like to increase the compensation for her managing editor, whose work has been stellar. However, to do this, her office would face a funding shortfall. In the face of U of L's financial struggles, Susan asked whether the Executive could take up the shortfall, which would be \$3,000 per year at most for each of the next three years. There may be a need rather soon for \$500. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Society would support Susan's request. Finally the Executive members thanked and congratulated Susan for her fine work with the journal.

**Budget, Wendy Graham:** given the previous decision re: the *HJR*, Wendy asked whether we shouldn't begin to monitor our spending more closely. She proposed that we begin to limit the amount of travel money officers could request to ALA and MLA. Discussion followed. It was agreed that we would limit the president's reimbursement to \$1,000 for MLA and \$1,000 for ALA. It was agreed that the journal editor's and the executive director's reimbursement would be limited to \$500 for MLA. It was agreed that these rules would not apply to Gert Buelens, having been elected before this policy was adopted. It was also agreed that officers could petition the Executive group for exceptions. It was also agreed that we would inform officer candidates of this policy at the point of offering nomination.

**Executive Director, Greg Zacharias:** reported that the preliminary accounting for the "Henry James Today" conference was in error, due to the miscalculation of subsidies. Greg reported that he would supply a revised accounting soon. A revised budget was sent to the Executive members on January 6, 2003. All accounts were reconciled on February 12, 2003. Greg reported that the Society was in good financial shape, even with the conference expenses. Thus, accounts (as of 23 December):

CD:	\$21,391.61 (@2.43%)
Savings:	\$10,010.55 (.74%)
Checking	\$ 5,549.95
TOTAL	\$36,952.11 (excludes \$750 "HJ Today" reimbursement to be received from Creighton.)

The following is a report of the membership:

Members: Total: 280  
189 U.S.  
91 outside U.S.  
26 Japan  
19 UK  
11 Canada  
9 France  
7 Rep. of Korea  
3 Italy  
2 Greece

1 each: Belgium, Colombia, Czech Republic, Hungary, India, Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey.

Greg anticipated that the Society would receive \$4,000 royalty from sales of the *HJR*. (Actual royalties for the year were just over \$7,000, better than anyone expected.)

Greg offered the names of new James Society representatives: Donatella Izzo (Istituto Universitario Orientale, Napoli) and Dai Xian-mei (Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications), who were approved unanimously.

***HJR* book reviews, Lee Person:** assured the group that he is “almost” caught up. **President’s Report, Philip Horne:** reported on all the fun he’s had as president. Suggested that a calendar of deadlines be written and provided for the use of each president to use in setting up ALA and MLA panels, etc. Greg asked that copies of all session calls and then panels be sent to the James Center for inclusion on the HJS website.

**Vice-president’s Report, Wendy Graham:** Sessions for ALA and MLA are set. All proceeds smoothly. The ALA Conference will take place May 22-25 at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge, Massachusetts. The session calls are as follows:

1. James’s spatial imagination. Presentations exploring James’s contemplation of buildings, bridges, thoroughfares, churches, theatres, parks, museums, monuments, and landscapes in fiction or travelogues. Possible topics include: “structures of feeling,” cultural transmission, panopticism, “the house of fiction,” the picturesque, realism.

2-page abstracts by 15 January; Wendy Graham ([wegraham@vassar.edu](mailto:wegraham@vassar.edu))

2. James and letters. Papers addressing any facet of James’s correspondence, including relationships conducted through letters, identity construction, the function of letters in James’s biographies and autobiographies. The function of the letter(s) in James’s tales or novels.

2-page abstracts by 15 January; Wendy Graham ([wegraham@vassar.edu](mailto:wegraham@vassar.edu))

Modern Language Association, December 28 - 30, 2003

1. James and visual culture. 15-minute presentations exploring James’s aesthetic outlook with respect to the reigning and emerging fine and popular arts of his day and today. Topics may include illustration, photography, and film.

2-page abstracts by 1 March; Wendy Graham ([wegraham@vassar.edu](mailto:wegraham@vassar.edu))

2. The Jamesian body. 15-minute presentations exploring intersections between hunger, digestion, Fletcherization, elimination, eroticism in Jamesian texts and contexts. Topics may include James on again, sexuality, or *his* stammer. 2-page abstracts by 1 March; Wendy Graham ([wegraham@vassar.edu](mailto:wegram@vassar.edu))

**Next HJS-sponsored conference:** Following discussion, the Executive decided to pursue the next conference in 2005 in Italy. Greg agreed to begin preliminary investigations.

**Executive Board thanks** go to Philip Horne, who did so much during his three years of service to help develop the HJS beyond North America. As a sign of our thanks, we presented Philip with a previously “unknown” Henry James letter on behalf of all members.

**Adjournment:** 9.30pm.