



DICTIONARY SOCIETY  
OF NORTH AMERICA

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# DSNA

NEWSLETTER

## DSNA Celebrates with MED in Michigan

Middle English Dictionary Project Completed after Seventy Years



photo by R. McKinzey

The thirteenth biennial meeting of the DSNA took place at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor from May 6 to 9, 2001. The time and place were chosen to coincide with the celebration of the completion of the Middle English Dictionary and the electronic publication of the Middle English Compendium.

Over 150 people (which is the largest number ever for a DSNA meeting) attended the sessions, most of them held in the beautiful and stately Michigan Union Building, which offered excellent meeting rooms and an informal restaurant that must be the envy of many another academic institution.

The meeting was opened Sunday evening with a message of welcome by host Richard Bailey and an address by Eric G. Stanley of Pembroke College, Oxford University, "A Celebration of the Middle English Dictionary." The address was followed by a reception.

Over the next three days, 26 papers and a panel discussion were presented in five pairs of sessions. The conference had two main threads: topics of general lexicographical interest, as typical of past DSNA meetings (the B sessions), and, running concurrently with them, topics relating to the *Middle English Dictionary* and medieval linguistics (the A sessions), sponsored by the U. of Michigan. There were also five plenary events: 1) the introductory address by Eric G. Stanley of Oxford, mentioned above; 2) "The Middle English Compendium" (a corpus of ME prose and verse), presented by chief editor Frances McSparran, production coordinator Paul Schaffner, and Christina Powell of the Humanities Text Initiative; 3) "The Revolution of

English Lexicography," by John Simpson of The Oxford English Dictionary; 4) "The Middle English Dictionary at 71," by Robert E. Lewis, editor, *MED*; and 5) a session with three papers on the legacy of Hans Kurath and Sherman Kuhn, both of whom served as editor at different stages of the *MED* project.

The plenary lecture Monday night (John Simpson — see above) was followed by a reception in the special collections department of the Hatcher Library. Participants were treated to a wonderful exhibit there, "Dictionaries and the Rise of Middle English Lexicography." Attendees were also given the opportunity to view another excellent exhibit in the nearby Clements Library, on "Dictionaries in Early America."

The social highlight of the meeting was a trip to Dearborn, Michigan, where we visited Greenfield Village, the museum of buildings established by Henry Ford. The focus for our group, of course, was the Noah Webster house, which includes an exhibit of Webster's dictionaries and other publications, as well as various descendants of his dictionaries. The culmination of the visit was the conference banquet in the Eagle Tavern in the Village. DSNA

president Joan Houston Hall gave an entertaining and informative dinner address, "A Life in Lexicography," which described her career at the *Dictionary of American Regional English*.

This meeting was generously funded by the University of Michigan. The registration fees paid by attendees paid for the coffee breaks and some of the rooms used for meeting events. Also providing financial support were the book exhibitors: Cambridge University Press, Early English Books Online, Houghton Mifflin, and Oxford University Press.



DSNA 2001: Bob Lewis, with his wife, Julie, showing off "the product". Photo by J. Hall.

## News of Members

**Joanne Despres** and **Fred Shapiro** are compiling a collection of *OED* antedatings and first occurrences of words not registered in the current *OED*. The collection will consist of quotations from Merriam-Webster's citation files that constitute the backing for dates reported in *M-W's Collegiate Dictionary*, as well as quotations from early dictionaries and reference books, and early letters, diaries, etc. read by editors and outside contributors. The number of entries is expected to be in the range of 10,000. Joanne and Fred are 2001 recipients of the Laurence Urdang-DSNA Award.

**Anatoly Liberman** has received an ACLS fellowship to continue work on his etymological dictionary of English. With the grant, he can take a year's leave, during which time he will write actual entries for the first volume (English words without established cognates). He has spent 13 years laying the groundwork for this stage. The dictionary will contain a "full critical survey of everything said about the origin" of each word that is entered. The publisher is the U. of Minnesota Press.

**Erin McKean** represented DSNA at the inauguration of Don Randel as 12th president of the U. of Chicago. She reports, "In addition to marching in procession and noshing at the swank reception afterwards, I had the pleasure of seeing Charles Fillmore receive an honorary degree and of catching up with the staff of the Assyrian Dictionary, including DSNA member Erica Reiner."

**Debbie Sawczak**, who had recently left Gage Educational Publishing after ten years there, is back with the company. She has again taken up her position of senior editor of reference and resumed her e-mail address: dsawczak@gagelearning.com

**Fred Shapiro** is editing the *Yale Dictionary of Quotations*, to be published by Yale U. Press. He and **Frank Abate** have also been coauthors of a regular column about the language of technology ("Word Mine") in the *Wall Street Journal Online*. Also, Fred has been awarded a renewed grant from the Mellon Foundation for research into linguistic applications of the JSTOR electronic journal archive.

**Jesse Sheidlower** and his wife, Elizabeth Bogner, have another baby girl (and Maisie has a sister). Noa Catherine Sheidlower was born 30 January 2001. □



DSNA 2001: Past President Ed Gates with his wife, Marion, at break time. Photo by J. Huttar Bailey.

## President's Report

### Laurence Urdang-DSNA Award Winners

The Laurence Urdang-DSNA Awards for 2001 were announced early in February, in response to proposals submitted before December 1, 2000. The awards committee, composed of Donna Farina, George Goebel, and Michael Hancher, gave \$2,000 to Fred Shapiro (Yale University Library) and Joanne Despres (Merriam-Webster, Inc.), for research assistance in their compilation of a Historical Dictionary Founded on Merriam-Webster's Collections. They also awarded \$500 to Adams Bodomo of the University of Hong Kong, who will use it to fund a training session in Guangdong, China, in which he will use the draft version of his Dagaare-Cantonese-English Lexicon as a resource for training students in lexicographical field methods

Congratulations to the three of you! And many thanks to Larry Urdang for making the awards possible.

### New Officers Elected

The executive board is pleased to announce the results of the recent election of officers for the society. Our new vice president/president-elect is David Jost, who is currently vice president and director of electronic publishing for Houghton Mifflin Company. David has a strong academic as well as commercial lexicography background, having served for nine years as an editor of the *Middle English Dictionary*. Continuing as secretary-treasurer of DSNA is Luanne von Schneidemesser, who has very ably served us since 1998. Luanne is senior editor for production at the *Dictionary of American Regional English*. And joining the board for four-year terms as members-at-large are Jesse Sheidlower, principal editor of the North American editorial unit of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, and Rima McKinzey, a "pronunciation permalancer," who has worked with most of the major dictionary publishers. Congratulations all!

Leaving the board after serving as member-at-large for four years is Terry Pratt. (David Jost is our other at-large member whose term expires.) Joan Hall will move into the position of past president, following Ed Gates, whose advice and counsel have been extremely useful to the board. And our new president, coming into the office following the biennial meeting — of which he has been chief organizer — is Richard W. Bailey. Hearty thanks to all who have served, and good wishes to those who are about to begin.

### DSNA now affiliated with SHARP

In response to a suggestion from member Michael Hancher, the executive board has voted to establish an official affiliation between DSNA and the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP). This affiliation will enable us to share and promote our mutual interests, which include but are by no means limited to the study and practice of lexicography in all of its forms and manifestations. This affiliation will allow our groups to disseminate relevant news and information in our respective newsletters and publications and to organize sessions on apposite topics at conferences. Since Michael Hancher is already a member of both organizations, he has agreed to be the official liaison between our societies.

—Joan Hall

Exeter course had 25 participants from 11 different countries: six European, four Asian, and one African. This was the last course before the Dictionary Research Centre moves to the U. of Birmingham. Chief lecturers were Reinhard Hartmann, Tom McArthur, and Michael Rundell. □

### Web Sites of lexicographical Interest

A one-year-old web site brings together over 50 reference works, many of them standard ones, including dictionaries, encyclopedias, and books of quotations, that are searchable and linked to each other. Displayed entries are also linked to adjacent entries in the same work. The site is a commercial one, but access is free:  
<http://www.xrefer.com>

Member Anne Dykstra informs us that there is a (mainly) Dutch-language online journal of lexicography available, titled Trefwoord. Subscription is free. To subscribe, send an e-mail to [adykstra@fa.knaw.nl](mailto:adykstra@fa.knaw.nl). The site is found at:  
[http://www.fa.knaw.nl/Site/NEDERLANDS/04\\_PUBLIK/04\\_publikset.htm](http://www.fa.knaw.nl/Site/NEDERLANDS/04_PUBLIK/04_publikset.htm)

Another site featuring online dictionaries includes more than 1800 dictionaries for more than 250 languages. Also included are links to specialized English dictionaries. The predecessor of this site, "A Web of Online Dictionaries," was launched in 1995 by Dr. Robert Beard of Bucknell U. It is now a commercial venture but maintains an advisory council of some 24 experts, including member John Algeo. The site is found at: <http://www.yourDictionary.com> □

### Members' Classified

Dr. Henry G. Burger's branching dictionary bridges the gap between thesaurus & alphabetical dictionary:

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□

Dictionaries, English language, and lexicography books for sale from personal collection. Dictionaries include works by Bailey, Johnson, Worcester, Webster, Funk, and Whitney. List available. Call Les Mandell at (410) 828-0075. Message will be promptly returned.

NOTICE: Thomas Paikeday's *The User's™ Webster Dictionary*, described in a Members' Classified ad in the last issue (Fall 2000), was no longer available from the U. of Toronto Press Fulfillment Services at the time that issue was sent out to members. From Jan. 1, 2001, all remaining copies were being sold through Hushion House of Toronto. E-mail: [cservice@genpub.com](mailto:cservice@genpub.com). □

## Language and Languages

1474 - 1996

We have produced a substantial catalogue (available on paper or as e-mail attachment) of dictionaries, grammars, conversation and educational books, polyglots, theories of language, early Arabic studies... It is mostly antiquarian (median date is 1860), and includes some rare and valuable books, but also books priced at a few pounds. The geographical area is mostly Persia to Portugal, with a few interesting books (a Chinese New Testament 1815, Galibi 1763) outside this.

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## The Cordell Corner

By David Vancil

### Calepinos galore

When you enter the Cordell Room, which houses only through the letter "L" of less-than-folio-size pre-1901 English-language materials in the Cordell Collection, you will notice on a wall a watercolor painting of Warren Cordell with his wife, Suzanne. In front of them are four books: a miniature Webster, the 1828 Webster, the 1721 Bailey, and the 1502 Calepino. In the course of his life of collecting, Warren sought certain key dictionaries of which he was particularly proud. I have been told that among them was the 1502 dictionary by Ambrogio Calepino.

Although I am no expert on Calepino, I know that his dictionary had a tremendous direct influence on subsequent classical dictionaries and an enormous influence on the type of information contained in dictionaries even to this day. According to Starnes in *Renaissance Dictionaries*, the *Dictionarium* of 1520 was a demonstrable source for Sir Thomas Elyot's own 1538 *Dictionary*. The Calepino dictionary was a gold mine for its publishers, and eventually it evolved to contain as many as 11 languages by 1590, according to the *New Catholic Encyclopedia*.

Without entirely knowing why, I have been acquiring Calepinos for the Cordell Collection almost from the day I arrived to work in the Cordell Collection. Currently, there are 47 different Calepino dictionaries ranging from 1502 to 1778. The last that Ambrogio personally is known to have had anything to do with was the 1509 edition (he died in 1511). A study of how this dictionary evolved and remained in print, however changed, for several centuries would be fascinating. To some degree this has been undertaken at least in the Lebarre bibliography of the works.

### Listings to be added or updated

If you visit the DSNA web site (see back page for URL), you will find a link to the Cordell Collection listings. Among these are the names of various lexicographers. As soon as we have added the Lebarre numbers to the Calepino records and perhaps enhanced some of the entries, we will produce a catalog listing of the Calepinos to join the several we have already produced. At least there are only 47 titles to revise, so such a project will probably be undertaken during the next academic year.

Meanwhile, I have already compiled an online update to my 1993 inventory of the Cordell Collection published (or should I say printed?) by Greenwood Press. An

advantage of online publishing is not having to delete text from titles to keep the length down. Cyberspace "publishers" are more forgiving than book publishers about length! The only problem with the Internet is bandwidth. How long are you willing wait? In any case, the supplement of over 700 added titles in the PDF format is nearly 55 pages. If I ever produce a fuller version of the complete catalog, I suspect it will add several hundred pages more than is found in the 1993 Greenwood Press publication.

### Web site for name authority files

Another more complicated project is the name authority files for my 1994 *Incunable Dictionaries*, which I note was being offered anew for sale in a recent Rulon-Miller catalog of books. The names of compilers and titles often vary from source to source and from language to language. Therefore, I relied on an authority for my form of entry so that I could keep all descendants related to the parent work, although in some cases I'm sure the parent might disown the child. Generally, I relied on the OCLC database. When this did not suffice, I relied on RLIN, NUC, or other major cataloguing sources. Sometimes these sources didn't coincide with current scholarship, but I generally picked the form of personal name or title used in such a source for my form of entry because this is how one finds most of the various forms reconciled, at least in the work or source which I adopted as an authority.

In fact, in a major resource such as OCLC there is a separate authority file database. If I located the entry form in this database, I might find as many as a dozen other names by which a person was known. Such discoveries increased the odds of identifying more works and verifying them, as it also increased enormously the amount of searching and re-searching that my assistant and I had to do. The listing of compiler name authorities may be of use to others conducting such research, so I am producing it as a web document at

<http://odin.indstate.edu/level1.dir/cml/rbsc/research/authorit.html>. In some cases, you will find a name form that you may prefer or know to be correct in the listing under the name I used. As you may suspect, some name forms have been altered by OCLC and RLIN since my work was originally published. But these kinds of changes take time. I hope someone finds it useful even in its unfinished state. I will link it from the listings page when the work is farther along or finished.

David Vancil, Curator of the Cordell Collection of Dictionaries, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State U., Terre Haute, IN 47809. E-mail: [libvanc@isugw.instate.edu](mailto:libvanc@isugw.instate.edu) Tel.: (812) 237-2611. Questions, comments, and ideas for column are welcome. The Cordell Collection on the web (updates and new data posted regularly): <http://odin.indstate.edu/level1.dir/cml/rbsc/rare2.html#Cordell>

NOTE NEW URL FOR CORDELL COLLECTION WEB SITE

### DSNA 2003

The 2003 biennial meeting will be held in Durham, NC, at Duke University. Ron Butters is making the arrangements and will be chair of the hosting committee. The date has not yet been set.

### DSNA Membership

Luanne von Schneidmesser reports that DSNA membership stood at 471 paid members, including institutions, as of mid June this year. We do not have as many institutional members as the nature of our society would warrant, so Luanne suggests that members put in a request with their academic libraries to join, especially in order to receive our journal, *Dictionaries*.

## Postscript on Fred Cassidy

*The following tribute to Fred, which was contributed by DSNA Fellow Virginia McDavid, arrived too late for the last issue. It is fitting that it should be included now. —ed.*

My friendship with Fred Cassidy and my memories of him go back more than half a century, beginning in the late 1940s when I attended a Linguistic Institute at the University of Michigan, where I met him and others interested in American English. Most of these were persons who had worked on the various Linguistic Atlas projects, as had Fred. In all the years since then, my memories of Dialect Society meetings involve Fred, first describing DARE as it was coming into being, then as it was being edited, and later as evidence from it was presented by him and his fellow editors. Fred's love of his field and his project were always plain, and his enthusiasm and scholarship remain a model to us. □

## Lexicography Course at U. of Georgia

Members Don McCreary and Bill Kretzschmar are teaching a new course in lexicography at the University of Georgia each spring semester. The course will most often be taught by Don, who takes a "traditional", paper-based approach, while Bill will teach it occasionally, using an electronic approach. Don wrote a proposal for this course to the U. of Georgia just after the last DSNA meeting, at Berkeley. After 15 months of vetting by different committees at various institutional levels, the proposal was approved in time to make it into the calendar for the 2001 spring semester. Don reports that he is now teaching lexicography — the only such course in the nation! — in the university linguistics program in the English department, and that he has 21 students: 13 undergraduates and eight graduate students. □

## Fulbright Scholar Program

The Fulbright Scholar Program is offering lecturing and research awards in some 140 countries for the 2002-2003 academic year. The awards are open not only to academics, but to people in many other fields. Awards may be for two months to a year or more. Most lecturing assignments are in English. Application deadlines for 2002-2003: Aug. 1, 2001 for traditional lecturing and research grants worldwide; Nov. 1, 2001 for spring/summer seminars in certain countries. For information, contact: Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), 3007 Tilden St., NW, Washington, DC 20008-3009. Tel.: 202-686-7877. E-mail: [apprequest@cies.iese.org](mailto:apprequest@cies.iese.org). Web site: [www.cies.org](http://www.cies.org). □

## American National Corpus

A consortium of several American dictionary publishers, companies interested in natural-language processing, and universities is leading a project to create a corpus of American English texts for use by linguists and lexicographers. The corpus will be modelled on the British National Corpus, which was developed in the 1990s and contains 100 million words of written and spoken texts. The full American corpus is expected to be available by 2003. More information can be found at the ANC's web site: [www.americannationalcorpus.org](http://www.americannationalcorpus.org) □



More DSNA 2001: From top: re-creation of an MED editor's desk, with sorting board & slips, in Hatcher Library display; Rima McKinzey, medieval hostess; enjoying a coffee break; chatting outside the Michigan Union between sessions; Bill Kretzschmar & Connie Eble, also on break; blurry on the way to Greenfield Village (hard to get a clear pic on a moving bus!)

## ACLS Survey

The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), of which DSNA is a member, is undertaking a survey to find out more about why people join learned societies. Many of DSNA's U.S. members will be receiving one. Please fill it out and return it promptly.

— Luanne von Schneidmesser

## Publications of Lexicographical Interest

### Publications Received by DSNA

#### December 2000 - May 2001

- Danesi, Marcel. *Encyclopedic Dictionary of Semiotics, Media, and Communications*. Toronto: U. of Toronto Press, 2000.
- Danker, Frederick William, ed. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd ed. Chicago: U. of Chicago Press, 2000.
- Estudios de Linguística - Universidad de Alicante Numero 14*. Alicante, 2000.
- du Plessis, J.C.M.D. *Lexikos 10*. Stellenbosch: Buro Van Die Wat, 2000.

#### Niemeyer Verlag

- Brasseur, Patrice. *Dictionnaire des régionalismes du français de Terre-Neuve*, 2000.
- Breu, Walter. *Probleme der Interaktion von Lexik und Aspekt (ILA)*, 2000.
- Falileyev, Alexander. *Etymological Glossary of Old Welsh*.
- Hennig, Beate. *Kleines Mittelhochdeutsches Wörterbuch*. 4th ed., 2001.
- Koll-Stobbe, Amei. *Konkrete Lexikologie des Englischen: Entwurf einer Theorie des Sprachkönnens*, 2000.
- Schweickard, Wolfgang. *Deonomasticon Italicum Volume 1: Derivati de nomi geografici, Fascicolo 4 Carioca - Cinto*, 2000.
- LEXICOGRAPHICA
- Kammerer, Matthias. *Lemmazeichentypen für deutsche Verben*. Series Maior 104.
- Mogensen, Jens Erik, et al., eds. *Symposium on Lexicography IX (Proceedings of the Ninth International Symposium on Lexicography April 23-25, 1998 at the University of Copenhagen)*. Series Maior 103.
- Stern, Heidi. *Wörterbuch zum jiddischen Lehnwortschatz in den deutschen Dialekten*. Series Maior 102.

#### Other Recent Publications

- Brockway, Earl, et al. *Diccionario Náhuatl del norte del estado de Puebla*. Summer Institute of Linguistics, Mexico Branch, 2000.
- A Pocket Chinese-Russian-English Dictionary*. Arranged by the Rosenberg Graphical System. (Araushkin & Nadtochenko's Pocket Chinese-Russian-English Dictionary with an English text) U. of Hawaii Press, 2000.
- Roberts, Jane & Christian Kay with Lynne Grundy. *A Thesaurus of Old English*, 2nd revised ed. 2 vols. Amsterdam/Atlanta, GA, 2001.
- Skinner, Leonard E. & Marlene B. Skinner. *Diccionario chinanteco de San Felipe Usila, Oaxaca*. Summer Institute of Linguistics, Mexico Branch, 2000.
- Stewart, Cloyd & Ruth Stewart & Amuzgos consultants. *Diccionario Amuzgo de San Pedro Amuzgos, Oaxaca*. Grammar by Marjorie Buck. Summer Institute of Linguistics, 2000.

#### Niemeyer

- Boulanger, Jean-Claude & Monique C. Cormier. *Le nom propre dans l'espace dictionnaire général: Études de métaléxicographie*, 2001.

- Lemberg, Ingrid, et al., eds. *Chancen u. Perspektiven computergestützter Lexikographie: Hypertext, Internet u. SGML/XML für die Produktion digitaler Wörterbücher*, 2001 (Lexicographica. Series Maior. Band 107).
- Müller, Peter O. *Deutsche Lexikographie des 16. Jahrhunderts: Konzeptionen u. Funktionen früneuzeitlicher Wörterbücher*, 2001.
- Muthmann, Gustav. *Rückläufiges deutsches Wörterbuch: Handbuch der Wortausgänge im Deutschen, mit Beachtung der Wort- u. Lautstruktur*. 3rd ed., 2001.
- Tono, Yukio. *Research on Dictionary Use in the Context of Foreign Language Learning: Focus on Reading Comprehension*, 2001. □

## Calendar

**July 16-20, 2001.** Training initiative in lexicography and lexical computing at the Information Technology Research Institute, U. of Brighton, England; led by Sue Atkins, Adam Kilgarriff, & Michael Rundell. Principal topics: building and working with text corpora; designing and using dictionary databases & computer lexicons; & writing entries for dictionaries & lexicons. Details at: <http://www.itri.bton.ac.uk/lexicom/>

**August 8-10, 2001.** Second biennial conference of the Asian Association for Lexicography (Asialex), Yonsei U., Seoul, Korea. Conference theme is "Asian Bilingualism and the Dictionary." Contact: Asialex 2001, Center for Linguistic Informatics Research, Yonsei U., Seoul 120-749, Korea. E-mail: [asialex@lex.yonsei.ac.kr](mailto:asialex@lex.yonsei.ac.kr)

**September 10-12, 2001.** Fourth International School in Lexicography, Ivanovo U., Ivanovo, Russia on the theme "Language, Culture, Dictionaries." Contact: Prof. Dr. Olga Karpova, Ivanovo State U., Yermak Street 39, 153025 Ivanovo, Russia. E-mail: [karpova@interline.ivanovo.ru](mailto:karpova@interline.ivanovo.ru)

#### 2002

**August 13-17, 2002.** Tenth Euralex International Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark. Organizers: the Center for Sprogteknologi (CST). Presentations are invited on all aspects of lexicography. Deadline for receipt of abstracts is 15 October, 2001. First circular and call for papers will be found in the Euralex newsletter in the Summer 2001 issue of *International Journal of Lexicography* and on the Euralex web site (<http://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/euralex>). Contact: Anna Braasch, CST, Njalsgade 80, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark. E-mail: [elx2002@cst.ku.dk](mailto:elx2002@cst.ku.dk) □

## Recent Conferences

The sixth international conference of the African Association for Lexicography (Afrilex) was held July 2-4, 2001 at the U. of the North, Pietersburg, South Africa. Conference theme was "Computerized Lexicography and the Development of Corpora."

The 2001 International Course in Lexicography (Interlex) was held in Tokyo, 27th-29th March, and Exeter, 23rd-27th April. The Tokyo course, connected with the 4th Workshop of the JACET Society of English Lexicography, had 40+ participants from Japan and three from Europe. The

**DSNA meeting** *Continued from page 1*

**Executive board meeting**

The executive board met on May 6. Present were president Joan Hall, past president Edward Gates, vice president/president-elect Richard Bailey, secretary-treasurer Luanne von Schneidemesser, board members David Jost and Terry Pratt, *Dictionaries* editor Michael Adams, *Newsletter* editor Victoria Neufeldt, and new board members Jesse Sheidlower and Rima McKinzey. Included in the agenda was a review of the past two years. Some highlights (in addition to items that appear elsewhere in this issue of the *Newsletter*): 1) DSNA's corporate status was updated; 2) due date for membership dues was changed from June to January 31, with the official overdue date now being March 1st.; 3) two publication committees were merged into one editorial advisory committee; 4) a task force on the uses of dictionaries in education was set up; 5) a policy was established to grant permission to reprint



DSNA 2001: The executive board, in solemn consultation — really!  
Photo by R. McKinzey.

articles from DSNA publications on authorization of the secretary-treasurer, with the stipulation that due credit be given; 6) new members of the nominating committee were appointed: Donna Farina and Michael Hancher (Don Lance and Allan Metcalf have completed their terms; Joe Pickett and Elizabeth Knowles continue till 2003).

Secretary-Treasurer Luanne von Schneidemesser reported that the society's finances are in good shape. Our total assets as of the end of 2000 are just under \$50,000. Our income for 2000 was about \$26,000 (\$15,500 of that from dues), while expenses were about \$13,000 (including just over \$5000 for the journal, about \$1300 for computer

expenses, and \$1100 for the newsletter). The Urdang DSNA Award appears as both income and expense, adding \$2500 to each column.

**Business meeting**

The society's general business meeting took place Tuesday morning. About 20 members attended. Some highlights (others are found as separate items in this issue):

A tribute in honor of the completion of the *MED*, offered as a resolution by David Jost, was passed unanimously. The resolution states: "The Dictionary Society of North America wishes to extend its praise and congratulations to Bob Lewis and to the rest of the staff of the *Middle English Dictionary* as well as to the University of Michigan and all other supporting bodies. The *Middle English Dictionary* is truly a monumental work of scholarship and all those who have taken part in its preparation deserve our praise both for persevering and for creating a work of excellent scholarship that serves our generation and the generations to come."

A resolution thanking the U. of Michigan, proposed by Luanne von Schneidemesser, was also passed unanimously. The resolution mentioned in particular the English dept., the dean of the graduate school, and the vice-president for research, as well as the libraries and the curators involved in setting up the displays.

The newly elected board members were welcomed.

An engraved medallion was presented to Luanne by the board, in recognition of her contribution to the society since she was first elected secretary-treasurer in 1998. □



DSNA 2001: Joan Hall chatting with John Algeo. Photo by J. Huttar Bailey.



2001 conference photo (cropped), taken on the steps of the U. of Michigan Museum of Art. Photo by News and Information Services, The U. of Michigan. Uncropped color prints (8" by 10") can be ordered for U.S.\$21.85 (price

includes postage and tax) from Photo Services, B542 LSA Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1382. NOTE: When ordering, please mention the Dictionary Society meeting and the date of the photo, May 8, 2001.

## DSNA Newsletter

Return Address (for Post Office use only):

Luanne von Schneidemesser  
Secretary-Treasurer, DSNA  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
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