



25 March 2013

A message from DSNA President Orin Hargraves

Greetings, fellow DSNA members! This is the most exciting time in our two-year cycle when we look forward to our upcoming conference. These gatherings are the pulse (however slow) of the Society and it is always a pleasure to reconnect with members from near and far and get their news. I hope many of you are also looking forward to getting together.

This year will see big changes in the leadership of the Society. My term as president comes to an end, and our long-serving secretary Lisa Berglund will also be stepping down. In addition, David Jost, who has stewarded our Publications Committee so ably for several years, is retiring from that post. Finally, we are beginning a transition from the current editor of *Dictionaries*, Elizabeth Knowles, to the new editor Ed Finegan. This year's conference will be a great opportunity for us all to get acquainted with the new leadership of the Society and help them to chart its direction.

DSNA Membership Directory

We are presently compiling the 2013-2015 membership directory. Please check your entry in the 2011-2013 edition and in the 2012 supplement, and email the [DSNA office](#) with any corrections or changes by Wednesday 1 May. Please note that the directory will not contain your information if you are not a current member on 1 May.

2013 Biennial Meeting: Registration and Membership Renewal

Don't forget to register for the Biennial meeting before early-bird registration closes on 15 April! You can register and secure your hotel room [here](#). Other inquiries may be sent to conference co-chair Don McCreary, mccreary@uga.edu, or at Department of English, Park Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. You also must be a member of DSNA in order to present at the conference. Visit www.dictionariesociety.com to renew your membership; email [the office](#) if you are uncertain of your membership status.

ACLS Humanities E-Book subscriptions

As a constituent society of the American Council of Learned Societies, DSNA offers its members yearly subscriptions to the ACLS Humanities E-Book collection for \$35. HEB offers access to roughly 3,000 full-text, cross-searchable titles across the humanities and

social sciences, from the 1880s through the present. Visit the [DSNA website](#) to subscribe. DSNA receives \$15 each time an individual HEB subscriber indicates their affiliation.

REMINDER:
**Cast your ballot in the 2013 Executive Board election and
constitutional amendment referendum by 1 April!**

After you read the proposed amendments and the information on our slate of nominees, click on the [CAST MY BALLOT](#) link. You will be taken to an electronic ballot. If you prefer to use a paper ballot, contact the DSNA office. We'll email you a link to a ballot you can print out, or if you prefer, send you a paper ballot by regular mail.

Ballots (whether electronic or paper) must be received by 1 April 2013.

1. Proposed Constitutional Amendment:

That the following paragraphs shall be added to the Constitution, "Section III: Officers, Executive Board and Committees":

D. There shall be a Publications Committee of up to eight members.

1. Permanent members will be the editor of *Dictionaries*, the associate (book review) editor of *Dictionaries*, the editor of the *DSNA Newsletter*, and the executive secretary. Each biennium, the Executive Board will also appoint to the Committee the Board president or the vice president, and one other Board member, and also one or two members from the general membership of DSNA. Appointments will be for two years and may be renewed indefinitely.
2. The Publications Committee shall elect its own chairperson.
3. The Publications Committee shall be responsible for general oversight of all DSNA publications, including but not limited to *Dictionaries*, the *DSNA Newsletter*, and the DSNA blog, and shall provide specific recommendations to the Board as needed to fulfill the purposes of DSNA outlined in "V. Publications."
4. The Publications Committee chair shall report to the Executive Board at each Executive Board meeting.

E. The Executive Board may appoint ad-hoc committees.

1. Every ad-hoc committee must have a specific charge recorded in the minutes of the Executive Board meeting that approved its creation.
2. The Executive Board shall name all members of ad-hoc committees. At least one member of each ad-hoc committee must be a member of the Executive Board. No committee shall have fewer than three members.
3. If the Executive Board does not name a chair, the ad-hoc committee shall elect its own chairperson.
4. An ad-hoc committee shall, at a minimum, present one report in writing to the Executive Board during its term of existence.
5. All ad-hoc committees shall expire at the biennial meeting following their constitution, unless the Executive Board formally renews the committee's charge and appoints (or reappoints) members.

Rationale: The Executive Board presently relies on informal committees for advice on developing policies and managing DSNA publications, outreach, and finances. These two amendments regulate this practice. They also create opportunities for members other than elected officers to participate in the leadership of the DSNA.

2. Election of Officers and Board Members-at-Large

The Nominating Committee of the DSNA—Michael Adams (chair), Ed Finegan, David Barnhart and Ben Zimmer—submits the following slate for 2013. A biography of each candidate is given below. Michael Adams, the current Vice-President/President-Elect, will become President for 2013-2015. Connie Eble and Toni Healey continue as Members-at-Large for two more years.

Nominee for Vice-President/President Elect: Luanne von Schneidemesser

Luanne von Schneidemesser is Senior Editor/Distinguished Scientist, *Dictionary of American Regional English* (DARE) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (where she also earned her Ph.D). Her publication topics include DARE, American regional English, settlement history, pop and soda, terms used in children's games, Kansas vocabulary, German influences on American English, use of digital resources, and outreach. She is past-president of the American Dialect Society, served as Executive Secretary of DSNA (1998-2007), was a member and chair of the Executive Committee of the Conference of Administrative Officers of the American Council of Learned Societies (2000-03), and served as a member of the ACLS Board of Directors (2001-03). In 2009, she was elected a fellow of the DSNA. At UW-Madison, she is part of the Wisconsin Englishes project.

Nominee for Executive Secretary: Rebecca Shapiro

Rebecca Shapiro received her Ph.D. in eighteenth-century British literature and sociolinguistics/ESL from Purdue University and is an assistant professor at CUNY—New York City College of Technology. Her areas of study include Maria Edgeworth, sociolinguistics, the rhetoric of eighteenth-century English conversionist literature, teaching World Englishes, and lexicography in the eighteenth century. She is working on an anthology of English dictionary front matter from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. She also has worked as a copy-editor, proof-reader, and lexicographic entry-writer and sense editor for several presses: OUP, AMS, Scholastic, Random House, Scholastic, Collins, and Visual Thesaurus.

Nominees for Two At-Large Board Positions: Ammon Shea and Peter A. Sokolowski

Ammon Shea has written about and researched dictionaries, obscure words, and aspects of the English language for two decades. He is the author of *Reading the OED* and *The Telephone Book*, and currently is writing a book examining language pet peeves over the past five centuries. Since 2011 he has worked for the North American Reading Program of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, focusing on early 20th century North American slang and jazz terminology. His research interests are historical lexicography, slang, and users' attitudes toward dictionaries.

Peter A. Sokolowski joined Merriam-Webster in 1994 as the first French-language editor in the company's history; he was named Editor at Large in 2007. He has defined and edited entries for *Merriam-Webster's French-English Dictionary*, *Collegiate Encyclopedia* (now the *Concise Britannica*), *Collegiate Dictionary* (11th Edition), and *Advanced Learner's English Dictionary*. He blogs at Merriam-Webster's *Unabridged* Web site, discusses dictionaries and language in videos at M-W.com, and is the voice of Merriam-Webster's Word of the Day podcast. Active as a lecturer in the world of ESL and TESOL, Peter has led workshops on American English for the U.S. State Department, and serves as pronouncer for spelling bees around the world. Peter attended the University of Paris and taught French at the University of Massachusetts while earning his M.A. in French Literature. He maintains a busy freelance career as a musician and presents jazz programming for Western New England's National Public Radio affiliate.

[CAST MY BALLOT](#)

DSNA Member Survey

At the biennial meeting in Athens, GA, the Executive Board will host a panel discussion on “The Future of DSNA.” This roundtable will address issues confronting all learned societies (the impact of open access publishing, for example) as well as those particular to DSNA, such as publishers' shift away from in-house lexicography.

To prepare for the roundtable, we would like to learn more about the value of DSNAs for our members. We would be grateful if you would take five minutes to complete a survey. The information will be collected anonymously. To access the survey, [click here](#).

If you have any questions about the ballot or the survey, please contact [Lisa Berglund](#), DSNAs Executive Secretary.

Notices like these are sent to members of DSNAs four or five times per year. If you no longer wish to receive these notices, please inform us at the DSNAs [office](#).