

**The Spring Meeting of the AILACT Board of Directors
May 20, 2005, McMaster University, 1:10 to 1:50pm**

The meeting was called to order by our new President, Maurice Finocchiaro.

Remarkably (given that we were piggy-backing on an OSSA meeting), all Board Members but one were in attendance: David Hitchcock, Trudy Govier, H. V. Hansen, John Hoaglund, Derek Allen, Michael Scriven, Tony Blair, Don Hatcher, Maurice Finocchiaro, Bob Ennis. Ralph Johnson also attended (Our Constitution says that any member is welcome to attend a Board meeting)

Name.

Don Hatcher noted that a member had suggested that the name of the organization be changed to Association for Critical Thinking. After considerable discussion, Ennis moved, Hoaglund seconded, to keep the name as is. Passed unanimously.

Jobs.

Ennis noted that the most recent APA Jobs for Philosophers mentioned 'critical thinking' for five jobs. This is a much higher percentage of such mentions than usual. Ennis noted that jobs that call for critical thinking and informal logic often do not mention this fact about the jobs, and wondered what we might do to help people trained in informal logic and critical thinking get jobs. He reported that at the last informal gathering of AILACT, members recommended that APA officials be contacted to request that they request that such jobs be more transparent in their listings, and regretted that APA officials had not yet been contacted.

Michael Scriven suggested getting critical thinking and informal logic on the APA lists of Areas of Specialization and Areas of Competence.

Hans Hansen suggested that instead of our providing a listing of jobs, candidates need only look on the APA Web site.

Trudy Govier recommended asking APA to give this area more recognition.

Maurice Finocchiaro, echoing the remarks by Scriven and Govier, suggested that AILACT should try to have this area included among: (1) those that are the subject of official APA Newsletters, and (2) those that are the subject of the about two dozen advisory committees to the Eastern Division Program Committee.

David Hitchcock said that he would be happy to list jobs on our Web site if someone will tell him what to list. However, in the end, the Board granted David Hitchcock's request to cease listing on the AILACT Web site specific job openings with a requirement for specialization or competence in critical thinking or informal logic.

Publication.

Michael Scriven suggested that we have a monograph series. Edgepress could do it though Michael is overcommitted.

It was noted that Vale Press is already doing a monograph series.

Publication of the many high quality entries for the Essay Prize entered the conversation.

Tony Blair moved that we form a Publications Committee composed of Michael Scriven, Trudy Govier, John Hoaglund, and Tony Blair, with Maurice Finocchiaro as ex officio, leaving it up to the Committee to choose its chair. Seconded by Bob Ennis. Discussion was rushed, as our time was expiring. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Ennis
Secretary for the day