

Business Meeting: President's Report

Thank you to this year's officers for their hard work in putting together today's program and making sure the conference was a success.

Thank you in absentia to yesterday's performers Veena Chandra and Ray Spiegel, for a wonderful concert of Hindustani classical music.

SEM 2016 Chapter Presidents' Meeting

Chapter presidents debated the pros and cons of centralizing operations—website migration, collecting dues via the registration check boxes. Compared notes on conference dues, various kinds of funds.

Ongoing concerns: Despite active participation—we had nearly 30 abstracts submitted this year—we struggle to increase the involvement of our senior members.

Cancellations. We have had a few cancellations by presenters this year. It can be difficult, with changing leadership of the chapter, to keep track of people who have cancelled in the past, but this is certainly a problem. It's even more of a shame owing to the fact that we had to turn away a number of solid abstracts, and most of these cancellations came in at the last minute.

I can say that without the financial support of Middlebury College this conference would not be possible in its present form. They invested quite a lot in publicity, honoraria for performers and speakers, catering, etc. This is certainly an argument for the importance of paying dues. Listserv—work with Antanas to set up the listserv for ease of communication. This might lead in future years to an increase in the amount of annual dues. At present, I think it's important to stress that your 10-20 that you paid function both as dues and conference registration. It's important that you pay. I will send out an email to our colleagues in the region to impress upon them the importance of these funds for sustaining our chapter.

From Antanas Meilus:

In terms of needs/reporting for the website. I have spoken to representatives at SEM about migrating our site for hosting through them. Hopefully this can be accomplished in the next few months.