

Council approved the advertisement for the new Research Fellowships. It is hoped that the successful applicants will be able to take up their positions by September 2002. Council will meet to appoint the Research Fellows on Thursday 27th June.

7. **JOURNAL**

Volume 17 has now been distributed to members. The problem of distribution in South Asia was discussed. Dr. Willis will approach the Ecole Francaise in Pondicherry to see if they would be willing to distribute the Journal in India on the Society's behalf.

8. **PUBLICATIONS**

Council was pleased to receive the latest publications: Archaeological Geography of the Ganga Plain by Dr. D.K. Chakrabarti and From Cairo to Kabul edited by Dr. Warwick Ball. The Assistant Secretary will ask the authors to forward copies of these books to the Editor for review.

9. **PUBLICATIONS POLICY**

Council agreed that ideally grants to assist with publication should be given to projects that the Society has funded. Grants may also be given to publications which can demonstrate a special need for Society support. Council decided that publication grants should not exceed £1,000

10. **FUNDING PROPOSALS** (Paper 3/02)

Dr. Rachel Dwyer and Dr. Divia Patel :- a subvention of £1,000 was approved to assist with the publication costs of Dr. Dwyer and Dr. Patel's book 'Cinema India'.

11. **SOCIETY'S LIBRARY IN KABUL**

The Society has been informed by Sir Nicholas Barrington that the library in Kabul has survived. The Assistant Secretary was instructed to speak to Sir Nicholas to see if it was possible to ascertain the number and condition of the books. Council will then be able discuss what should be done with the library at its next meeting.

12. **ANNUAL LECTURE 2002**

A number of possible speakers were suggested for the AGM which will take place on 25th November. Council asked Dr. Bates to contact Professor Richard Dirks at Colombia University on their behalf to enquire if he would be willing to speak.

13. **NEW MEMBERS** (Paper 4/02))

Council approved the election of the following new member of the Society:-

Full Member - Dr. Greg Possehl

14. **AOB**

Council agreed that it was necessary to update the web site.

15. **NEXT MEETING**

Monday 13th May 2002

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Meeting of the Council held on Monday 13th May 2002

Present : Dr. M. Willis (Chairman) Prof. G. Chapman*
 Mr. David Waterhouse (Treasurer) Dr. V. Damodoran
 Dr. F. Orsini (Secretary) Dr. J. Howes
 Dr. A. Hardy (Editor) Prof. F.C.R. Robinson*
 Dr. Daud Ali Prof. C. Shackle
 Dr. C. Bates Dr. A. Topsfield*
 Mr. J Cribb
 Ms. R Crill

(* unable to attend)

16. **MINUTES** 1/02 were approved and signed.

17. **MATTERS ARISING**

Post-Doctoral Fellowships: Council was informed that the Post-Doctoral fellowship has been widely advertised through mailing lists. Dr. Crispin Bates will arrange for the advertisement to appear on the BASAS website. It is already up on the Centre for South Asian Studies website in Cambridge.

The point was raised whether the Post-Doctoral Fellowship would include National Insurance contributions, and whether it would be preferable to pay the grant as an award directly to the fellow rather than through the host institution. The Treasurer and Dr. Daud Ali will make enquiries with the British Academy and the Secretary at SOAS and will circulate information among members of the Council before the next meeting by email.

The meeting to decide on the awards will take place on Friday 21st June 2002.

Journal: The Chairman reported that he has written to Pondicherry to enquire about the possibility of the French Institute distributing the Journal in India on behalf of the Society. A decision will be made there after consultation.

18. **TREASURER'S REPORT** (Paper 10/02)

The Treasurer made his report for the period ending 31st March 2002. In order to pursue the objective of running down the reserves Council decided to invite bids for research projects for the maximum duration of three years, for a sum of £2-10,000 per year. Council delegated the Chairman and Secretary to draw up an advert which will be

circulated shortly through the usual channels, with a deadline for applications of 1st November. The decision will be made at the Council meeting of 23rd November

2002.

19. **BID TO BRITISH ACADEMY FOR NEW INITIATIVES** (Paper 5/02)
The Chairman reported that the result of the extra bid to BASIS will be announced on 15th May 2002. Council thanked the Chairman for his timely application.
20. **SUBVENTION BID BY ROBERT ELGOOD** (Paper 6/02)
Council awarded a subvention of £ 1000 to Robert Elgood to assist with the publication costs of his book 'Hindu Weapons and Warfare'.
21. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE**
Council awarded the following grants recommended by the Research Committee:-
Aided Projects
i Dr. Dilip Chakrabarti - £2,500 to carry out an extensive survey of the ancient historical geography of the upper Ganga - Yamuna doab
- Small Personal Research Grants**
i. Dr. Lalita Du Perron - £1,670 to study the role of language in consolidating regional identities in India's 'Hindi Belt'.
ii. Dr. Rachel Dwyer - £2,000 to study depictions of religion in Indian cinema.
iii. Dr. Jonathan Lee - £3,000 to undertake a historical and archaeological expedition to Afghanistan.
- Travel Grants**
i. Dr. Deborah Sutton - £1,520 to study development, colonialism and post-colonialism in India and East Africa.
ii. Dr. William Douglas - £460
- Conference Grants**
i. Dr. Crispin Branfoot - £2,000 to organise a conference on traditional arts of South Asia.
- Council delegated the Secretary to write to Dr. Valentina Vitali and ask her to clarify her submission for an aided project. It was agreed to award Dr. Vitali a grant not in excess of £ 3000 if unsuccessful in her other bids and on the provision that she submits a more detailed proposal.
22. **SOCIETY'S LIBRARY IN KABUL** (Paper 7/02)
Council agreed to ask Jonathan Lee to make enquiries about the state of the books in the British Embassy on behalf of the Society during his trip to Kabul and to report back to Council. The Secretary was directed to write to Professor Giovanni Verardi of Naples University about the possibility of a joint European Institute in Kabul.
23. **SOCIETY MONOGRAPHS**
The Monographs Editor reported that both Dr. Shakoohy and Prof. MacGrail have received page proofs, and that Richard Shaw has submitted a monograph which has been sent to reader in France.

24. **OCCASIONAL PAPERS** (Paper 8/02)
Council agreed to the proposal of the Monographs Editor that a new series of Occasional Papers be launched which would bring out research papers on work in progress under the Society's name. The Papers would be distributed in the same way as the Journal, and extensive summaries would appear on the Society webpage. Society funding will not be excluded in future.
25. **Annual Lecture**
Nicholas Dirks will give the Annual Society Lecture on Monday 25th November 2002. Dr R.S. McGregor and Prof. Giovanni Verardi are the candidates for 2003 and 2004 lectures.
26. **New Members** (Paper 9/02)
Council approved the election of the following new members of the Society:-
Full Members : Dr. Berenice Bellina
Student members : Tania Kennedy
Associate members : Deborah Sutton
27. **Gift of Journals**
Council agreed to ask Dr. Baker to donate the Journals to Edinburgh University Library on the assumption that they will take on a subscription.
28. **AOB**
Council agreed that Mr Justin Morris of the British Museum be asked to be the Webmaster, to ensure the smooth and rapid appearance of material on the website.

Council agreed to the Chairman's suggestion that at the next Annual General Meeting the rules be changed to replace the current post of Editor with the posts of Monographs Editor and a Journal Editor.

Council agreed to send a flyer to its members for the book 'Sir Aurel Stein in The Times' on behalf of Sajid Rizvi of Saffron Books. Saffron Books will bear all the cost of postage.
29. **NEXT MEETING**
Friday 21st June - to appoint the post-doctoral Research Fellows.

The draft accounts for the fiscal year ending 31st March 2002 were approved and signed.

The Asst. secretary will append the report by the Hon. Treasurer on the reserves policy and risk management.

34. **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT** (Paper 13/02)

The draft annual report for the year ending 31st March 2002 was approved with the addition of some minor amendments.

35. **NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL**

There will also be two vacancies on Council next year as Professor Robinson and Professor Shackle will have completed their four year terms. Council nominated Dr Elizabeth English, Cambridge and Dr Ulrich Pagel, Religious Studies, SOAS as their nominees.

36. **GRANT IN AID 2003/4** (Paper 14/02)

A total grant of £75,000 has been requested from BASIS for 2003/04. the bid was approved by Council.

37. **POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWS** (15/02)

Dr. Lambourn has already taken up her fellowship at De Montfort University and the Society has been invoiced for the first part of her grant.

Council considered the communications from Dr. Cowan at the University of Sussex regarding Nayanika Mookherjee's fellowship. After much discussion Council agreed that it would be unfair to the other candidates to change the level of the fellowship offered, as some applicants had withdrawn following intimations from their host institutions that they would be unable to find extra funding to cover their overheads. It was agreed that The Hon. secretary should write to Dr. Cowan suggesting that Miss Mookherjee should be appointed on a pro rata basis in an attempt to ease the concerns of their administration department.

38. **LETTER TO MR. J. R. KNOX** (Paper 16/02)

Dr. Willis' reply to Mr. Knox was noted

39. **BID TO BRITISH ACADEMY FOR NEW INITIATIVES** (Paper 17/02)

The Chairman reported that the bid to BASIS for extra funding for the Central Asian project had been unsuccessful. However, the Society had been informed that further funding for new initiatives was available. The Chairman urged members of Council to contact him with details of suitable projects which could form the basis of a bid to the Academy. The closing date for receipt of applications is 15th November.

40. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

Council awarded the following grants recommended by the Research Committee:-

Aided Projects

i Dr. Valentina Vitali - £ 3000 for three years to study action cinema in India.

Small Personal Research Grants

- i. Dr. Naman P. Ahuja - £2,000 to date and map the spread of the iconography of a major Indian cult goddess.
- ii. Dr. Robin Jones - £1,000 to study a range of colonial-period buildings in South India and Sri Lanka.
- iii. Mr. Akira Shimada - £2,200 to carry out work in connection with the 'World Corpus of Amaravati Sculpture' project.
- iv. Dr. Natalie Tobert - £1,360 to study mental health practices in an Indian context.

Travel Grants

- i. Dr. Stephen Hughes - £500 to conduct interviews and collect photographs for a forthcoming book on Indian cinema
- ii. Dr. Julia Leslie - £630 to chair the sixth international conference on dowry death in New Delhi

Council delegated the Chairman to write to Dr. James Benson seeking clarification of his budget and whether the Society would be expected to take financial responsibility for the other members of his research team. Council instructed the Asst. Secretary to write to Dr. Dwyer urging her to apply to the AHRB for funding, as it was felt that her project was more suitable for their consideration.

41. **SUBVENTION BID BY FRANCES MORTIMER RICE** (Paper 18/02)
Council instructed the Assistant Secretary to write to the Royal Asiatic Society requesting clarification of their figures.
42. **SUBVENTION BID BY ELIZABETH ENGLISH** (Paper 19/02)
Council awarded a subvention of £1,000 to Dr. English to help cover the pre-publication costs of her book 'Vajrayogini: her Visualisation, Rituals and Forms'.
43. **New Members** (Paper 20/02)
Council approved the election of the following new members of the Society:-
Full Members : Dr. Elizabeth English, Dr. Robin Jones and Dr. Janice Stargardt
Student members : Mark Richard Brand, Miss Jivanta Schoettli and Miss Manuela Ciotti
Associate members : Dr. Lawrence Smith and Mr. Akira Shimada
44. **AOB**
The Chairman proposed that a working committee be established to undertake a strategic review of all Society projects and the processes required to take each one to completion. Council agreed unanimously and asked Dr. Willis to lead the working party.
45. **NEXT MEETING**
Monday 25th November at The British Academy at 3pm - prior to the AGM

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Meeting of the Council held on Monday 25th November 2002

Present :	Dr. M. Willis (Chairman)	Prof. G. Chapman
	Mr. David Waterhouse (Treasurer)	Dr. V. Damodoran*
	Dr. F. Orsini (Secretary)	Dr. J. Howes
	Dr. A. Hardy (Editor)	Prof. F.C.R. Robinson*
	Dr. Daud Ali	Prof. C. Shackle*
	Dr. C. Bates*	Dr. A. Topsfield*
	Mr. J Cribb*	
	Ms. R Crill*	

(* unable to attend)

In attendance : Ms Annie Howell (Assistant Secretary)

46. **MINUTES** 3/02 were approved and signed.

47. **MATTERS ARISING**

Post-Doctoral Fellowships: The problems at the University of Sussex have now been successfully resolved and Dr. Mookherjee has begun her tenure there. She will conduct research into the genealogies of 'war babies' and their contribution to the idea of nationhood in Bangladesh. Her fellowship will be two years in duration.

Subvention Bid by Frances Mortimer Rice: The Assistant Secretary has received some clarification of the figures for the re-printing of the book from the Royal Asiatic Society. Council requested that these be circulated to members, and the matter discussed at the next meeting.

48. **BASIS MEETING** (Papers 21/02 and 22/02)

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the proceedings of the most recent meeting of BASIS. Council discussed the guidelines issued by the Academy on unpublished fieldwork and the Data Protection Act. Both documents were felt to be of benefit to the Society. It was agreed that referees should be made aware that the Society has to conform to the Data Protection Act when they are approached for references.

49. **BID TO BASIS FOR FUNDING NEW INITIATIVES** (Paper 23/02)

Council approved the application to BASIS for funding for the Masson project. It was agreed that an invitation should be issued to individual scholars and institutions by way of the BASAS web site requesting applications for new long term projects. As most of the current Aided projects are nearing completion funding will be available for new projects. Dr. Willis will send the details to BASAS.

50. **TREASURER'S REPORT** (Paper 29/02)

The Hon. Treasurer presented his report for the period ending 25th November 2002. A total of £83,051 has been spent to date leaving approximately £17, 649 available for research and travel grants.

The Hon Treasurer suggested that the time was right for a change of auditor. Pridie Brewster had performed this function well over the years but a fresh look was advisable. Council agreed to recommend to the AGM the appointment of Mr. Peter Duffel FCA as auditor, to be effective from the year 2002 - 2003. Council also decided that cheques drawn on the Society's main bank account should be signed on a dual signatory basis for amounts over £10000. Cheques below this figure should continue to be signed by a single signatory. Cheques drawn on

the Journal account should become dual signatory for amounts in excess of £3000. These changes should take effect immediately and the Treasurer was instructed to inform the Bank. The Society's authorised cheque signatories are now Dr M Willis, Dr. F Orsini and Mr. D. M Waterhouse for the main account and Mr. D. M Waterhouse and Dr A Hardy for the journal account.

51. **PUBLICATIONS** (Paper 24/02)
Council authorised the payment of £2,500 towards the production costs of the Muslim Architecture monograph. Council asked Dr. Willis to obtain details of projected revenue against projected costs from the publisher.
52. **AIDED PROJECT APPLICATIONS**
a) Dr. Andrew Wvatt : Explaining party System Change in Tamil Nadu (Paper 25/02)
Council felt unable to fund the replacement teaching costs requested as part of the project proposal as this falls outside the Society's terms of reference. However, it was agreed to fund the fieldwork costs of £1,650, but felt that these should be awarded as a small personal research grant.
b) Dr. Magnus Marsden : Migration, Labour and Islam in Pakistan (Paper 26/02)
Council was satisfied with the intellectual content of the project proposal, but felt that a small personal research grant of £3,000 was a more appropriate award. Council asked the Asst. Secretary to write to Dr. Marsden requesting information on the outcome of his other funding applications.
53. **FUNDING FOR STUDENTS**
Currently the Society is only able to offer funding at post doctoral level or its equivalent. The Chairman discussed the possibility of extending funding to MA and Phd students at the recent meeting of BASIS. BASIS members felt that there would be no problems as long as the funding was not used to cover research which would contribute towards an applicants degree. After much discussion Council agreed that a working party should be formed to look into the issue and report back at the January meeting. Dr. Francesca Orsini, Dr. Daud Ali and Dr. Graham Chapman agreed to join the working party.
54. **REPORT BY THE STRATEGIC REVIEW WORKING PARTY** (Paper 27/02)
Dr. Howes reported on the updating of the web site, and presented three estimates for the re-design work. Council agreed that the work should be given to Emily Hutchinson at a cost of £450.
Dr. Chapman agreed to look into the possibility of producing a data base of scholars and their fields of interest. Council asked the asst. secretary to include a section on the next subscription form requesting permission from members to include their data in the list.
55. **DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2003**
Monday 20th January
Monday 19th May
Monday 22nd September
Monday 17th November - AGM
56. **ANNUAL LECTURE 2003**
Dr. Orsini confirmed that Professor. Sheldon Pollock, professor of Sanskrit, University of Chicago had agreed to give the 2003 Annual Lecture.
57. **ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS** (Paper 28/02)
Dr. Ulrich Pagel was elected as an associate member of the Society.
58. **AOB**
Dr. Jonathan Lee has recently returned from Kabul. It was agreed that the possibility of future of work in Kabul needs to be discussed urgently. The Chairman proposed that Dr. Lee should be invited to submit a paper to Council and to be present for discussions at the meeting in January. Council asked the Asst. Secretary to write to Dr. Lee on this matter. Mr Cribb (BM) has agreed to set up a research group on Afghanistan headed by himself and Professor N. Sims-Williams (SOAS). Researchers interested in Afghanistan, especially in longer-term projects, should ideally go through this group which will help bring things into focus and present proposals to Council.

59. **NEXT MEETING**
Monday 20th January at SOAS

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Monday 25th November 2002
at the British Academy

Members of Council present :

Dr. M. Willis (Chairman)
Mr. David Waterhouse (Treasurer)
Dr. F. Orsini (Secretary)
Dr. A. Hardy (Editor)
Dr. Daud Ali
Prof. G. Chapman
Dr. J. Howes

In attendance : Ms Annie Howell (Assistant Secretary)
61 members of the Society.

MINUTES

1. Minutes 5/01 of the A.G.M of the Society held on 26th November 2001 at the Royal Asiatic Society were approved and signed.
2. The Chairman presented the report of Council for 2001/2002
3. The Treasurer presented the accounts of the Society for 2001/2002 which were approved. Mr. Peter Duffel, Chartered Accountant of was appointed auditor for 2002/20023
4. The following were elected Officers for 2003:-

Chairman	Dr. Michael Willis
Treasurer	Mr. David Waterhouse
Secretary	Dr. Francesca Orsini
Editor	Dr. Adam Hardy
5. The following were elected new Ordinary Members of Council from January 2003:-

Dr. Elizabeth English
Dr. Ulrich Pagel

6. Professor Nicholas B. Dirks gave a lecture entitled 'The Ethnographic State, Anthropology and Colonial Rule in India'