Communications: Report

Dear Sederians,

The first annual issue of the 8th SEDERI Newsletter will reach you before you embark on a deserved summer vacation. At the last SEDERI meeting some changes were made to the Executive Board, and Jesús Tronch will hold the post of Secretary-Treasurer. We would like to thank Ana Sáez for her hard work and for having been an important contributor to the development of our society.

The Organising Committee for the next SEDERI Conference has already started working. The official Call for Papers will be sent next September. The Conference will be held in Porto, from 22 to 24 April, 2010, and will have the following plenary speakers:

- Stephen Greenblatt (Harvard University)
- Andrew Gurr (University of Reading)
- Diane Purkiss (Oxford University)
- Ramie Targoff (Brandeis University)
- Ton Hoenselaars (Utrecht University)

Beginning in this issue, pictures of the latest conference will be included in the Newsletter each year. Two snapshots from the Valencia conference are attached in this issue.

Rafael Vélez UNIVERSITY OF CÁDIZ

20th SEDERI General Meeting

The 20th General Meeting of our Society was held during the last Conference of the Association in Valencia, on April 23rd, 2009. This is a brief summary of the most important aspects debated there.

The Secretary-Treasurer informed about the increasing number of members of the Society as well as about the possibility of credit card payment now available in the Society’s website, to be used by foreign members mostly. She also made two proposals, both of them passed by the Assembly: the first one is the publication of a list of members in our website —though observing the legal restrictions on disclosure of personal details; the second one, a mailing list at a listserv which would improve communication among Sederians.

She also provided the annual economic report of the Society, which shows some extra expenses resulting from the payment for the design of the new website and the Award to Young Researchers. As a result of this, and following the 2008 assembly’s suggestion, the membership fee has been revised —it had not changed for the past nine years— and, from now on, it will be 30€.

The four-year period for the post of Secretary-Treasurer has expired, and a new one has been elected by the assembly: Jesús Tronch Pérez.

The report of the Board Member in charge of Communications informed about the completion of the new website of the Society. Suggestions for improvement are welcome.
The Board Member in charge of Conferences raised the question of which period of the year is most suitable to celebrate future conferences, and, after some discussion, it was agreed to fix it in springtime. In 2010 the SEDERI Conference will be hosted by the University of Porto (Portugal). The organizer, Rui Carvalho, informed that the dates have already been fixed (22-24 April), and that the conference will bear the title “‘Ports and Piers and Roads’: Self and World in Early Modern Culture”.

After last year’s discussion of the Society’s sponsorship of academic events related to English Renaissance studies, SEDERI has been invited to collaborate in the publication of the proceedings of one of those events. The assembly is in favour of this type of collaboration as long as there is a scientific committee taking care of the academic quality standards of the papers.

The Member of the Board in charge of Publications announced that the SEDERI Yearbook has been short-listed in 2008 among the top-quality journals published in all scientific areas in Spain. This has only been possible thanks to the previous editors. FECYT, the agency in charge of this assessment, has established several criteria for scientific journals, which has entailed a remodelling of the Editorial Board of the Yearbook into different roles: Editors, Editorial Board, Advisory Board, and Referees. Other improvements that have been proposed have to do with promoting reviews of publications on topics related to the scope of SEDERI, and with holding a repository of the Yearbook.

The meeting ended with the President’s expression of thanks to the Organizing committee of the Valencia Conference.

Ana Sáez Hidalgo
Secretary’s address

I am happy to address “Sederians” in my new capacity as Secretary and Treasurer of the Association. Let me first thank those members who at the General Meeting entrusted me with this task, which I will endeavour to carry out, hopefully, as efficiently as did our former Secretary and Treasurer, Ana Sáez Hidalgo. Not only am I grateful for her efforts, which she has sustained since 2005, but also for her generous assistance in assuring a smooth transfer of information and pertinent documents, as well as banking data and details involving relations with other institutions.

As Secretary and Treasurer, my first two main tasks will focus on the guidelines agreed upon at the General Meeting, which were detailed in the former Secretary’s report, to wit: acquiring more personal information from members, to be included in the publication of a list of members in our website; and creating a listserv mailing system that will allow unmediated e-mail exchange among members who wish to inform others about activities and publications of interest, as well as other matters of importance to the Society as a whole.

Finally, I would you like to know that I am at your disposal in whatever manner I may be of service to you. The email address remains the same: <sederi_secretaria@hotmail.com>.

Jesús Tronch Pérez

SEDERI Award to Young Researchers

Since the conference held in Cáceres (SEDERI 16, 2006), SEDERI has been granting an award to the most outstanding paper presented by a young SEDERI associate. The name is made public during the conference’s closing ceremony. This year’s award was given to Remedios Perni Llorente, from the University of Murcia, for her paper “Ophelia at Margins: the Recovery of the Body”. We wish to express our congratulations to her and to encourage all young scholars to participate in future conferences and keep up their good work.

Homage to Prof. De Paiva Correia

Our colleague Maria Helena Ribeiro de Paiva Correia reached her joyful age of retirement last year. In order to commemorate her long career at the University of Lisbon and her contribution to the development of English Studies in her country, she received the homage of her colleagues on 3 June at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Lisbon. In the sessions she also received a copy of the Festschrift published in her honour and presented by Dr. Maria Leonor Machado de Sousa.