ADE Business Minutes, Denver, Colorado, 6 October 2005-8 October 2005
President Dennis Conrad called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m. The meeting approved the minutes of the 2004 annual business meeting.

The president thanked this year’s Local Arrangements Committee, in particular Catherine Kunce, the chair of the committee. Other members of the committee were Dale Connelly, Timothy Connelly, Kate Culkin, Carol DeBoer-Langworthy, Carol Faulkner, Frank E. Grizzard, David Hoth, Donna Kelly, Gary E. Moulton, and Martin Tuohy.

Conrad also thanked the many institutions who contributed to this year’s meeting, especially the Colorado History Museum and the Denver Public Library, our hosts for the evening’s opening reception. The Colorado Historical Society, the Center for the American West, the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado, Boulder, the University of Colorado Bookstore, the Sarah Helen Whitman Papers, Christie and Brown Publishing Company, and Argonaut Wine and Liquors were also thanked for their generous contributions.

The president next thanked the Program Committee: Roger A. Bruns (chair), Christopher Alhambra, Timothy Connelly, and John Kaminski.

Conrad asked those in attendance to recognize the members of the council who have completed their terms: Ronald A. Bosco, counselor-at-large, Anne Decker Cecere, secretary, and Larry Hickman, director of publications.
Secretary’s Report

Anne Decker Cecere, ADE secretary, announced the results of the 2005 election: Ronald A. Bosco, president-elect; John A. Lupton, treasurer; Christine S. Patrick, secretary; Richard Leffler, director of publications; Mary A. Y. Gallagher, councilor-at-large; and the 2005-2006 Nominating Committee consisting of Leslie S. Rowland (chair), Anne Decker Cecere, Barry Pateman, Mary Lamb Shelden, and Kenneth H. Williams. Seventy-three ballots were cast in the election.

ADE membership has dropped during the last year. The ADE currently has 422 members, the number of members reported at last year’s meeting was 446. Since the 2004 annual meeting, 29 new members have joined ADE and 53 members have been dropped from the rolls.

Treasurer’s Report

John A. Lupton, ADE treasurer, reported that during the 2004–2005 fiscal year there was a decrease in the general budget of $1,544. This was the third consecutive year of decreases. The full effect on the balance sheet of the new dues structure instituted at last year’s annual meeting can not be assessed at this time because many renewed their memberships before the new dues structure was implemented. There has also been an increase in the number of members in arrears in paying their dues. ADE continues to receive donations from members in addition to their dues, and this money has helped to balance the budget in the last few years. Nearly all of ADE’s income comes from membership dues and conference revenue. The meeting voted to approve the treasurer’s report and the proposed budget for the 2005–2006 fiscal year.

Committee Reports

Larry Hickman, ADE director of publications, reported on the Publication Committee’s busy year. Susan H. Perdue has agreed to serve as co-PI, with Mary-Jo Kline, for the third edition of the Guide to Documentary Editing, and Roger A. Bruns has agreed to be the Project Director. A proposal for the Guide, prepared by Kline, with assistance from Perdue, Bruns, John A. Lupton, and Dennis Conrad, is now before NEH. As a result of a great deal of work by Kline, ADE now has an advance contract with the University of Virginia Press. The Press proposes issuing a print edition of the Guide as well as a web-based electronic edition. Mary-Jo Kline commented
that the *Guide’s* web-based component will allow it to be revised and kept up-to-date. ADE should know in February whether they will receive funding for the *Guide*.

Hickman also reported that the scanning of *Documentary Editing* back issues is proceeding very well. In other news, David Spiech has been named the associate editor of *Documentary Editing*, and his appointment has been approved by the Council.

Marianne Wokeck, editor of *Documentary Editing*, announced that the journal is looking for volunteers to review documentary editions. Reviewers are also sought for articles submitted to the journal. By instituting a peer review process for submissions, the editors hope to benefit tenure-track academics.

Mary Hackett, chair of the Meetings Committee, announced that the 2007 ADE annual meeting will be held at the Richmond Marriott on Broad Street, in Richmond, Virginia, 15–18 November 2007.

C. James Taylor, speaking for the 2006 Local Arrangements Committee, invited everyone to attend next year’s annual meeting in Quincy, Massachusetts, 20–22 October 2006. The conference will be held at the Boston Marriott Quincy, located about eight miles south of downtown Boston, and accessible by car or train.

Martha J. King, chair of the Travel Funds Committee, reported that the committee received sixteen applications for the five available travel grants. The recipients of this year’s awards are: Jane Brown, Donna Kelly, John Kessell, Diana Dial Reynolds, and Johanna Resler. King also asked that project directors encourage their junior editors to apply for funds to attend next year’s meeting.

Beth Luey, chair of the Education Committee, reported on the committee’s work during the past year to involve ADE more closely with National History Day (NHD). The committee proposes to set up a system whereby editing projects will be notified of NHD’s annual theme and deadlines. A NHD page will be added to the ADE website with comments on the theme, the usefulness of documents, and links to the websites of editing projects that have relevant material. A template will also be provided for projects to update their own sites as needed. Each year ADE will contribute an essay to the NHD booklet and an ADE-sponsored workshop/session has been arranged for the NHD conference. Luey praised the efforts of Melissa Bingmann, a new ADE member, who headed the NHD initiative for the committee.
Kate Culkin, chair of the Membership Committee, reported that the committee is working with a graphic designer to revise the ADE brochure. In an effort to boost membership in ADE, the committee plans to identify and recruit editors of recent publications. Culkin encouraged each member of an editing project to join ADE rather than rely on one membership for an entire office. Members are also asked to distribute the new ADE brochure at conferences they attend throughout the year.

Charlene Bickford, chair of the Federal Policy Committee, reviewed the struggle for appropriations over the past year. The ongoing fight to save the funding for the NHPRC's grants program consumed the time, talent, and energy of many ADE members. The fiscal situation for the coming year is even more precarious given the impending budget cuts resulting from Hurricane Katrina. In addition to the ongoing threats to the NHPRC, there is a proposal to zero out both the NEH and the NEA. Bickford urged everyone to stay tuned to SEDIT-L to keep apprised of what is happening, what we all can do to keep the agencies alive, and how we can influence policy at those agencies. Bickford also thanked everyone involved in Humanities Advocacy Day, and noted that ADE members participated at a higher level than virtually any other organization. President Conrad extended special thanks to Bickford for all her work on the Federal Policy Committee and stated that she deserved our gratitude many times over.

Cathy Moran Hajo, ADE webmaster, encouraged members to use the ADE website to publicize their project news and events. Hajo asked members to submit a project URL and image of their choice (book cover, portrait, etc.) to have their edition included on the "Featured Project" section of the ADE home page. She also encouraged the ADE committees to use the website to publicize their activities and make announcements. She welcomes suggestions for new content for the website and emphasized that the goal is to make the site bigger and better.

New Business

President Conrad opened the discussion regarding two proposals, one to amend the Association's By-Laws and another to amend its Constitution, that were previously distributed to the membership for consideration. If passed, Proposal 1 would amend the Association's By-Laws to allow the Association to reimburse its treasurer for travel expenses (travel, food, and lodging) incurred in the course of attending ADE's annual meeting. Approval of Proposal 2 would amend the Association's Constitution and
decrease the number of nominees for the office of councilor-at-large from its current number of two (2) to one (1).

Ronald A. Bosco, chairperson of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, reported that the committee unanimously opposed both proposals. Bosco suggested that instead of altering the governing documents of the Association, a more prudent means of action would be to name a committee to study more largely the issues related to both proposals, such as the nominations and elections process and the duties of the officers, especially in light of the proposed partnership between ADE and the New York Historical Society.

The president summarized the arguments in favor of the proposed amendments as they were initially presented to the Council. Following discussion from the floor, the meeting voted on a motion to table Proposal 1. The motion passed with 48 voting in approval, 2 opposed, and 2 abstaining. A second motion was made to table Proposal 2. Said motion passed with 37 voting in approval, 3 opposed, and 5 abstaining.

President Conrad reviewed the events, previously outlined in his letter to the membership of 6 August 2005, that led to a proposal to ADE from the New York Historical Society (NYHS) to form a partnership with that organization with the goal of promoting documentary editing. Conrad emphasized that it was the NYHS who approached ADE with this initiative and that the partnership has not been finalized. Conrad introduced April Hunt, an administrative assistant that the NYHS has hired to work part-time for ADE and part-time for NYHS. Hunt will divide her time 40/60 between the two organizations and devote Thursdays and Fridays to working on ADE matters. ADE has sought and received assurances that each organization will retain its autonomy and independence; that the administrative assistant position will not be the financial responsibility of the ADE; and that the position will be funded for at least a three-year trial period. The council has appointed ADE's secretary to serve as the administrative assistant's immediate ADE supervisor. A motion was voted upon and approved that ADE continue to explore greater cooperation with NYHS, with the proviso that a committee look into the ramifications of the partnership initiative and keep the membership informed.

All business being concluded, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.