

## **SLAS FINANCES 1/1/19-31/12/19**

### **PREAMBLE**

This report covers the calendar year 2019

1. Pence have been rounded down (1-50) or up (51-99) to the nearest £
2. Reserves at 1 January 2019 stood at 205,938 (NatWest 129,914; Triodos 76,024)

### **INCOME: 101,629**

Wiley 98,251; Donations 477; U. of Leicester 1,098 (of which 503 is refund of 2018 advance for 2019 Conference); ILAS (for. PILAS) 1,000; Refunds (Ken/Patience) 119; Triodos Bank interest 684.

### **EXPENDITURE: 93,375 (N.B. BUDGET SET BY COMMITTEE IN 01/19 WAS 92,250, SO MINOR OVERSPEND)**

Blakemore Prize 600

BLAR Editorial Assistant 23,130

BLAR Editors' Emoluments 3,000

BLAR Editors' Expenses 4,033

Committee Expenses 17,002

LA Scholars 9,000

P/g Fieldwork 11,500

P/g Overseas Conferences 3,000

P/g SLAS Conference Awards 5,300

PILAS 3,899

Post-doc Awards 4,000

Presidential Panel (Leicester 2019) 2,452

Seminars/Conferences 2,973

Standing Conference 410

Subscriptions 200 (UCML 2018/2019)

Website 3,093

## **OBSERVATIONS**

### **Income**

As in the previous year, virtually all the income (96.68%) derived from the contract with Wiley for the publication of the *Bulletin of Latin American Research [BLAR]*, which came into effect on 1/1/17 and runs for 5 years. The greater part (£71,862) was paid in January as an advance on SLAS' anticipated share of the 2019 profits, and a further payment in March embraced the outstanding amount due for calendar year 2018 and members' subscriptions (£8,890) paid initially to Wiley for that year.

The other items of income are relatively self-explanatory. The payment of £684 by the Dutch Bristol-based Triodos Bank was for a deposit (@0.9%) made in November 2018.

The payment of £1,000 from ILAS was negotiated directly by the PILAS officers and has been incorporated in the budget allocation to PILAS for 2020.

In view of its relatively healthy financial position, SLAS no longer requires that the Annual Conference should make a large profit but should try to break even. The Leicester Conference payment of £1,098) included reimbursement of an advance payment (£503) made by SLAS in 2018 to secure the venue for the Conference Dinner.

### **Expenditure**

As usual, expenditure (direct and indirect) on *BLAR* was the largest item, in total £30,133: reimbursement to the University of Liverpool of £19,556 for the Associate Editor's costs for the period 1/1/18-31/7/19; £2,000 paid directly to him for overtime; various consumables and items of equipment; emoluments of £3,000 paid via the Coordinating Editor to the 6 Editors (£500 each), £4,032 for travel/subsistence costs arising from several editorial meetings; and the attendance of the Coordinating Editor at 2 major Conferences (including LASA in Barcelona).

Eleven awards of £1,000 each and 1 of £500 were made to support postgraduate fieldwork in Latin America, and 6 awards of £500 each were made as contributions to the costs of postgraduates (2 at Cambridge, 1 at Kent 2 at UCL, 1 at Warwick) who gave papers at overseas conferences.

The first recipients of post-doctoral awards worth £2,000 each were Jonathan Alderman (ILAS) and Dominika Gasiorowski (QMUL).

Six awards of £1,500 each were made to scholars from Latin America participating in the Annual Conference: 2 from Argentina, 3 from Brazil, and 1 from Mexico. The SLAS President, David Wood presided at the Conference over a 'Presidential Panel', attended by Eric Fisbach (France), Thomas Fischer (Germany), Barbara Hogenboom (The Netherlands), and Dante Liano (Italy): the visitors' registration fees, travel, and accommodation costs were £2,452. Thirteen awards of £400 each were paid to postgraduate/post-doc participants in the Conference, and the £100 registration fee was refunded to a further student who withdrew because of illness.

Elected officers and other members of the Committee (including 1 PILAS rep, usually the President, and 1 editor of *BLAR*, usually the Coordinating Editor) are reimbursed for the expenses that they incur in attending meetings of the Committee, and in representing SLAS from time-to-time at other meetings. The Committee met on 4 occasions in 2019: twice in Leicester (January and April), and twice in Aberdeen (June and October). Overall, the expenditure on Committee expenses was substantially higher than the provisional £10,000 originally anticipated (although savings in other areas meant that the overall budget was only marginally exceeded. The first reason for the higher spend was that Aberdeen is a very expensive place to get to and from, except, of course for those members who live in Glasgow): expenses claims for the 2 meetings held there were £3,785, compared with £835 for the first of the Leicester meetings, and a further £1,253 went on getting the President to 2 important meetings in London and to the funeral in Bristol of former-President Caroline Williams. More importantly, the structure of the Leicester Conference, which put the April Committee Meeting on the AGM on different days led the Committee to resolve at its January meeting that 'SLAS would cover costs for any committee member to attend 2 days at conference in Leicester as well as 2 nights' accommodation: Perhaps unsurprisingly most were keen to accept this offer, and the claims for reimbursement added up to £4,273. Finally, under this heading, £3,063 was spent in December on advance hotel bookings and 2 air fares for Committee members who will attend the Amsterdam Conference.

'Events' awards – total £2,973 – were made to the Universities of Essex, Kent, Manchester, Oxford (St. Catherine's College). and ILAS. A 6<sup>th</sup> award (£1,000) for UCL was approved by the Committee, but was not claimed, so presumably the event in question was not held.

Virtually all the £3,899 expenditure on PILAS arose from its Annual Conference held at the University of York.

Expenditure on the Website was £304 less than in 2018, and in future will be substantially lower now that its re-design has been completed

The modest expenditure on the Standing Conference - £410 – was for refreshments at the 2 meetings held in Newcastle and Sheffield.

The Blakemore Prize (£600) was awarded to Jennifer Chisholm (University of Cambridge).

£200 was paid to the University Council of Modern Languages in respect of subscriptions due for 2018-19.

## **THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The Independent Examiner – Professor Antoni Kapcia – has approved this report and has signed the necessary certificate for the Charity Commission, confirming that it complies with both the accounting records and the accounting requirements of the Commission

## **BALANCE AT 1/1/20**

The 1/1/19 balances plus 2019 income and minus

2019 expenditure left a balance at 1/1/20 of £213,965, of which £213,958 was held in the Society's NatWest account, and £7 as cash-in-hand.

**JOHN FISHER (SLAS TREASURER)**

**31 MARCH 2020**