American Risk and Insurance Association
Minutes of the Mid-Year Board Meeting
February 12, 1995
President Joan Schmit called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present were: Joan Schmit, Norma Nielson, Harold Skipper, Neil Doherty, Harris Schlesinger, Rich Derrig, Don Oakes, Bruce Palmer, Jack Nelson, Stephen Acunto and Carole Acunto.

Minutes:

Following a review of the minutes of the Board of Directors' August 21, 1994 meeting, a motion was made by Norma Nielson and seconded by Harris Schlesinger to amen the minutes to include the election of Dr. Joan Schmit and Dr. Norma Nielson as president and president-elect respectively, was passed.

A motion by Neil Doherty and Seconded by Harris Schlesinger to amend the wording on Page 3, Item 6 to add to the beginning of the first sentence in that section, "subject to the approval of the other members," was passed. (A copy of the revised minutes is enclosed with the amendments underlined).

Report on General ARIA Activities by Joan Schmit

Joan Schmit reported that Stephen H. Acunto of Chase Communications had been selected as the new Executive Director. She reported that the ARIA contract with J. David Cummins was renewed and he will continue as Editor of JRI for a second three-year term, but will not continue after that point. Within two years, a new editor, the budget and operation of JRI should be addressed. A discussion of the accessibility of the Journal to members followed. It was a consensus of the Board that a second Journal may address this concern. Neil Doherty indicated the need for more publicity for JRI. Discussion followed concerning the maintenance of high quality standards.

Schmit reported that ARIA has agreed to co-sponsor with NAIC a symposium on insurance regulatory issues. There will be no financial implications. Distribution will be to members via E-MAIL and hard copies. She also reported that new brochures have been printed for ARIA.

Executive Director Report by Stephen H. Acunto

Stephen Acunto reported that the offices, records and administrative facilities of ARIA are now fully ensconced and operative at the offices of Chase Communications, including:

1. E-Mail
2. All processing and membership activity
3. Subscription fulfillment
4. Management of inquiries and all other tasks related to the Association's operation.

The transition is newly completed and he and his staff look forward to a "learning process" in Chase Communication's first year.

Financial Report by Carole H. Acunto

Carole Acunto presented the financial report which was accepted as submitted. Carole indicated that certain data will be clearer following the accountant's audit and will be reported at the August annual meeting. Carole stated that she would make available periodic reports to the Board. It was agreed that a defense interval be set with the goal being one year's reserve. Carole advised that she would be changing the software for the financial records which will be completed by the next meeting of the Board. She will be meeting with the accountants to prepare the W-2s, the 1099s and begin the audit. She will be able to prepare a more accurate budget for the annual board meeting. A motion was made by Norma Nielson to accept the financial report, seconded by Rich Derrig and passed. Periodic reports.

The Second Journal Report by Bruce Palmer

Bruce reported that SRIA and WRIA have agreed to associate with ARIA in sponsoring the second journal. No discussions have proceeded to date with SIR regarding this matter; however, the committee will address the issue soon after the mid-year board meeting. Limited progress was made concerning journal financing. Larry Cox and Jerry Jorgensen have made inquiries with potential funding sources. Discussion followed on the matter of the journal title. Journal of Risk Management & Research. Discussion also took place on ARIA relationship with SIR. It was decided that the relationship with SIR should be explored.

In a written report, Phil Stichter suggested that with a joint sponsorship of the ARIA second journal, each association's membership would receive a copy. Palmer also suggested having the second journal published electronically instead of printed. (He received a lengthy E-Mail from James Garven (University of Texas at Austin). Mr. Garven is a strong advocate of publishing JRI electronically and made a strong case to pursue this. The proposed electronic publishing project would involve building a prototype JRI on the World-Wide Web. Besides providing hardware and software support, Garven volunteered to teach the skills to Dave Cummins and his editorial staff in order to produce and maintain an electronic version). Palmer advised that he would follow-up further with Mr. Garven on this suggestion. The Board consensus was to continue to pursue electronic publishing.

Palmer asked if he could put out an RFP for an Editor. The consensus of the Board was for Mr. Palmer to proceed. Jack Nelson was asked to interface with SIR. A lengthy discussion followed concerning WRIA, SRIA and SIR. In conclusion, the RFP was put on hold pending Jack Nelson's follow-up. Joan Schmit noted her concern with the way a second journal would look and a discussion of the quality of the second journal ensued.

Extension of Membership Solicitation Internationally by Harris Schlesinger

Harris Schlesinger presented a draft of a solicitation letter to be sent to German prospects. He suggested that we might want to have joint conferences in the future. A motion was made by Rich Derrig and seconded by Neil Doherty to offer to international prospect membership applicants the same offer on RISK-NET. Discussion on the motion if they join now for 1996 their memberships will be grand-fathered to eighteen months. The motion passed with this amendment. Discussion continued on other exchanges between ARIA and the German group Deutsche Verein fur Versicherungs Wissenschaft, including perhaps, taking a page in their journal and having them take one in ours.

General Membership Committee Report by Rich Derrig

Rich Derrig opened a discussion on linking up with a future SIR meeting. The consensus of the Board was to direct the membership committee to continue looking at some coordinations with SIR. Derrig suggested that we might survey the non-renewals for 1995 by sending a brochure and a follow-up letter.

By-Law Changes by Harold Skipper

A discussion on the wording of the bylaw changes that were passed last August for the classes of membership: A–Academic, G–General. A proposal was raised to have only one class of membership. The by-laws maintain the distinction but do not distinguish the rights of each class. A motion was made by Bruce Palmer and seconded by Harris Schlesinger to cut the distinction between academic and general memberships from the by-laws with appropriate instructions to nominations committee with respect to maintaining balanced representation of membership. Harold Skipper was directed to draft changes to the by-laws. Motion passed.

Institutional Membership Committee Report by William Klauber

Joan Schmit advised that William Klauber will be the Chairman of the ARIA Institutional Sponsorship Committee. Schmit asked the minutes reflect the Board's gratitude to Mr. Roger Lawson, et al, for last year's effort in collecting institutional sponsorships. William Klauber will succeed Roger and work with Chase Communications in working with the sponsors.

ARIA & Griffith Foundation Development Report by Phil Stichter

The purpose of the Griffith Foundation is to develop industry funded grants for risk and insurance researchers and to identify and assess possible funding sources for ARIA's second journal. To date, a joint research grant task force has been formed including Mr. Stichter, Larry Cox, Mr. Collesano, Susan Mott and Mike Murray. The committee has been collecting information from organizations such as AICPCU and NAIC. With regard to the second journal funding, the committee has identified SIR as a possible source. Another possibility is the Institute of Risk Management and Insurance (IRMI). Jorgensen suggested that the Association enlist a large insurance-related organization that has substantial printing capacity that would be willing to subsidize the printing of a second journal. Discussion followed.

RMI Study In Use of Results by Joan Schmit

Joan Schmit reported on the survey of collegiate risk management and insurance studies which was completed in Fall, 1994. The write-up of the results is almost complete and an article based upon the survey will be submitted to JRI. A short piece about the survey will also appear in Financial Practice and Education. The article may also be released to Business Insurance, National Underwriter and Risk Management. Lisa Gardner suggested reprinting a minimum of 1,000 of the Thrower/Gardner RMI undergraduate studies brochures. Estimate for the reprint is 1/C, $230. and 2/C would be $275.00.

Best's Review Column by Joan Schmit

Joan Schmit reported that Best's Review has agreed to periodically devote one page to an RMI education column. An ad-hoc committee was established to oversee column solicitation from ARIA members and to set forth editorial guidelines. A list of tentative column topics was sent to Best's. The following four submissions were accepted:

1. Collegiate Risk Management and Insurance Education; A New Look at a Familiar Field by Joan Schmit and Lisa Gardner;
2. Risk and Insurance Resources on the Internet by James Garven;
3. The Katie Insurance School by George Flanagan; and
4. Management Development Education for Agents by David Wood.

Norma Nielson was invited to submit a column about educating legislators about how insurance works. Schmit reported on Ms. Gardner's recommendations for overseeing control of the column in the future. She suggested placing responsibility with the Executive Director or an elected officer, the Board or committee.

JRI Editor's Report by David Cummins

Joan Schmit opened the discussion on whether or not the JRI editor should be on the Board. After discussion, a motion was made by Harold Skipper and seconded by Don Oakes to alter the by-laws to eliminate the editor's being a Board member automatically ex-officio. The motion was passed.

Placement Committee Report by Martin Grace

Martin Grace is developing an Internet based resource for job openings for Ph.D. level risk and insurance professionals and academics. Through Jim Garven's help, ARIA now has a page on the World-wide Web which can be accessed by Job seekers and institutions with openings. One problem is that many members do not yet have access. This is expected to change. Grace proposed a solicitation to members asking them for resumes and/or notices of position openings to be placed on the Internet. Grace recommended that if a fee for this service is to be charged, it should be very modest or free to members of ARIA.

Annual Meeting Committee Report by Bruce Palmer

Bruce Palmer reported that in addition to JRI, sixteen (16) journals were asked to publish the "call for papers" for the 1995 ARIA meeting in Seattle. To date, he has received twenty (20) proposals. The program committee will include at least twenty individuals who will be asked to both review the submitted papers and to serve as session moderators or research discussion group leaders. Palmer advised he is looking for three or four plenary sessions covering the following topics:

1. Financial Services Integration;
2. Catastrophic Risks;
3. Changing Scope of Risk Management; and
4. Automobile Insurance Issues.

Registration fee raised to $120

Awards Committee Report by Joan Schmit

Joan Schmit will be sending out the awards notices. Dr. Skipper suggested inviting past recipients to the Presidential reception in Seattle.

It was suggested that news releases be developed including the description of award winning articles and reasons for their receipt of awards.

Strategic Planning Committee Report by Norma Nielson

Norma advised that no meetings of this committee have been held presently as so much is currently being implemented. She will form a small committee and work with the Executive Director to come up with new ideas. It was suggested that Harold Skipper be charged with long-term planning.

Nominations Committee Report by Harold Skipper

Individuals invited to be members of the committee are:

Thomas A. Aiuppa, Dan R. Anderson*, Deborah Chollet, Sam H. Cox, Robert J. Gibbons, Anne E. Kleffner, Gregory Krohm*, Diana Lee, Craig Merrill*, S. Travis Pritchett* and Barbara D. Stewart*.

*Agreed to be member.

Nominations have been solicited from ARIA members.

Newsletter Committee Report by Stephen H. Acunto

Stephen Acunto reported that he would like to see the frequency increase on the newsletter and to make it more useful to members by publishing news of ARIA's activities, programs, educational offerings, employment opportunities, etc. He suggested that the newsletter might also be published electronically. Discussion followed.

Site Selection

The 1996 ARIA annual meeting will take place August 9-15, 1996 in Philadelphia, PA.

Other Business

Joan Schmit proposed honoring Robert Witt in some way. Discussion centered on having a Witt award. Derrig moved that as a memorial to Bob Witt, the JRI feature article be renamed the Robert C. Witt Research Award and proposed further, to establish an endowment fund for the award. The first contributions to come from the Board; after that, the membership will be solicited. Neil Doherty seconded and passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN H. ACUNTO
Executive Director