



**Association of Adaptation Studies Annual General Meeting
Friday 25 September 2015, 4.30 – 5.00pm
Beveridge Hall, Senate House, London**

1) Minutes of the Association of Adaptation Studies AGM, 2014, Flagler College, St Augustine, were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

2) Essay Prize 2015 and 2016

Although there were a significant number of entries for the prize in 2015, it was the view of the judges, drawn from the Trustees and the editors of the journal, *Adaptation*, that none were eligible for publication. Co-chair, Imelda Whelehan, urged members to publicise the prize for 2016.

3) Treasurer's Report

Members received the Treasurer's Report that showed that membership subscriptions had improved in advance of the conference. Although there were some major expenditures, including the website, travel bursaries and tablecloths, the balance as of August, 2015, was £5,343.00. Co-chair Jeremy Strong informed the meeting that the small number of delegates who had failed to subscribe to the Association in advance of the conference, would be contacted.

4) Literature/Film Association

Imelda Whelehan announced that there were plans to involve the Association with Literature/Film Association activities and vice versa and that she was in discussion with colleagues regarding future ties.

5) Website

Delegates agreed that the website had improved and the Chairs invited delegates to use it to promote books and conferences. Kyle Meikle was thanked for his work in maintaining the site over the last year.

6) Conference 2016

Jeremy Strong invited delegates to write to the Chairs about hosting future conferences. The venue for 2016 has yet to be confirmed, although there have been proposals to host the conference in Malaga and Oxford.

7) Broadening Association of Adaptation Activities

Imelda Whelehan proposed a postgraduate wing for the 2016 conference. The Association will be involved in future conferences in 2015/16, including SAMLA, Borrowers and Lenders and Adaptation and Dance (De Montfort University, 2016). The Chairs agreed to consider a sponsored book prize (for a first book) for 2016.

2015 Conference

The officers were thanked for their work in organizing the 2015 conference.

Circa 100 delegates completed a questionnaire at the beginning of the conference asking for a favourite all time and recent (within 10 years) adaptation. The results were:

Pride and Prejudice (1995) was voted the all time favourite. The reasons given were excellent performances, thoroughness of the narrative, it's the standard against which all adaptations are measured, its influence on subsequent adaptations and its replacement of the memory of the source text. *Pride and Prejudice* was followed by *Adaptation* (Spike Jonze, 2002) and *The Big Sleep* (Howard Hawks, 1946).

Penny Dreadful (created by John Logan, 2014) was voted the favourite recent adaptation due to its weaving of different narratives into a composed text, its seamless bringing together of material from different literary sources, its subversive yet emotionally satisfying structure, its combination of technical expertise with character development, its promise of longevity, and its contribution to the survival of gothic narrative by turning everything upside-down. This was followed by *Atonement* (Joe Wright, 2007) and the BBC *Sherlock* (2010-) in equal second place, *Game of Thrones* (2011-) and *Adaptation*, in equal third place, followed by *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* (Tomas Alfredson, 2011).

It was noted that there were almost as many answers as there were questionnaires reflecting the diversity of views within the Association as a whole.