1) Joyce Stern convened the meeting at approximately 4:15 P.M.

2) David Harrison described the French Department’s apprehension regarding the use of diagnostic tests (specifically the language placement exam) to evaluate the foreign-language proficiency of PBK candidates. After some discussion, those present passed a motion by Don Smith that the President appoint a special committee to consider the issue and possibly to re-draft the Handbook’s section about language requirements.

3) Secretary Vince Eckhart read the spring-meeting minutes. The chapter approved the minutes, but not until after expressing some confusion about which Visiting Scholars we hoped to invite. The minutes were amended to indicate that Elizabeth Barber (the PBK Scholar who will visit Grinnell this year) was selected by the chapter as a high-priority (though not top) choice.

4) Vince Eckhart delivered the Treasurer’s report, which Treasurer Sara Adams had prepared. The chapter discussed the need to increase the rate of dues paying by its members.

5) The officers nominated two recipients of this year’s Sophomore Book Awards: Jay Jin (4.00) and Holly Maness 3.98. The chapter approved the nominees.

6) Vice President Sarah Purcell gave updates on the Scholar’s Award competition and on the late-April 2002 visit of this year’s PBK Visiting Scholar. Selection of a convocation topic was postponed until more of the membership could be polled.

7) Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15 P.M.

- language requirement policies

The French department would like to raise the issue of our foreign language requirement. David Harrison will speak to this issue, Joyce will fill us in on a recent situation, and then we will open it up for discussion. Currently, our policy reads:

"With respect to the study of a foreign language, three semesters' study of a modern foreign language, or two semesters' study of a classical language, or college-level placement at a level beyond such study of a modern or classical language, or a demonstrated competency in a foreign language as determined from the candidate's educational history, e.g., years of education in a on-English-speaking country."