

UCLA

SUGGESTED PAPERS:

(person suggesting listed first)

1. John Kuiper "The Film as a Historical Resource" (Attitudes of historians to film as a source; problems and possible solutions. The need of film-oriented scholars to offer assistance and for historians to take the problems to their hearts.)
2. R. Hector Currie "Lang's M: Symbol of Transformation" (A Jungian analysis of the symbolic and mythic import of the symbol of duality informing all aspects of Lang's masterpiece.)
3. Robert M. Hammond "Problems of Genre in the Film" (. . .(paper). . . of practical problems involved in distributing film study to various liberal and fine arts disciplines.)
4. Howard Suber ". . . either on Citizen Kane or a rather general theoretical paper on the nature of film history."
5. Don Staples "Methodology in Film Research: An Overview" (This paper explores the methods of research in investigating the cinema in past studies and current projects. Possibilities for future methods are suggested.)
(NOTE: Don says he will pass if too crowded; since some people need to read to make the convention--he should get transportation because he is an officer. Will write him.)
6. Donald Skoller "Cinematic Praxis in Bresson's Un Condamné A Mort S'Est Echappé" (Analysis of a basic principle of Bresson's approach to cinema: the subordination of plot or narrative elements . . .)

SUGGESTED PANELS:

1. Richard MacCann "Film Study Programs" ("Would be interested in being on panel with Suber, Amberg, Fell, and others teaching in this area and developing university programs in it.")
2. Donald W. McCaffrey "Journalistic or Professional ~~Journalistic~~ Film Criticism" (Would be willing to moderate or have someone else serve as chairman if Knight, Sarris, and Schickel --at least two of them--can be present at the meeting.)

SUGGEST FILMS:

Elmer Oettinger The Piedmont Crescent (26 min. color documentary film plus brief comment) (NOTE: Elmer indicates this is his film which relates the nature and challenge of the industrial Piedmont region in North Carolina. Was in part financed by Title I and Ford Foundation funds.)

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7. Kirk Bond "Ivan Mosjoukine"
(Summary of work & critical notes on two films he directed)

NOTE: He can not make meeting but would like to have paper read.

SOCIETY FOR CINEMA STUDIES

A report on

Procedures in Council Meetings, General meetings and
Minutes of the Business Meeting--University of California,
Los Angeles--March 27-30, 1969.

Council Meeting:

Officers of the society, George Amberg, president; Donald McCaffrey, secretary; and Donald Staples, treasurer, met with other members of the council, John Kuiper and Richard MacCann, to discuss many matters of the organization on Thursday evening, March 27. Questions of the group's identity, the value of the society to the individual member, criteria for membership, the relationship with the American Film Institute, the concept of regional coordinators, and student membership were investigated by the council. These matters were discussed to pave the way for further suggestions during forthcoming meetings.

Friday March 28 Sessions:

Official greetings from Colin Young of the University of California, Los Angeles, was followed by a brief business meeting for the confirmation of new members. Those attending the meeting were Amberg, Currie, M. Dworkin, Eagle, Gray, Hammond, Jacobs, Knight, Kuiper, Lawson, McCaffrey, MacCann, Mainwaring, Skoller, Staples, Suber, and Young plus new members Douglas Gallez, Sam Kula, Kalton Lahue, and Arthur Lennig. Papers were presented on Friday by Kuiper, Currie, Hammond and Staples with more elaborate discussions than in previous meetings. A panel on film study on the college level featured Amberg, MacCann, Suber, and Goldener (guest panelist representing the San Francisco State film department). Colin Young then conducted the group on a tour of the UCLA facilities.

Saturday March 29 Sessions:

For the first session of the morning George Amberg presented some views on the society for the consideration of the group. He suggested that we clarify our image and goals, urge the scholars who are not members to apply, maintain our standards as a group, and promote our organization to provide growth and recognition. In the discussion that followed many suggestions were made to assist the officers and council members in their work. It was indicated that we need to make a clear-cut statement to the academic world and establish a definition of the "creative problems" in film studies. An annotated bibliography of the best works and a listing of those of less value as a goal of work would be a group effort designed for publication--such a contribution by the society might be funded by such organizations as the American Film Institute.

Papers by McCaffrey and Skoller plus new members Gallez and Lennig were read and discussed. In the afternoon a panel, Jacobs, Knight and Lawson, discussed the many aspects of film criticism.

Business Meeting--Sunday March 30:

At the final session of the 1969 meeting of the society, three new members were confirmed after being presented to the group by the council. According to the secretary, Donald McCaffrey, the membership increase for the year stood at fifteen with Gray and Young reinstated as members. New members were listed: Gorden Beck, Raymond Fielding, Douglas Gallez, Sam Kula, Kalton Lahue, Austin Lamont, Arthur Lennig, Annette Michelson, Kenneth Munden, Ted Perry, Donald Richie, W.R. Robinson, and Herman Weinberg. By a vote of the fifteen members attending the business meeting Arthur Mayer was awarded an honorary membership.

At the suggestion of President Amberg, the council was given the task of setting forth specific criteria for membership and reporting the results to the society.

After a presentation of many suggestions for a name change, members at the business meeting accepted the title "Society for Cinema Studies" and directed the secretary to poll the total membership on the acceptance of this suggestion.

It was concluded, after heated discussion, that the council should draft a statement regarding the concept of associate membership. Opinion ranged from an open acceptance of potential scholars who were students to acceptance only on the merit of scholarship produced by the potential "associate member." Richard MacCann indicated that any publication of a student's work under his editorship of Cinema Journal need not indicate the society should accept the writer into the organization--that intentions, dedication and sustained effort were considerations for membership.

It was suggested that recommendation forms be sent to all members to discover potential members and that the process of being accepted be clarified. Some felt that the society had suffered some loss of a favorable image by its "selection process" while others felt the stress on scholarship was maintained--preventing the society from becoming "just another professional group that one places on ones vitae."

President Amberg indicated that election of officers for the coming year had not been processed in time because of illness; he suggested that all action be taken by mail for the required election. Arthur Knight was appointed to draw up a slate of officers with the understanding that a mail ballot would be distributed by the society's secretary for the election.

Treasurer Donald Staples reported the organization had a balance of \$1,946.26 as of March 20 with the indication that cost of two issues of Cinema Journal would come from this balance. Secretary McCaffrey also indicated some correspondence costs still needed to be reported for this year.

Plans for the next year's meeting were discussed with Albany, New York and New York City being suggested by Lennig and Amberg. Amberg suggested a group effort for the program next year--employing a broad theme such as "Problems in Film History Studies," "Relationship of American and European Cinema," with the understanding that room be left for studies in progress.

Special recognition was given to Howard Suber for serving as host at the UCLA site of the convention with a feeling of the group that a West Coast annual meeting location be sought at least every third year.

Reported by Donald W. McCaffrey, Secretary
The Society for Cinema Studies
May 1969