27 September 2005 Update

The Executive Committee

After the meeting executive board members had discussions with a number of scholars mentioned as prospective executive and standing committee members and officers. The results of these discussions can be seen at the <u>Society Leadership & Committees</u> url and will be updated as the leadership structure continues to evolve.

After the committee had reached ten in number, Executive Director Luke Johnston wrote the Executive Committee members and asked them to consider officers. The group decided that the officers during the interim period should, like the standing committee chairs, parallel the bylaws structure for the post-election period, and they unanimously agreed that if willing, Bron Taylor (University of Florida and co-convener of the Cocoa Beach planning meeting) should serve as President during this interim period, and Kristina Tiedje (University of Lyon, France, and the co-convener and European representative to the Cocoa Beach planning meeting) the Society Secretary.

Swarthmore Gathering of the in-process RNC Society

Executive committee member <u>Mark Wallace</u> continues to organize a conference taking up the themes of the Society near and at Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, on 17 and 18 November. Interested people should contact Mark (his email address is hyperlinked to his full name, above).

First Official/Inaugural Conference of the Society

Subsequent to these leadership discussions the executive committee and others involved continued efforts to determine the feasibility of holding the society's inaugural conference in April of May of 2006. After Laura Hobgood-Oster and Rick Stepp agreed to co-chair the planning committee, and Bron Taylor secured pledges of \$5,000 for general expenses and additional funds for keynote speakers from Schools and Institutes at the University of Florida, and indicated he thought he could probably raise another \$5,000, moving expeditiously forward with the conference idea seemed more feasible than ever.

At this writing work is under way to determine the best possible dates for this inaugural conference, and the work of securing campus facilities has begun. If after this a decision to continue with a conference in 2006 is made, Board of Advisors members will be contacted and encouraged not only to come and present, but if possible, to orchestrate a session at the conference.