

Appendix C

KARL RAHNER SOCIETY MEETING

The inaugural "business" meeting of the Karl Rahner Society met during breakfast on Friday, June 14, with approximately seventy members participating. William M. Thompson welcomed everyone and explained the results of the survey conducted during the past year in preparation for this meeting (nearly 100 percent return from all). All CTSA members were contacted who had either written on Rahner or were in areas thought to be "allied" with him in some way, viz., transcendental philosophy/theology.

Each table appointed a recorder who reported that table's discussion on the topics of the survey: the Society's purpose(s), its leadership mechanism, and its next issues of focus and place of meeting. There seemed to be a basic consensus between the earlier survey and the participants at this breakfast.

The purposes include the study of Rahner himself, and continuing the "Rahnerian enterprise," by bringing his thought into fruitful dialogue with ongoing issues in theology and philosophy. There is no desire to canonize Rahner theologically, nor to limit membership only to Rahner specialists, but it is thought desirable to study his texts carefully, on his own terms even, and to investigate the possibility of truly critical editions of his works. Many promising specific proposals were also made with respect to purpose (e.g., begin a newsletter, circulate the membership list, etc.).

A steering committee will be made up of volunteers for now, in accordance with the wish to keep the leadership mechanism as informal and nonbureaucratic as possible. Michael Fahey, Sixto Garcia, Pamela Kirk, Mary Maher, Andrew Tallon, and William Thompson will compose this committee this coming year. It will plan the year's activities and the forthcoming meeting at next year's CTSA convention. In line with this, it was agreed that, for now, we will continue to meet as a morning workshop under the auspices of the CTSA, and at the invitation of its president and board of directors. The breakfast ended with the telling of several moving anecdotes about Rahner by several who knew him well. This is a tradition we hope to continue.

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