

**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SLAVISTS**  
**ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES SLAVISTES**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
Saturday, 31 May 2003  
Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

Before the meeting, CAS received a visit from Mr. Paul Ledwell and Dr. Noreen Golfman of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

1. Chair:

Gust Olson opened and chaired the meeting.

Olson invited all present to stand for a minute of silence to honour members of the Association who have served CAS over the last fifty years and have passed away.

2. Agenda:

Harasymiw suggested moving the Nominating Committee's report to "b" in order to ensure that everyone was present for any elections.

Olson moved (m) and seconded Harasymiw (s) that the agenda be approved, as amended. Carried.

3. Minutes:

Coleman (m) that the minutes of the 2002 AGM, as published in the Fall 2002 CAS Newsletter: vol. XLIV, no. 99, be approved. Carried.

4. Reports

**PRESIDENT**

Natalia Pylypiuk opened her report by thanking Norman Pereira and his team for their fine organization of the conference.

The President then reported that she had begun fund-raising, partly for improvements to the website and partly as seed money for a student award. At present, she has \$1000 in pledges. She hopes that the new website will be ready by the end of July. The secretary-treasurer is in the process of restoring our charitable status and she hopes that by September, we will be able to intensify the fund-raising campaign by offering tax-deductible receipts. Among other innovations, the new website will feature links to affiliated societies such as CAUS and lists of benefactors. She is also planning a brochure about CAS to be ready for distribution at the AAASS in Toronto in November.

She then went on to summarize the interim report of the Modern Languages Working Group. She represented Slavists at the Group's meeting in Toronto. A questionnaire was sent out to all departments of modern languages in Canada this year in order to get a picture of the state of modern language teaching. Nineteen universities responded, including twenty-five departments teaching eighteen languages. There was

some disappointment that not all departments participated. The preliminary results were as follows: there has been a pronounced drop in faculty numbers and a notable rise in the use of sessional instructors, in particular in the less commonly taught languages. This raises the question of de-professionalization of language and culture teaching. Eleven departments reported a decrease in enrolments, eight were stable, and six had seen an increase. Increases are found in East Asian and Spanish language courses, decreases in Russian and German in the first year. This does not, however, necessarily translate into more majors in Spanish, for example.

These patterns appear to reflect a pan-American phenomenon. Pylypiuk noted that she had written on behalf of CAS to protest the closure of a tenure-track position in Russian at the University of Memphis.

Pylypiuk then said that she intends to publish a similar questionnaire in the fall newsletter so that we could collect statistics on the status of our languages in Canadian universities.

Discussion:

Bohdan Harasymiw asked for a clarification on the method to be used.

Elena Baraban asked why the survey would be held after Christmas. Pylypiuk explained that this would allow departments to report second-term enrolments.

The Chair announced that we would accept all reports as one motion at the end.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND ELECTIONS

Chair Allen Reid presented the slate as prepared by the Nominating Committee and encouraged nominations from the floor.

He announced that Professor Gleb Žekulin had been nominated as honorary president in recognition of his long and distinguished career. Gleb Žekulin thanked the Association and urged those present to maintain their memberships as long as he had.

The following members were elected or continue to serve in the designated positions:

### **Executive 2003-04**

#### **President (2002-04)**

Natalia Pylypiuk  
Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies  
200 Arts Building  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2E6

#### **Past President & Chair, Nominating Committee**

Allan Reid  
Department of German and Russian  
University of New Brunswick  
Box 4400

Fredericton, NB E3B 2N3

**Vice Presidents**

Maxim Tarnawsky  
University of Toronto

Waclaw Osadnik  
University of Alberta

**Secretary-Treasurer (2001-2004)**

Heather Coleman  
Department of History  
University of Calgary  
2500 University Dr. NW  
Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

**Chair, Programme Committee**

Natalia Aponiuk,  
University of Manitoba

**Managing Editor, *Canadian Slavonic Papers* (2001-2006)**

Oleh Ilnytskyj  
Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies  
200 Arts Building  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2E6

**Members-at-large**

Marta Dyczok  
University of Western Ontario

Elena Baraban  
University of Victoria

Denis Kozlov  
University of Toronto

Olexandr Shevchenko  
University of Alberta

**Nominating Committee**

Allan Reid  
University of New Brunswick

Norman Pereira  
Dalhousie University

Zina Gimpelevich  
University of Waterloo

**CAS and CAUS Delegates to MAU through 2005**

Frank Sysyn  
Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies

Roman Senkus  
Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies

**Graduate Student Representative**

Election was not conducted this year. Members-at-large will take charge of this next year.

**International Relations Committee**

Paul Austin  
McGill University

**Honorary President**

Gleb Žekulin  
University of Toronto

**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

Heather Coleman reported that in 2002-03, we continued with the process of rationalizing our financial arrangements and figuring out how to operate in the absence of the SSHRC operating grants that the Association used to receive. It is expected that by the end of the summer, this transition will be complete.

The day-to-day financial situation of the Association is precarious, as it has been since SSHRC operating grants were cut. For many years, membership dues have gone directly to our journal, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*. According to an agreement of some years ago, the Secretary-Treasurer can call on up to \$3,000 of that income per year. However, because of the importance of CSP to our Association and the fear of jeopardizing its financial situation, this was not done until this past year. In late June 2003, \$3000 was transferred from CSP to CAS, to supplement the income made from the annual conference (a comparatively high \$1,584.75, slightly less than in 2001). A decision at last year's AGM to raise dues for regular members by \$5 was implemented to assist in raising money for the day-to-day operations of the Association. It is clear that minimum projected expenses for next year will, once again, be approximately \$4225. Our only source of income, aside from membership dues, remains the conference -- income projected to be approximately \$1200 this year. Thus, a more permanent arrangement for the sharing of membership dues between CAS and CSP and plans to move towards a unified budget will be discussed by the Secretary-Treasurer and the CSP Editor at a meeting in June.

Plans are also afoot for a fund-raising campaign. The Secretary-Treasurer investigated the steps necessary for renewing our status as a charitable institution, a status that had been allowed to lapse in 2000. She is currently preparing the application for re-certification. It is hoped that by autumn 2003, our status will be renewed and the CAS executive will begin a campaign in support of the CAS fund more generally and a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary scholarship fund in particular. Members would receive tax receipts for their donations.

As far as travel grants are concerned, we received \$5910.00 from SSHRC for conference travel. This was added to a reserve of \$1,672.05 in funds left over from last year for a total of \$7,582.05. More requests than usual were received this year and, given the distance from Toronto and Edmonton (the two major departure cities), CAS was not able to meet the usual formula (50% members, 75% student members) in calculating grants. Grants were, nevertheless, disbursed to all applicants, at a lower rate (25% full members, 50% students). It is expected that this was an anomaly, due to the location of the conference, but the executive will be reviewing the travel grant calculation formula in view of this year's experience.

Coleman then gave a brief report on bank balances. The CAS fund remains steady at \$40,000. Interest on term deposits is held in a savings account at the Ukrainian Credit Union, Toronto. On 15 May 2003, our balance was \$2,657.87. Interest on term deposits for 2002 was \$406.30, reflecting low interest rates. We are in the process of moving the CAS fund to the Royal Bank in Calgary, in order to simplify CAS banking. CAS's account with RBC in Winnipeg was closed and the balance transferred to a new account in Calgary, where the current Secretary-Treasurer resides. Our current RBC account balance is \$10,499.61, but most of this is already committed in the form of travel grants, payment of travel prize to student essay contest winner, travel assistance to executive members, conference expenses and expenses for the development of our website. When these are all paid out, the expected balance will be \$157.61.

## PROGRAMME CHAIR

Norman Pereira opened by thanking his colleagues John Barnstead and Ieva Vitins, along with a student team, for their invaluable assistance in planning and organizing the conference. The programme had twenty-six panels, twenty-five of which were held. Sixty-six people attended the banquet. In the future, Pereira encouraged members to submit full panels.

### Discussion:

Harasymiw asked what overall attendance was. Pereira responded that it was just under eighty people.

The AGM recognized Norman Pereira for a job well done with a hearty round of applause.

## CSP MANAGING EDITOR

Oleh Ilnytskyj opened by extending his formal thanks to Dr. Gust Olson for his many years of fine service to *Canadian Slavonic Papers*. Olson will be moving to the United States later in the summer. Ilnytskyj noted that he had a potential replacement in mind and was in the process of negotiating the position. The name of the new Assistant Editor will be announced by e-mail and in the newsletter. Olson has agreed to train his replacement.

Ilnytskyj announced that the journal has finally caught up on its publication schedule and the next issue should be appearing on time at the end of June. The pipeline of articles is fairly full and so the journal is in a healthy condition, so long as finances hold. The figures on the financial report show a lower financial level than usual, but this is in part because five issues were produced this fiscal year. He noted, however, that significant savings had been achieved in the cost per issue by changing printers. The next SSHRC instalment of \$16,000 is expected in April 2004.

Over the next six to twelve months, the journal will need to buy new equipment – the computer in the *Papers'* office is a 1996 vintage and cannot run many programmes we now need.

Ilnytskyj also mentioned that he is investigating the possibility of offering an on-line version of *Canadian Slavonic Papers*. This would be a service to members, with past issues available, perhaps in PDF format.

Finally, Ilnytskyj thanked all those who have assessed articles and reviewed books this year, and encouraged their continued participation in the work of our journal.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Paul Austin, Committee Chair, was absent. Coleman read his brief written report that there had been no activity in this area this year and that most work was bilateral.

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Bohdan Harasymiw (chair) reported that nothing has yet been done, but encouraged all members to pass on their ideas to the committee.

Discussion:

Pereira suggested that Harasymiw send out an e-mail asking for help and suggestions.

## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF UKRAINIAN STUDIES

Roman Senkus (CAUS President) reported that after his election last year, he was asked to appoint an initial executive for CAUS. The following people agreed to serve: Olga Andriewsky (Vice-President, Trent U), Bohdan Harasymiw (Treasurer, Calgary), Andrij Makuch (Secretary, CIUS, Toronto), and Zenon Kohut (CIUS, Alberta), Bohdan Kordan

(Saskatchewan), Natalia Pylypiuk (ex officio), Myroslav Shkandrij (Manitoba), Maryna Romanets (Lethbridge), and Serhy Yekelchuk (Victoria) as members at large.

At the Fifth Congress of the International Association for Ukrainian Studies (MAU), held at Chernivtsi National University last August, during the opening plenary session Senkus delivered official greetings from the Canadian delegation and gave an overview of Ukrainian studies in Canada. The Canadians were the second- largest foreign contingent at the congress, after the Poles.

As a result of negotiations with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, CAUS members will receive the *Journal of Ukrainian Studies* at a reduced rate as part of their joint membership (negotiated last year) in CAUS and CAS. CAUS will launch a drive this summer for joint membership among the more than 150 scholars and graduate students in Canada involved in Ukrainian studies.

Senkus thanked Olson for adding information about the joint membership to the CAS membership form and urged people to apply.

Discussion:

Reid asked how much extra it would cost to belong to both organizations. Senkus responded that it would cost \$30 more (as opposed to the usual \$40 cost of JUS).

Pylypiuk commended that she had only just learned that the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences was working on a model for such affiliated societies. She also noted that the new website will have a section devoted to alliances with affiliated societies and urged Polonists and Russianists to consider similar ventures.

### 7. Announcement of Graduate Student Essay Winner

Natalia Pylypiuk announced the winners of the student prizes and thanked members of the committee, Gust Olson, Donna Orwin, Alla Nedashkivska, and Serhy Yekelchuk for their thoughtful service.

The winners were:

Undergraduate: Emily Anglin, "'A Disastrous and Dangerous Illness': Division and Danger in A Double Life." The paper was nominated by Dr. Rimma Volynska, Department of Russian, University of

Graduate: Max Bergholz, University of Toronto, "Who was the Soviet Professional". The paper was nominated by Prof. Lynne Viola, Department of History, University of Toronto.

### 8. Other Business and Announcements

Waclaw Osadnik reported that there are now three places available each year for study and work internship in Poland through the University of Alberta.

Pereira reported on the Dalhousie Intensive Russian Programme. This programme has been running since 1975 and approximately 450 students have passed through, making it the longest lived such programme in the West. Many of the students remain active in the field.

In response to a question from Harasymiw about a similar, but cheaper programme being advertised by the University of Saskatchewan, Pereira responded that, at the University of Saskatchewan's initiative, Dalhousie and UofS had co-operated on this programme four years ago. Now, the UofS has almost exactly duplicated the Dalhousie programme, down to the advertising material, but the advertised price does not include airfare, visa, or a group leader (in Dalhousie's case, Marina Glazova, who works for free once she is there). If these factors are included, there is no substantive difference in cost.

Maxim Tarnawsky expressed the view that, although he is a proponent of the free market, he is concerned about the ethics involved here and suggested that perhaps the executive should investigate this matter.

Tarnawsky (m) and Tigountsova (s) that the executive of CAS investigate the relationship between the Russian Studies programmes at Dalhousie University and the University of Saskatchewan.

#### Discussion:

Pereira expressed concern about poisoning the waters and that the investigation may be premature.

Harasymiw observed that this is a serious matter, but that CAS is not an adjudicating body and cannot recommend particular actions. Nevertheless, he supports the idea that the executive investigates the situation.

#### Vote:

In favour: 26

Against: 0

Abstentions: 9. Allan Reid requested that his abstention be recorded.

#### Carried.

Ilnyzkyj reported on the Ukraine Through Its Living Culture programme run by University of Alberta staff in L'viv. The programme sends seven to twelve students each year.

Natalia Aponiuk reported on the University of Manitoba's six-week programme in introductory and intermediate Ukrainian held in June and July each year at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

#### Discussion:



Joan DeBardeleben asked whether it was easy for students from other institutions to get credit for participating in these various programmes. Ilnytskyj, Osadnik, and Aponiuk all agreed that this has not been difficult for students in their experience.

DeBardeleben further pointed out that students are always looking for information about such programmes and that this was one service that CAS could offer. Pylypiuk agreed and noted that this will be another role for the new website.

#### 9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

*Heather J. Coleman, 20 June 2003*