

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SLAVISTS
Reports from the Executive
May 2004

Contents:

- 1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT and PROPOSALS (Natalia Pylypiuk)**
- 2. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT (Heather Coleman)**
- 3. EDITOR'S REPORT, *Canadian Slavonic Papers* (Oleh S. Ilnytskyj)**
 - a. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: 2004**
 - b. CSP Financial Report**

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT and PROPOSALS

27 May 2004

Dear Colleagues and Students,

My efforts in 2003-04 were focused on the integration of the CAS and CSP websites into a newly designed home, which can be accessed through two separate, but related gates:

For the CAS: <http://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas>

For CSP: <http://www.ualberta.ca/~csp>

Besides conceptualizing and managing the design of this site, I organized its structure and wrote the text of all of the pages pertaining to the CAS. Oleh Ilnytskyj organized and wrote the pages for the CSP wing. Serhiy Kozakov (University of Alberta) did the programming.

The CAS wing of the site has five separate pages, which are devoted to the association, its annual conference, directory, news, and contact information. The first page includes an introduction to the CAS, sections on its history, constitution, current Executive, awards and essay contest, international relations, the concept of affiliated societies, membership information, links to Canadian university departments offering Slavic programs / courses, Canadian Centres and Research Institutes devoted to Slavic disciplines, Intensive Language/Culture Programs Abroad organized by Members of the CAS, and Ways to Help. Please note that the section devoted to the Student Essay competition, besides describing the process, sets a deadline for submissions, and lists the winners. There is also a section that lists the prizes for which CAS members are eligible. The Conference page includes, along with other basic information, a section devoted to the CAS Travel grant, stipulating its deadline and criteria. The page titled NEWS, features recent Newsletters, has sections for AGM reports, general announcements, and more recent publications by members of the CAS. This page also names the positions on the Executive that are subject to election at the next AGM.

The section WAYS to HELP, which is on the first page, will be completed upon the recertification of the CAS as a charitable organization (please see the report of the Secretary-Treasurer). Recertification will allow the association to initiate a fund for Best Article and Best Book Prizes. The section A GUIDE FOR THE CHAIR OF THE CAS PROGRAM COMMITTEE, which is on the Conference page, will be completed after the conference in Manitoba. It will include a list of best practices drawn from the experience of most recent Program Committee Chairs. The Directory of Members, which is on the Directory page, along with other useful links for the profession, is currently being redesigned to facilitate prompt maintenance.

Tweaking will continue and more links will be provided. I encourage all members of the CAS to send comments and suggestions, especially concerning areas that have been overlooked. Please alert me to any problems that might arise with various browsers.

The redesigned website updates our public image and has the potential of attracting new members, as well as the support of SSHRC. For this reason, I propose that we create the position of Webmaster whose function it will be to manage and update the site.

For the launching of our website, I commissioned the creation of a bookmark that cites both URL's.

Work on the site led me to compare our activities with those of similar associations. This inspired the idea of a biennial Best Article Prize and a biennial Best Book Prize. Before the necessary funding becomes available, the CAS might consider awarding free membership to the winners (e.g., two years for the book prize, one year for the article prize).

I have also identified areas of the CAS Constitution that need editorial updating. The following is a summary of the suggested changes:

(1) Para. 4: Under Active Membership (second group), from "to recognized scholars, and persons professionally engaged in research in East European Affairs," to "to recognized scholars, and persons professionally engaged in research in Central and East European Affairs,"

(2) throughout document, from "Chairman" to "Chair"

(3) throughout document,

- from "his" to "his/her"

- from "he" to "he /she"

- from "himself" to "himself / herself"

(4) throughout document, from "Managing Editor" to "Editor"

(5) Para 17: from "Annual general meetings of CAS will normally take place in the same locality and time period as the meetings of the Learned Societies." to "Annual general meetings of CAS will normally take place in the same locality and time period as the meetings of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, which is organized by the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences."

This was a year of transition in the CSP office. For this reason, I assumed the responsibility of preparing a combined Fall-Spring issue of the 2003-04 Newsletter, which, thanks to Serhiy Kozakov's excellent help, now comes with an index.

Given that the role of the Assistant Editor of CSP is complex, I propose that the position of Editor of the CAS Newsletter be delegated to a graduate student, as is the practice among many learned societies. This will lighten the burden of the CSP office and, above all, will give the student (or students, if co-editorship is preferred) valuable experience that might enhance their professional CV.

In terms of scholarship, I'm pleased to announce that Alla Nedashkivska and Waclaw Osanik and I edited a special collection of articles devoted to the Theory and Practice of Teaching Slavic Languages and Cultures, which will appear in the March-June 2004 CSP issue now in press. This is the first such issue in the history of our association and journal, and a small tribute to our 50th Anniversary.

Finally, this year I was much involved in the consultation process concerning the transformation of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), a process that was organized in cooperation with the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences (CFHSS). I represented the CAS at two meetings organized by the Vice President of Research at the University of Alberta. I also solicited input from members of the CAS to prepare a report to the CFHSS. This report was sent to all members of the CAS at the end of March. It also served as the basis for discussions at a meeting of all the Presidents of learned societies belonging to the Federation. Here I reiterate my gratitude to John-Paul Himka (Alberta); Heather Coleman and Bohdan Harasymiw (Calgary); Andrea Chandler and Carter Elwood (Carleton); Theodore Friedgut (Hebrew University, Jerusalem); and Maxim Tarnawsky (Toronto) for their valuable input.

The Federation took into account the arguments that the CAS presented in its position paper. As you might have noticed, the Federation's own Summary report, which I forwarded to our e-mail list, reflected four of our own points: (1) the Standard Research Grant program must continue; (2) teaching is an important form of research dissemination and community outreach; (3) travel grants to the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities help scholars to disseminate research and are especially important to graduate students and young scholars; and (4) the Strategic Research Grants Program should tap the expertise of associations such as ours. Moreover, all the points that I made at the special workshop on graduate students were also incorporated into the Federations' document.

The consultation process will continue, and I encourage the CAS to continue its engagement with both the CFHSS and the SSHRC. The wellbeing of both CSP and the CAS depends on our willingness and ability to articulate our case before the organizations that represent us in Ottawa.

I take this opportunity to thank all members of the Executive for their support and collegiality. Special thanks go to Natalia Aponiuk and her team for their Herculean efforts in organizing the "CAS at 50 Conference" and its website. I am equally grateful to Myron Momryk and Bohdan Harasymiw for researching and preparing the list of all previous Executive Boards of the CAS. This document and the historical perspectives provided by Bohdan Harasymiw, Paul Austin, Stanislav Kirshchbaum, and Connie Wawruck-Hammet have significantly enriched our 50th Anniversary celebration. I thank Maxim Tarnawsky for posting information on his website (in such timely fashion), while the new site was being constructed. Many thanks are also due to Heather Coleman for reorganizing the CAS' financial arrangement with the CSP office. And, on behalf of the CAS, I thank Serhiy Kozajov (Alberta) for his excellent assistance with the website.

The CAS is a vibrant intellectual community. I have enjoyed working with all of you and wish you and the new Executive much success in all creative endeavors.

Natalia Pylypiuk,
President (2000-2004)

2. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

26 May 2004

1. General Financial Picture

In 2003-04, 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.

The day-to-day financial situation of the Association remains 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*. Now that SSHRC operating grants have been cut and our journal has caught up in its publication schedule, we are able to re-organize our financial arrangements. In accordance with the objective announced at last year's AGM, a meeting of the Secretary-Treasurer and the CSP editor (along with CAS president and CSP assistant editor) to formalize a sharing of membership dues between the two branches of our organization was held in Edmonton. According to this agreement, \$3,000 per year (resources permitting) will be transferred from the CSP account (membership dues are sent to CSP) to the CAS Secretary-Treasurer in late May of each year, before the Annual General Meeting, in order to fund the operating expenses of the Association. This transfer, combined with profits from the annual conference, should allow the organization to meet its basic expenses. CAS will move to a fiscal year that matches that of CSP – from April 1-March 31. This will make joint budgeting easier and ensure that the financial picture presented at the AGM is clearer.

As a result of discussions with CSP, it has become clear that a small increase in membership dues will be necessary to meet the costs of operating the Association and increased postage for the journal. It has also been proposed that CAS society fees for the annual Congress for non-members be raised. Motions to this effect will be presented at the AGM.

Plans continue for a fund-raising campaign. The Secretary-Treasurer investigated the steps necessary for renewing our status as a charitable institution, a status that lapsed in 2000. She is currently preparing the application for re-certification. Forms are now ready for submission by the incoming Secretary-Treasurer. It is hoped that by autumn 2004, our status will be renewed and the CAS executive will launch a campaign in support of the CAS fund more generally and a 50th Anniversary scholarship fund in particular. Members would receive tax receipts for their donations.

2. CAS Fund

The CAS fund remains steady at \$40,000. The account was moved from the Ukrainian Credit Union, Toronto, to the Royal Bank in Calgary, where the CAS account is found. Interest for 2003 was \$200.99, reflecting low interest rates. The principal has now been re-invested in GICs at the Royal Bank, \$35,000 in a non-redeemable 3-year certificate yielding \$822.50/year and \$5,000 in a redeemable 1-year certificate yielding \$52.50/year. \$2,862.14 in interest has accumulated in the CAS Fund account. The only disbursement from the CAS Fund this year was \$100 towards development of our new website.

3. Profit from 2002 CAS Conference

We received a cheque for \$1,482.75 from the CFHSS. As \$800 had already been advanced to our Programme Committee chair for 2003, the net profit was \$682.75.

4. SSHRC Grants

We received \$5910.00 from SSHRC for conference travel. Once again, more money was requested than is available. Grants were calculated according to the usual formula (50% members, 75% student members), then applicants received 66% of that amount, allowing us to disburse the total money available fairly. The executive is reviewing the travel grant calculation formula for next year, considering a lowering of the targets, an upper limit on grants amounts, and funding only travel within Canada.

5. Royal Bank Accounts

Our current account balance is \$7,766.15, but most of this is already committed in the form of travel grants, payment of travel prize to past student essay contest winners, travel assistance to executive members, and payment of our annual membership in the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. A transfer of approximately \$1000 from CSP is expected in the next few days.

6. Banking Report

Received, 15 May 2003-15 May 2004

Revenue from Halifax conference (2003):	\$1,584.75
Travel Grant from SSHRC:	\$5,910.00

Disbursed, 15 May 2003-15 May 2004

Travel grants:	\$7,581.50 (includes money left from 2002 grant)
Executive travel:	\$1,500.00
Student prize:	\$ 250.00
Bank fees:	\$ 80.96
Membership in CFHSS:	\$1,909.00
Conference expenses (2003):	\$ 800.00
Website	\$ 700.00

Current Balances

CAS fund:	\$40,000.00
CAS fund savings account:	\$ 2,862.15
Royal Bank account:	\$ 7,766.15

Receipts Outstanding

Approximately \$1,000 from membership dues collected by CSP

Payments Outstanding

\$5,910 in travel grants to members
\$1,500 in travel subsidies to executive
\$1,909 for CFHSS membership (to be paid at the Congress)

Respectfully submitted,

Heather J. Coleman, Secretary-Treasurer (2001-2004)
Canadian Association of Slavists

3. REPORT OF THE EDITOR, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*

May 27, 2004

Publication

Canadian Slavonic Papers published three double issues (750 pages) this year:

- Vol. XLIV, Nos. 3-4, September-December 2002 (pub. March 2003)
- Vol. XLV, Nos. 1-2, March-June 2003 (pub. July 2003).
- Vol. XLV, Nos. 3-4, September-December 2003 (pub. December 2003)

The current issue (Vol. XLVI, Nos. 1-2, March-June 2004) will go to print in the first week of June and will be mailed out at the end of the month or early July.

As was mentioned in my letter to members and subscribers in December 2003, this is the first time in more than a decade that CSP is appearing on time. When CSP came to the University of Alberta in 1991, it was almost three years behind schedule. During the last decade or so it was anywhere from 6 months to one year behind the calendar. We are now publishing on time and I will try to maintain this hard-earned accomplishment.

Subscriptions

Currently, CSP has 640 worldwide subscribers (individuals and institutions).

Website

In addition to the journal, the Editor devoted time to revamping the CSP web site, working with the President and her assistant, Serhiy Kozakov. The CSP site is now much improved in terms of appearance, navigation and content.

Administration

This year the CSP office was in the new and very capable hands of Dr. Bohdan Nebesio, to whom I express my deep gratitude for his hard work and dedication.

Responsibility for Vol. XLIV, Nos. 3-4 and Vol. XLV, Nos. 1-2 still belonged to Dr. Gust Olson, but Dr. Nebesio did an equally remarkably job in bringing out the third issue when he took over in June. Dr. Nebesio also dealt with the purchase and integration of a new computer system, which involved a transition from an old Macintosh to a new Windows machine. He created an entirely new database and accounting system for CSP, which is already improving our work and, once finished, will help us tremendously in tracking subscriptions and encouraging renewals.

Finances

The CSP Financial Report is attached at the end of this document. I would characterize the financial status of the journal as reasonably sound and relatively secure for the next fiscal year. The total equity may be impressive at first glance but once salary, expenses for the current issue, and transfers to CAS are factored in, the

journal will have just enough to publish two double issues. Naturally, we expect some additional revenue from future subscriptions. We are also busy preparing a grant application to SSHRC (deadline June 30, 2004), which, if awarded, will give the journal a firmer footing for the next three years, i.e., the length of the grant.

Initiatives

CSP is making an effort to move more of its content to the Internet, using the newly revised website as a starting point. We have begun posting the contents page and abstracts of current issues, and are working to make our past numbers available both through the website and on CD-ROM. Our exploratory efforts have been made possible through the assistance of graduates students from the University of Alberta's Humanities Computing program (HuCo), to whom I express my profound appreciation. In particular, I would like to thank Serhiy Kozakov, Urara Kobayashi, Nazia Karamuth, Magdalena Stanislawska and Isabel Klint. With their help, CSP has begun digitizing and repurposing the last twelve years of our archive and hopes, funding permitting, to do the same for all the remaining 45 volumes. The goal is to have forty-five years of CSP available on CD-ROM and, eventually, the Internet.

Oleh S. Ilnytskyj
Editor
Canadian Slavonic Papers

3a. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: 2004

Canadian Association of Slavists

CAS Membership by Type

Membership category	2004	%	2003	2002
Regular Members	190	59	180	184
Student Members	65	20	66	64
Emeritus Members	39	12	41	38
Life and Other Members	27	8	25	23
Total	321		312	309

CAS Membership by Region (paid up membership)

Region	2004	%	2003	%
Canada	123	75	157	71
United States	31	19	50	22
Europe	7	4	11	5
Australia	3	2	4	2

Canadian Slavonic Papers: 2004 Total Institutional Subscriptions—**281**
2004 Worldwide Distribution—640 copies

Canadian Slavonic Papers: Institutional Subscriptions by Region (paid up subscription)

Region	2004	%	2003	%
Canada	21	9	21	14
United States	122	56	77	51
Europe (22 countries)	67	30	42	28
Asia	4	2	9	6
Australia/New Zealand	5	2	3	2

Canadian Slavonic Papers: Distribution by Region (paid up subscription)

Region	2004	%	2003	%
Canada	144	36	178	48
United States	153	40	127	34
Europe	74	20	53	14
Asia	4	1	9	2
Australia/New Zealand	8	2	7	2
Total	383		374	

**3B. CSP FINANCIAL REPORT
APRIL 1, 2003 – MARCH 31, 2004**

	2003-2004	2002-2003	2001-2002
Equity March 31, 2003	29,776.53	43,916.54	21,592.00
Receipts			
Subscriptions and Memberships	37,044.28	29,040.55	26,087.50
SSHRCC Grant	16,692.00	0.00	33,028.00
Other Grants, Donations	3,500.00	5.00	0.00
Term Deposit Interest	148.28	109.78	48.39
Savings Acct. Interest	41.43	15.38	33.26
Sales (Back Issues & Directories)	164.15	175.11	603.00
CANCOPY, permissions, etc.	2,041.26	1,727.45	1,592.18
Advertising	375.00	200.00	0.00
Label rentals, inserts	0.00	858.00	0.00
Other	15.00	0.00	0.00
Total Receipts	60,021.40	32,131.27	61,392.33
Equity before Disbursements	89,797.92	76,047.81	82,984.33
Disbursements			
Asst. Editor Salary	27,387.30	28,768.52	27,313.82
Postage & Freight	5,210.64	8,954.21	3,289.76
Printing (U of Alberta)	29.26	419.48	564.82
Office/administration	715.87	1,021.75	722.14
Computer	2,610.90	209.68	0.00
Printing Journal	9,901.70	9,107.08	6,609.39
Journal design	0.00	300.00	300.00
Transfer to CAS	230.00	3,600.00	0.00
Printing 2001 Directories	0.00	0.00	115.03
Miscellaneous	214.50	68.67	78.54
Bank Charges	59.71	68.96	74.29
Transfer to CAUS	390.00	0.00	0.00
Total Disbursements	46,749.89	52,518.35	39,067.79
Equity March 31, 2004	43,048.04		
Equity April 30		23,529.46	43,916.54