

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SLAVISTS
Reports from the Executive
May 2005

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1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2005

After all the excitement of CAS's 50th anniversary celebrations last year, it's hardly any wonder that this year's endeavors seem pale by comparison. The most important aspects of our organization's activity, the publication of our journal and the organizing of our annual meeting are in very competent hands. The hard work of Oleh Ilnytskyj and his team at Canadian Slavonic Papers deserve our continued gratitude and praise. The imminent departure of Bohdan Nebesio from CSP to a tenure stream film position at Brock University may be a loss to our journal, but certainly a gain for Brock and for our profession as a whole. I'm sure the members will join me in congratulating Bohdan and thanking him for his good work in CAS. Oleh, no doubt, will again find an able assistant, as he has in the past. The programme Robert Karpiak has put together at the University of Western Ontario is ample testimony to his skillful organizational work. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

After many years of apparent retrenchment, Slavic studies shows signs, albeit faint and certainly not widespread, of renewed health and vigor. Circumstances vary widely from one campus to another and perhaps my optimism is tied to my own perspective, but there seems to be renewed energy and hope among younger Slavists. Positions are still very few, but there are positions being filled, even in language and literature, which were suffering an extended drought for many years. Political events in the Slavic world such as the Orange revolution in Ukraine or the accession of Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Slovenia (not to mention countries not Slavic but of interest to our field, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania) to the European Union have given our profession a fresh command of public attention. So too have some unfortunate events, such as the continued repressions in Belarus and the growth of authoritarianism in Russia. All in all, we face the prospect, unusual in our immediate past, of renewed interest and energy in our profession. Let's work together to make sure we capitalize on these opportunities.

The Canadian Association of Slavists is, on the whole, a productive and healthy organization that serves its limited objectives well. Although our national funding agency, the SSHRC is unfortunately determined to implement a policy that applies political yardsticks to the evaluation of scholarly activity, the fundamental responsibility of our association is still directed at our primary goals—the promotion of quality scholarship in the fields of Slavic studies. My goals as president are to maintain this health, repair the small cracks in organization and communication, and particularly in finances, that have appeared on the hull of our very sound ship, and to sail on into what we all hope is indeed a brighter future.

Maxim Tarnawsky

2. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT 2005

1. Introduction

From the accounting perspective the financial situation of CAS remained stable since it started to receive a fixed \$5,910 grant from SSHRC to subsidize travel to the Learned Societies Conference. The financial stability has been achieved through subsidies from the CAS Fund by spending interest earnings accumulated over the years of relatively high interest rates. The principal of the Fund remains at \$40,000 but current interest rates will not permit future travel subsidies to CAS at historic levels. This report presents a financial snapshot of CAS since 1998, which is a period for which the CAS Fund *owes* annual information returns to Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. It is expected that the CAS Fund will be able to renew its registration as Charity for income tax purposes after submission of returns.

The financial information presented in this report is consistent with annual Secretary – Treasurer's reports to CAS for the past six years. However, the Association's assets are reported here strictly on July 1 of each year to reflect the start date of the official CAS Fund official fiscal year. The data for the current fiscal year are presented for the period of July 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005 to facilitate transition to fiscal year that starts on April 1. This will synchronize financial activities of the CAS Fund, Association and its journal, Canadian Slavonic Papers (CSP).

2. Historic perspective on the CAS finances

The main source of CAS funding is the association's dues. These are collected by CSP and are primarily used to fund the journal. Other CAS activities such as the annual conference and student awards are mainly supported by proceeds from the CFHSS conference, interest earnings of the CAS fund, travel grants, and, lately, by transfers from CSP.

Transfer of a portion of dues from CSP (up to \$3,000) to fund other CAS activities was instituted in the late nineties when the administrative component of the SSHRC grant was no longer available. Due to concerns about the health of the journal, the "call for transfer" has been left to the discretion of secretary-treasurers as the last resort to stabilize the financial situation of CAS. In this form the transfer mechanism was used only once, in 2002. Prior to this, an accumulated interest of the CAS fund has been utilized to supplement other funding.

Low interest rates in recent years reduced the earning capacity of the \$40,000 CAS fund. As a result, an increase in CAS dues by \$5 has been implemented in 2002. The additional funds collected by CSP are earmarked for CAS activities. It is expected that synchronization of fiscal years would facilitate timely transfers of these funds.

3. Revenue & Expenses

Conference travel subsidy to members, including executives

The SSHRC travel grant remains \$5,910 since 1998. The usual disbursement formula to subsidize travel to CFHSS conference is 50% for members and 75% for student members. Due to demand and travel distances, e.g. travel to conferences in Western Canada, the demand for subsidies at the traditional level cannot be always met. Travel subsidies averaged close to \$6,700 over the past 6 years, i.e. approximately \$800 per year on average is used to subsidize travel beyond funds provided by SSHRC.

Interest from the CAS fund

Although the principal of the fund remained at \$40,000, interest earnings varied from close to \$1,400 to a few hundred dollars in 2003. Nevertheless, on average over the past six years the fund earned about \$870 annually, enough to cover minor operating expenses and the difference between what CAS receives for travel subsidies from SSHRC and what it actually gives out on average. Presently, interest earnings of the Fund are automatically transferred to CAS operating account.

CFHSS (membership and net revenue from conferences)

Our cost of membership in CFHSS is \$1,909 per year currently. On average over the past six years the membership cost is a bit lower, \$1,828 per year. Returns from conferences average to \$1,026 over the past 6 years once all expenses paid. The net result is that the Association needs about \$1,000 on average to cover the difference between the cost of belonging to the CFHSS and what we recover through the conference fees.

Transfers from CSP

Total transfers from CSP through all mechanisms amount to \$6,445 in the past 6 years, i.e. slightly more than \$1000 on average per year, just enough to cover the balance of CFHSS-related activities.

Student Awards

Student awards amounted to \$1,800 in total over the past six years, i.e. \$300 per year.

4. Summary

In essence, CAS operates on a shoestring budget but meets its traditional obligations to members and supports a premier journal in the area of Slavic Studies. The pattern of day-to-day and annual activities is now well-established thanks to efforts of my predecessors.

CAS now maintains an operating account at RBC in Waterloo and its \$40,000 fund is invested in two GICs (\$5,000 and \$35,000 maturing in one year and three years respectively).

CAS is expected to restore its status as a Registered Charity after submission of information returns since 1998 to Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. This would facilitate a fundraising effort.

5. Income Statement and Balance Sheet

The attached unaudited financial statements for the CAS Fund and CAS has been compiled by the Secretary-Treasurer to facilitate submission of Registered Charity Information Returns for fiscal years ending 06/30/1999, 06/30/2000, 06/30/2001, 06/30/2002, 06/30/2003, 06/30/2004. I will be submitting the 2004-05 return assuming the fiscal year end on March 31, 2005, thus requesting to start the next fiscal year on April 1. The last column of the following Table summarizes the financial status of CAS from April 1, 2005 to May 1, 2005.

6. Current Finances and projections to the end of 2005-06 fiscal year

The May 1, 2005 operating account balance is at all times high, **\$14,481.05**, owing to and an unusually high return from the Winnipeg Conference - \$3,480.41, improving interest from the CAS fund - \$843.75, transfers from CSP - \$2,615.25 received in 2004 and 2005, SSHRC travel grant \$5,910.00, and unspent funds that remained in the Calgary RBC account. We still did not receive a bill for the Winnipeg Conference, which is the only liability from the past fiscal year.

We received travel requests for the London conference from 18 people of which 10 are students. These requests will be funded at the standard level for a total cost \$6,321. With CFHSS membership at \$1909, executive travel estimated at \$1,500, student award at \$250, and somewhat higher conference costs estimated at \$800 to account for extra expenses for the Program Director (who is not from London), the operating account balance is expected to be \$4,883.99, in the end of the 2005-06 fiscal year. This estimate includes a \$1,500 transfer from CSP. The last column in Table 1 summarizes these projections.

**Table 1: CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SLAVISTS (FUND)
Income Statement and Balance Sheet**

Fiscal Year	1998 - 99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 ¹	2005-06
	July 1, 1998 June 30, 1999	July 1, 1999 June 30, 2000	July 1, 2000 June 30, 2001	July 1, 2001 June 30, 2002	July 1, 2002 June 30, 2003	July 1, 2003 June 30, 2004	July 1, 2004 March 31, 2005	April 1, 2005 April 30, 2006
CURRENT ASSETS								
Ukranian Credit Union Term	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000		
RBC GIC							40,000	40,000
Ukranian Credit Union Savings	3647.04	4988.4	3329.76	1639.61	2317.28	2626.58		
RBC Savings								
TOTAL ASSETS, start of FY	43,647.04	44,988.40	43,329.76	41,639.61	42,317.28	42,626.58	40,000.00	40,000.00
REVENUE								
Interest on term deposit	1341.36	1341.36	1309.85	677.67	309.30	235.56		
Interest from GIC							848.75	0.00
Total revenue	1341.36	1341.36	1309.85	677.67	309.3	235.56	848.75	0.00
EXPENSES								
Transfer to CAS	0.00	3000.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	2862.14	848.75	
Total expenses	0.00	3000.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	2862.14	848.75	
NET INCOME (LOSS)	1,341.36	(1,658.64)	(1,690.15)	677.67	309.30	(2,626.58)	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS, end of FY	44,988.40	43,329.76	41,639.61	42,317.28	42,626.58	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00

**Table 2: CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SLAVISTS (OPERATING)
Income Statement and Balance Sheet**

Fiscal Year	1998 - 99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 ¹	2005-06
	July 1, 1998 June 30, 1999	July 1, 1999 June 30, 2000	July 1, 2000 June 30, 2001	July 1, 2001 June 30, 2002	July 1, 2002 June 30, 2003	July 1, 2003 June 30, 2004	July 1, 2004 March 31, 2005	April 1, 2005 March 31, 2006
CURRENT ASSETS								
RBC Checking (operating)	1501.77	253.93	1098.66	1903.75	3801.59	2372.34	4294.29	14486.05
TOTAL ASSETS, start of FY	1,501.77	253.93	1,098.66	1,903.75	3,801.59	2,372.34	4,294.29	14486.05
REVENUE								
Travel Grant	5,910.00	5,910.00	5,910.00	5,910.00	5,910.00	5,910.00	5,910.00	
CAS Fund Grant	0.00	3000.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	2862.14	848.75	
Conference income	1,375.00	622.00	1,853.56	1,683.21	1,584.75	1,482.75	3,480.41	
Transfer from CSP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,830.00	0.00	2,615.25	1,500.00
Total revenue	7,285.00	9,532.00	10,763.56	7,593.21	11,324.75	10,254.89	12,854.41	1,500.00
EXPENSES								
CFHSS Dues	1992.00	1339.00	1909.00	1909.00	1909.00	1909.00	0.00	1909.00
ICCEES Dues	354.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	152.06	152.06
Conference expenses	0.00	404.16	584.63	476.73	800.00	0.00	118.22	800.00
Travel subsidy	5910.00	6520.00	7000.51	3289.09	9730.23	5668.00	2080.31	7821.00
Student Awards	250.00	375.00	375.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
Bank Charges	26.84	25.37	58.28	20.55	64.77	55.94	62.06	70.00
Miscellaneous expenses	0.00	23.74	31.75	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	100.00
Total expenses	8532.84	8687.27	9959.17	5695.37	12754.00	8332.94	2662.65	11102.06
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(1,247.84)	844.73	804.39	1,897.84	(1,429.25)	1,921.95	10,191.76	(9,602.06)
TOTAL ASSETS, end of FY	253.93	1,098.66	1,903.05	3,801.59	2,372.34	4,294.29	14,486.05	4,883.99

¹Transition to Fiscal Year starting April 1

3. Report of the Editor, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*

Oleh S. Ihnytzkyj

May 31, 2005

Publication

Canadian Slavonic Papers published two double issues this year, for a total of 560 pages:

- Vol. XLVI, Nos. 1-2, March-June 2004
- Vol. XLVI, Nos. 3-4, September–December 2004

The next issue (Vol. XLVII, Nos. 1-2, March-June 2005) will go to print in late June and will be mailed out at the end of July. CSP continues to appear on time.

Subscriptions

Currently, CSP has 639 worldwide subscribers (individuals and institutions).

Website

The Editor and Serhiy Kozakov (U of A's Humanities Computing Program) are working to establish web-based access for CAS members to all of CSP's archive.

Administration

This year, as last, the CSP office was in the very capable hands of the Assistant Editor, Dr. Bohdan Nebesio. On May 27, 2005 Dr. Nebesio leaves CSP to take up a permanent appointment as Assistant Professor at Brock University, a wonderful step in his career for which I heartily congratulate him. Bohdan's contribution to the journal will be sorely missed. For all his past work, I express my deep gratitude and appreciation.

Dr. Bohdan Nebesio and I have planned for this transition and details will be forthcoming in the near future.

Finances

The CSP Financial Report appears on page 3 of this document.

I would characterize the financial status of the journal as reasonably sound and relatively secure for the next fiscal year.

I'm happy to announce that SSHRC has awarded CSP a three-year grant under the Aid to Research and Transfer Journals program. The grant period runs from March 18, 2005 to March 17, 2008. The total amount of the grant is: \$46,551.00.

Initiatives

CSP continues to work on digitizing all 45 volumes of the journal, a project we began last year. The goal is to make them available on CD-ROM and, eventually, the Internet.

To streamline the work at CSP, we are close to completing a web-based "Book and Article Review Management System." The system will be available to all CSP Editors and will help keep track of article submissions and book reviews. The work is being done by Mr. Serhiy Kozakov through the U of A's Arts Resource Centre. Special thanks go to Mr. Terry Butler, Director of Research Computing in the Arts Faculty for his assistance on this important project.

Oleh S. Ilnytskyj
Editor

CSP Financial Report: April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005

	2004-2005	2003-2004	2002-2003
Equity April 1	43,048.04	29,776.53	43,916.54
Exchange rate April 1, 2004	1.31		
Exchange rate March 31, 2005	1.20		
Receipts			
1 Subscriptions and Memberships	32,746.65	37,044.28	29,040.55
2 SSHRCC Grant	0.00	16,692.00	0.00
3 Other Grants, Donations	2,500.00	3,500.00	5.00
4 Term Deposit Interest	0.00	148.28	109.78
5 Savings Acct. Interest	86.77	41.43	15.38
6 Sales (Back Issues & Directories)	457.07	164.15	175.11
7 CANCOPY, permissions, etc.	2,454.03	2,041.26	1,727.45
8 Advertising	960.00	375.00	200.00
9 Label rentals, inserts	0.00	0.00	858.00
10 Other	0.00	15.00	0.00
Adjustment for US\$ bank transfers	815.49		
Adjustment for US\$ exchange rate	-2,613.86		
Total Receipts	37,406.15	60,021.40	32,131.27
Equity before Disbursements	80,454.19	89,797.92	76,047.81
Disbursements			
11 Asst. Editor Salary	25,084.56	27,387.30	28,768.52
12 Postage & Freight	5,290.99	5,210.64	8,954.21
13 Printing (U of Alberta)	92.94	29.26	419.48
14 Office/administration	937.65	715.87	1,021.75
15 Computer	0.00	2,610.90	209.68
16 Printing Journal	7,498.30	9,901.70	9,107.08
17 Journal design	0.00	0.00	300.00
18 Transfer to CAS	2,615.25	230.00	3,600.00
19 Promotion/Advertising	260.00	0.00	0.00
20 Miscellaneous	0.00	214.50	68.67
21 Bank Charges	52.41	59.71	68.96
22 Transfer to CAUS	884.10	390.00	0.00
Total Disbursements	42,716.20	46,749.89	52,518.35
Equity March 31	37,737.99	43,048.04	
Equity April 30			23,529.46

Notes: 2003-2004 reflects change in fiscal year from May 1 - April 30 to April 1 - March 31.