

**Canadian Association of Slavists (CAS)  
Annual General Meeting (AGM)  
Minutes (2015)**

1. **Welcome** by President of CAS Dr. Elena Baraban, followed by introduction of CAS Executive Members and CAS Conference Organizers.
2. **Moment of Silence** in remembrance of Dr. Gary Toops.
3. **Approval of agenda** (Coleman/Raab) – passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of minutes** from last AGM (Olson/Isakava)
  - Need to amend members at large (all of whom are listed on the CAS website)
  - Need to fix the typing mistake on ICCEES on the last page
5. **Message from Executive Board of Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences** (Dr. Bohdan Harasymiw & Dr. Andrii Krawchuk)
  - Dr. Harasymiw reported that no meeting happened since the board members did not show up.
  - Its printed brochure discussed media coverage for Humanities and Social Sciences research as well as its efforts to lobby the Canadian government. Other topics included: ‘Big Thinking’ for parliamentarians and the public; the organizing of Congress every year; and the ASPP program which is run by the Federation with monies from SSHRC.
6. **Executive Reports – President’s Address (Dr. Elena Baraban)**
  - The Ukrainian Crisis has been a challenge for many members. When we are asked to serve as experts, we should try to keep Slavic studies looking good and try to get things resolved. Members should be as professional as possible.
  - CAS members have been extremely active this year in terms of media engagement, the teaching of courses, and attending symposia, etc. There are two sessions devoted to the Ukrainian crisis at our conference. The need for specialists is evident but budget cuts are still shaping programs.
  - CAS bid for ICCEES in 2020 has been accepted. Thanks to the committee and especially to Dr. Andrii Krawchuk for their hard work. CAS can move to the next stages of preparation for the Congress – these involve raising the profile of the event in Canada and internationally as well as reaching out to colleagues in Quebec who can help with organizational matters.
  - CAS provided travel support to a CAS graduate student member to attend this year’s Congress.
  - A seven-year agreement whereby Taylor & Francis will publish *Canadian Slavonic Papers* (CSP) came into effect on January 1, 2015.
  - Thank you to Dr. Svitlana Kryz for all her efforts with CAS and CSP. Congratulations to her on her new tenure track position.
  - Thanks to Drs. Christina Kramer, Mark Conliffe and Alison Rowley for their service as CSP book review editors.
  - Taylor & Francis have agreed to fund the CAS book prize. There has been an enthusiastic response to the prize. Thanks to prize committee members Drs. Nigel Raab, David Schimmelpenninck van der Oye, Gust Olson and Megan Swift for their work.

- The CAS constitution committee continues its work.
- CAS membership rose slightly this year.
- The CAS student essay prizes were awarded to Nicolas Tetrault of McGill University (undergraduate; submitted by Dr. James Krapfl), and Megan Fairhold of the University of Alberta (graduate; submitted by Dr. Heather Coleman). Thank you to the prize committee members: Drs. Megan Swift, Ross Bilous and Alison Rowley.
- Dorota Lockyer has launched an initiative to improve CAS's graduate student initiatives. Information is on the CAS website. We are pleased to announce that there are many students presenting at the CAS conference this year.
- Thank you to members of the executive, especially the past presidents (Drs. Megan Swift, Zina Gimpelevich and Maxim Tarnawsky) for their engagement and help this year.
- I applaud the conference organizers (Drs. Volha Isakava and Arkadi Klioutchanski) for their work. Dr. Paul Robinson is kindly hosting the CAS BBQ at his home.
- Thank you to our Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Maryna Romanets, for making sure funds were kept going and for sending out reminders as necessary.

#### **Executive Reports – Editor of Canadian Slavonic Papers (Dr. Heather Coleman)**

- A detailed report has been pre-circulated and is available on the CAS website.
- Two issues of the journal were published this year. They featured 12 articles and a memoir. A special double-issue, "Moving Images: New Perspectives on Ukrainian Cinema," was guest-edited by Dr. Serhy Yekelchyk.
- The journal has 250 individual subscribers, which is a rise over last year, and 172 institutional subscribers, which is a slight drop from last year.
- The journal is still in some state of flux given the transfer to Taylor & Francis and the costs of publication have gone up.
- Electronically, CSP is available through EBSCO, JSTOR, Proquest, and Taylor & Francis' website. The downloading numbers look good, with downloads coming from all parts of the world. JSTOR, for instance, accounted for 20,000 downloads this year.
- The Taylor & Francis deal will last seven years. CAS keeps the copyright and editorial control over all contents. Taylor & Francis deals with production, marketing and distribution. They also handle institutional subscriptions. [CAS handles individual members.] We will not add to our archive online.
- Congratulations and farewell to Dr. Svitlana Kryts who has been instrumental in the production of CSP for the past few years.
- Thank you to editorial assistants Shona Allison and Oksana Vynnyk. Our translator is Janick Roy who has done a good job bilingualizing the journal and website.
- There will be new book review editors this coming year. Thank you to Drs. Christina Kramer and Mark Conliffe for their service, and welcome to Drs. Elisabeth Elliott (for language) and Kate Holland (for literature).
- Finances: Income was \$99,652.79 and expenses were \$40,783.44. The reserve fund is \$75,000. We received an \$8000 grant from the University of Alberta. We also received a 3-year \$72,500 grant from the Aid to Scholarly Publications Program. To cut costs this

year, Svitlana Kryz reduced her hours at the journal. Overall CSP is in much better shape.

- Thank you to all anonymous reviewers and book reviewers. Authors – please submit and encourage others to do so. Thank you to Dr. Elena Baraban, especially for her reading of the Taylor & Francis contract.
- CSP will be part of Taylor & Francis' area studies package; and its culture and literature package. That will help with institutional subscriptions in the long run.

#### **Executive Reports – Secretary-Treasurer (Dr. Maryna Romanets)**

- SSHRC eliminated travel subsidies for scholarly associations last year.
- The CAS fund's income from its GICs was \$801.61. The monies are used to fund student travel.
- \$575 was received from an anonymous donor so that a graduate student could attend the ICCEES congress.
- Expenditures for the year: Grants for 6 graduate students (\$1009); Federation membership fees (\$1498.70); ICCEES membership (\$117.27); Conference costs (\$697.83); and bank fees (\$72.00).
- The budget is tight but we should be able to manage. The lower interest rates are hurting GIC returns for the CAS fund. The CAS fund monies have been moved to Tangerine owing to their slightly higher interest rates.
- This year we expect a small net loss of \$285 which brings our equity to \$7,094.48.
- We managed to keep AV costs down for the conference.
- Forms have been filed so CAS can keep its status as a registered charity. A report – a Registered Charity Information Return [Form T3010] – will be filed after this report has been approved.

#### **\*\*Motion to accept report as amended [Romanets/Raab]. Approved unanimously.**

- Additional topics of discussion: the question of whether we have to have GICs was raised. Dr. Megan Swift suggested borrowing data projectors from presenters' home institutions would save money on AV costs. Dr. Paul Robinson announced that there would be a refund on wine from the BBQ and that money would be forwarded to CAS to be used for student travel awards.

#### **\*\*Motion to amend Secretary-Treasurer's report [Romanets/Isakava]. Approved unanimously.**

#### **\*\*Motion to give Dr. Elena Baraban (President of CAS) signing authority on the CAS bank account [Romanets/Coleman]. Approved unanimously.**

#### **\*\*Motion to remove Drs. Bohdan Nebesio and Svitlana Kryz from CAS accounts, and to add Dr. Maryna Romanets [Romanets/Harasymiw]. Approved unanimously.**

#### **Executive Reports – ICCEES (Dr. Andrii Krawchuk)**

- This year's congress is in Japan and a couple of CAS members will be in attendance.

- The ICCEES executive encouraged CAS to bid for the 2020 Congress. The executive looked at CAS and BASEES as potential hosts. They made their decision – in our favour – earlier than expected.
- A preliminary working group was formed in consultation with the CAS executive. The consensus was to propose Montreal as a host site, although CAS did receive an unsolicited bid from Toronto too. Professional conference planners have been contacted as well as university faculty members at McGill and Concordia. The preliminary organizing committee will recommend a university campus setting rather than a convention centre since it is cheaper and will allow university human resources people to assist with planning.
- In the coming weeks, an organizing committee will be set up to oversee things like the call for papers and the selection of keynote speakers.

#### **Pause for other business (time constraints)**

- Volha Isakava provided information about the joint CAS/Theatre studies panel. A \$1500 grant was received to help with the event – it covered the travel costs of a scholar from Ukraine who was participating in the panel.
- Volha Isakava and Arkadi Klioutchanski reported that there were 80 proposals for the conference and 77 presenters in the end. We need to work hard to keep our numbers up. 20-25 of the presenters are graduate students. International turnout at the conference is good. Coverage is also comprehensive with many disciplines represented as well as most of Eastern Europe. Keeping organizing costs down has been a challenge. Thanks given to everyone who has helped with this year's conference. Applause.

#### **Executive Reports – ICCEES continued. (Dr. Andrii Krawchuk)**

5 motions were presented.

Recommendations (Motions) to CAS AGM 2015:

MOTION #1: that CAS confirm the Canadian offer to host the X ICCEES World Congress in 2020.

MOTION #2: that the Congress venue be Montreal, 3-8 August, 2020 (or: 27 July – 1 August), and that the competitive Toronto bid be "kept alive" for one year as a fall-back option.

MOTION #3: that a local "Organizing Committee (OC) – ICCEES 10th World Congress 2020" be convened and chaired by a member of the ICCEES Executive and Board to plan, organize and see the event through to completion.

MOTION #4: that the OC be guided in its work by the PWG's recommendations, including:

4.1 Make every effort to ensure that the World Congress is held at a university.

4.2 Recruit McGill and Concordia Professors (especially CAS members) to the OC's Academic Subcommittee for personal, on-site liaison as employees of the universities.

4.3 Contact the persons responsible for meeting spaces at McGill and Concordia.

4.4 Report with updates to the executives of CAS and ICCEES annually or as needed.

4.5 Incorporate the OC in Quebec to protect in the event of catastrophic cancellation. -- ???

4.6 Establish a fund-raising subcommittee to identify and access potential public and private sponsors for student travel assistance and world-class keynote speakers.

MOTION #5: to acknowledge receipt of this Report and Recommendations and to dissolve the PWG.

Discussion of the motions ensued.

- Motion to accept presented by Dr. Krawchuk and seconded by Dr. Nigel Raab. Passed unanimously.

**Executive Reports – Nominating Committee (Dr. Megan Swift)**

Nominating Committee Candidates 2015-16

**Honorary President - John-Paul Himka**

President – remains Elena Baraban

**Vice Presidents – (2) Mark Conliffe (Willamette U) and Natalie Kononenko (U Alberta)**

Secretary-Treasurer – remains Maryna Romanets

Program Chair (for meeting at U Calgary) – Bohdan Harasimyw (U Calgary)

Local Events Coordinators – Irina Shilova (U Calgary, sessional), Svitlana Filonik (Ph.D. candidate, U Calgary)

**Members at large (8) Nigel Raab (Loyola Marymount); Serhy Yekelchuk (U Victoria); Arkady Klioutchanski (U Ottawa); Tristan Landry (U de Sherbrooke)**

**Nominating Committee members (2) – Alison Rowley (Concordia U); Volha Isakava (Central Washington)**

**Graduate Student representatives (2) – Dorota Lockyer (UBC) (she served this year); Joseph Schlegel (U Toronto)**

Editor of CSP – Heather’s 5 year term is up, she is willing to continue to serve

International Committee of Slavists – remains Olga Mladenova

CAS rep to ICCEES – remains Andrii Krawchuk

International Relations Committee – remains Natalia Pylypiuk

Motion by Elena Baraban to nominate Svitlana Kryz as a member-at-large. Seconded by Megan Swift.

Motion by Heather Coleman to nominate Annie Gerin as a member-at-large. Seconded by Maryna Romanets.

Discussion ensued of the proposed nominations. Bohdan Harasymiw pointed out that in the slate presented there was no nomination for the Program Chair for the CAS Meeting in Toronto 2017. Megan Swift promised to address the issue after the AGM and inform the CAS Executive in due time re: the Program Chair for the CAS Meeting in Toronto 2017.

Megan Swift’s motion to accept the proposed slate as is with the promise that the Program Chair for the CAS Meeting in Toronto 2017 will be found at a later date. The motion was seconded by Heather Coleman. **The above motions (3) approved unanimously.**

**Motion to adjourn Heather Coleman. Seconded Andrii Krawchuk.**