

CSSR / SCÉR
Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric /
Société Canadienne pour l'Étude de la Rhétorique

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING /
PROCÈS-VERBAL DE L'ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE
May 29/29 mai 2014

Present/Présent: R Alexander, M Charland, J Dainville, V Ferry, J Moffatt (S-T), L Nicolas, B Sans, M Purves-Smith, S Purves-Smith, T Smith (VP), V Tafolla, P Zoberman (Pres/Prés.)

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA/ADOPTION DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR

Motion to Approve: Nicolas/S Purves-Smith; carried

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from 2013/ADOPTION DU PROCÈS-VERBAL 2013

Date on agenda amended from 2012 to 2013; motion to adopt minutes as amended: Tafolla/Smith; carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/AFFAIRES DÉCOULANT DU PROCÈS-VERBAL

3.1 Terms of reference for Graduate Student Paper Award

Zoberman outlined rationale as followed this year.

- Discussion ensued regarding practicality of insisting on judging the presentation on top of the actual paper
- various approaches were proposed (audience questionnaire, adjustments to deadline, exclusive session for candidates)
- agreement on need to quantify what constitutes good presentation in this context
- Executive will evaluate procedure, set standards for committee to use in future; come back with proposal re: standards by fall 2014

3.2 Archive/Archivist

Zoberman reported that Wills contacted University of Regina, who are willing to lend relevant documents for 6 months (timeline to be verified) for digitization

- Executive will provide update on status of project at next AGM

3.3 *Rhetor* Editorial Board Terms of Reference (see document included in package)

Minor discussion regarding impartiality

Motion to accept Terms of Reference: Charland/M Purves-Smith; carried

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/RAPPORT DU PRÉSIDENT

4.1 Statement that main role is to prepare conference

4.2 Update on decision to not join RSA for a joint institute; RSA won't willingly come to Canada (see minutes of previous meeting)

4.3 (cf 12.3 of 2013 minutes); explanation that combining banquet fees with membership not feasible

4.4 Expressed need to distinguish clearly between membership/conference/banquet fees in communications

4.5 Expressed thanks to Donna Lelievre; other members of executive; S Purves-Smith; Alexander

5. VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT/RAPPORT DE LA VICE-PRÉSIDENTE

5.1 Noted that VP job now includes managing PayPal; funds to Secretary-Treasurer

5.2 Encouraged members to spread word, encourage recruitment and stimulate scholarly activity

5.3 Suggested a scholarly retreat as kind of institute

- Social and pragmatic function; develop scholarly work; working conference
- Pilot could perhaps take place during Tania's presidency
- Perhaps biennial
- Discussion regarding timing, need for more planning. Possibility of combining with Congress as a kind of pre-conference; would be beneficial for involving more graduate

5.4 Proposed a trifold brochure for next year; need to revise old one, align new one with website

5.5 EBSCO currently unaware of newer issues of *Rhetor*; Smith will address issue; we could earn more royalty revenue

6. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT/ RAPPORT DU SECRÉTAIRE-TRÉSORIER

See attached report

6.1 Moffatt noted issues regarding President's Reception Charges at Victoria in 2013; will continue to follow up with UVic, as they, and not FEDCAN, collected fee

- Additional EBSCO revenue to come; Moffatt will request replacements for stale-dated EBSCO cheques
- Verification of total membership revenue to follow once PayPal revenue is fully in

Motion to accept S-T Report: Tafolla/S Purves Smith; Carried

6.2 Smith indicated that T-shirts don't generate enough income to justify expense of transporting them to Congress.

Motion to discontinue sale of T-Shirts and distribute remaining ones among attendees at 2014 conference; S Purves Smith/Nicolas; carried

7. WEBMASTER'S REPORT/RAPPORT DE LA WEBMESTRE

7.1 Smith gave account of activities

- Executive has access to website; Smith usually asked to edit/add details
- WordPress working out well for our website. Asked for input on header/design
- Smith invited membership to contribute translations/corrections/updates to the website
- PayPal now available on site for membership payments, thanks to Smith. Working well.
- Reviewed history of 2013 proposal to create a "members' website." Smith proposed a member's directory plugin as a simpler solution. Members to manage their own profiles.

7.2 Decisions

- Unanimous support for members' directory plug-in; Smith will report on progress.
- Unanimous support for retaining existing website header & design
- Zoberman indicated we're improving French-language service on the website.

8. RHETOR UPDATES/NOUVELLES CONCERNANT RHETOR

8.1 Zoberman reported that Wills has been working on next issue

9. COMMITTEES AND ELECTIONS/COMITÉS ET ÉLECTIONS

9.1 Current Executive committee/Bureau (2013-14)

- Pierre Zoberman (President/Président)
- Tania Smith (Vice-president/Vice-présidente)
- John Moffatt (Secretary-Treasurer/Secrétaire-Trésorier)
- Jeanie Wills (Past President/Président Sortante)
- Burton Urquhart (Member-at-large/Membre sans fonction spécifique)

Urquhart stepping down. Need for election of new MAL (1 year/ un an)

9.2 Current Advisory Board (2-year term)/ Comité consultative (mandat de deux ans)

- David Beard, term done/ membre sortant

- Loïc Nicolas, term done/ membre sortant
- Randy Harris, continuing/membre en exercice (to/jusqu'en 2015)
- Shannon Purves-Smith, continuing/membre en exercice (to/jusqu'en 2015)
- Student (2013-2014) (Monica Brown term done/ membre sortant)

9.3 Current Editorial Board/Comité de redaction (2010-2014; 4-yr term/ mandat de 4 ans)

- Maurice Charland
- Tania Smith
- Philippa Spoel
- Pierre Zoberman

Wills and Harris currently nominated; Charland and Smith will remain on committee to stagger renewal.

9.4 Call for nominations; total nominations as follows:

- Beard to Executive Committee
- Wills, Harris, Ferry and Nicolas to Editorial Board
- Dainville (student), Alexander, Sans to Advisory Board

Motion to accept list of nominees: Tafolla/Zoberman; carried

Committees as of June 2014:

Executive Committee/ Bureau (2014-2015)

- Pierre Zoberman (President/Président)
- Tania Smith (Vice-president/Vice-présidente)
- John Moffatt (Secretary-Treasurer/Secrétaire-Trésorier)
- Jeanie Wills (Past President/Président Sortante)
- David Beard (Member-at-large/Membre sans fonction spécifique)

Advisory Board/Comité consultative (2014-2016)

- Randy Harris (until/ jusqu'en 2015)
- Shannon Purves-Smith (until/ jusqu'en 2015)
- Rob Alexander
- Benoît Sans
- Julie Dainville (student)

Editorial Board/ Comité de redaction (2014-2018)

Jeanie Wills, editor/directrice

- Maurice Charland (until/jusqu'en 2016)
- Tania Smith (until/jusqu'en 2016)
- Randy Harris
- Victor Ferry
- Loïc Nicolas

10. FUTURE CONFERENCES/CONFÉRENCES À VENIR

10.1 FedCan Congress dates and venues/ Dates et lieux du FedCan congrès

- 2015 University of/ Université d' Ottawa (May 30-June 6, 2015/ 30 mai – 6 juin 2015);
Theme : Capital Ideas/ Thème: “Le Capital des idées”
- 2016 University of Calgary (May 28 to June 3, 2016/ 28 mai – 3 juin 2016)
- 2017 Ryerson University (May 27 – June 2 2017/ 27 mai -2 juin 2017)

10.2 Vote on CSSR attendance at the FedCan Congress at University of Ottawa/ Vote sur l'assistance de la SCÉR au congrès de FedCan à l'Université d'Ottawa.

Motion to hold CSSR conference with Congress in Ottawa: Smith/M Purves-Smith; carried

10.3 Vote on the topic for 2015 Special Session/Vote sur le sujet de l'Atelier thématique pour 2015.

Proposed topics/Sujets proposés

Capitals/Capitales/Capital

Rhetoric and History/ Rhétorique et histoire

Rhetoric and Environment/Rhétorique et environnement

Exercising rhetoric/ l'Exercice de la rhétorique

Vote: Rhetoric and History/Rhétorique et histoire adopted by majority

11. OTHER BUSINESS/ QUESTIONS DIVERSES

11.1 Considering English version of Constitution as official version

11.2 Zoberman suggested developing a policy that the president should write to supervisor of any graduate student who does not show up for schedule presentation.

11.3 Consider separating role of Secretary from that of Treasurer, to permit non-Canadians to serve on Executive; Executive will explore options to facilitate participation of non-Canadians

Adjourn