

**CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION/
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE POUR L'ÉTUDE DE LA RELIGION**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / ASSEMBLÉE ANNUELLE
UNIVERSITY OF REGINA
MAY 26, 2018; 2-4 PM**

Present: Ruby Ramji, Alyshea Cummins, David Feltmate, Qamer Hameed, Michelle Folk, Sharday Mosurinjohn, Roxanne Korpan, Catherine Caufield, Ted Malcolmson, Rebekka King, Richard Mann, Heather Shipley (sign-in sheet was never returned: missing names in attendance – 18 people in attendance)

Regrets: Samīkṣā Love, Arlene MacDonald, Bethany Berard

1. Welcome/Bienvenue

2:00 PM

2. Adoption of the Agenda/ Adoption de l'ordre du jour

- **MOTION** : Adopt the agenda
Moved by Ruby Ramji ; Seconded by Qamer Hameed
Motion carried unanimously

3. Adoption of 2017 AGM Minutes/Adoption du proces verbal de l'assemblee annuelle 2017

- **MOTION** : Accept 2017 AGM minutes
Moved : David Feltmate; Seconded : Ruby Ramji
Motion carried unanimously

4. Business arising from the minutes/Suivis aux proces-verbal

N/A

5. Reports/ Rapports

a) Membership Secretary/Secrétaire des membres (Catherine Caufield)

Congress 2018

-CSSR Membership is at 134 members

-Members should build their professional profile on the CSSR website; can link it to LinkedIn and Academia.edu account profiles

Three categories of membership:

-Regular, Associate (retired or part-time), and Student. Membership is on an annual basis, from January 1 to December 31.

-Regular members receive Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses (SR) with membership, while Associate and Student members have the option of receiving SR through CSSR or another society

-Sage Publishing receives member names, addresses, and e-mail for the journal only: it is the only time we share our member information.

b) Treasurer/Trésorier (Bethany Berard absent – presented by Heather Shipley via skype)

Travel Fund:

-Fewer travel applications submitted this year. We don't always use up the entire amount in the budget allocated to travel funding. Therefore any remaining funds in the travel budget will carry over into the next year's budget line.

Executive Travel:

-When SSHRC cut travel funding to associations, CSSR cut executive travel funding. Now we would like to provide Executive members with a yearly stipend of \$300, taken from interest accrued from the investment fund.

- **MOTION:** CSSR will create a new budget item of \$300 for each Executive member who attends the Executive and AGM meetings at Congress yearly (starting with 2018 meeting).

Moved: Heather Shipley; Seconded: David Feltmate

17 In favour, 1 abstention

Motion Carried

- **MOTION:** Funds for new budget item, \$300 stipend for each Executive member, will come from the interest accrued from investment income. The principal amount of the investment shall not be touched.

Moved: Heather Shipley; Seconded: Richard Mann

17 In favour, 1 abstention

Motion Carried

- **MOTION:** accept the budget, as amended, for the 2018-19 fiscal year

Moved: Catherine Caufield; Seconded: Richard Mann

Motion Carried Unanimously

c) Programme Chairs/Présidences pour le programme (Qamer Hameed/David Feltmate)

Program:

- Michelle Folk was thanked for all her hard work as the Local Area Coordinator: she helped with booking rooms and catering

- Showing two films at annual meeting: first will be after the President's Reception and the second in the Conference Program Sunday Afternoon

-There are 26 panels featuring 33 individual papers, 7 arranged panels (with 18 papers) and 3 roundtables in the Program; CSSR is also co-sponsoring a panel with Zarqa Nawaz

d) Graduate Student MAL/Conseiller Étudiants d'études supérieures (Roxanne Korpan)

-Roxanne thanked Student Ambassadors (13) for passing along CSSR information to students

Graduate luncheon:

-scheduled on Sunday May 27th and is entitled "Religious Studies in the Public Sphere: Public Engagement and Community-Centred Scholarship" by Dr. Brenda Anderson (URegina), Dr. Michelle Folk (URegina), Dr. Rebekka King (Middle Tennessee State University) and Dr. Adela Sandness (St. FX)

-CCSR is funding part of luncheon (\$150-250): thanks given to CCSR for supporting this event and to Marie-Josée Blanchard for her help coordinating the event

Student Networking Event

-4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 26

-CSSR will be providing professional headshots after AGM

e) Communications Liaison/Liaison des communications (Samikṣā Love absent, presented by Ruby Ramji)

Website:

- CSSR website was hacked, which affected function of the database, making it unavailable for a short while
- No member data was exposed but if the CSSR website decides to store financial or sensitive information, a SSL certificate will be added (this is not an issue at the moment).
- CSSR will be hiring a Drupal freelancer once every three years to do a security update on the website to make sure security is always up-to-date
- SUNFLOWER is running smoothly
- members should build their own "CSSR Profile" on the website
- Dates for all deadlines will be streamlined so they remain the same every year (i.e. Submission Deadline: December 1)

f) President/Président (Heather Shipley via skype)

- thanked Executive members for their time and work through the year; special thanks to David Feltmate and Qamer Hameed for all their hard work organizing this year's programme and meeting
- Dr. Morning Joy will be representing CSSR at the 2018 IAHR Meeting in Bern, Switzerland
- conducting a review of the CSSR Constitution, which will require amendments and updates
- in order to make Amendments to the Constitution, motions will be brought forth for a final vote at the 2019 AGM

g) Nominations Committee/Comite pour les nominations (Rubina Ramji)

- Treasurer: Ted Malcolmson nominated. No other nominations received. ACCLAIMED
- President: Heather Shipley nominated. No other nominations received. ACCLAIMED
- Program Chair MAL: 3 Nominations: Paul Gareau, Michelle Folk, David Feltmate (votes by ballot)
Michelle Folk ELECTED

h) Student Essay Awards/Prix pour les essais étudiant(e)s

Sharday Mosurinjohn-Undergraduate Essays

-received ten essays, ranging from tangentially related to the field of religious studies, to cutting-edge in terms of their analysis and highly polished in their presentation.

Undergraduate 1st Place Winner, Lilly Gates (McGill University) "Failing to Reconcile: Why the Canadian Legal System Falls Short in Protecting Indigenous Religious Rights": wonderfully clear writing and a seamless progression of ideas. It offers an analysis of an ongoing struggle between the Ktunaxa First Nation and developers of the Jumbo Glacier Ski Resort, which the Supreme Court of Canada has cleared for construction on a sacred Ktunaxa site.

Undergraduate 2nd Place Winner: Jonas Brandt (University of Winnipeg) "The Idea(I) of Public Reason: Religion in Rawls's Political Liberalism": beautifully nuanced. It builds on another recent piece of scholarship that tests Martin Luther King Jr.'s theologically grounded Letter from Birmingham Jail against Rawls' idea and ideal of public reason.

Arlene MacDonald - Graduate Essays (presented by Ruby Ramji)

-the essay entries represented a truly impressive, diverse, and scintillating array of scholarship. 2 MA essay submissions and 8 PhD essay submissions were received.

MA Winner: Connor Thompson (University of Regina) "In the Eye of the Divine: The Category "Religion," Spirituality, and Consumer Culture on the Canadian Prairies". The essay undertakes a clearly argued and extensively researched exploration of the emergence of "individualist spirituality" on the Canadian Prairies, tying the discussion to a case study of the West Edmonton Mall.

PhD Winner: Christopher Emory-Moore (University of Waterloo) "Present Peace, Future Freedom: Children's Meditation Instruction in Two Diasporic Tibetan Buddhist Lineages". This essay is a sophisticated, compelling, and innovative examination of two children's meditation manuals produced by divergent Buddhist organizations.

i) CSSR Book Prize (Rubina Ramji)

2017 Book Prize Winner

-Winner for 2017 Book Prize was "Growing Up Canadian: Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists" by Peter Beyer and Rubina Ramji, editors (Ruby recused herself from the Book Prize Committee because of the conflict of interest).

2018 Book Prize Committee

-Total of 11 books have been nominated

-Book Prize Committee will be comprised of Ruby Ramji, Michelle Folk and Qamer Hameed

-2018 Book Prize Winner will be announced at the 2019 meeting

2019 Book Prize Deadline

-Deadline to receive books for 2019 Book Prize is December 31, 2018

-the 2019 Prize will be for first-time book authors, in the field of Religious Studies, from active CSSR Members, and the book must have been published in the last 3 years (2016-2018)

j) Recording Secretary/Secrétaire archiviste (Alyshea Cummins)

-Samiksa has taken over responsibility for Newsletter but Alyshea continues answering e-mail requests

-Alyshea is keeping CSSR Twitter account active, and is live tweeting Congress meetings

k) Allied Associations/ Associations allies

-CCSR AGM will be held on Monday May 28, 12 :00-2 :00 pm in Research and Innovation Center 208

8. Other Business/Varia

CSSR is looking for a Local Area Coordinator for 2019 Annual Meeting.

Paige Thombs volunteered for the position

9. Adjournment/ Adjournement

Ruby & Alyshea