



Dear CSSR/SCÉR members,

We have some important new updates that affect everyone’s membership. The changes we are implementing begin this February, 2013. Many of these changes call for a joint effort on the part of all members, so please read on below. In this important letter you will find information about:

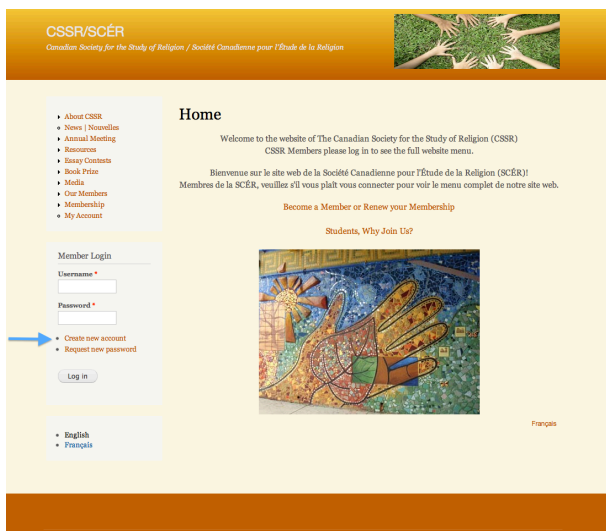
1. New website address.
2. Renewing Membership, or Joining Us.
3. Friends of the CSSR Initiative
4. Urgent call: Website Contact Information
5. Listserv to be discontinued

1. Our new website address

We have moved our website to a new, more stable, web server. Please bookmark our new website address: www.cssrscer.ca

2. Reminder to renew membership, or join us, for January 2013

Membership has its privileges. Renew your membership to continue your subscription to *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*, participate in the CSSR annual meeting and keep up-to-date with your society.



Membership will now be streamlined to help you navigate information on the CSSR website and stay informed about CSSR

Please make sure to fill out contact information accurately and as completely as possible, and to update your contact information on our secure website whenever there are any changes. This will ensure that you receive your journal at the correct address, and that we send email updates to the correct email address.



CSSR related information. You will be able to know the status of your membership, receive information about Religious Studies in Canada and connect with other scholars in your field — all at one place: the CSSR website.

3. Friends of the CSSR Initiative

The “Friends of the CSSR,” or “Les amis de la SCÉR” initiative is a communication option for those who do not wish to become members at this time. Becoming a Friend of the CSSR allows you to be kept updated about CSSR/ SCÉR news through our mailing list, and to have access to specific areas on the CSSR/ SCÉR website which are not available to those without a login (especially the ability to search our member database). This means that everyone is to create an account on the website, not just paid members. In addition, you will be able to check your status (“friend” or current “paid member”) by checking your profile online.

Paid members, as usual, have more privileges. These include receiving the journal *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*, and submitting an abstract for consideration and presenting at our annual conference affiliated with Congress.

As always, we encourage you to support the CSSR/SCÉR by becoming paid members. This

helps our society because it provides program support, international initiatives, graduate student grants, book grants and aids the overall operation of the society.

Even if you are not a paid member, please consider becoming a “friend” and encouraging your students to become friends as well. We are trying to strengthen and broaden our CSSR/ SCÉR network and we could use your help to make this happen. By becoming a “friend of the CSSR,” you are creating an online profile which helps us to keep you in the loop.

Even if you are not a paid member, please consider becoming a “friend” and encouraging your students to become friends as well.

4. Urgent Call for Complete and Accurate Website Contact Information

We ask all members, whether past or present paid members, or new “Friends of the CSSR/Les amis de la SCÉR,” create a complete and accurate profile on our website, ensuring especially that contact information is accurate and complete. This move will allow us to send emails to our membership and friends directly from the website and to eliminate the list-serve

as well as the need to maintain a separate emailing list for that list serve. The use of the website for all communication will be more efficient, more accurate, and less burdensome to present and future Executive members. We need everyone's help with this transition, since this is very much a joint effort.



Once we have made the transition to the website as the tool for email correspondence, the information we have on file for our members will only be as complete and accurate as the contact information each member enters in his or her own profile, so please update your contact information on our secure website whenever there are any changes. This will ensure that you receive your journal at the correct mailing address, and that we send email updates to the correct email address.

5. Listserv to be discontinued, News and Updates now sent out directly from Website

In the past, members received occasional emails via our listserv, maintained and sent out by our Recording Secretary, Dr. Pat Dold. As of March 1st, 2013, our old listserv will be discontinued. website will be receiving news and updates. So be sure to create your online profile with your email address before the end of February 2013!

Rather than use the listserv method, our Recording Secretary will be sending out emails using a more efficient method directly from our website database. Members will receive news and updates as usual to their email inbox.

What is different now is that only those people who have created an online profile on our

As of March 1st, 2013, our old listserv will be discontinued, so be sure to create your online profile before the end of February!

We Welcome You in this Joint Effort

We are excited about these next steps which are meant to keep our Society's members well connected, and we look forward to your participation as we transition starting this February.

Your CSSR/SCÉR Executive,

Dr. Rubina Ramji, President

Dr. Darlene Juschka, Past President

Dr. Arlene MacDonald, Membership Secretary

Dr. Pat Dold, Recording Secretary

Dr. Richard Mann, Treasurer

Dr. Alison Marshall, Dr. Paul Crowe, Dr. Brenda Anderson, and Dr. Joe Velaidum, Members-At-Large

Aldea Mulhern, Graduate Student Member-At-Large

Dr. Alain Bouchard, SQÉR Representative

Yasaman S. Munro, Communications Liaison