

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES - May 25, 2002.**  
University of Toronto, Emmanuel College

**Present:** Darlene Juschka, Randi Warne, William E. Arnal, Paul Bowlby, Ken MacKendrick,  
and Paul Bramadat

**Regrets:** Mavis Fenn, Adela Sandness

**1. Welcome/Bienvenue**

Warne welcomed the members of the Executive Committee to the meeting.

Warne reported on the illness of the exec member Adela Sandness.

**MOTION:** That a card be sent to Adela and thank her for her participation on the exec.

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

**MOTION:** To adopt the agenda. Bowlby/Arnal carried

**3. Adoption of the minutes of the 23<sup>th</sup> May 2001 meetings of the Executive Committee/  
Adoption des procès-verbaux des réunions du conseil du May 23<sup>th</sup> 2001**

**MOTION:** To adopt the minutes. MacKendrick/Arnal carried

**4. Business Arising From the Minutes/Suivis aux procès-verbaux**

**4.1 Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada Representative/**

**Représentative/Représentante de la Fédération canadienne des sciences humaines et sociales**

David Seljek is the current HSSFC representative and would continue to act in this role for another year.

**MOTION:** That David Seljak be named as the representative of the CSSR/SCÉR to the Federation. Warne/Bowlby carried.

**4.2 Charitable Status**

There was again another discussion in regard to the CSSR establishing charitable status. It was noted that in order to do such there would need to be a change the constitution. The principle objection is that charitable status would limit political activity, e.g., cannot lobby government. It was pointed out that the Society of Socialist Studies just secured charitable status and noted that CSBS has had this status for some time. It was decided that the President or her/his designate from the executive keep in touch with the Society of Socialist Studies President to see how they fare with charitable status over the next few years. We will return to the question of seeking such status ourselves after that information is gathered.

**MOTION:** That the president would bring the decision to study charitable status to the AGM. Warne/Juschka carried.

**4.3 Receipts for membership payment from WLU Press**

Arnal indicated that one way to ensure official confirmation for payment of membership was via the issuance of a receipt from WLU Press. This receipt could also be used for income tax purposes.

**MOTION:** That the CSSR pay the cost of WLU issuing official receipts for membership dues, if the cost was one dollar or less per member. Arnal/Warne carried.

#### **4.4 CSSR Web Site/Site Web de la SCÉR**

The exec was instrumental in furthering changes to the CSSR website. Warne worked with Don Eldershaw to revise and correct information posted on the site. It was felt, however, that the site should be conceptually updated. It was agreed that Don Eldershaw maintains the site in good order, but that the committee needs to take stock of how much work to update.

**MOTION:** That the Society renew its agreement with Don Eldershaw as webmaster for the year 2002-2003, at a fee of \$750. Further, that Ken MacKendrick and Bill Arnal assess the necessary changes to revamp the CSSR website. Juschka/Warne carried.

#### **4.5 HSSFC Booth**

It was unclear whether the booth be staffed by the CSSR. It was agreed to set out a programme at the table along with a sign-up sheet for the CSSR dinner.

#### **4.6 Meeting with Barbara DiConcini (AAR)**

Margaret MacDonald and Randi Warne met with Barbara DiConcini at last year's Congress at Laval. DiConcini had approached both the CCSR and the CSSR with a request to provide/ensure a Canadian presence at the AAR meetings in Toronto in November 2002. The best way to do that, in the opinion of the CCSR executive, was to have a Canadian featured in one of the Special Speaker sessions. (The AAR had previously suggested that there be a section for Canadian scholars that the CCSR rejected as both token and ghettoizing.) DiConcini informed MacDonald and Warne that there was not enough time to provide space for special Canadian speaker at the Toronto AAR, as the CCSR had requested. Instead, DiConcini indicated that the AAR would try to achieve a Canadian presence by including Canadian RS scholars in various sections throughout the AAR program. However it was unclear to the President of the CCSR and the CSSR how this would create a Canadian presence given the fact that Canadians are already widely active in the AAR across the board. With some dismay, it was noted that there appears to be a pattern of dismissiveness in the AAR's attitude toward Canadian Scholars. Based on recent experiences, specifically the treatment of Canadian content in the Lilly funded AAR project on a Census of Programs in Theology and Religion in North America, the treatment of officers of both the CCSR and CSSR in this context, and treatment of Canadian scholars, and CCSR and CSSR concerns regarding the Toronto AAR, Bowlby and Warne agreed to express their concern in regard to organizational relations between CSSR, CCSR and the AAR, for publication in the Bulletin.

**MOTION:** Warne and Bowlby will put forward a statement to the membership in regard to the concern about AAR attitudes toward Canadian scholars and organizations. Arnal/MacKendrick carried.

#### **4.7 Regulations for undergrad essay contest**

There was discussion in regard to requirements for the undergraduate essay context. It was restated that the basic requirements were:

1. That only one essay per student would be accepted.
2. That the papers submitted would engage the academic study religion.
3. That with the paper submitted there be accompanying endorsement of their student status by the institution to which they belong.

#### **4.8 Allied associations (ACCUTE)**

Attendance of a member of the CSSR executive was requested at a reception to be held by ACCUTE on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Warne indicated she would try to attend.

#### **4.9 IAHR membership**

MacKendrick reported that \$400.00 was earmarked each year to send a delegate (usually the President) to the IAHR, which meets every five years. The next meeting will be held in Japan in 2005.

#### **4.10 Restructuring of Executive**

Add a new office (filled by graduate student) to exec to represent student membership, which will not limit student members to the exec. In light of this new position, there will be an attempt to appoint ex-officio for upcoming year to act on the executive. Approved in principal by committee, noted funding problems for student.

**MOTION:** To bring a notice of motion to establish a student position to the executive to the AGM Warne/Bowlby carried.

### **5. Reports/Rapports**

#### **5.1 President/Président Randi Warne**

Copies of President's address are to be made available in the Bulletin. Warne indicated her travels and outreach to RS Depts and grad students was very successful. She reported that the archives project was going forward. Because some material had gone astray or never been gather there needs to be an awareness to collect and protect material in regard to the history of the CSSR. She indicated that this project would likely take from three to five years to complete.

In terms of the Congress 2003 at Dalhousie, the HSSFC had noted and responded to such problems as 1. compressed nature of Congress and 2. Lack of signage at Laval in regard to meetings that resulted in people being unable to locate sessions. . HSSFC has decided to add one day to the Congress, beginning with Dalhousie in 2003, but it appears that this day is to be filled with HSSFC business. The lack of signage at Laval was attributed to "ill-doers" who tore down building signs. However, the problem with signage was not remedied at the Toronto meeting rather there simply were no signs.

Warne also reported on the Lilly-funded AAR project , the Census of Programs in Theology and Religion in North American. There were numerous problems. Because of the way data was categorized, the statistics were of little value to Canadians. Canadian specificity was either erased, or the information gathered was incorrect. Warne expressed her concern that Canada was included in name, but not in fact. Warne concluded her report by expressing her thanks to all members of the exec for their assistance.

**MOTION:** To accept President's report. Arnal/MacKendrick carried.

Bowlby and the exec thanked Randi Warne for her creative and synergetic initiatives as president of the Society.

#### **5.2 Treasurer/Trésorier Ken MacKendrick**

The Treasurer presented his report that included a review of the Society's books in the form of a memorandum from Irene Kao Departmental Officer at the Centre for the Study of Religion,

University of Toronto. The review included a Statement of Income and Expenditures for the year ending April 30, 2002.

Mackendrick noted that the Society was in good shape financially and that income from membership remained stable. The SSHRC grant continues to be sufficient to support the needs of the Association.

Table 1 of the Treasurer's Report explained the source of the year's surplus of \$946.00. Table 2 contained a budget for 2002-2003. Given these new figures the budgeted surplus for 2002-3 is projected at \$300. The drop in projected surplus is due to usage of Special Speaker Fund dispensed this year in order to arrange Yvonne Haddad Address and Symposium (\$3000). It was noted that WLUP expenses increased by \$.05 per member. The increase in the HSSFC membership fee amounted to \$3.00 per person and was instituted 2002.

**MOTION:** To accept treasurer's report to recommend approval of the budget at the AGM. Mackendrick/Arnal carried.

### **5.3 Membership Secretary/Sécretaire aux admissions William Arnal**

William Arnal membership secretary pro tem

The membership total is 248 as of 30 April: 163 paid, 85 unpaid. Arnal suggested tax receipts be issued to all members henceforth. He suggested two main areas for future recruitment: 1) grad students; 2) members of other societies, e.g., CSBS. Bowlby suggested that there is a need for a comprehensive list of all RS faculty in Canada. There was discussion of role of CSSR in actively defending religion as area of study; and the role of the Corporation in this.

**MOTION:** To accept the Membership Secretary's report. Arnal/Warne carried.

Thanks to Bill Arnal for his work as Membership Secretary

### **5.4 Nominations Committee/Comité pour les nominations**

The report was given by Warne. Members of the committee were Warne, Arnal, Bowlby, Jusckha. A list of at least 20-25 names were variously suggested. Two nominees for members at large were Aaron Hughes, U of Calgary and Faydra Shapiro, WLU. Dr. Shapiro also graciously agreed to serve as next year's program chair. No nominee was found to serve a full term as membership secretary. However, Dr. James Mullens of the U of Sask has agreed to take up the task for one year. The nominee for president is Andre Couture, Laval University.

**MOTION:** That the executive committee receive the report of the Nominations Committee. Arnal/Bowlby carried

### **5.5 2002 Programme Chair/Présidence pour le programme 2002 Paul Bowlby (replacing Mavis Fenn)**

Bowlby noted various last minute changes and bailouts to the programme. He also gave thanks for Lucian Turcescu who produced the joint program, for allowing us to resubmit updated copy of program for the combined program. Bowlby noted that currently the first day of our allotted 3 ½ meeting days is devoted to the executive meeting. He recommended that the full 3 ½ days be devoted to academic presentations, with the executive meeting the day prior to the CSSR program's commencement. Bowlby noted that the outgoing program chair should debrief new

incoming program chair, especially in regard to the need for special calls for papers. It was also commented again on the necessity for registration for paper presenters and attendees.

**MOTION:** That the exec meeting a day in advance of the regular program meeting Warne/Bowlby carried.

**MOTION:** That the Programme Chair's report be accepted Bowlby/Warne carried.

--Thanks to Paul Bowlby for his work as program chair.

### **5.6 Student Essay Awards/Prix pour les essais étudiant(e)s Paul Bramadat**

The graduate student winner was announced in the April Bulletin (Jane Barter Moulaison PhD student, Emmanuel College). Congratulations to the winner.

MacKendrick raised issue of clarifying whether we would cover costs for presentation of these papers at the congresses. This does not include paying for travel above and beyond what everyone presenting a paper gets. He argued that there is a need to put aside funding for winner of grad paper, and change deadline for this contest to an early enough date for their name to be printed in the program. The prize is \$300 plus one year's free membership in the society.

### **5.7 Undergraduate Essay Contest/Concours d'essai pour étudiant(e) du 1er cycle**

MacKendrick reported 14 papers submitted for undergrad contest. Papers adjudicated by Terry Woo, Andre Maintenay and MacKendrick. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Gord Cruess (University of Toronto) - extraordinary paper "Buddhist Political History in Sri Lanka and the Rise of Modern Sinhalese Nationalism." 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Sohrob Nabatian (Concordia University) "Cosmogony and Transcendence in Nasadiya Sukta and Purusa Sukta". Congratulations to the winners.

**MOTION:** That the report of Graduate Essay Contest and Undergraduate Essay Contest judge be accepted. Warne/Arnal carried.

### **5.8 CCSR rep**

### **5.9 SQER rep**

Both positions will be filled by André Couture incoming president.

### **5.10 Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada Representative/**

**Représentative/Représentante de la Fédération canadienne des sciences humaines et sociales**

**David Seljak**

Seljak was elected to board of directors to represent medium societies for a three-year term and he is completing his third year of the three year term.

Seljak reported that:

1. Name of Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada changed July 1<sup>st</sup> 2002 to **Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences**
2. Under presidency of Pat Clements, organization moving forward
3. 60,000 grant from SSHRC to begin a broader study as to how Federation could help associations
4. New scholars task force to assess challenges for new scholars, e.g., teaching and admin load gone up for new scholars, exploitation of sessional labour
5. Aid to scholarly publications programme celebrates 25 yrs
6. Women Issues Network quite active in Federation Ivory Towers Feminist Audit; CRC and gender
7. A participant of the HSSFC project, Breakfast on the Hill, this year was Morny Joy from U of Calgary who gave a talk "Women and World Religions."

8. Fund raising campaign has been initiated Federation. This is in order to unhook CFHSS from SSHRC and seeks funds themselves from government. Robert Merrett from U of Alberta new VP of Development at the Federation. Five year goal is to raise 11.4 million dollars. Guy Laforest has resigned position as president elect so that the Federation is seeking an appropriate president elect.

9. David Seljak will continue as CFHSS rep for the CSSR.

10. Signage at and length of Congress continue to be problems and were reported to Seljak so he could bring them to the attention of the Federation exec.

**MOTION:** that the report of David Seljak be accepted. Warne/Juschka carried.

#### **5.11 CSSR Web Site/Site Web de la SCÉR**

Website committee assessed that there is a need to design new page. Bill Arnal and Ken Mackendrick are willing to assist in this work. In terms of design, Randi Warne will work on the aesthetics, while Mackendrick and Arnal will develop HTML aspects. It was noted that Eldershaw should refer all communications to president/exec.

**MOTION:** That the Society renew its agreement with Don Eldershaw as webmaster for the year 2002-2003, \$750. Juschka/Bowlby--carried

#### **5.12 Academic Freedom//Liberté académique Paul Bowlby**

Bowlby indicated there was nothing to report.

#### **6. CSSR Congress Fees**

Warne commented that the CSSR fees are out of line with other associations. These fee have not been raised in last 25 years. She noted that the normal range is from \$20 to \$60 while CSSR is \$10.

It was agreement in principle that an increase in fees is a good idea. In terms of rationale:

1. Assist to cover costs of grad student member on the Exec (it was felt that a student member required full financial assistance).
2. In light of the increase of CFHSS fee. (The increase in the CFHSS (formerly the HSSFC) membership fee amounted to \$3.00 per person and was instituted 2002.)
3. It would brings the CSSR in line with other societies.

**Notice of Motion to the AGM in regard to Congress Fee for the CSSR, to increase to \$35.00 for members: \$15.00 for students and unwaged, non-members \$50.00.** Bowlby/Bramadat carried.

Ken will bring forward the issue of the fee increase to AGM under Treasurer's Report.

#### **7. Religion and Violence proposal**

Dr. William Morrow, of Queen's University, has approached several scholarly societies with a project to develop a theme on Religion and Violence to be featured at the next several congresses. He requested approval in principle for this initiative, and also for a CSSR representative on the project's steering committee. One name suggested was Johannes Wolfart, who will be contacted to determine his interest.

#### **8. Local arrangements rep Congress 2003, Dalhousie, Halifax, NS.**

Dalhousie - Darlene Juschka will email Tom Faulkner to ask if he is available to act as local arrangements person. If he cannot act in this capacity Randi Warne has volunteered to be local arrangements officer. Arnal/Juschka carried.

**9. RS departments in Canada (advocacy, hiring needs, role of CSSR)**

See membership secretary's report.

**10. E-mail discussion list**

A preliminary email list generated by Paul Bramadat will be conveyed to the incoming membership secretary to be used in order to announce and remind folks of society matters. Vote of thanks to Paul Bramadat for putting together email list.

**11. Other business/Autres Affaires**

Regarding the joint CSSR/CSBS programme booklet issued, it was suggested that the person who puts together the joint program list academic affiliation of participants only once and this would be at the back of the program. This is done in order to ensure a cleaner and less cluttered look to the printed programme. In regard to the second executive meeting, last year this meeting was dispensed with, and this year one has been not scheduled. The main Factor related to this is that the shortened congress makes this second meeting difficult to arrange. We will leave the decision to hold a second executive meeting at the 2003 congress to the incoming president. Warne/Juschka carried.

**12. Adjournment/Ajournement**

**MOTION:** to Adjourn Juschka/Bramadat carried.