

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the
Canadian Association of Slavists
31 May 2016, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB**

Chair: Elena Baraban (CAS President, U Manitoba)
Recording Secretary: Svitlana (Lana) Kryz (MacEwan U)

Present: forty-five members of the CAS and two guests.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions.
2. A minute of silence to remember members of CAS who recently passed away.
3. Approval of the Agenda.
4. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting.
5. President's Report by Elena Baraban
6. CAS' Taylor & Francis Book Prize. Awarding the Prize to Dr. Alan Barenberg.
7. Executive Reports
 - a. Secretary-Treasurer's Report by Maryna Romanets
 - b. *Canadian Slavonic Papers* Editor's Report by Heather Coleman
 - c. Conference Chair Report by Bohdan Harasymiw
 - d. CAS representative to ICCEES Report by Andrii Krawchuk
 - e. CAS representative to the International Committee of Slavists, by Olga Mladenova
8. Nominating Committee Report and Elections
9. Other business
 - a. new membership category (Heather Coleman)
 - b. statistics for Russian (Megan Swift)
10. Motion to Adjourn

Minutes

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 15:15.

CAS President, Elena Baraban (U Manitoba), invited CAS members to mark the 60th anniversary of *Canadian Slavonic Papers* and the 70th anniversary of the emergence of the Canadian Slavistics. CSP's Editor, Heather Coleman (U Alberta), treated members to a slice of the CSP/CAS cake.

2. Remembrance

Members stood for a minute of silence to remember members of CAS who recently passed away:

Prof. C. Harold Bedford (U Toronto; 1929 – 2015;

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestar/obituary.aspx?pid=176433035>);

Prof. Valentine Boss (McGill University; 1932-2015;

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/nationalpost/obituary.aspx?pid=176776666>);

Prof. Teresa Polowy (U Arizona; 1953-2015; <http://russian.arizona.edu/memorial>).

3. Approval of the Agenda

A motion to adopt agenda as posted. Moved by Andrii Krawchuk (U Sudbury) and seconded by Svitlana (Lana) Krys (MacEwan U). Carried.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by Heather Coleman and seconded by Maryna Romanets (UNBC) to approve minutes of the 2015 AGM, held at the University of Ottawa. Carried.

5. CAS President's Report

Full text of the report is posted in PDF format at:

https://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/16%20May_address_%20Baraban_2016%20CAS.pdf

Elena Baraban summarized the history of the CAS. The Canadian Slavistics reached a milestone this year - its 70th anniversary. The original mandate of Canadian Slavists is still relevant today, but it is also being broadened in response to new research appearing after the disintegration of USSR. She also spoke of new proposed initiatives, such as establishing a CAS Facebook page that will keep CAS members up-to-date on research, teaching, or events relevant to Slavic Studies, and reminded CAS members to use our traditional list server more actively. Elena also encouraged members of the CAS to more actively contribute to the CAS Newsletter and, in addition to the news about the publications and talks given during a particular year, to share their opinions about the state of the Canadian Slavistics or of their respective discipline and area of research. She encouraged colleagues to submit their students' papers and their monographs for the two contests that CAS holds annually: CAS student essay contest and CAS book prize.

Elena visited the Federation booth and noted that unlike last year, the representatives of the Federation were on site, and they shared with her a report on the Federation's activities. Elena concluded from the report that the Federation's budget seemed healthy. The Federation has announced its intention to continue its Big Thinking lecture series, both throughout the academic year (on Parliament Hill in Ottawa) and during the next Congresses (Toronto 2017).

Elena thanked a number of people who contributed to the association's activities this year, including Heather Coleman (CSP Editor), Bohdan Harasymiw (CAS Program Chair, who received a gift from the CAS President as a thank you for his tremendous efforts in organizing the conference), Irina Shilova (CAS LACs in Calgary) and Svitlana

Winters (CAS LACs in Calgary), Nick Žekulin and his wife Marian for hosting the CAS barbeque and social (the Žekulin family received flowers from the CAS President), the CAS Executives, and Shona Allison (U Alberta, CAS Newsletter editor this year).

Elena mentioned the highlights of the past year's activities, including the winners of the CAS student essay contest and the CAS' Taylor & Francis Book Prize. The book launch session for Dr. Barenberg's *Gulag Town, Company Town* was a big success on 30 May 2016 and Elena proposed to make it a tradition at the conference to have such special sessions to feature book prize winner. Olga Mladenova (U Calgary) suggested that in the future such sessions need to be set as a separate item on the conference program and not coincide with other sessions so that everyone who wishes could attend.

6. CAS' Taylor & Francis Book Prize. Awarding the Prize to Dr. Alan Barenberg.

Elena Baraban interrupted her report in incorporate the formal celebration of Dr. Barenberg, winner of the inaugural CAS' Taylor & Francis Book Prize in 2015. (See **item 6 of the Agenda**). Heather Coleman briefly gave the history of the book prize. Nigel Raab, Chair of the Book Prize Jury 2015, read the citation. A representative of Taylor and Francis awarded the Book Prize certificate to Alan Barenberg. Photos were taken by Roman Yereniuk (U Manitoba).

Following the award ceremony, Elena Baraban completed her report. (**item 5 on the Agenda**). As a way of conclusion, Elena mentioned the need to revise CAS Constitution, stating that there are plans to set up an ad hoc committee, comprised of 7-10 CAS Executives from different disciplines, to ensure balance and diversity.

Elena moved and Lana Krysz seconded to approve the President's report. Carried.

7. Executive Reports

7. a. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Full text of the report is posted in PDF format at:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas/reports/CAS%20secretary%20treasurer%20report%202015-16.pdf>

Maryna Romanets, CAS Secretary-Treasurer, stated that the expenditures were similar to previous years. She stated that a small net loss is expected for the next fiscal year, but overall, the budget is small but healthy. She encouraged CAS members to think of ways to improve the association's budget. Maryna spoke on the donation process, stating that if members require a charitable receipt, the donation goes into the CAS fund. If members want to donate to a specific cause, CAS is not able to grant the charitable receipt; however, the donation in that case may go to a specific and immediate cause (e.g., subsidizing grad students' travel).

Elena moved and Andriy Zayarnyuk seconded to approve the Secretary-Treasurer's report. Carried.

7.b. *Canadian Slavonic Papers*: Editor's Report

Full text of the report is posted in PDF format at:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas/reports/2016%20CSP%20report.pdf>

Heather Coleman, CSP's Editor, summarized the journal's publications in the past fiscal year, noting a special bilingual issue, "Nostalgia, Culture, and Identity in Central and Eastern Europe," guest-edited by Dr. Graham Roberts (Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense) and Dr. Anna Louyest (Université Paul Valéry), both representatives of the French Slavistics. Heather also spoke of the first year of partnership with Taylor & Francis, noting a drop in institution numbers, but observing, on the other hand, an increased number of hits for CSP articles in places where CSP traditionally had very few or no subscribers (e.g., China). She mentioned that the CSP office will no longer be updating their on-line archive and encouraged members to use T&F site or their institutional library databases, which increases a number of hits and improves the statistics. This is very valuable for their co-operation with T&F. She mentioned the change in the office administration, thanking the outgoing CSP Assistant Editor, Lana Kryz, and welcoming Oksana Vynnyk, the new Editorial Assistant who has been in charge of the CSP office since July 2015. She also thanked the other assistant, Shona Allison, as well as Serhy Kozakov (who provided web and tech assistance) and Janick Roy (CSP's French translator). Finally, Heather expressed her gratitude to the CSP's book review editors, noting a change and an increased in their team this year.

She summarized CSP finances and urged faculty members to sponsor their graduate students' CAS memberships.

Heather moved and Serge Cipko seconded to approve the Editor's report. Carried.

7.c. 2016 Organizing Committee Report

Full text of the report is posted in PDF format at:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas/reports/2016%20PROGRAMME%20CHAIR%20REPORT--corrected.pdf>

2016 Conference Chair, Bohdan Harasymiw, welcomed everyone to the University of Calgary. He was glad that a small increase in the CAS conference fees this year didn't discourage attendance. Bohdan reported on the number of the conference participants and panels as well as summarized the expenses.

Bohdan moved and Theodore Friedgut seconded to accept Bohdan's report. On behalf of all participants, Theodore commended Bohdan for his efforts in organizing an excellent conference this year.

7.d. CAS Representative to ICCEES Report

Full text of the report is posted in doc format at:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas/news.html>

Andrii Krawchuk, CAS Representative to the International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES) as well as a member of ICCEES Executive, updated CAS members on his activities during the past year, related to hosting the ICCEES Congress 2020 in Montreal.

This year, Andrii visited Montreal and spoke with the representatives from the city's tourism office who are ready to offer a start-up assistance of \$25,000 for running the conference. He also met with Alison Rowley, Janick Roy, and Maria Bondarenko, all of whom expressed willingness to be involved in the Congress's organization. He was pleased to report that Concordia University agreed to be an official partner and a host for the Congress. He also spoke with the Queen Elizabeth hotel in Montreal as a possible accommodation venue for the participants and managed to lock their 2015 rates. He also spoke preliminary with the Concordia University residences that may offer a cheaper accommodation alternatives.

Finally, Andrii met with Volodymyr Kravchenko, the Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta, to discuss a possible involvement of CIUS in the Congress. The Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies in the US also offered to assist with planning. Their participation should help with the Congress's publicity.

Finally, Andrii encouraged CAS members to think of possible keynote speakers (internationally renowned people) for the Congress. He expressed his hope that CAS will offer academic assistance with CFP and peer-reviewing proposals and thanked CAS Execs for their help thus far.

Andrii moved and Heather Coleman seconded to approve the CAS Representative to ICCEES's report. Carried.

7.e. CAS Representative to ICS Report

Full text of the report is posted in doc format at:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas/news.html>

Olga Mladenova, CAS Representative to the International Committee of Slavists (ICS), started by summarizing a history of the International Congress of Slavists, mentioning the importance of Belgrade as the 2018 Congress's location. She also spoke on the importance of the Congress for the development of scholarly fields in humanities, especially, linguistics.

Olga summarized the submission and application process for the presentation at the Congress, noting that the Congress panels are offered in all Slavic languages, in addition to English, French, and German.

She stated that she received 13 expressions of interest from Slavists in Canada thus far, which is 1 person above the Canadian quota of 12. However, she emphasized that not all may be able to participate, so she encouraged further submissions.

Olga moved and Andrii Krawchuk seconded to approve the CAS Representative to ICS's report. Carried.

8. Nominating Committee Report and Elections

The Chair of the Nominating Committee, Megan Swift (UVic), presented the committee's report.

Honorary President – Bohdan Harasimyw (U Alberta) <bharasym@ucalgary.ca>

President – Alison Rowley- (Concordia) - <profarowley@gmail.com>

Vice Presidents–

Bohdan Nebesio (Brock U) - <bnebesio@brocku.ca>

Allan Reid (U New Brunswick) - <russky@unb.ca>" <russky@unb.ca>

Secretary-Treasurer – Maryna Romanets – (UNBC) - romanets@unbc.ca 2016-2019

Ryerson 2017 Program Chair – Taras Koznarsky (U Toronto)

<taras.koznarsky@utoronto.ca>

LAC –Maxim Tarnawsky –(U Toronto) -<tarn@chass.utoronto.ca>

Regina 2018 Program Chair – Natalia Khanenko-Friesen (St. Thomas More College)

<nfriesen@stmcollege.ca>

LAC – Joy Demoskoff – (Briercrest College and Seminary) -

<jdemoskoff@briercrest.ca>

Members at large – 2016-2017

Serhy Yekelchyk (UVic); <serhy@uvic.ca>,

Maria Bondarenko (University of Montreal) <maria.bondarenko@umontreal.ca>,

Jeff Sahadeo (Carleton) <Jeff.Sahadeo@carleton.ca>,

Tanya Richardson (Wilfred-Laurier University) trichardson@wlu.ca

Editor, *Canadian Slavonic Papers* 2016-21

Heather Coleman (U Alberta) hcoleman@ualberta.ca

Nominating Committee Members:

Immediate Past President and Chair – Elena Baraban (U Manitoba)

Committee members – Megan Swift (U Vic), Volha Isakava (Central Washington U)
2016-2017

International Committee of Slavists, 2013-18
Olga Mladenova, U Calgary (omladen@ucalgary.ca)

CAS Rep to ICCEES, 2014-17
Andrii Krawchuk, U Sudbury

International Relations Committee, 2014-19
Natalia Pylypiuk, (U Alberta) natalia.pylypiuk@ualberta.ca

Grad Student reps – Dorotka Lockyer (UBC) 2016-2017
Joseph Schlegel (U Toronto)
Oksana Vynnyk (U Alberta)

Megan moved and Heather Coleman seconded to accept the slate. All positions were acclaimed. The Meeting has accepted and approved the report of the Nominating Committee.

9. Other Business

a. New CAS membership category

Heather Coleman proposed to create a new reduced membership category for colleagues from Central and Eastern Europe. Heather moved to establish a special rate for residents of Central and Eastern Europe who are not living in the West. Maryna Romanets seconded. Theodore Friedgut (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) moved that such CAS membership category be created and the rate is to be set up by the CAS Executives. Alan Barenberg (U Texas) seconded. Carried.

b. Enrollments in Slavic disciplines across Canada

Megan Swift thanked those universities that sent their enrollment statistics for Slavic disciplines to her and invited members from other schools to send their statistics. These are needed for her on-going project to trace the current state of the Slavic field/profession.

c. AV equipment at the Congress

Maryna Romanets mentioned that there was a glitch with the AV equipment during the first day of the conference. She asked members to let her know about any delays to the panels, experienced due to the malfunctioning of the AV, and whether tech assistants came to help. This will help to determine the appropriate AV costs for this year as she reports to the Federation.

Heather Coleman also thanked Elena Baraban, who is finishing her CAS presidency this year, for all her work and dedication to CAS.

Lana Krys moved and Oksana Vynnyk seconded to adjourn the meeting.

10. Meeting adjourned at 16:55.

Minutes recorded by Lana Krys (MacEwan University), a member of the nominating committee, CAS Exec 2015-16.