### Report of the Editor, Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavistes Heather J. Coleman 25 June 2020

2019 was a good year for Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavistes. We published two special guest-edited issues and launched a new website. Our publishing partnership with Taylor & Francis continues and our journal is available to, and being read by, ever more readers across the world. Our financial situation is solid, as the financial statement included at the end of this report attests. The upcoming year will see a transition, as I complete my term at the end of 2020, and the journal moves to Montreal, where Professor James Krapfl (McGill) will take up the editorship on January 1, 2021. This is my opportunity to thank all of you for your support of my work as editor. Looking back on the past 10 years, I realize how much I have learned and how much the journal has evolved – for example we negotiated and developed a partnership with a new publisher and new rubrics like the annual book prize roundtable have appeared. It's been a privilege to read widely and to work closely with scholars young and more experienced, Canadian and foreign, to shepherd their research into print. This is also my chance to thank the University of Alberta, which is in its 30<sup>th</sup> year of hosting our journal, for its ongoing support. The Department of History and Classics continues to provide office space and financial administrative help. The office of the Vice-President (Research) and the Editing Scholarly Journals fund provided me with a course release for this academic year to assist me in my work on the journal.

Here are some highlights of the year:

# Publication

Volume 61 of Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavistes appeared as four single issues in 2019. We published 14 refereed articles, one roundtable, one research note, one document with commentary, and two review articles (as well as book reviews and 3 obituaries) for a total of 467 pages. Contributors of research articles hailed from Canada, the United States, Russia, Poland, Hungary, and the United Kingdom. Disciplines represented included medical anthropology, history, literature, and political science. I am delighted to congratulate Jack J. B. Hutchens, the winner of the CAS "Article of the Year" award, for his article "Julian Stryjkowski: Polish, Jewish, queer."

We published two special issues. The first was devoted to "Health Sciences in Communist Europe," guest-edited by Ivan Simić. Two stalwarts of our association, Maryna Romanets and Svitlana Krys, edited the second, on "Postcoloniality and Neo-Gothic Fictions in the Post-Soviet Space." Many thanks to Ivan, Maryna, and Svitlana for their hard work to bring essays on these innovative topics to our pages. Once again, we published a lively and much-read roundtable discussion of the winning book for the Canadian Association of Slavists' Taylor & Francis Book Prize (for 2018), Stalinist Perpetrators on Trial: Scenes from the Great Terror in Soviet Ukraine by Lynne Viola.

### **Subscriptions and Downloads**

In 2019, CSP/RCS had 197 individual member/subscribers and 114 institutional subscribers. This represents a rise in members and a small decline in institutional subscribers. There is a shift from hard copy library subscriptions to electronic ones across the industry. Overall, Taylor & Francis seems to think we're faring relatively well amidst this. These core subscriptions remain critical to our economic health – please encourage your institutions to renew! Libraries can also subscribe to T&F's online "subject collection" subscriptions and we are included in their "Politics, IR and Areas Studies" and "Social Sciences and Humanities Library" packages, meaning that there were 2,922 institutions with access to the journal in 2019. This represents a very small decline over 2018, because INASP, an international charity that promotes promote access to information across the globe, had its funding cut. Taylor & Francis are working to try to establish individual deals with some of the consortia affected.

In addition to electronic availability through Taylor & Francis, our agreements with JSTOR and EBSCO continue as well (a further 162 institutions subscribe to older content via EBSCO – up from 140 last year). Royalties are collected by T&F and a portion shared with us. The full archive, updated to the latest issue, is available to all members at no charge on the journal's page on the T&F website. Articles are being downloaded all over the world. In 2019, we had 12,006 downloads of articles on the Taylor & Francis website alone – an increase of 27% over 2018 (and the trend continues in the first part of 2020). When you need an article yourself, or assign it for a course, please be sure to download it each time from the T&F site, in order to ensure that we receive the royalties.

## Indexing

CSP/RCS has long been indexed by all the most important abstracting and indexing services in the humanities and social sciences. It is also important to be listed on sites with "impact factors", in order to attract European contributors. We are listed on the key Scopus site. Since 2016, we have also been on the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI), which allows us to be found via the Thomson Reuters Web of Science interface and, when we have sufficiently high citation rates, to apply for full inclusion on that site.

## **Agreement with Taylor & Francis**

Our agreement with Taylor & Francis to publish CSP/RCS began on 1 January 2015 and continues through 2021. The journal and its contents still belong to the Canadian Association of Slavists, and all editorial decisions remain our own, but T&F holds the license to publish the journal for this period. Overall, work with them continues to go well. We have appreciated the team's responsiveness to our questions. We remain happy with the increased visibility of the journal through the extensive marketing apparatus of T&F. We are also grateful to T&F for sponsoring our CAS book prize and the "Article of the Year" prize recognizing the best article published in each annual volume of our journal.

At our Annual General Meeting, we will be asking for the membership's support to renegotiate the publishing agreement with Taylor & Francis on similar terms for another 7-year period.

### Administration

The office of CSP/RCS manages both journal production and the affairs of our association. Bradley Smith continued to serve with skill and devotion as our editorial assistant. A doctoral student in the Department of History and Classics, Iaroslav Kovalchuk, has also assisted us with technical editing and the book review process over the past year. It has been a pleasure to work with this dynamic pair and I thank them for their dedication.

The most important administrative project this year was a complete revamp of the CSP/RCS and CAS websites. We have moved to a commercial hosting service so that the site can be easily moved when I finish my tenure as editor; this also allows us to use a more user-friendly platform. It also includes an improved membership database integrated with the website – as members will remember, everyone is now required to register through our site. They will be able to keep their information with the CAS/CSP up-to-date themselves as well. Another important feature of the new site is that it is bilingual. Warm thanks to our member, Emmanuelle Guenette, for undertaking the massive task of translation, and to our web designer, Serhiy Kozakov, for his imaginative work and his attention to our needs. Brad Smith was in charge of this project and put in many hours of overtime working on it. I thank him for his initiative and effort. This work represents "deferred maintenance" and, as you will see in the financial report, we used some of our accumulated surplus to cover the costs.

We continue to work with Serhiy Kozakov to develop a new book review database to help our office and the team of book review editors to manage their work. It too will be hosted by a commercial hosting service, so that it can easily "travel" with the journal to its new home in Montreal.

Our office manages a joint Facebook page for the journal and the CAS. We currently have 551 followers. Please join them: <u>https://www.facebook.com/CanSlavPapers/</u>. For updates on contents and news about our journal and its authors, please follow us on Twitter as well at: <u>https://twitter.com/CanSlavPapers</u> (497 followers at present). You can also sign up for alerts of new contents published electronically at <u>https://www.tandfonline.com/RCSP</u>.

The book review editorial team is composed of Kate Holland of the University of Toronto (Literature and Culture), Jeff Sahadeo of Carleton University (History), Joseph Schallert (Language and Linguistics) of the University of Toronto, and our new editor for Social Sciences, Elena Maltseva of the University of Windsor. Welcome aboard, Elena! Thanks also to Tanya Richardson of Wilfrid Laurier University, who completed her term as editor for the Social Sciences this year. I am grateful to all the book review editors for their advice, collegiality, and skilful editing.

I thank also the editorial and advisory boards for their advice; I would like to mention Allan Reid and Bohdan Harasymiw in particular, who served as the jury for the Article of the Year award.

Our members have, as always, been faithful in their service to the journal as book reviewers and article referees. I would especially like to thank those who generously contributed their time and

expertise to evaluate articles submitted to CSP/RCS. Without their unsung help, the high standards of our collective enterprise would be impossible to maintain.

### Finances

The CSP/RCS Financial Report appears on the next page. The Report reflects our fiscal year cash flow, i.e., income and expenses. The report shows a loss here – of \$21,170.86. However our financial position remains healthy. As I noted in last year's report, two major expenses from the 2018-19 fiscal year were not spent until the beginning of the 2019-20 fiscal year (the annual CAS transfer [\$5000 last fiscal year] and the fee for printing and mailing our members' copies [\$4725.00]), and so appear on this year's report. The website project, which cost us \$6918.07, is a one-time expense for which we used part of the large surplus we accumulated in unspent SSHRC money, to be used for special projects. Finally, as an association, we decided at our last AGM to use part of that surplus to fund a course release (\$11,633) for our President, Alison Rowley, to support her work as organizer of the ICCEES congress originally planned for this summer in Montreal. As we are no longer eligible for SSRHC funding, we will need to be careful to live within our means for normal expenses – we will likely not be able to spend as much on travel grants as we have in recent years, for instance (\$5000/year) – but fundamentally, our income remains sufficient for our expenses and our substantial surplus will allow us to pay for our upcoming move with no difficulty. Our equity on March 31, 2020 was \$208,623.15.

Even with the decline in the value of the British pound, our association with Taylor & Francis has brought us greater financial stability. Each year we receive an editorial expenses payment from T&F; this amounted to \$17, 432.82 in January 2020. Royalties were somewhat lower than last year, at \$13,990, but still solid. Taylor & Francis handle production, distribution, and mailing; we continue to manage our own membership list and pay a set rate of \$25/member per volume for our individual (membership) subscriptions. In 2019, that cost us \$4987.50 (the line on the report includes a further \$4725 for 2018), significantly less than we were spending on printing and mailing when we were self-published.

		CSP Financial Report				
		April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020: 2019 Fiscal Year				
April 1 2019-March 31 2020		April 1 2018-March 31 2019		April 1 2017-March 31 2018		
INCOME		INCOME		INCOME		
SSHRC	0.00	SSHRC	0.00	SSHRC	24,450.00	
Other Grants: T&F Transfer	17,432.82	Other Grants: T&F Transfer	17,670.51	Other Grants: T&F Transfer	17,791.70	
Membership and Subscription	12,730.16	Membership and Subscription	14,318.71	Membership and Subscription	11,029.06	
Other: Interest	2.60	Other: Interest	1.25	Other: Interest	0.01	
Royalties	13,990.01	Royalties	15,400.04	Royalties	15,979.09	
TOTAL INCOME	44,155.59	TOTAL INCOME	47,390.51	TOTAL INCOME	69,249.86	
CAUS Dues	681.16	CAUS Dues	999.07			
EXPENSES		EXPENSES		EXPENSES		
Bank Charges	138.06	Bank Charges	160.65	Bank Charges	114.87	
CAS Transfer	16,633.00	CAS Transfer	0.00	CAS Transfer	5,000.00	
CAUS Transfer	200.00	CAUS Transfer	0.00	CAUS Transfer	0.00	
Computer Equipment and Maintenance	6918.07	Computer Equipment and Maintenance	140	Computer Equipment and Maintenance	0	
Office Expenses	637.26	Office Expenses	1915.72	Office Expenses	1146.36	
Postage and Delivery General	379.36	Postage and Delivery General	179.80	Postage and Delivery General	698.82	
Members Copies	10,212.73	Members Copies	0.00	Members Copies	6,168.75	
Salary, Wages	30,207.97	Salary, Wages	31,006.11	Salary, Wages	24,587.67	
Cancellations / Refunds	0	Cancellations / Refunds	0	Cancellations / Refunds	0	
TOTAL EXPENSES	65,326.45	TOTAL EXPENSES	33,402.28	TOTAL EXPENSES	37,716.47	
Equity April 1 2020	-21,170.86	Equity April 1 2019	13,988.23	Equity April 1 2018	31,533.39	