

**Canadian Astronomical Society
Société Canadienne d'Astronomie
70th meeting of the Board of Directors
Oct. 7, 2015 15h00 – 1700 EDT
By teleconference**

<i>Present:</i>	Christine Wilson	President
	Roberto Abraham	Vice-President
	Nicole St-Louis	Treasurer
	James Di Francesco	Secretary
	Pauline Barmby	Director
	Stéphane Courteau	Director
	Sarah Gallagher	Director
	Lorne Nelson	Director
	Laura Ferrarese	Past President

Minutes

1. **Adoption of Agenda [Di Francesco]**
 - **Motion to adopt the agenda (Wilson/Ferrarese): Carried.**
2. **Adoption of the Minutes of the 69th Board of Directors meeting [Di Francesco]**
 - **Motion to adopt the minutes (Courteau/Ferrarese): Carried.**
3. **Matters Conducted Electronically [all]**
 - *ACURA meeting:* Wilson reported on the ACURA meeting held after the CASCA annual meeting. ACURA wants to be the main consultant acting for the community on the TMT issues in interactions with NRC. There is an idea for having an ACURA Advisory Council for the TMT, similar to the one struck for the SKA, to which CASCA will appoint members. ACURA was advised to liaise with the community and not just NRC in TMT matters.
 - *IAU news:* Di Francesco reported that the IAU accepted the nominations of 42 Canadians to become Individual Members of the IAU at the recent General Assembly in Honolulu, HI. In addition, two Canadians, JJ Kavelaars (NRC) and Bill Harris (McMaster) were appointed to membership on the IAU Finance and Membership Committees, respectively.
 - *EPO:* a special Board telecon was held to discuss CASCA involvement in EPO activities such as the Discover the Universe (DU) program.
 - *Diversity Committee:* Abraham proposed the formation of a Diversity Committee to advise the community and the Board on diversity issues. The committee is in the process of being struck.

- *Igloo*: the Board has decided to migrate its internal electronic discussions from e-mail to “igloo,” an online forum service.

4. Action Items List Review [Di Francesco]

- *EPO Strategy*: Julie Bolduc-Duval has agreed to continue with Discover the Universe (DU). Collaboration on EPO between DU, the RASC, and the Dunlap Institute has begun. Further discussion of the strategy will follow after a decision has been made on the NSERC Promoscience grant proposal submitted by Julie.
- *Auditor*: After St-Louis made inquiries into possible alternatives, the Board has decided to retain Wilkinson & Sons as auditors of CASCA.
- *Committee Reports*: Abraham to devise a template for committees to use for the creation of their bi-annual reports to the Board, specifically highlighting recommendations to the Board.
- *Committee Issues*: Wilson and Abraham to consider ways of maximizing the benefit of Corporate Membership to corporations, e.g., exploring ways of linking such members with students and postdocs or to the future CASCA LinkedIn page (see below)
- *CASCA LinkedIn page*: Such a page has been created and will be administered in perpetuity by the Secretary.
- *Solar System + Exoplanets Committee*: Abraham to reinvigorate this committee with a new mandate.

5. New Business

5.1. President's Report [Wilson]

- *Extra Day for CASCA 2018*: Dennis Crabtree (NRC) has requested that the annual CASCA meeting in 2018 in Victoria be extended for one day to accommodate a special “100 Years of Canadian Astronomy Excellence” program. The Board approves this request.

5.2. Vice-President's Report [Abraham]

- *New Diversity Committee*: After being suggested by Abraham over the summer, this committee is going forward. Already healthy interest by possible members has been indicated. A possible list will be compiled on the Board igloo site. First charge may be to devise an anti-harassment policy, possibly using the AAS one as a model

5.3. Treasurer's Report [St-Louis]

- *Investment Committee*: Movement on recent recommendations to empower the Investment Committee has stalled until legal advice regarding the WESTAR funds is obtained.

5.4. Secretary's Report [Di Francesco]

- *Membership Renewals*: As of today, 212 members have paid their dues for the 2015. This number includes three new paying members, but not seven new first-year student members. (To bolster new first-year memberships, Di Francesco e-

mailed Department Chairs and Graduate Advisors at universities across Canada at the start of the academic year.) In addition, about three members have resigned. The renewal season will continue until the end of October.

6. Next Meeting

- The next CASCA Board of Directors meeting will be held likely for one day sometime during the first two weeks of December on a date TBD.

7. Other Business

- No other business.

8. Adjournment

- **Motion to adjourn the Board meeting: done by consensus**